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BRASILIA



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*Jean John.*

VISIT OF THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO BRAZIL


1. The Italian Ambassador, Maurizio Bucci, gave other Community Ambassadors a briefing during the recent visit to Brazil (25-29 April) by Sen. Forlani. The briefing was rushed because Bucci only had about half an hour available between a meeting with the Brazilian Foreign Minister, Guerreiro, and an official lunch which Forlani was hosting. This was to be followed by a meeting with President Figueiredo before Forlani (and Bucci) went off to São Paulo and Rio. Hence, Bucci was only able to tell us about the two talks which Forlani had with Guerreiro and, because of time pressure, concentrated on what the Brazilians had said, and said very little about any Italian contribution.

2. Bucci said that the visit should have taken place last year but it had been cancelled because of problems in Italy. They had decided to fit it in now, despite the fact that they were awaiting an election, since

- (a) the Italian constitution made no difficulties about such visits, and
- (b) because the Italians wanted to show their approval of the process of political abertura in Brazil which they believed needed to be encouraged.

If the visit had not taken place now it would have had to wait until September. He said that expectations on the Brazilian side had been built up and it would have been impossible to cancel the visit for a second time.

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3. The atmosphere of the talks had been good and with Forlani talking Italian and Guerreiro Portuguese they had managed to get on for the most part without any interpretation.

4. The Italians had asked about Brazilian policy towards Latin America. Guerreiro had said that this was based on a series of principles - non-intervention, respect for sovereignty and mutual co-operation - and the agreements they made with other Latin American countries reflected these interests. The Italians had apparently suggested that Brazil was the big force of the future in Latin America and the others might have to recognise Brazilian supremacy. Guerreiro had said they were conscious of the distress with which some other Latin American countries had viewed their growing economic strength. They tried to avoid any hegemonistic tendencies.

5. The Italians had asked about the Beagle dispute. Guerreiro said that they had followed it with extreme detachment until they had got frightened and intervened by appealing to both parties for moderation. The Brazilians tended to the Chilean rather than the Argentine point of view but sought to reinforce moderate elements in both countries. It had been their aim to lower the temperature and gain time. They were very happy with the Pope's intervention; they felt that the more Brazil could keep out of the situation the better. It had apparently been suggested to them (it seems by the Chileans) that a new crisis might be expected in September. The Italians had been unable to determine what justification there was for this fear except that September was a month when military activities again become possible and they were informed that Argentina had left plenty of arms and equipment in the area whilst withdrawing most of her troops.

6. On Cuba Guerreiro had said that "Brazil and Cuba understood each other well enough on sugar exports", but, he implied, on not much else. He had recalled Cuban influence and Cuban training of Brazilian urban guerrillas in the years from 1968-72. Relations

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at the moment were in "une phase de possibilisme" but Brazil noted that Cuba still supported subversive activities in Uruguay and their activities in Africa were dangerous, in countries where Brazil had substantial interests. So development of Brazilian relations with Cuba was not an urgent matter. In reply to a question Guerreiro had said he believed that the Argentine crisis was indigenous and not Cuban influenced, but he could not exclude the possibility that Cuba was helping out one or other revolutionary group.

7. The question of Cuban Membership of the Security Council was raised. Guerreiro said he hoped that Peru would accept nomination as the Latin American candidate. The Italians had suggested that Brazil might be an even better candidate but Guerreiro said that they did not want it. They were against membership of the Security Council at the moment - there were too many vetoes, too much rhetoric and no progress. They might reconsider their position in the future but for the moment they supported Peru.

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8. Guerreiro had said they wanted a more open Community. There were restrictions on too many imports into the Community from Brazil, things which mattered little relatively to the Community but much to Brazil. He complained about the difficulty of any sensible negotiation in talking to the technocrats of the Community, who were inward-looking and insufficiently conversant with the real problems of the world outside. He envisaged "bilateral negotiation" between Brazil and the Community to reach a framework agreement - not an association evidently but not limited merely to 3 or 4 products. Guerreiro had asked how the Community had the courage, given their own dependence on the Arab oil, to support the Israel-Egypt settlement, and Forlani had explained the Community position. Guerreiro had said that they could not come out openly because of their total dependence on Arab sources of oil; they had no room for manoeuvre at all. Forlani had talked of the

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EMS (explaining why the EMS represented an element of stability in the world) and the forthcoming European elections.

9. On China Guerreiro had said, in answer to a question from Forlani who had commented that the Chinese requested armaments whenever co-operation was talked of, that Brazil had received no such requests. Relations with China were good and developing. The Chinese Vice-President with responsibility for the economic sector was coming to Brazil shortly to conclude some agreements, particularly on maritime transport.

10. Finally, said Bucci, Forlani had talked about Africa, the Helsinki Conference, Iran and Yugoslavia, but because of the lack of time, Bucci was unable to enlarge.

11. A communiqué was issued at the end of the talks. A translation of its salient points is attached.

*Yours ever*  
*Norman*  
Norman Statham

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TRANSLATION OF EXTRACTS FROM A JOINT COMMUNIQUE  
ISSUED FOLLOWING TALKS BETWEEN THE BRAZILIAN AND  
ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS on 27 APRIL 1979

The two Ministers (Forlani and Guerreiro) recalled with satisfaction the traditional friendship which links the Italian and Brazilian peoples, a great contribution to which has been made both by the common cultural origin and the presence of a large and active Brazilian community of Italian descent.

The two Ministers had a full exchange of views on the international situation in an atmosphere characterised by great cordiality and spirit of co-operation. They affirmed their support for the principles of mutual respect, non-intervention, peaceful solution of disputes and respect for human rights, all of which they considered indispensable to the strengthening of peace, security and international co-operation.

In examining the world economic situation and bearing in mind, amongst other things, the fact that Italy participated in the meeting of the Seven at Tokyo, they expressed their concern at protectionist measures of all kinds, especially in so far as they affect developing countries, and affirmed their firm support for the establishment of a new international economic order. In this connection they expressed their conviction that the expansion of international trade will depend increasingly upon solidarity and a spirit of understanding between nations. They agreed to contribute in a positive manner to the success of UNCTAD V in Manila in May.

The two Ministers reviewed the principal bilateral questions of common interest. Minister Forlani listed the principal initiatives in economic, industrial and financial co-operation in which Italian private and public sector enterprises are participating or would wish to participate, and emphasised the Italian Government's interest in facilitating this co-operation and making it more efficient. Minister Guerreiro in turn emphasised the mutual advantages which this co-operation offers to both countries and the growing importance of Italian investments in Brazil.



Minister Forlani reaffirmed the intention that the present agreement on economic co-operation dated 30 April 1956 should be replaced by a new agreement on economic, industrial and financial co-operation. Minister Guerreiro restated the Brazilian wish to bring the institutional framework of bilateral relations up to date so as to make it more adequate to the needs of economic co-operation between the two countries.

The two Ministers expressed the satisfaction of their Governments with the progress achieved during the Third Session of the Brazilian-Italian mixed Commission held in Rome from 29 November to 1 December 1978. They agreed that the solutions reached in that meeting, in particular as they affect the activities in Italy of the Banco do Brasil and the Brazilian Coffee Institute should be put into effect as soon as possible.

They commented with satisfaction on the arrangements put in train by the appropriate bodies in the private sector of both countries with a view to holding in the first half of this year the inaugural meeting of the Brazilian-Italian Business Committee.

The two Ministers recognised the importance of the contacts maintained between the Italian and Brazilian National Research Councils and noted with satisfaction the progress made on co-operation in the field of telecommunications in the Electronic Committee. Minister Forlani expressed the lively interest of his Government in seeing that initiatives in this area might be further expanded and diversified, and should become a model for technical and industrial co-operation between the two countries.

The two Ministers showed particular interest in the development of cultural co-operation between the two countries on the basis of the work carried out by the Brazilian-Italian mixed commission on cultural co-operation.





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1. The British Charge  
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Minister Forlani had expressed his thanks to Minister Guerreiro for the warm and cordial welcome which he had received during his stay in Brazil and invited him to visit Italy. Minister Guerreiro accepted this invitation with pleasure.

2. We have no information on being a date of birth or early history. The British Charge Affairs in this instance reported his impressions of Brazil in March 1951, stated that he was born in the late 1800s. The earliest records on his instance that in 1905 he was Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs and African Affairs Department of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a post he appears to have held until 1908. In December of that year he was appointed assistant commercial representative at the Chamber of Commerce Office which opened in Cairo in January 1909. In 1910 he was appointed as the establishment of diplomatic relations between Italy and Egypt. In June 1912, following Italy's decision in favor of recognizing Italy, he was appointed Ambassador at the newly opened Italian Mission in Cairo. In 1920 he was named as Italian Affairs in Cairo, presiding in

3. Following up the British Charge, which was transferred in December 1951 to the British Charge in London and later to the British Charge in London. It was reported to him that he was born in the late 1800s. In 1905 he was appointed as Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs and African Affairs Department of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a post he appears to have held until 1908. In December of that year he was appointed assistant commercial representative at the Chamber of Commerce Office which opened in Cairo in January 1909. In 1910 he was appointed as the establishment of diplomatic relations between Italy and Egypt. In June 1912, following Italy's decision in favor of recognizing Italy, he was appointed Ambassador at the newly opened Italian Mission in Cairo. In 1920 he was named as Italian Affairs in Cairo, presiding in

4. From 1920 to 1924, when he moved to Italy, he was appointed as Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs and African Affairs Department of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a post he appears to have held until 1908. In December of that year he was appointed assistant commercial representative at the Chamber of Commerce Office which opened in Cairo in January 1909. In 1910 he was appointed as the establishment of diplomatic relations between Italy and Egypt. In June 1912, following Italy's decision in favor of recognizing Italy, he was appointed Ambassador at the newly opened Italian Mission in Cairo. In 1920 he was named as Italian Affairs in Cairo, presiding in

5. The British Charge Affairs in this, writing in March 1951, described him as a large man, physically, slightly of some culture, who at that time spoke practically no English, no other European language, no far as could be discovered, and, apparently, no Arabic. In all the conversations with his British colleague discussed political matters of general interest. He was forthcoming and sensible. We have no details on his private life.

S. Paris

21 May 1954

Mr S. Paris  
 For Eastern Division  
 Research Department