

## CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
WEST SIBLEY HALL

4 July 1970

Dear Sérgio,

The time has passed quickly since I last wrote you ages ago. In the meantime I completed my dissertation ("Rivers & Empire: The Madeira Route and the Incorporation of the Brazilian Far West, 1737-1808"), and have received my Ph.D. to become a ~~xx~~ bona fide member of the union of academics.

I hope to be able to see you in the near future. My wife and ~~aaa~~ will be visiting Brazil this coming August. We will spend most of our time in the Amazon, but I expect to spend a few days in São Paulo, where I hope we will find you. I will drop you another note just before you leave to let you know when we plan to be in São Paulo.

As I think I told you before, I was forced to cut the dissertation into half for the time being. Thus, my thesis only included the geopolitical and economic aspects of the Madeira route. During the next year I hope to write perhaps eight more chapters dealing with: fluvial ~~x~~ transport; the kinds of vessels and provisions carried; a study of disease and medicines; a study ~~cdxx~~ of the merchants, Indian laborers, slaves, and soldiers in the crews; the scientists who traveled the Madeira and wrote about it (A.R. Ferreira, Lacerda e Almeida, Almeida Serra, et. al.); and a study of the Mura and Mundurucu who kept the Portuguese alert and resisted the encroachments of river convoys and settlement. I naturally am very anxious to talk to you about these subjects, and hopefully, to see your new edition of Monções, which I assume is now completed or near completion.

I hope that all is going well for you and your family. I suppose you have noticed that the United States is beginning to have political problems similar to those that have been traditionally considered only "Latin American." I hope we can talk at length about these matters.

Give my best to your family,

um abraço,



PS I will bring a copy of my dissertation for your use.