

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone conversation with President
Fernando Collor of Brazil (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Fernando Collor, President of Brazil
Notetaker: Donald C. Johnson

DATE, TIME: March 23, 1990, 3:38 - 3:41pm EST
AND PLACE: Camp David

President Bush telephoned the President Collor to congratulate him on his inauguration and the announcement of his economic plan. (U)

The President: Mr. President. (U)

President Collor: How are you? (U)

The President: Nice to talk to you. I just wanted to call you now that you're in office. First, thanks for the courtesies you extended to the Vice President during his trip. He told me that your inaugural address was forceful and inspiring. I particularly appreciate your reference to relations with the US, and also your note to me on March 6 regarding your visit to Washington. (Ø)

I've seen press reports of your dramatic announcement of an economic program for a New Brazil. I know it's difficult, but your plan is bold and comprehensive. Congratulations. (Ø)

President Collor: It is very important. The people are supporting our economic program; recent polls show that 87% of the people approve of it. (Ø)

The President: Amazing. (U)

President Collor: This is encouraging us to take these steps. (Ø)

The President: It is a testimony to your stewardship and leadership. You've taken the initiative. I know it won't be painless. We want to do what we can to help, despite our own damned deficit. We want to maintain an active dialogue with you, and I just called to congratulate you on your magnificent start. (Ø)

President Collor: Thank you for the photos that you sent me through your Ambassador here. (Ø)

The President: That was a great visit. I look forward to my visit to Brazil in September. (Ø)

President Collor: (laughs) The Vice President was well welcomed. We had the opportunity to talk about our relations. What Brazil wants is to maintain a high level of interest in our country. I think our relations will improve very much from this dialogue. (Ø)

The President: Well, I stand ready to talk at any time. Don't hesitate to use the phone and call me directly. (Ø)

President Collor: Thank you, Mr. President. (U)

The President: My love to your wife. (U)

President Collor: Thank you. Good-bye. (U)