

Brazil seeks Lat Am's first nuke sub

by UPI

BRASILIA, Brazil -- Brazil is talking with France about obtaining the technology it needs to become the owner of the first nuclear-powered submarine in Latin America. Brazilian Defense Ministry spokesman Jose Ramos said his country has nuclear reactors and the ability to produce nuclear fuel, but not the technology to build a nuclear sub, Mercopress reported Monday. "Any defense-related agreement that may eventually be signed with France must include the transfer of technology," he said. Defense Minister Nelson Jobim was in France last week to discuss the possible purchase of a diesel-powered submarine that would serve as a model for development of a nuclear-powered version, Ramos said. Ramos said France, in return, has expressed interest in Brazil's jungle warfare expertise.

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