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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON

April 27, 1966

MEMORANDUM

To: The President  
The White House

From: Orville L. Freeman  
Secretary of Agriculture

Subject: Brazil -- Venezuela -- On spot review of current  
Agriculture -- Political situation

I. Political

A. Brazil

The current political climate is peculiar. I would estimate that as few as 20 percent of the public support the current administration. Planning Minister Campos and President Castello Branco and most of the Cabinet seem to consider their lack of political effort and appeal, a virtue. They freely acknowledge that only Ney Braga, the Minister of Agriculture, has any voter appeal or public magnetism.

They are carrying out an austere, harsh, courageous, intelligent ed down inflation and partially public, particularly labor, consumers, ecially in the Northeast, grows more other hand, everyone remembers the e Goulart period and how close Brazil t is difficult to judge but with the lart still close, the likelihood is erate political ineptness so long as tegrity and sincerity of the leader- e term of President Branco is hazard-

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 29, 1966

TO MR. KINTNER

FROM W. W. BOSTOW

e Silva, Minister of War, has pre- n stop his selection by the Government as the next President this fall. to his leadership. He claims that he , tough economic policies of Branco me prestige. He is reportedly short scious, and prone to alcohol. This y.

Aug +  
Nothing else sent to  
Central Files as of 2/29/66  
L.B.