

Eurico Gaspar Dutra, Field Marshal



Biography

He was born in Cuiabá, Mato Grosso do Sul, on May 18 of 1883. He had his year of birth changed to 1885, as the age of 19 so that he could have a physique compatible with his age, in order to join the Army. He studied at the Preparatory and Tactics School of Rio Grande do Sul (1902-1904) and the Military School of Brazil (Military School of Praia Vermelha, in Rio de Janeiro), in 1904, from where he was expelled for participating in the revolt during the same year, linked to the Vaccine Revolt, but was pardoned and went back to the School, which is now in Realengo, finishing the course in 1906. He also studied at the War College of Porto Alegre (1906), at the Artillery and Engineering School, where he specialized in mechanics, ballistics and metallurgy (1908-1910), and at the General Staff School, where he graduated in the 1st place of his class and received the rare "três bien" honorable reference (1922), acting, a short time later, in the repression of the revolution of São Paulo in 1924. He helped to found the National Defense magazine in 1918, he combated the revolt known as the "Fort 18", in 1922, in Rio de Janeiro, and participated, integrated the Detachment of the North, under the command of General Mena Barreto, to combat an insurrection that erupted in Manaus, which spread to Pará. For having fought the revolution of 1930, he was sent to the command of the 11th Independent Cavalry Regiment in Ponta Porã. He was promoted to colonel; he assumed the command of the 4th Divisionary Cavalry Regiment (1931-1933) in Três Corações, from where he fought the Constitutionalist Revolution of São Paulo in 1932. He defended the government of President Washington Luís against the insurgents of 1930, but in 1932, he fought the Constitutionalist Revolution of São Paulo. He was designated as commander of the 1st Military Region (1935-1936), he had an important role in the reaction to the communist movement of 1935, occupying the position as minister of War (1936-1945). As minister, Dutra modernized the Army, which was the objective that guided his positions in the face of international conflict, being divided between supporting the United States or Germany. At the Ministry, he approved several basic laws, such as the Military Statute, the new Military Service Law, the Organization of the Army law, and the law for Military Teaching. With the end of World War II, he manifested in favor of the re-democratization of the country, and although he had been one of the most faithful collaborators of Vargas and the New State, he stood with the officers who deposed the president in October of 1945. He ran for President of the Republic with the Democratic Social Party (PSD) and was elected on December 2, having

counted on, towards the end of the campaign, with the support from Vargas. He was transferred to the reserve two days before his inauguration, on January 31, 1946.

After leaving the presidency, he remained active in politics until he decided to run in the indirect elections for president in 1965. Due to the support of the majority of the military to General Castelo Branco, he withdrew from the race. No longer involved in public life, he died in Rio de Janeiro on June 11, 1974.

Presidential Period

On September 18 of 1946, the fifth constitution of Brazil was promulgated, signaling the return of the country to a democratic regime. On that same year, the government created the Industry Social Service (SESI) and the Commerce Social Service (SESC), besides the General Staff, which would later become the Armed Forces General Staff (EMFA). Still in 1946, the president decreed the closing of casinos and prohibited gambling in the country.

In 1947, Oswaldo Aranha was nominated as Brazil's delegate to the United Nations Organization (UNO), the Brazilian Communist Party (PCB) was banned, the interruption of diplomatic relations with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace and Security of the Continent, held in Petrópolis, which counted on the presence of the President of the United States, Harry Truman. The close relations with the North-Americans was also emphasized in the creation of the Brazil-United States Joint Committee, known as Abbink mission, headed by John Abbink and by minister Otávio Gouveia de Bulhões. It had the attribution of diagnosing the main problems of the Brazilian economy and, as a special recommendation, the use of external resources in the petroleum sector.

Still in 1947, the Labor Ministry intervened in several labor unions, giving continuity to the policy of tutelage of the State in labor union activities, guaranteed by decree-law No. 9.070, of March of 1946, which restricted the right to go on strike.

Concurrent to the union repression and the cut in salaries, the economic policy went through two phases: the first, liberal, in which there was an attempt to break with previous forms of intervention in the economy. However, the importation of goods led to a fast depletion of the country's reserves. In 1947, according with the orientation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), a second phase was initiated, where the monetary exchange control was continued, maintaining the cruzeiro at high levels compared to the North-American dollar. This policy discouraged exports, encouraging on the other hand, the importation of equipment, machinery and other inputs, excluding consumer goods, and favored the expansion of the Brazilian industrial sector.

The government's development strategy included the Salte plan, which meant Health, Food, Transportation and Energy. Proposed in 1947, it had the objective of managing public spending and the investment in the essential sectors of the country. However, the project only began to participate in the budget planning in 1949, being forgotten by 1951. During this period, the country began to calculate the economic growth of the country, by means of the calculation of the Gross National Product.

During the Dutra administration, construction of the Paulo Afonso hydroelectric plant in Bahia and the Presidente Dutra Highway, connecting Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, known as Via Dutra, were initiated. During his administration, he also created the National War College in October of 1948, with the support of the United States.

Source: National Archive

Summary

Fourteenth Period of the Republican Government - 31.01.1946 a 31.01.1951

Born: Cuiabá - MT, on 18.05.1883

Died: Rio de Janeiro(GB) - RJ, on 11.06.1974

Profession: Military Service (Field Marshal)

In Office: 31.01.1946 to 31.01.1951 (05y)

Age when assuming office: 61 years old

Type of election: direct

Votes received: 3.251.507

Inauguration: 31.01.1946, in Congress, at the Palácio Tiradentes - Rio de Janeiro

Leave of Office: from 17 to 26.05.1949 when he was invited by the Government of the United States, a period when he was substituted by the Vice President

Observation: The lack of records of the inauguration of Eurico Gaspar Dutra in the Inauguration Book is the only one that cannot be explained. Elected by direct vote and in conformity with all constitutional provisions, his inauguration was before Congress and should have been recorded in the Book

Source: Library