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The Trillion—Cruzeiro Revolt—No. 2 in Series

# Brazil's Political Jockeying

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By coincidence, or perhaps design, the U. S. State Department two days before Brazil's revolt put out a message to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs dealing with Communist growth in Latin America.

On Brazil, the edge of criticism was honed sharp. Under Leftist President Jaoa (Jango) Goulart and his predecessor, Janio Quadros, said the report, "significant triumphs" had been scored by Brazil's Reds.

By April Fool's Day, the problem of Brazil's communism was already a rather moot point. President Goulart was toppled by a clockwork conspiracy cooked up by Brazilian moderate and Rightist politicians and the military's biggest brass.

President Goulart's bitterest enemy, Gov. Carlos Lacerda, of Guanabara State, was beside himself with joy and emotion. During a speech over Rio television he broke down and cried.

## GLEEFUL U. S.

"An inferno of Brazil" had been created by the Goulart regime, he said, and a subversive plot "to begin the process of delivery of Brazil to Russia" had been scotched before it was too late.

Before the ousted Goulart had even left the country, President Johnson sent his best wishes to the newly-installed provisional President Ranieri Mazzilli. It was apparent from the Johnson message that the U. S. was as gleeful about the "revolution" as Gov. Lacerda and company.

During the suspense-filled two days previous, the bulk of the Brazilian people were gravely uncertain which way the Brazilian balance of power would tip. "My mandate is untouchable," pleaded President Goulart. "I will defend it until I die."

The Goulart mandate proved none too solid. The workers, peasants, nationalist officers and sergeants whom President Goulart had so assiduously courted during his two-and-a-half years of office failed him totally. When the time came for them to "take to the streets" for Jango they stayed home—either for fear of bloodshed or disenchantment with the Goulart regime or both.

## TYRANNY OF A FEW

Easy victory for the anti-Goulart forces has radically changed the political face of Brazil. Where President Goulart felt he had a class struggle mandate from the restless, angry poor, the military men and politicians that toppled him soon became convinced that because "Jango's boys" put up so little resistance to the "democratic revolution" their mandate for purge was obvious.

"Why did we win in just 52 hours?" asked passionately anti-Goulart Gov. Lacerda. "Because Goulart had an artificial mandate. It was a well-organized minority of tyranny. Brazil learned its greatest lesson. You can't be lenient with Communists, and the people's joy at getting

rid of Jango Goulart proved that they knew it."

Brazil's anti-Leftist purge continued yesterday in the wake of the Trillion Cruzeiro Revolt (the sum of the country's internal debt); 132 high-ranking officers were forced into retirement. And pressure was building on President-elect Castello Branco to sever diplomatic relations with Cuba; the legislatures of Brazil's three most populous states called for a break with Havana. Guanabara State Gov. Lacerda, a front-running Presidential hopeful for next year's election, declared, "We will have nothing to do with Fidel Castro . . . We are fed up with his agents here." In the second article of a four-part series, Barnard L. Collier describes the political atmosphere of Brazil today.



Paris Match  
WINNER AND WIFE — Guanabara State Governor Carlos Lacerda, back to camera, and Senora Lacerda, in Rio de Janeiro after successful military coup.

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