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Brazil: Fuel Rationing Continues During Oil Workers' Strike

by Barbara Khol Category/Department: General Published: Tuesday, March 12, 1991

On March 4, President Fernando Collor de Mello and members of his cabinet decided to continue fuel rationing across the country until the end of a strike by employees of the state-run oil company, PETROBRAS. The rationing program was originally introduced to cut consumption during the Persian Gulf conflict. According to a report by Infrastructure Minister Ozires Silva, oil consumption over the previous 45 days dropped by 5 million barrels. As of March 4, 200 strikers had been fired. Ozires Silva said dismissals would continue. On March 7, Ozires Silva told reporters that fuel shortages are expected to develop in certain areas of the country within the next few days. Thursday marked the 10th day of the oil workers' strike, which has mainly affected refineries. (Basic data from Correio Braziliense, 03/05/91, 03/08/91)

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