

MINISTÉRIO DA AERONÁUTICA



2.ª ZONA AÉREA

Recife, March, 13 1944

MR. GEORGE HOCKENSMITH
PROJECT ENGINEER
HIGGINS INDUSTRIES INC.
NEW ORLEANS, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Hockensmith:

Acknowledging receipt of your letter of February 25th, I feel it my duty to inform you that you always were in my highest esteem.

As a proof of my special appreciation of your services rendered to my country I appointed you to our Government for condecoration with the "ORDEM DO CRUZEIRO DO SUL" which by itself proves our gratitude for your devotion and selfsacrifice that you demonstrated in building airfields, often-times risking your health in order to complete the work of paving the roads of progress.

Various times I had the opportunity to express my opinion concerning your services and personnel value to your Embassador Jefferson Caffery, our foreign Minister Oswaldo Arenha, our Air Minister Salgado Filho, Commanding General Walsh and Admiral Ingram.

Just recently during the visit of the Air Minister Salgado Filho to Salvadôr Air Base, once more, did I point out to him the difficulties that you solved building the new runway which enabeledus to increase and im-

prove our patrols by the possibility of use of heavier airplanes.

In our estimation your, work, Mr. Hockensmith, ranks between that of the men that did most in joining the links in the chain of Hemisphere Defense.

Colonel Clovis Monteiro Travassos, now Air Attaché to the Brazilian Embassy in Washington, who has been my Chief of Staff for a long time, would whenever need be confirm the great esteem and consideration that you rate from our people, and the once, that had the privilege to work with you.

Glad being able once more to express my gratitude to you I remain,

Yours truly

(a) 

EDUARDO GOMES
Commanding Brig. General 2nd. Air
Zone