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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Alleged Commitments Made by President Richard M. Nixon
to Brazilian President Emilio Garrastazu Medici

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1. During the state visit of Brazilian President Emilio Garrastazu Medici to the United States from 6 to 9 December 1971, he proposed that the United States and Brazil cooperate in helping other democratic countries in Latin America counter the trend of Marxist/leftist expansion.

[REDACTED]

President Nixon took great interest in this proposal and promised to assist Brazil when and wherever possible. President Medici was very pleased with this interest in Latin America and with the promise of future cooperation and assistance.

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reported that General Vicente Dale Coutinho, commander of the Fourth Army, and other field grade officers in the Northeast, have learned from a "Cabinet leak" that secret talks between the two Presidents were of great importance in the formulation of Brazilian

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foreign policy. They believe the focus of the secret talks was security of the hemisphere, and that President Nixon reportedly asked support from President Medici in safeguarding the internal security and status quo in the hemisphere, including the governments of Bolivia and Uruguay. President Medici was receptive to the alleged request, since he personally believes the Brazilian government must assume a greater role in defending neighboring, friendly governments. General Coutinho's reaction to this was that the United States obviously wants Brazil to "do the dirty work," and he foresees great responsibilities and some disadvantages in it for Brazil, especially for the military.

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