

**May 16, 1968**  
**Telegram from the Consul of the US in Sao Paulo to the  
Department of State, 'Brazilian Centrifuge Program'**

**Citation:**

"Telegram from the Consul of the US in Sao Paulo to the Department of State, 'Brazilian Centrifuge Program'," May 16, 1968, History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive, RG 59, Subject-Numeric Files 1967-1969. Box 1169, Inco-Uranium Brazil  
<http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/145012>

**Summary:**

Information about the classified Brazilian centrifuge program.

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

- Scan of Original Document



*Uro - Uranium - Braz*  
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

*XUR AF 11 Braz*

*48*

*43*

SECRET 519

PAGE 01 SAO PA 01706 161811Z

45  
ACTION SS 70

INFO /070 W

P 161430Z MAY 68  
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 735  
INFO AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

SECRET SAO PAULO 1706

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE PROGRAM

1. DURING VISIT INSTITUTO PESQUISAS TECNOLOGICAS MAY 16  
SCIATT OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE  
PROGRAM:

A. THREE BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGES ARE LOCATED  
AT IPT AND HAVE  
RPTHAVE BEEN USED TO PRODUCE RESEARCH QUANTITIES URANIUM  
ENRICHED TO AT LEAST ONE PERCENT.

B. BRAZILIAN CENTRIFUGE PROGRAM IS QUOTE CLASSIFIED  
UNQUOTE IN BRAZIL AND IS CONSIDERED SECRET PROGRAM WITH  
NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS. THIS STATUS WAS REPORTEDLY  
ACCORDED PROGRAM SHORTLY AFTER BRAZILIANS LEARNED ORIGINAL  
US-DUTCH-GERMAN CLASSIFICATION CENTRIFUGE WORK.

2. CENTRIFUGES HAVE BEEN MODIFIED ONCE AND ARE NOW UNDER-  
GOING FURTHER MODIFICATIONS. DETAILS WITHHELD FROM SCIATT DURING  
VISIT BUT LAYOUT EQUIPMENT AND NATURE OF WORK VISIBLE WOULD  
SEEM INDICATE CURRENT MODIFICATIONS CONCENTRATING ON  
BEARINGS. IN ADJOINING LABORATORY NOTED EVIDENCE WORK HAD BEEN  
IN PROGRESS USING FIBRE GLASS.

3. IPT CURRENTLY HAS AT LEAST FOUR TECHNICIANS, TWO CHEMICAL  
ENGINEERS, AND ONE MECHANICAL ENGINEER WORKING ON PROJECT.

*Sao Paulo 1706  
5/16/68*

*RECORDED BY 85/B*

*(2)*

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NAAS 969000



*Department of State*

**TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 02 SAO PA 01706 161811Z

4. IPT SCHEDULE BEGIN SHORTLY PROJECT DESIGN STUDY FOR CASCADE TO BE BUILT IN LOCATION NOT YET SELECTED. VICE DIRECTOR INSTITUTO INDICATED THEY HAD RECOMMENDED BELO HORIZONTE AS SITE.

5. IPT CLAIMS HAVE CAPABILITY BUILD ADDITIONAL MODIFIED MACHINES ON SITE WITH ALL BRAZILIAN PARTS. BOND

SECRET

L I M D I S  
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screeners ASD

POST Sao Paulo

(Time Received)  
1968 MAY 16 PM 4 43

SERIAL 1706

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT 384

Secretariat

Geographic

Other

S/S-S 1  
S/S-O 1  
S/S-Screener 33  
S/S-EX \_\_\_\_\_  
S/S-CMS \_\_\_\_\_  
S/S-O DIR \_\_\_\_\_  
MilRep \_\_\_\_\_  
Summary \_\_\_\_\_  
Task Force \_\_\_\_\_

AF5 \_\_\_\_\_  
ARA9 X9  
EA11 \_\_\_\_\_  
EUR9 \_\_\_\_\_  
NEA7 \_\_\_\_\_

ACDA5 \_\_\_\_\_  
AID/EXSEC3 \_\_\_\_\_  
AA/AFR2 \_\_\_\_\_  
AA/VN2 \_\_\_\_\_  
AA/EA2 \_\_\_\_\_  
AA/NESA2 \_\_\_\_\_

Functional

CU \_\_\_\_\_  
E2 \_\_\_\_\_  
H \_\_\_\_\_  
IGA \_\_\_\_\_  
INR6 16  
IO4 \_\_\_\_\_  
L 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
O3 \_\_\_\_\_  
OPR \_\_\_\_\_  
OC \_\_\_\_\_  
SY \_\_\_\_\_  
WLG \_\_\_\_\_  
P2 \_\_\_\_\_  
SCA \_\_\_\_\_  
SCS \_\_\_\_\_  
SCI 1

PC \_\_\_\_\_  
VP \_\_\_\_\_  
AEC3 \_\_\_\_\_  
AGR3 \_\_\_\_\_  
COM2 \_\_\_\_\_  
EXIM \_\_\_\_\_  
FRB \_\_\_\_\_  
LAB \_\_\_\_\_  
NASA \_\_\_\_\_  
NIC \_\_\_\_\_  
STR \_\_\_\_\_  
TRANS \_\_\_\_\_  
TRSY6 \_\_\_\_\_  
JUS \_\_\_\_\_  
IRS \_\_\_\_\_  
INT \_\_\_\_\_  
BOB \_\_\_\_\_  
FBI \_\_\_\_\_  
CEA \_\_\_\_\_  
FAA \_\_\_\_\_

Principals

ES2 12  
S \_\_\_\_\_  
U \_\_\_\_\_  
M2 \_\_\_\_\_  
G \_\_\_\_\_  
SIG \_\_\_\_\_  
S/AH3 \_\_\_\_\_  
S/AL \_\_\_\_\_  
S/C \_\_\_\_\_  
S/CPR \_\_\_\_\_  
S/GOV \_\_\_\_\_  
S/IL \_\_\_\_\_  
S/P \_\_\_\_\_  
S/R \_\_\_\_\_  
S/FW \_\_\_\_\_  
S/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
M/WP \_\_\_\_\_  
G/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
G/DP \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER AGENCIES

WH10 10  
CIA 1  
DOD 1  
USIA4 \_\_\_\_\_  
NSA \_\_\_\_\_

File \_\_\_\_\_  
Burned \_\_\_\_\_