

25 aug 22 - FUNAI president offers support to member of the military arrested for "renting" indigenous land

<https://www.sinaldefumaca.com/en/2022/08/25/funai-president-offers-support-to-member-of-the-military-arrested-for-renting-indigenous-land/>

["You can rest assured,"](#) said Marcelo Xavier, president of FUNAI, the Brazilian indigenous people agency, [to Jussielson da Silva, who replied, "You are my support. Knowing you're with me makes happy."](#) At the time, Silva was the head of FUNAI in Ribeirão da Cascalheira (MT). [Today, the former Marine, sworn in during Bolsonaro's government, is in jail for collecting bribes to illegally rent pastures in the Marãiwatséd indigenous reserve.](#) Silva, and two former police officers, are being investigated for embezzlement and criminal association. The Federal Police investigations found 70,000 head of cattle in 42 locations in the reserve. A Federal Police report forwarded to a Federal Court states that ["it is possible to conclude that the president of the agency, Marcelo, is aware of what is going on and that it is possible that he is supporting the illegal activity under investigation \(leasing on indigenous land\)."](#)