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TELCON

Mr. Hartman/Secretary Kissinger
July 17, 1975 11:24 a.m.

- H:we have a meeting scheduled at 12:30, did you want to meet before that?
- K: Okay, then at 12:30, but in the meantime can you get a message to Carlucci isn't out trying to get the ADA Award in Portugal for democratic procedures. Does Costa Gomez understand that if he moves, we'll support him?
- H: Well, ah...
- K: Yes or no?
- H: I can't tell you on the basis of what I've seen.
- K: Are we doing anything on this crisis or are we clucking our tongues and thinking ... procedures
- H: No, we are talking about giving public support
- K: We are talking, what are we doing?
- H: I don't know what we are doing. He's talking to them--
- K: But what is he saying?
- H: He is saying that they should support the democratic elements
- K: Meaning what?
- H: Meaning Soares and the PPD and getting the moderate officers in and Gonzales out. But he is doing it very quietly with whom he is talking to.
- K: With whom is he talking to?
- H: He's had one conversation with Antunes, he has talked to some of the people in the Cabinet with Antunes and
- K: To me Soares and the PPD are pains in the neck. I want the moderates of.... to prevail.
- H: Right. That is what they are trying to do.
- K: Can I get from Carlucci a precise description of what he is doing immediately and secondly will you tell him that I hope he's doing everything he can to make Costa Gomez and Antunes understand that we will support them in their efforts to have a more moderate direction prevail--we want them to do it as tactfully as possible.

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K:

H: Right.

K: But he isn't giving political science lectures all over town?

H: No, he is not.

K: He -- that isn't beyond him is it?

H: No, except--he's not really a political scientist [laughs]--he's an activist.

K: An activist, but for whom?

H: He's very practical fellow and I think he's--a little uncertain about some of these officers but I think Antunes is..

K: I agree, I think A---I am uncertain too. The one way to become certain is to let somebody win and see how he turns out.

H: There is a danger in there--if they should get rid of Gonzales right now, they are in dreadful economic straights.

K: And then we'll help them.

H: Yeh, but it is a very bad situation and

K: Art--if we can get rid of Goncalves, I'll take that problem.

H: Okay

K: I don't worry about that problem. If we can get rid of Goncalves and his crew, let me worry about the economic situation.

H: I agree, that's where we come out.
This group that will come in will have as wacky theories as Goncalves has but they'd be in a better political orientation.

K: Good, fine. At least the thing would be a little more fluid, then it will look as if someone has some muscle

H: And there will be less a less direct~~ly~~ connection with the communists.

K: That's right. And if we can then trigger the communists into a move, we may get them smashed.



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H: Well, they're all out on the streets now

K: Who the communists?

H: Both the communists, socialists--and that fellow Carvow is really-- he distanced himself a little bit from Goncalves the other day which looks as though he may be helpful to the moderates in the end, but I think he wants power at some point

K: Well we are going to push the moderates now

H: Yep.

K: Okay.