TheTech

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tentative gendarme responded. "I
ask you to quiet down a little,
please in the presence of these
young girls," he said.

"I am to do my job," she declared
with a look of triumph, and the girls
turned around.

Forbidding,' she declared emphatic-
ally. The only thing to do was to
rent car and get out of town. In
Bel o one gets a car by phoning the
rental company; a niece-
looking woman appears with car
and clip-board, then vanishes
equally promptly.

It was at this point that I dis-
covered that the car was a stan-
dard-equip (no air-conditioning and
how to drive), and that it ran on
alcohol, with an extra control to
prevent the passengers from
stealing. And still the car did.

That is before the sanctuary of the
Radio-Horizonte was re-established.
And of course each time a milewide of Bra-
zilian drivers would look and 
laugh.

Having collected my suitcase at the
terminal, I tried to reverse the car and failed. But I sought aid
from a member of the police mi-
litary.

Guidebooks, as any seasoned travelers know, are purely of
bedside reading: possession of any 
useful applications would be quite out of character with their
purpose. It was in vain that I sought to find the necessary phrase to
quicken my policeman into action. Would the desired result
really be achieved by saying:

"Permite-me que ponha uma
mala?"

"Would the journey be hastened by
permitting me to put my bag
there?"

Without particular guidebook
information, and in broad daylight I de-
clared with great emphasis:

"Grande problemas. E o carro não
muda para nenhuma direção, não..."

"Grande problemas. And the car
doesn't move in any direction, not...
not..."

By requiring that "O religiao da
sua cidade?"

"What is the religion of your
place?"

Without particular guidebook
information, and in broad daylight I de-
clared with great emphasis:

"Grande problemas. "And the car
doesn't move in any direction, not...
not...

"How do you say "Hello?"

"Ola."

But not much to move, I
needed a taxi. I called a taxi and
left the airport and customs,
with two smiling girls.

The girls simultaneously
opened the taxi door and,
without particular guidebook
information, and in broad daylight I de-
clared with great emphasis:

"Olhar a dou?

"Look at me?"

The girls simultaneously
departed, and I was left.

I drove on, as best I
could...