

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Brazilians Starve, U. S. Dallies

(EDITORS' NOTE: Drew Pearson has now returned to Washington. He still has some important news gathered behind the Iron Curtain and will alternate this material with columns from Washington.)

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON, May 28—Here are some of the backstage reasons why our good neighbors in Latin America have soured on the United States.

While Vice President Nixon was advocating sports and culture to win friends in Latin America, the State Department had dilly-dallied about sending some of our huge reserves of food to the starving population of sun-parched eastern Brazil.

The blistering drought has burned up the crops and dried up the streams of Brazil's easternmost hump, causing terrible human suffering. Poverty-stricken peasants, particularly babies, have been dying by the dozens of malnutrition.



SPARKS

milk. Dried milk, of course, requires water to mix. Since people are scratching holes in dry river beds for water, the dried milk would be about as useless as dust in most of the stricken areas.

COOLEY HAS called upon the Agriculture department for a complete inventory of surplus food available for shipment to Brazil. He has also asked the State Department to cable Brazil again to clear the way for food shipments.

One man in Washington who has tried to do something about this drought is Harold Cooley, hard-working chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Cooley has been on the telephone to the State and Agriculture Departments, calling for an emergency airlift to rush food from our surplus stocks.

The North Carolina Congressman learned, however, that all the State Department did about the Brazilian famine was send one cable offering dried

He is also trying to bring Brazilian ambassador Peixoto before the Agriculture Committee to report on Brazil's famine needs.

When State Department officials heard of Cooley's plan to call the ambassador, they cautioned it would violate diplomatic protocol. A foreign ambassador they said does not appear before a congressional committee.

"Protocol isn't worth a tinker's dam to starving people," the North Carolinian snorted. Meanwhile, he has received reports that the



ALLEN DULLES

Communists are using the famine to stir up Brazilians against the United States. Cooley hopes to counteract Communist propaganda with something more tangible than good will speeches.

Secretary Dulles may call off his good will trip to South America this July.

His brother Allen, head of Central Intelligence, has warned him that the Communists are plotting riots against him similar to those against Nixon. John Foster had planned

to visit the other South American nations which Nixon skipped. Rep. Charles Porter, vigorous critic of dictators, has been invited by Venezuela to visit Caracas. They say they'll show the congressman how the dictators treat Americans who share their views about dictators. . . . Nixon returned from his tour of South America furious at the State Department. He's now determined to do something even if it means tangling with Secretary Dulles. He wants the resignation of assistant Secretary of State Roy Rubottom, in charge of Latin American affairs, plus a reorganization of the State Department and the recall of at least four ambassadors.

Actually some of the envoys in Latin America are among the best in the service. Ambassador Edward Sparks in Venezuela performed heroic jobs in Bolivia and Guyana; while Ted Achilles in Peru, where Nixon also suffered indignities, is an expert. . . . This was Nixon didn't follow their advice.

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