HISTORIC NATURE OF BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT JAIR BOLSONARO’S VISIT

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro’s historic visit marks the first time a Brazilian president has visited U.S. Southern Command.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TESTING AND EVALUATION AGREEMENT (signed March 8, 2020)

The agreement will expand opportunities for both countries to collaborate and share information on the development of new defense capabilities and pave the way for potential future cooperation on applied research, development of emerging technologies, analysis, operational studies, demonstrations, and the testing and evaluation of prototypes.

BRAZIL’S CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALLIED WAR EFFORTS IN WWI AND WWII, AND STATUS AS A MAJOR NON-NATO ALLY TO THE UNITED STATES

During World War II, Brazil supported allied naval operations in the Atlantic and deployed an expeditionary force to Italy. In World War I, Brazil’s armed forces conducted convoy operations and security patrols with allied nations. U.S. President Donald Trump designated Brazil a Major Non-NATO Ally on July 19, 2019.

EXAMPLES OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE COLLABORATION

In 2019, Brazilian medical professionals served as part of the multinational crew aboard the hospital ship USNS Comfort, treating more than 68,000 patients in a dozen countries. That same year, Brazil also hosted U.S. Navy doctors aboard a Brazilian hospital ship for a riverine medical mission, helping our doctors gain unique tropical medicine expertise and experience in conditions unique to the Amazon. Ten years ago, U.S. and Brazilian troops worked together to aid hundreds of thousands of Haitian victims in the aftermath of one of our hemisphere’s worst earthquake disasters.

MULTINATIONAL EXERCISES

Last year, Brazil hosted UNITAS, the world’s longest running multinational maritime security exercise. This was six decades after our navies first came together to build readiness and interoperability during the very first UNITAS exercise in 1960. Brazil also hosted the amphibious phase of the exercise.

STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Brazil’s Armed Forces recently (March 2019) established state partnership with the New York National Guard. Since then, they have exchanged expertise covering safe air operations in polar weather conditions, and a New York National Guardsman became the 30th U.S. Soldier to graduate Brazil’s renowned Jungle Operations International Course.

BRAZIL’S SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION AND DEFENSE DIALOGUE

In August, Brazil hosted defense leaders from more than a dozen countries during the SOUTHCOM-sponsored South American Defense Conference in Natal to discuss regional security cooperation.