



Comandante Ferraz Antarctic Station

Photo: Luciano Candisani

## Letter of acknowledgement addressed to the Commandant of the Brazilian Navy, by the Members of Parliament, for visiting the Comandante Ferraz Antarctic Station

Dear Commandant,

First of all, we would like to congratulate you for the excellent job that you have been developing ahead of the Brazilian Navy.

We acknowledge the value that the Armed Forces in the country, mainly in view of the great challenges that the institution faces in order to ensure order, security and the development of the nation. Among the important activities carried out by the Brazilian Navy, we would like to highlight the valuable Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR), which we had the opportunity to get to know more profoundly in March of this year, due to your invitation.

The research work and sustainable exploitation of Antarctica have unique scientific value.

The continent has a great influence on the global climate system, in addition to being a peculiar natural environment and little altered by humans. The studies carried out in this region are able to bring new knowledge to the world, contributing to the fields of Oceanography, Biology, Marine Biology, Glaciology, Geology, Meteorology, among others.

The Brazilian Navy is present in the Antarctic continent for over thirty years, allowing not only the development of research and Science, but also logistical support of great magnitude and complex operations. This parliament recognizes the essential nature of work undertaken in the region, whose contributions to the modern world include both scientific as well as strategic advances for Brazil.

The recent visit confirmed that the Navy has exercised an activity of complex logistics, in which civil and military citizens face the distance, isolation and the intense cold to contribute to the advancement and development of the country. The obstacles and difficulties are evident, but the institution stands out for organization, zeal and discipline associated with the dedication and patriotic spirit of its members, which has been instrumental in ensuring the success of the operations in recent decades.

The efforts to rebuild the Antarctic station prove the ability of the Brazilian armed forces to overcome the elements with will power and professionalism. We recognize that the existence and maintenance of the program depend not only on the excellent military operations, but also on the parliamentary action, in order to ensure the necessary support for the efforts that have been done.

Therefore, we put ourselves available to assist in the expansion and qualification of PROANTAR, reinforcing our esteem for the project.

We thank the Brazilian Navy for the rendered services and for the opportunity to get to know in a deeper and more profound way the jobs that are developed in the Antarctic continent. By giving us the opportunity to perform this visit, we were able to visualize our country's construction of the future.

Brasília, March 24 2015.