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## EASTERN EUROPE

Comment on President Johnson's Asian tour and the Manila Conference was generally sparse in the East European press. Two main points made in the commentary that did appear were that President Johnson was attempting to gain added support for the Vietnam war from his Asian "satellites" and to enhance his political image both at home and abroad.

Albania

The only comment in the Albanian press on President Johnson's Asian trip, as of 13 October, was the following item in the Tirana daily, Bashkimi, on 7 October.

"The unexpected announcement about this extensive tour of the US President did not cause any astonishment in press circles in various countries. The first comments made by these circles characterize this trip as a preliminary attempt by Johnson to secure from the satellite governments to which he talks greater support for and involvement in the aggressive policy of US imperialism in Vietnam. It is said in these circles that Johnson will persuade the governments participating in the Manila Conference to send more military forces to South Vietnam so that US aggression in this country might take on an international color.

"As it has been announced, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, and the puppet government in South Korea have sent military forces to South Vietnam, but Johnson does not think that the participation of these countries in the dirty aggression against the Vietnamese people is sufficient. During his trip and at the Manila Conference he will exert pressure for a greater involvement of these countries in the aggression."

Bulgaria

In a unique display of unprecedented silence, all but one of the available central papers (Rabotnichesko delo, Kooperativno selo, and Narodna Armija) did not publish, during the period 6-15 October, either any TASS/BTA press bulletins or any commentary regarding the President's announced Asian trip. Only Zemedelsko zname (organ of the Bulgarian People's Agricultural Union), in a page 4 item datelined Washington, reported highlights of the 6 October press conference, including the itinerary, but adding: "It is said here in Washington that the President will also visit Saigon because, according to observers, of the necessity to appear in photographs with US troops in South Vietnam before the US elections."

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Moderate List 14 Colorado daily El Dia relied on two small UPI and Reuters dispatches for its coverage, in its 7 and 9 October issues. EL Debate (Blanco Party daily) reported the trip on 7 October, and List 15 Colorado daily Accion carried ANSA dispatches in its 6 and 7 October issues. Independent conservative Blanco UFD El Plata carried only an ANSA Canberra communique on 6 October, followed by an AP Tokyo dispatch giving the official North Vietnam view on 10 October. Colorado List 99 Hechos carried dispatches on the international page of the 6 and 8 October issues, both stressing the "peace offensive" in their headlines. Catholic B. P. Color relied on short AFP and Reuters dispatches on 7 and 8 October for coverage.

### Venezuela

Between 7 and 11 October, there was little coverage of President Johnson's trip in the Venezuelan press and, up to 14 October, no editorial comment. Caracas papers picked up several Reuters, AP, AFP, and UPI items from Sydney, Tokyo, Wellington, and Moscow on planned anti-Johnson demonstrations and anti-Johnson commentary by North Vietnam and Moscow spokesmen.

All Caracas papers scanned carried AP, AFP, or UPI reports of the trip. Afternoon papers carried the news on the international page on 6 October, and morning papers carried it on the international page on 7 October. Only one paper, the independent conservative La Esfera, carried the news on the front page in the form of a good-sized headline. The body of the article was carried on the international page. Two papers, La Esfera and the leftist Liberal El Nacional, published a photograph of President Johnson at the press conference when he made the announcement. All of the papers, with the exception of El Nacional, devoted one very short column to the item. El Nacional's coverage was slightly more extensive.

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Malagasy Republic

After ignoring the President's trip in its 9 October issue, the Fianarantsoa Catholic weekly newspaper, Lumiere, carried brief comments on both the trip and the Manila Conference on 16 October, in Michel Capillon's column. After referring to the conference as "a plan that is getting off to a bad start," Capillon said that although "in the eyes of US observers, the [President's] trip to Asia is an important step ... in our opinion, it should have no direct effect on the Vietnamese situation."

Le Courrier de Madagascar, independent daily newspaper published in Tananarive, made no mention of the trip during the period 7-12 October.

Mauritius

Le Mauricien, Port-Louis opposition daily newspaper, contained only one mention of the President's trip during the period 7-14 October. On 7 October, the paper front-paged a resume of a Reuters report on the itinerary.

Morocco

All but one of the available newspapers failed to report on the President's trip between 7 and 10 October. Progovernment al'Alam, Rabat daily, carried a brief factual report on 7 October.

Senegal

A survey of the Dakar independent daily Dakar-Matin for the period 6-15 October revealed only one brief news article--in the 7 October issue--reporting on the President's trip and itinerary.

The available issues of the Dakar independent daily Info-Senegal through 14 October contained no reference to the trip.

Somali Republic

Through 15 October, the Mogadiscio progovernment daily Corriere della Somalia referred twice, without comment, to the President's trip. It carried a brief news item in its 9 October issue reporting the exclusion of Japan from the itinerary and a similar item on 15 October stating that the President will visit Kuala Lumpur.

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Italy

Of the seven daily newspapers reviewed, only l'Unita, Communist CP organ published in Rome, had any commentary on the President's trip. An unsigned Saigon dispatch appearing on page 3 of this paper's 17 October issue presumed that the President "planned his long itinerary with an eye on the forthcoming US elections" and speculated that he "will probably spend at least a couple of hours in South Vietnam" in relative safety at an American base, to enable him to return to the US and say that he "has been at the front." l'Unita said that the visit to Saigon was being urged by allies at the Manila Conference, who "are in desperate need of something to raise their low prestige." Yet, the leaders of these Saigon collaborators say that there can be no talk of peace "because they have never been so close to victory," and talk again of the possibility, necessity, and ease of an invasion of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam."

The other papers, reviewed for the period 6-14 October, covered the announcement and itinerary of the trip in news dispatches from Washington or New York dealing with the 6 October Presidential press conference. These dispatches, all dated 6 October, were published for the most part on page one of the 7 October edition. Avanti!, Italian Socialist Party organ published in Rome, also featured a map of the itinerary and a small photograph of the President in its 8 October issue. The other papers covered in the survey are: conservative Corriere della Sera, Milan; center Il Messaggero, Rome; Christian Democratic Il Popolo, Rome; and independent La Stampa, Turin.

Luxembourg

Zeitung vom Letzeburger Vollek (Luxembourg CP daily), the only available Luxembourg paper, made no mention of the President's visit until 17 October, when an unsigned article titled "Johnson Visits His War Zone" reviewed the itinerary on page one with the comment that, apparently, "Johnson may be going to South Vietnam to visit US bases," and adding, "It is also a matter of conjecture whether the trip is being undertaken to promote peace or to help Johnson in the elections."

The Netherlands

Two of the four major Dutch dailies reviewed for the general period 6-15 October had some commentary on the President's trip. De Waarheid, CP organ published in Amsterdam, carried in its 7 October issue an editorial-style article calling the announcement of the trip a facet in the US "propaganda offensive" aimed at depicting

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North Vietnam

The first North Vietnamese press reaction appeared on 9 October, when Nhan Dan, official party organ, carried a small article on page 4 (last page) headlined "Johnson Prepares to Attend a Deceitful 'Peace' Conference in Asia." After reporting the President's announcement factually, Nhan Dan pointed out that the President, on the one hand, had claimed that the Manila Conference was aimed at discussing the prospects of a peaceful solution to the war in Vietnam but, on the other hand, he had disclosed that his Asian tour "had no other aim than to push the US war escalation policy." It noted that at the press conference on 6 October, the President had declared that "he would make an all-around review of the military situation in Vietnam at the conference and had stressed that the US did not want to surrender or withdraw."

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the article, particularly in view of the fact that the trip was announced at approximately the same time that "Secretary of State Rusk dismissed U Thant's proposals" and after President Johnson had "ignored the peace proposals of De Gaulle." Piasecka also alluded to political reasons for the trip, stating that the announcement of President Johnson's trip was "dictated to a considerable extent by US domestic policy" and is "a 'political manipulation' which undermines the sincerity of his peaceful intentions."

#### Rumania

The only comment on the Manila Conference and President Johnson's Asian tour in the available Rumanian daily press, as of 16 October, was the following item by T. Florian in the Bucharest newspaper, Minca, on 8 October.

"The official objective of the meeting -- the reviewing of the prospects for 'peaceful negotiations' on the Vietnamese problem -- is intended to comfort the increasing number of American voters who disapprove of Washington's policy in Southeast Asia. Beyond the stated goal, the Manila Conference aims at intensifying the involvement of the participating countries -- to a large extent dependent on the US from an economic point of view -- in the war in Vietnam.

"Many Asian countries, which have realized that at the Manila Conference the US intends only to tie its partners more closely to its aggressive policy in the southeastern part of the great Asian continent, will have nothing to do with the coming conference. Moreover, Takezo Shomoda, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, stated at a press conference that the visit of President Johnson to Japan would be undesirable since it is connected with the war in Vietnam. He added that it is not desirable for Johnson even to stop in Tokyo on his way to Manila...."

#### Yugoslavia

In a telephoned report datelined 7 October to the Belgrade daily, Politika, of 8 October, M. Radojcic, the paper's regular correspondent in New York, began with the statement that "the greatest anguish to Lyndon Johnson and to his administration is its loss of 'the element of plausibility,' as less and less credence is being placed in its proclamations, especially in the sphere of diplomacy related to the war in Vietnam." Radojcic then cited a question which the New York Times said should have been, but was not, asked at the President's press conference of 6 October: "Can the US constantly expand the war in Vietnam, prepare for still greater warfare in the coming year, and at the same time effectuate discussions with Hanoi?" He also cited Senator Fulbright's comment that the President's meeting would be with

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In the evening edition's "Soxyushi" [Brief] column of this day, this paper had this to say regarding President Johnson's message to Prime Minister Sato:

"President Johnson will not visit Japan. We are grateful to him for sending a message to advise us to this effect. We believe this non-visit is a very wise move."

On 9 October, the Nihon Keizai printed a commentary by Saito, entitled, "Johnson's Trip of Persuasion," which said, in part:

"From the composition of the Manila Conference, the impression one gathers is that it is being called strictly for 'military evaluation' rather than as a gathering to search for peace. Thus, President Johnson should, during his trip, exert his every effort to explain and impress the leaders he meets of the US desire to achieve peace.... Japan must keep her hands off since she is not involved in the Vietnam war.... An opportunity will come in the future for Japan to act as the peacemaker in Asia...."

#### India

Two Indian daily newspapers, the Hindustan Times of New Delhi and the Hindu of Madras, received up to 13 and 14 October, respectively, contained no mention of the announcement of President Johnson's extended trip nor any comments on the forthcoming meeting in Manila.

#### Indonesia

As of 7 October 1966, Djakarta dailies Angkatan Bersendjata, the organ of the Armed Forces, and Duta Masyarakat, a progovernment Moslem paper, carried no mention of the trip.

#### Malaysia

Despite the fact that President Johnson is scheduled to visit Malaysia, the independent Kuala Lumpur daily Berita Harian and its Sunday edition, Berita Minggu, by 9 October had not yet commented editorially on the visit nor on the Manila Conference.

On 7 October, the newspaper, under the headline "Johnson Coming Here," stated that Kuala Lumpur has announced that Johnson will visit Malaysia at the invitation of Yang di-Pertuan Agong which was tendered by the Prime Minister in Washington in 1964. On 8 October, the same newspaper carried a

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Czechoslovakia

There was no comment on President Johnson's Asian tour in the available Czechoslovak press through 15 October.

East Germany

The East German press thus far has published almost no editorial comment on President Johnson's Asian trip. The 8 October issue of the central party daily, Neues Deutschland (East Berlin), noted: "President Johnson wants to tie in with his participation at the Manila Conference ... of aggression partners, visits to New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, Thailand, and South Korea.... According to the Associated Press, political observers consider the trip a domestic political power play to raise his image prior to the congressional elections and they consider it a demonstration of determination by the US to sharpen further the war in South Vietnam with the help of her allies."

A brief item in the 8 October issue of the Halle provincial party daily, Freiheit, contained the following comment under the headline, "Johnson's Visit in Japan Not Desired": "US President Johnson announced at a press conference in Washington on Thursday plans to attend what has been termed a 'peace conference' in Manila and to undertake an Asian tour in connection with this. He evaded a clear answer to the demand by former President Eisenhower to use nuclear weapons in Vietnam and said the USA is not prepared 'to capitulate or back down.' In New Zealand and Australia the news of Johnson's Asian trip has caused a large number of peace organizations to appeal to the population for protest actions. Deputy Foreign Minister Takezo Shimoda of Japan declared that a visit by Johnson, if made in connection with the Vietnam war, was not desired in Japan. The government of Cambodia again protested on Thursday against another American-South Vietnamese air attack on Cambodian territory."

Hungary

Hungarian reaction was immediate and unambiguous, stamping the Manila Conference as a "war council" of American puppets. The 9 October issue of the Budapest political weekly Magyarorszag published an article by Ervin Reti on the Philippines (possibly written before the President's press conference announcing the trip, but certainly written in the certain belief that the trip would take place) warning of "political escalation" by the US of the Vietnamese war. President Marcos' proposal for a Manila conference was "born in America," the article said, adding that President Marcos was well paid (in honors and promises of economic and military aid) for pretending to be the originator of the idea. Another "payment" was the promise to evacuate

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affirmed that the "campaign" which the President is undertaking is much more a "publicity" than an electoral campaign. He suggested that the President has in mind, not so much the re-election of a number of (Democratic) senators or representatives, as an expansion of his concept of the "Great Society" for the US. along to a similar concept "which would group together the peoples on both sides of the Pacific who are determined to fight against the Communist peril." The correspondent also asserted that the President "knows that the U.S. will not win the war in Vietnam on a purely military plane before the end of his mandate."

The 18 October issue of Le Figaro carried a front-page headline reading, "President Johnson: 'I Leave You to Undertake a Mission Full of Hope'; a number of international news agency reports on the President's trip on page 4; and a front-page photograph showing the President with Vice-President Humphrey prior to the President's departure.

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Chile

The Santiago daily press of 6-11 October gave light wire service coverage to the Johnson trip to Southeast Asia. Clarín of 7 October carried a UPI item, El Mercurio of the same date carried an AP dispatch, and El Diario Ilustrado of 8 October published a UPI item.

The only editorial specifically on the subject appeared in the 10 October 1966 issue of the moderate conservative El Mercurio, which stated that President Johnson's trip will enable him to sound out viewpoints on the Vietnamese war and possibilities for arriving at a peaceful settlement, as well as to strengthen his personal prestige on the eve of a "difficult" election. The editorial noted a recent decline, as indicated by the polls, in the President's popularity, but added that "the decline is apparently not directly connected with the Vietnamese war." The paper also noted the inclusion of Malaysia on the itinerary, pointing out that of these countries, Malaysia alone has thus far abstained from direct intervention. It added that this could be the prelude to more active participation, which, in turn, underlines the importance of the change of line in Indonesia's policy after Sukarno's departure.

Government-owned La Nación of 9 October 1966 carried an editorial discussing possible prospects for peace resulting from the Manila Conference. It called the meeting a unilateral one, and said that the Communists' stand that any attempted reconciliation without the prior withdrawal of US troops from Vietnam will be futile makes the purpose of the conference more a revision of the policy to pursue than an "entente" among nations, and therefore cannot be a prelude to definitive peace.

Colombia

Brief UPI, AFP, and Reuters dispatches announcing President Johnson's Asian trip appeared in eight issues of the available principal Bogota newspapers for the period 6-17 October. Only libera. daily El Tiempo of 17 October provided comment in an article "from Tokyo" by Jorge Mario Eastman.

The editorial-page article by Eastman pointed to President Johnson's trip as laying the groundwork for a policy aimed at "peace in Vietnam." The West, said the article, has "proven time and again its inability to understand the Eastern mentality...and hence its analyses are often foolish, incorrect, and incoherent." But now, concluded Eastman, "Johnson's presence is proof of the good will and the desire for agreements of the United States. Thus it is to be expected that we democrats view this event as the beginning of a new policy: becoming acquainted with and treating Asia as it is and not as we Westerners would like it to be." The President's trip to Asia, said Eastman, is "an important event which could no longer be delayed. Near the theater of operations, events take on new dimensions and the war in Vietnam can be interpreted and understood in a different light, as can the policy of Red China as seen by Asians or the limits of effective Western

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President's trip. The Kansan Uutiset comment was carried on 14 October in the "Reflections from Foreign Countries" column written by Paavo Ruonaniemi, who said that the Republican Party leaders had accused the President of being politically motivated in his peace efforts. The columnist claimed that the Republicans had pointed out that "Johnson is trying to perform some sort of miracle by November," adding that "the Peace campaign is part of this miracle, of which the most important part is the Manila Conference." He also asserted that the "propaganda" nature of the conference was very apparent and that President Johnson was trying to have "all the attention focused on himself." Kansan Uutiset was scanned through the 16 October issue.

Social Democratic Suomen Sosialidemokraatti (through 17 October) and independent Helsingin Sanomat (through 10 October) each carried only a short news item on the itinerary and preparations for the trip. Conservative Uusi Suomi (through 10 October) carried nothing on the President's trip.

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Australia, New Zealand, and South Korea are engaged in South Vietnam with their own combat units. Washington considers them, as well as the Philippines which has sent technical assistance to South Vietnam, its most unproblematic allies.

"President Johnson intends, in connection with the Manila conference, to undertake an extended trip through the countries of his Pacific and Asian allies. The applause which he is almost sure to draw in friendly capitals will hardly bring him more battalions for the war in Vietnam, but will yield new ammunition for his US election campaign."

The 12 October issue of the Duesseldorf Handelsblatt (right-center) pointed out in a front-page editorial by Heinrich Bechtoldt on "the Manila conference" that there are frequent speculations that President Johnson wants the conference to demonstrate that he has allies in the Vietnam war; however, the editorial said, it is more important to make clear to the Asian countries not participating (i.e. China and North Korea) that the US has no intention of overthrowing other regimes, in view of its intervention in South Vietnam. It said, furthermore, that although the conference will discuss the military situation, the chief consideration will be given to the end of the war and a peaceful rule in Vietnam. It pointed out that only those engaged in Vietnam as US allies will attend the conference, but that others not attending would be willing mediators in the war. "But all Asian countries have gained from successful American intervention in Vietnam which has freed them from the Chinese threat. The fact that Asian countries are consulting in various groupings shows that they are conscious of a greater freedom of action. This was not the case a year ago," the editorial stated.

On 11 October, the Munich independent Sueddeutsche Zeitung, in a report from its correspondent in Singapore, said that "Malaysia is surprised that the American president intends to visit that country" and discussed the possible reasons for this in reviewing Malaysia's position in the East-West struggle, citing Malaysia's pro-American position on the Vietnam question combined with an officially "independent" foreign policy.

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Japan

Between 7 and 9 October, the Nihon Keizai (conservative), English-language Japan Times (conservative), and Asahi Shimbun (moderate left) of Tokyo gave prominent coverage to the announcement and the forthcoming trip of President Johnson. In contrast, the JCP organ, Akahata, made no mention of the announcement or the trip in its issues of 7 and 9 October 1966.

On 7 October, the Nihon Keizai and the Japan Times reported the announcement as a straight news dispatch from Washington and Canberra, respectively, while the Asahi Shimbun reported it as a news item, pointing out that the focus of attention should be directed toward the reaction of the American people to the trip, particularly from the standpoint of the coming November elections. The Asahi Shimbun of this date also carried a number of other items related to the trip; they included:

1. The press conference comment of Foreign Vice Minister Shimoda stating that because of inopportune moment Japan was not planning to invite the President at this time.
2. News dispatches from Seoul, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, and Canberra.
3. Dispatches from its Washington correspondent, Kawamura, remarking that the trip, though claimed to be one "without any plan," could be a trip to appease the "Allies" for their exclusion from the Hawaii meeting early this year and to portray the image to the American people, "in the face of the coming November elections, that effort is being made by the Administration to achieve the solidarity of the "Allies."
4. The President's message to Prime Minister Sato clarifying that he plans not to visit Japan since a visit at this time may incite adverse reaction in Japan, and Prime Minister Sato's reply to this message.

On 8 October, the Asahi Shimbun printed an editorial entitled "US President's Trip to Asia," in which it said, in part:

"We are anxious to see what the post-Manila Conference will be -- peaceful settlement or escalation of war.... We are opposed to the use of nuclear weapons to shorten the war because this will lead only to grave consequences... We oppose participation of more nations in the conflict because this means expansion of war.... Japan's effort must be directed toward the peaceful settlement of the war..."

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influence in this continent. The choice of the Philippines as the starting point for this historic trip was a good one... since it has the closest ties with Western culture."

#### Costa Rica

The San Jose press, reviewed for the period 6-9 October, carried no editorial comment on the President's trip. Coverage provided was as follows:

La Nacion (anti-PLM) -- UPI releases were carried in three issues. These covered the actual setting of the date, the announcement of the countries on the President's itinerary, and a picture of him making the announcement.

La Prensa Libre (moderately conservative) -- AP releases were carried on three of the four days. These releases gave President Johnson's itinerary; said he was trying to placate Asian nationalism, giving reactions in various Asian countries; and included a release from Tokyo concerning Communist efforts to make propaganda out of the trip. The latter are charging it is purely a political trip to the "US satellites" before the US elections.

#### Cuba

Of the Cuban government-controlled press, only the Communist Party daily Granma, published in Havana, was available for review, for the period 6-14 October. It ignored President Johnson's trip to Asia except for one Prensa Latina item from Phnom Penh, published on 10 October, which reported Radio Cambodia as calling the Asian trip a US attempt to get more military reinforcements from its allies and "puppets" for aggression in Vietnam.

#### Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic press during the period 6-12 October gave little coverage to President Johnson's Asian trip. The Santo Domingo moderate daily Listin Diario carried an AP story, without comment, in its 7 October issue.

#### Ecuador

Papers were reviewed for the period 6-8 October. There was no editorial comment on President Johnson's trip in either Quito or Guayaquil dailies. With Ecuador in the midst of elections for a constituent assembly, the press was concerned primarily with election issues and candidates.

Papers from Quito and Guayaquil, with the exception of the liberal, anti-Communist El Universo of Guayaquil, carried AP and UPI versions of the President's announcement. El Universo did not pick up the item. All other papers reported the trip plans on 7 October. El Comercio of Quito was the only paper to print the news on the front page, along with a montage

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## WESTERN EUROPE

During the period of this survey, the President's Asian trip caused little excitement in the West European press. A substantial number of the papers reviewed made no mention whatever of the trip, and a solid majority gave brief factual reports with little or no comment.

In the papers which presented considerable editorial comment or interpretative articles, the concensus was that the President's trip and the Manila Conference would have little or no effect on the war in Vietnam. A majority of the commentators took the view that the trip was planned largely for its domestic political value.

The Communist press was very cautious in its treatment. In six countries, interpretation was not offered, the Communist press ignoring the trip completely or giving only brief factual reports. Where commentary was made, it was brief and mild in tone. Several Communist papers stressed the domestic political aspect of the trip as much as its international significance.

Austria

Of the four major Vienna dailies (Arbeiter-Zeitung, Die Presse, Volksblatt, and Volksstimme) reviewed for the general period 6-16 October, only independent Die Presse of 7 October mentioned, without comment, the President's trip in an undated UPI/Reuters/AFP Washington news dispatch headed, "Johnson Denies Vietnam Visit."

Belgium

Of the four Brussels newspapers reviewed for the general period from 6 to 17 October, only the independent daily Le Soir failed to mention the President's trip to the Far East.

The 7 October issue of Le Drapeau Rouge, weekly organ of the Belgian Communist Party, carried an article by S. Nudelhole entitled "The Price of a Vietnamese," which appeared in the column "The State of the World." Nudelhole referred to Ambassador Goldberg's address to the UN and stated that despite his words, "the US does not always seem disposed to follow this road. A little after Goldberg assured the UN of Washington's peaceful intentions, the White House announced that President Johnson would go to Manila to a summit conference on Vietnam." There was no mention of the trip in the paper's 14 October issue.

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Communist-lining I Avgi buried a factual report on the trip announcement in the midst of a back-page report on 7 October. On the following day, the paper carried a special service report from Washington under the heading, "White House Refuses To Confirm or Deny Rumors That President Johnson Will Visit Vietnam During His Asian Trip." On 9 October, another factual report that Hawaii was to be the first stop on the itinerary was buried in a back-page report whose headline referred to "American Barbarisms in Vietnam."

### Iraq

The following Iraqi newspapers, all progovernment, were reviewed for the period 7-11 October: Al-Fajr al-Jadid, Al-Jumhuriyyah, and Al-Thawrah al-'Arabiyyah.

On 9 October, al-Fajr al-Jadid quoted Newsweek to the effect that the President's trip was connected with the forthcoming US elections. On 10 October, the paper carried a full translation of the Newsweek article concerned.

On 7 October, al-Jumhuriyyah carried a very short factual report on page 1.

Al-Thawrah al-'Arabiyyah did not mention the subject at all.

### Israel

The following newspapers were reviewed for the period 7-14 October: Davar and Omer, Histadrut organs; 'Al Hamishmar, extreme leftist Mapam organ; Haarets, independent; Letzte Nyes, independent Lamerhav, leftist Ahdut 'Avodah organ; Kol Haam, organ of the "Maki Communist Faction;" Zo Haderekh, organ of the "Rakah Communist Faction;" and Frei Yisroel, organ of "Maki."

On 7 and 9 October, most papers carried UP, Reuters, and AFP dispatches, except for the three Communist organs, which did not mention anything about the President's trip. On 7 October, Davar carried a factual report in the form of a feature article by Shelomoh Shefir, the paper's correspondent in the US, under the heading "Johnson's Visit to the Far East and Military Bases in Vietnam -- A Demonstration of US Presence; The Trip Will Stress the Validity of the President's Policy of Continuing His Limited War."

### Lebanon

The available Beirut press, reviewed for the period 7-14 October, published no editorial or other forms of comment on the President's Asian trip. The following daily papers carried limited factual coverage

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Spain

Of the four major Madrid dailies reviewed for the general period 6-13 October, only the Falange organ, Arriba, and Catholic Ya provided commentaries on the President's trip. J. L. Gomez Tello wrote in the 8 October issue of Arriba that the President's trip was probably related to "considerations of internal US politics" and to the President's desire to "convince world opinion of the sincerity of his desire to end the Vietnamese conflict." The writer also commented in his one-column article entirely devoted to the trip that "everything indicates that Johnson has in mind for Asia a formula similar to that which was used in postwar Europe." Writing in the 7 October issue of Arriba, Guy Bueno commented that the President envisages a "new 'Marshall Plan' not only for Southeast Asia but also for a large part of Asia."

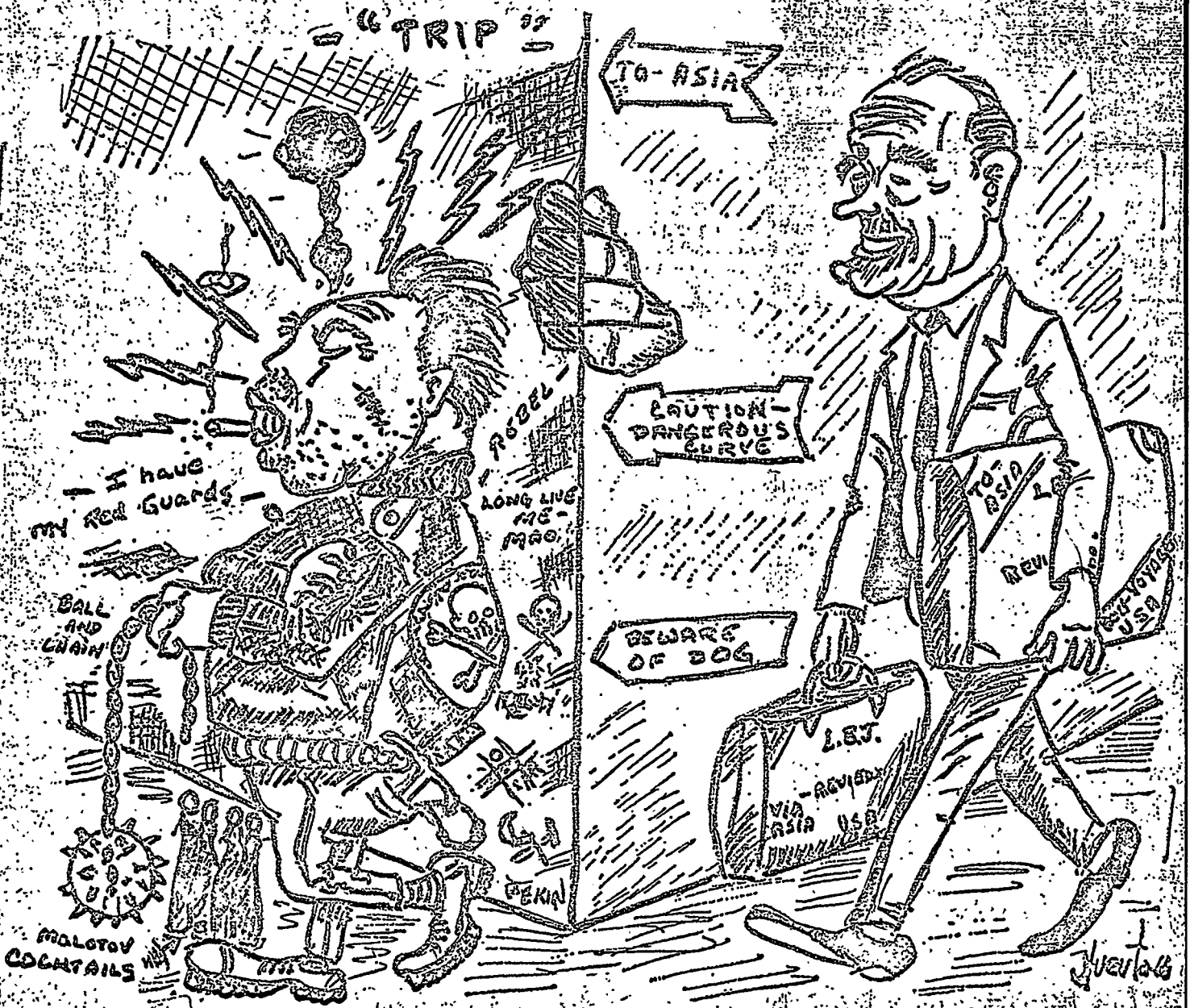
The 11 October issue of Ya provided two commentaries, one by B. Mostaza and the other by Cristobal Tamayo. The former mentioned that the President had dispatched Secretary McNamara and Katzenbach to Saigon to make preparations for his own trip there and that the President was ready to hear "in Vietnam itself both aspects of the situation -- political and military." Tamayo commented that the President was going to Southeast Asia with "considerable skepticism concerning peace, but with considerable resolution to strengthen the security of the Free World in this area."

Both monarchist ABC and independent Madrid carried short Efe news agency reports, without comment, on the President's announcement and a description of his itinerary. On 12 October, Madrid also carried excerpts from an article in an unspecified issue of the Gaullist Paris daily Paris-Jour, to the effect that Washington wanted to dispel "any idea that the Manila Conference was in the nature of a war council."

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## COMMUNIST ASIA

As of 11 October, the only reference to the President's trip by the press of the Communist states in the Far East had occurred in North Vietnam and Communist China. The North Vietnamese were the first to do so when, on 9 October, Nhan Dan, the official party organ, reported that the President had announced he was attending the Manila Conference, a conference which Nhan Dan headlined as a "deceitful conference." Communist China reacted on the same date when the People's Daily carried an article in which the President's announcement was disclosed rather incidentally within the framework of a bitter attack on what it claimed was a US effort to wage a phony "peace offensive" and to use it to mask its true aim of escalating the war. Vitriolic as the article is, it is less so than the Peiping broadcast of 9 October.

Communist China

The first reference to the President's trip in the Peiping press appeared in the 10 October issue of the People's Daily in a vitriolic article headlined "US Imperialists Collude with Soviet Revisionists in Major 'Peace Talks' Plot to Conceal Escalation of the War" and sub-headlined "Johnson to Go to Philippines for Talks with Asian and Australian Lackeys." The article, which appeared on page 4, where foreign news is generally published, was devoted largely to charging that Secretary McNamara's trip to South Vietnam was actually in preparation for escalating the war and that the new "peace offensive" which the US had launched in collusion with the Soviet revisionist leaders, the British Labor Government, UN Secretary-General U Thant, and Pope Paul was simply a swindle to mask America's true aims. Other than the reference in the sub-headline, the People's Daily merely revealed in passing, and without further comment, that the President had announced that he would visit several countries before or after the Manila Conference which, it charged, the US had plotted.

Mongolia

As of 11 October, no report of the President's trip had appeared in the Mongolian press.

North Korea

As of 11 October, no reference to the President's trip had appeared in the North Korean press.

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short article mentioning that Malaysia is preparing to welcome three important guests: the Indian Vice-President, the Japanese Foreign Minister, and President Johnson.

Pakistan

The Pakistan Observer (Decca) by 11 October had made no mention of the President's trip, either in straight news reporting or commentary.

Thailand

The Thai press scanned through 11 October contained no editorial comment on the President's trip per se but did publish several editorials endorsing the Manila Conference. The progovernment Bangkok daily Siam Rat on 1 October published an editorial on the encouraging prospects for the Manila Conference and on 11 October another progovernment daily Lak Muang editorialized on the "excellent proposal of the US for the Manila Conference."

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## MIDDLE EAST

All the available Middle Eastern press reviewed for the period 7-16 October yielded almost nothing in the way of editorials or other comments on the President's trip. Some factual reporting based on news agency dispatches appeared in few of the papers, particularly a 7 October news item from Washington to the effect that security measures were being taken to protect the President and that demonstrations were being planned in Australia and New Zealand to protest US policy and the war in Vietnam. The Arabic press, preoccupied as usual with local and regional issues, limited itself to reporting factual news agency items, without any original comment. Only a little editorializing was attempted by the non-Arab press of the area. A Cypriot Communist article accused the US of planning an "expansion of the Vietnam war at the Manila Conference, in which Johnson will participate." A Turkish editorial said that President Johnson's sincerity "should be realized by all," and noted the viewpoints on alternatives which he has before him with regard to Vietnam. An Israeli article described the President's trip as a demonstration of US presence in Vietnam and the Far East, and as a way of stressing the validity of continuing his limited-war policy. Some of the factual reports in both the Arab and non-Arab newspapers linked the trip to the forthcoming elections in the US.

Cyprus

The following daily newspapers were reviewed for the period 7-10 October: Kharavgi, Communist; Eleftheria, nationalist; and I Makhi, nationalist. I Makhi seemed to ignore the trip completely, while Eleftheria front-paged a Reuters report in its 7 October issue. Kharavgi also carried a front-page report, in its 8 October edition, in the form of a Reuters dispatch from Sidney, that demonstrations would be held to protest against his Vietnam policy when the President arrived there. On 9 October, the paper published a report on its back page claiming that the US was planning an "expansion of the Vietnam war at the Manila Conference, in which Johnson will participate."

Greece

Covered for the purposes of this survey were the Athens dailies Eleftheria, I Avgi, To Vima, and I Kathimerini for the 7-14 October period. Pro-government Eleftheria carried no reports or comments on the trip. Pro-Papandreou To Vima published a back-page factual report on 7 October stating that "Johnson will explore the possibilities for peace in Southeast Asia." Pro-government, conservative I Kathimerini also carried a factual report on its back page with the headline "President Johnson Considers the Asian Conference Important--Participating Countries to Investigate the Possibilities of a Vietnam Solution."

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Independent daily Le Monde carried front-paged factual articles on the trip in its 7 and 18 October issues. These articles reported on the President's itinerary, mentioned that he may make a surprise visit to South Vietnam, and noted that the trip has political overtones which might be helpful to the President in the forthcoming Congressional elections.

La Nation, organ of the UNR (Gaullist), made not mention of the trip through 16 October. On 17 October, an unsigned front-page article, while reporting the details of President Johnson's trip, stated that among the objectives, before the 8 November elections, was an effort "to strengthen the declining prestige of his administration." The article quoted Administration sources as stating that the Communists no longer expect a military victory, but had hoped for a political victory, with the support of US' public opinion, in the coming elections. The Johnson Administration, however, according to these sources, is assured of dealing the Communists a military defeat abroad as well as a political defeat at home. La Nation saw little hope that the Manila Conference would lead to peace in Vietnam. An article which appeared in La Nation on 18 October was merely a reiteration of remarks made by President Johnson and General Ky on the trip and the coming Manila Conference.

After carrying a brief announcement of President Johnson's trip in its 7 October issue, moderate rightist opposition daily L'Aurore on 17 October published an unsigned article reporting on the President's arrival in Honolulu and, accompanied by a map, showing his itinerary. The paper commented, "...he [President Johnson] will doubtless again dissociate Moscow from Peking and Hanoi... apparently this maneuver which was started long ago, is affecting Mao's behavior more and more positively... Nevertheless, one must not conclude from these violent statements [in the Peking press] that Moscow, despite its undeniable rapprochement with Washington, has modified its policy in regard to the Vietnam problem." The paper further speculated that, "at the 24-27 October 'Summit' Conference in Manila, where decisions will be taken affecting the whole future of Southeast Asia, Johnson will again disavow any intention of invading the North or any US ambitions opposed to the real interest of the Chinese people, and will reiterate his grand idea of regional association of non-Communist Far East countries in a kind of Asian 'Marshall Plan'.... In short, this trip will have an enormous impact on the US Congressional elections that will be held only 6 days after President Johnson's return to Washington."

After having avoided any mention of the trip during the period of 7-17 October, l'Humanite printed a factual report, on 18 October, on the President's departure from Washington and on his itinerary, including mention of a possible stop-over in Vietnam. The article contained no commentary as such, but did emphasize the military and Secret Service protection that will be given to the President. At the end of the article, there was a "Pravda commentary," datelined Moscow, 17 October, which labeled the Manila Conference as a "new link in the chain of aggressive acts by American imperialists."

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France

Of the six Paris newspapers reviewed during the general period 6-18 October, only two failed to make any comment on the President's trip. Socialist Le Populaire de Paris ignored the matter entirely while Communist daily l'Humanité gave only a factual report and, by way of comment, merely quoted from a Pravda article. The other four papers all stressed the internal political aspects of the trip and saw little hope that it would lead to peace in Vietnam. Independent daily Le Figaro, however, gave the President credit for seeking to stimulate an international alliance, "which would group the people on both sides of the Pacific who are determined to fight against the Communist peril."

A report from Le Figaro's Washington correspondent, J. Jacquet-Francillon, in the 7 October issue pointed out that since the President has 24 hours to make the trip from Manila to Bangkok, he might make "a spectacular surprise inspection trip to South Vietnam, where, wearing 'battle dress' and eating 'K' rations with the soldiers, he would make a terrific TV attraction; the Democratic candidates in the 8 November elections would not forgive him for depriving them of this." The correspondent said that a Washington announcement that a visit to Vietnam has "not been taken into account for the time being" is hardly convincing, but quite understandable in view of the security requirements involved. It is hard to say what the President meant when he emphasized a "joint examination of the prospects for arriving at an honorable peace in the light of all proposals made," the correspondent continued, since the President himself admitted that he had seen no encouraging indications toward a negotiated settlement with the North Vietnamese leaders.

A report by the same correspondent in Le Figaro's 17 October issue depicted the President's trip as an "Asian campaign"; in fact, the headline read, "President Johnson Leaves Today on His 'Asian Campaign'." The correspondent said that the President's attendance at the Manila Conference, which would last "no more than 48 hours," seems to have been relegated to second place in the President's mind. The correspondent also referred to the trip as "a veritable expedition... because of the colossal means put into operation." Referring to a recent statement by the President to the effect that, while his opponents criticize him for making the trip to Manila, they would have criticized him much more if he had turned down the invitation of President Marcos, Jacquet-Francillon said that "President Johnson has the art of dodging issues; it is with answers of this kind that he thought he could, at his press conference on 13 October, sweep away all the doubts and uncertainties raised in his country and in the world by his trip of 28,000 miles through Asia and Oceania..." The report was accompanied by a small map showing the President's itinerary. After referring to charges by the President's political opponents concerning the "electoral" aspects of the trip, the correspondent

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WORLD PRESS REACTION TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S FAR EASTERN TRIP  
(Preliminary Survey)

This preliminary survey of press reaction to President Johnson's Far Eastern visit (scheduled for 17 October - 2 November) presents information derived from foreign language publications received between 6 October, the date on which the full trip was announced, and 21 October. Coverage is confined to editorial or news reaction, comment or analysis of the events of the President's trip. A second survey, covering the period of the Manila Conference, will be issued during the first week of November; post-visit materials will be published as early thereafter as feasible.

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## LATIN AMERICA

The press of 18 Latin American countries (Paraguay and Haiti are not included) in the general period 6-17 October carried very little editorial comment on President Johnson's Asian trip. Preoccupied with internal affairs, most countries of Latin America relied on the wire services for their coverage of the trip. Only Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico presented editorial opinions on the subject.

One pro-US Brazilian daily criticized the European allies, especially France, for lack of support for the US. A Chilean article felt that the trip will improve chances for peace while improving President Johnson's personal prestige; another article, discussing the Manila Conference, saw little hope for its success. A Colombian article favorably viewed the Johnson trip as the beginning of a new Asia policy of seeing Asia as it is and not as Westerners would like it to be. A Mexican article linked the trip with the US November elections without drawing conclusions, but viewed the US peace intent as sincere. Another Mexican author also linked the trip with the elections, but predicted that the trip will not affect the elections. A third article appearing in the Mexican press wondered if this peace offensive is too late.

Argentina

Six Buenos Aires dailies reviewed for the period 6-15 October paid scant attention to President Johnson's planned Asian trip. All relied on AP, UP, and Reuters for their stories and only conservative La Prensa provided commentary, this from its syndicated New York correspondent Guillermo Martínez Márquez analyzing US commentators' reaction to the trip.

Both conservative La Nación and La Prensa carried front-page wire service dispatches from Washington in their 7 October issues. Innocuous headlines reading "Lyndon Johnson Will Begin an Extensive Trip" headed the AP La Nación report.

On 10 October, La Prensa carried its correspondent's article titled "Significance of Johnson's Trip," which observed that US commentators are either interpreting the trip as a "peace mission" or a "political gimmick." The author noted that other angles are involved and suggested that a sincere effort is being made in the US to seek peace.

Independent Clarín first mentioned the trip on 8 October with a routine Reuters dispatch from Manila on security measures being taken for the conference there. A follow-up Reuters item on 14 October mentioned the trip in connection with the postponed American Presidents conference.

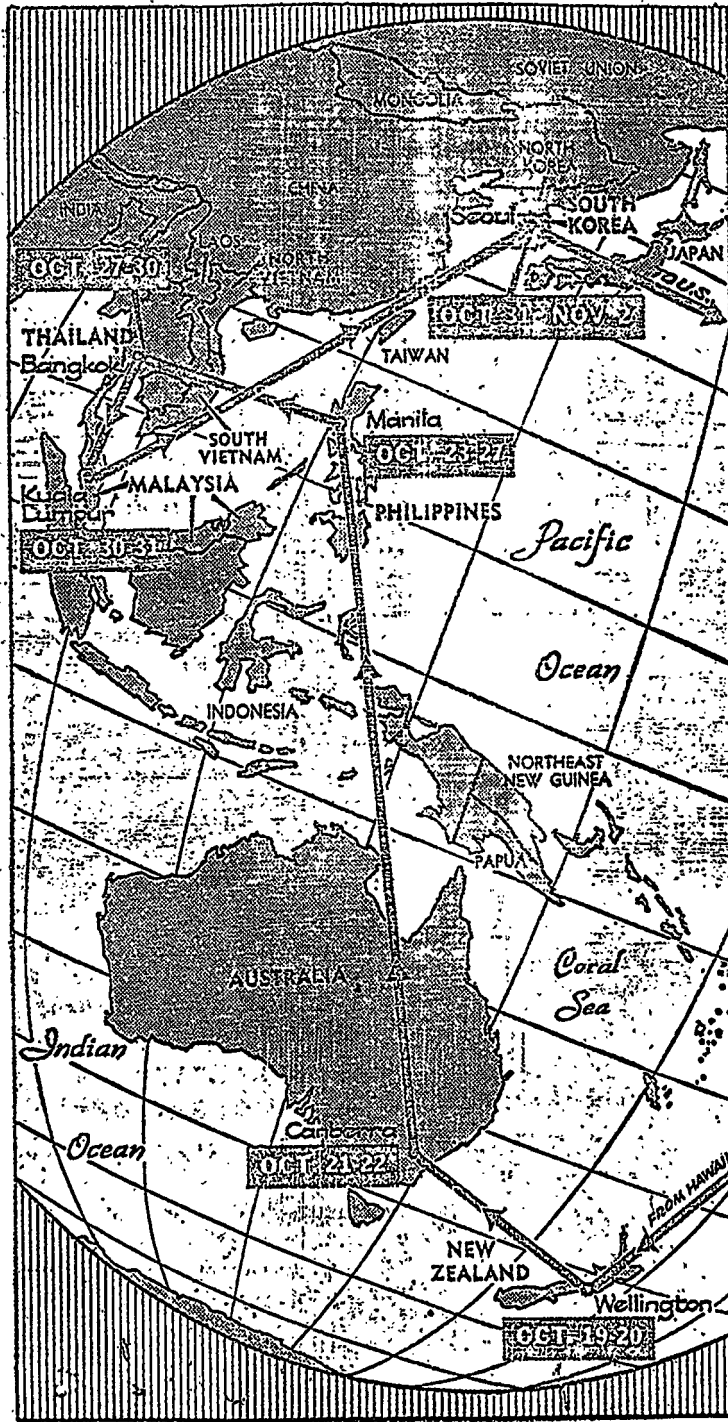
Independent La Razon and Ultima Hora, available only for 10-13 October, failed to mention the trip, as did the usually anti-US and pro-Communist weekly Propósitos of 6 and 13 October.

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PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S FAR EAST ITINERARY



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El Mundo had made no mention of the trip between 6 and 9 October; however, beginning 10 October, reports appeared almost every day, mostly news agency releases. On 10 October, an article stated that students planned demonstrations against Johnson in New Zealand and an AP release said that a Vietnamese news agency called the trip peaceful. On 12 October, an article detelined Manila stated that the leaders at the conference share a common aim -- peace in Asia. It gave background information on the leaders who would be attending. A column by Barry Brown discussed the US orientation toward Asia as evidenced by this trip. Kenneth Whiting in an AP article on 13 October said that the conference is forestalling a crisis in Ky's cabinet. Frances Iswing on 14 October (AP) wrote that this trip brings back memories for Johnson of his wartime service. Bob Considine's column noted that keeping every path open is important and that personal contact between the leaders may do this. He felt that no miracles can be expected from the conference. On 16 October, an AFP Saigon release discussed speculation there that the President will stop in Vietnam after the conference on his way to Thailand.

Nationalist El Panama America carried UPI articles on 8 and 10 October; later issues were not available for review.

#### Peru

Six leading Lima daily newspapers scanned for the period 8-13 October gave no coverage of President Johnson's planned trip to the Far East. The 7 October dailies were not available for review; however, as in other Latin American countries, it can be assumed that the Peruvian press carried wire service reports announcing the trip on that date. The newspapers scanned were: La Cronica, (conservative), Correo, (independent), La Prensa, (conservative), La Tribuna, (Aprista organ), Expreso moderate leftist), and El Comercio (conservative, nationalistic).

#### Uruguay

Domestic affairs dominated the Montevideo press in the period 6-14 October. In foreign affairs, routine wire service dispatches provided coverage to President Johnson's trip, generally reported in the context of the Johnson-Gromyko talks and possibilities of eased US-USSR tensions. Of 11 Montevideo dailies reviewed, independent Colorado dailies La Manana and El Diario reported nothing on the trip; nor did pro-Communist Epoca (available for 6-7 and 10-14 October) or conservative El Pais (for 8-14 October). The leftist weekly Marcha and Socialist Party weekly El Sol did not cover the trip in their 14 October issues.

The Uruguayan Communist Party daily El Popular of 8 October used a Tass dispatch to brand the Johnson trip and peace talks a "camouflage" to precede escalation of the war in Vietnam. There was no other reference to the trip in this daily through 14 October.

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"Is it not clear that the 'equality' in this 'working committee' merely amounts to the fact that all of its participants will depend in equal measure on the master of the 'control package' -- the United States. At the same time, the creation of a joint organ of the 'Seven' will impose on all its participants the responsibility for military aggression in Vietnam with all its consequences.

"The US ruling circles need the Manila Conference to create the semblance of 'collective action' against South Vietnam and the South Vietnamese patriots. They would also like to advertise the Manila venture on the eve of the Congressional elections to divert the attention of the American voters from crucial domestic issues.

"Washington's new venture in Manila is a maneuver of pseudo-peacemakers."

An article by Vitaliy Korionov, who saw the Manila Conference as a cover for US "international isolation," appeared in Pravda of 17 October and Krasnaya Zvezda of 9 October. Korionov stated that the meeting is "a new link in the chain of aggressive acts" committed by the US; by convoking the conference, the US hopes to hide its "international isolation," while at the same time "knocking together" a military bloc in Southeast Asia and thus "strengthening its position."

Writing in the 9 October issue of Krasnaya Zvezda, V. Matveyev said of the Manila Conference that the US intentionally arranged "a fake discussion about peace."

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Excelsior (conservative) and La Prensa (conservative) -- gave prominent coverage to the first official announcement of President Johnson's trip in their 7 October editions. The stories were either from AP or UPI. On 8 October, both El Universal and Excelsior carried follow-up news service items on Soviet reaction (as expressed in a Radio Moscow broadcast) to the announced trip.

The Communist daily El Dia was not available for 7 October. The 8-13 October issues contained no news or comments directly concerned with the trip.

The first commentary appeared on 8 October on the editorial page of Ultimas Noticias de Excelsior, the separate afternoon edition of Excelsior, which had not repeated the original notice of the President's trip. The story was datelined Washington and called an "exclusive" to Ultimas Noticias by Peter Seebank. The article linked the forthcoming US elections with the trip. It did not draw conclusions, however, as to whether or not political motivations were a prime deciding factor, saying instead, that the only thing that seems certain is that the US is looking for peace in Vietnam.

A similar aspect of the trip and its effects on the elections was covered on 10 October in a regular La Prensa column entitled "Letter From North America." The article, datelined Washington, 9 October, was written by La Prensa correspondent Edmundo Sigler. The main conclusion was that the trip will not significantly affect the elections.

In the same issue of La Prensa, an article entitled "A Glimmer of Peace," by José Perez Moreno, appeared on the editorial page. Claiming that US leaders have not heeded the universal appeal for peace in Vietnam, it reasoned as follows: Even the people of the US are against the war. Besides the grave international situation, US domestic affairs have recently worsened with the problem of Negro rebellion and the possible start of an economic depression. In answer to these events, the announcement of the President's trip would seem to indicate that the US government is seeking a peaceful solution in Vietnam. But, is there still time? the article asked. The conclusion was that Red China, by making any attempts to cause peace negotiations to fail, can cause greater unrest in the US and, at the same time, force the US "to continue to pursue its course of self-destruction in Vietnam."

The only commentary carried in El Universal during this period was expressed in the following cartoon which was featured on the first page of its Weekly News Review section of the Sunday, 16 October edition.

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Bolivia

An obsession with the Chilean claim of Bolivian intent to invade Chile dominated the available issues of the principal La Paz newspapers for the 6-14 October span. Only two dailies, independent El Diario on 7 October and Catholic Presencia on 13 October, observed President Johnson's Asian trip, and that, with very brief, back-page AFP and UP dispatches. Of the Communist press, pro-Soviet Communist Party weekly Unidad of 8 October and Trotskyite weekly Masas of 16 October provided neither comment nor recognition of the trip.

Brazil

Coverage of President Johnson's Asian trip in the Brazilian press between 6 and 13 October was almost exclusively limited to wire service reports carried in the 7-8 October issues. The newspapers covered for the period were from Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Recife, and Belo Horizonte. Of the ten newspapers covered, only one Sao Paulo daily contained editorial comment.

The 9 October issue of the Sao Paulo daily O Estado de Sao Paulo, a pro-US newspaper, carried an editorial critical of the lack of European support, especially French, for the US in Vietnam. It pointed out that a Communist attempt to carry out guerrilla warfare in Germany would lead to a call for help to their "ally" to put a stop to Soviet aggression. From the French point of view, the Cold War has ended, the Russians are conservatives and pacifists since for two or three years now they have not attempted to change the status quo in Europe. Questioning the Europeans' ability to reason in world-wide perspective, the editorial pointed out their lack of consideration for the Asian status quo which is being threatened by Chinese Communist expansionism. Their rationalization that Asia is no concern of theirs was termed quite contradictory to the attitude they assumed during the Korean conflict. It felt that the only difference between Vietnam and Korea is that the Communists are using guerrilla tactics in Vietnam to carry out their expansionist plans in order to alter the balance of world power. On the other hand, said the editorial, the Asian allies realize that US involvement in Vietnam is not an attempt to halt an "authentic nationalist" movement, as France believes, nor is it merely an attempt to uphold the status quo. The editorial concluded: "They realize that their destiny (independence and liberty) depends as much on the outcome of the 'Hot War' in Vietnam as on the outcome of the Cold War in Europe. President Johnson's Asian trip is a personal and emphatic reassurance that the US, from the standpoint of world security, gives as much importance to this area of the world as it did a decade ago to its European allies, and that the US will always concentrate its interests and efforts in those areas most exposed to the threat of Communist expansionism and where its help and guarantees are necessary."

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## SOUTH AND EAST ASIA

Considering the fact that President Johnson will be visiting several of the countries in this area, the initial press reaction has been remarkably light and low-keyed. Otherwise, the coverage has generally been true to form. Principal Malaysian newspapers headlined the announcement of President Johnson's visit to Kuala Lumpur but as of 9 October had not yet commented editorially. The primary commentary in Thai newspapers focused upon a favorable view of the Manila Conference rather than upon the President's visit to that country. The Cambodian press, which would be expected to adopt a skeptical stance in regard to the President's announcement, practically ignored the event. Likewise the Indian, Pakistani, and Indonesian press have not yet chosen to comment, possibly awaiting the results before passing judgment. The Japanese press was generally favorable in its approach, but stressed the hope that the Manila Conference will try to seek means to end the war rather than pursue it. Interestingly, the organ of the Japanese Communist Party, Akahata, by 9 October had not committed itself editorially. The English-language Ceylon daily chose to counterbalance the announcement by President Johnson with a North Vietnamese comment that the Manila Conference was merely a "council of war."

Cambodia

The only item appearing in the Phnom Penh leftist daily La Depeche du Cambodge by 15 October was a short article published on 3 October quoting former Vice-President Nixon's criticisms of the projected visit.

Ceylon

The Ceylon Daily News (Colombo) of 8 October printed a Washington-originated comment that the forthcoming Summit Conference will bring together those most directly involved in the problem of assuring the security and freedom of South Vietnam and that the Manila Conference takes on its true significance only when it is viewed not in isolation but as part of a continuing trend toward regional collaboration. The same paper's 9 October issue reprinted a Hong Kong Reuters dispatch on the statement by North Vietnamese Vice-Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh describing the Manila Conference on Vietnam as a "Council of War" and accusing the US of planning to extend the ground war into North Vietnam.

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the US as "peace-loving." This article also saw a connection between the timing of the trip and the US elections. The paper's 8 October issue contained an article mentioning demonstrations planned in Australia and New Zealand against "US aggression in Vietnam" and commenting that there are fears in the US that there may be demonstrations in the "Asian puppet states" also, fears which De Waarheid saw reflected in a Washington announcement that details of the trip would be kept secret for the time being. The 10 October issue carried a quotation from North Vietnamese Vice-Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh referring to the Manila Conference as a "war council."

The Rotterdam Liberal Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant of 7 October carried a correspondent's report from the US stating that some US critics regard the President's trip as an election maneuver, while others in the US regard the trip as confirmation of America's "Asian commitment." The 8 October issue carried an editorial-style article stating, inter alia, that the trip will contribute little to the solution of the Vietnamese problem, since all countries which the President will visit, except Malaya, are loyal supporters of the US Vietnam policy. The article further said that the aim of the trip is, rather, that of reinforcing solidarity among the anti-Communist Asian lands, thus getting added foreign and domestic support for US policies. The article also mentioned the trip's advantage (for the Democratic Party) in the forthcoming US elections.

Het Vrije Volk, Amsterdam organ of the Labor Party, and De Telegraaf, Amsterdam independent conservative, reviewed for the period 6-14 October, made no mention of the trip. However, the issue of 7 October (most likely to have carried at least mention of the trip) was not available for review.

#### Norway

With the exception of the independent daily Verdens Gang, which carried a UPI dispatch on page 8 of its 7 October issue, there was no mention of President Johnson's journey in the four Oslo newspapers reviewed. The review also included the following papers: Labor Party daily Arbeiderbladet (6-8 October); CP daily Friheten (6-14 October); and SPP weekly Orientering (8 October).

#### Portugal

Of the three major Lisbon daily newspapers scanned for the general period 6-14 October, none carried any editorial comment on the President's trip. The National Union Diario da Manhã of 10 October made brief mention of his arrival in Australia; the 7 October liberal Republica mentioned in a Reuters article what opposition the President might expect in Australia and New Zealand, and the independent republican O Seculo of 7 October carried a brief AFP/ANI/Reuters article based on US-supplied information.

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## AFRICA

The sparse and limited coverage devoted to President Johnson's Asian trip in the African press available for the period of this survey consisted almost exclusively of factual news items. The only real commentary found consisted of a statement by a Malagasy columnist that the trip will have "no direct effect on the Vietnamese situation." Also, an Algerian paper made reference to "US aggression in Vietnam" in the headline of a news report on the Presidential itinerary.

The press reviewed for the following countries made no mention whatever of the trip: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Dahomey, French Somaliland, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Reunion Island, Spanish Guinea, and Upper Volta.

The press of the following countries was not available for the period covered in this survey: Burundi, Chad, Gabon, Libya, Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea, Rwanda, Togo, Mauritania, and Ethiopia. The English-speaking countries are not included in the survey.

Algeria

French-language daily El Moudjahid, government mouthpiece published in Algiers, was reviewed for the period 7-11 October. After reporting on 7 October that "President Johnson intends to go to Asia and Europe," it reported his Asian itinerary on the following day under the headline, "President Johnson's Trip to Asia and the Manila Conference Is Aimed at Strengthening US Aggression in Vietnam." In its 9-10 October issue, the paper carried a Hanoi statement that the Manila Conference "will be a war conference." The paper then declared that "the US Government, increasingly isolated, is attempting to regain lost ground."

Angola

A review of two major Luanda daily newspapers (progovernment O Comercio and ABC Diario de Angola) for the period 6-12 and 7-13 October, respectively, revealed no coverage of the President's Asian trip except for two factual news items, both in the last-named paper. On 6 October, ABC Diario de Angola carried a brief report on the President's itinerary. In its 10 October issue, the paper contained a news report on the anti-Johnson demonstrations being prepared in New Zealand and Australia by local groups unsympathetic with the US stand on Vietnam.

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Sudan

Al-Ra'i al-'Am, Khartoum progovernment daily newspaper, was reviewed for the period 7-13 October. Its only reference to the President's trip, carried on the back page of its 8 October issue, consisted of a Washington-dateline news item reporting on the trip and its security aspects.

Tunisia

One Arabic and two French-language Tunis daily newspapers, all progovernment in orientation, were reviewed for the period 7-14 October.

On 7 October, L'Action carried a Washington-dateline news item reporting on President Johnson's press conference of 6 October under the headline, "Robert Kennedy Does Not Wish To Be Johnson's Running Mate." The report also contained the announcements of the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand giving details of the President's scheduled visit. On 9 October, the paper reported, without comment, on the Sato announcement that President Johnson would not visit Japan.

La Presse de Tunisie front-paged in its 7 October issue a Washington-dateline news report on the Presidential press conference of 6 October.

Al-Amal made no mention of the trip.

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consisting of AP, Reuters and AFP news dispatches originating in Washington or Canberra and dealing with the announcement of the trip, the itinerary, expected tight security, and anticipated anti-US demonstrations along the route: L'Orient, independent; al-Jarida, independent; and al-Hayah, pro-West.

No mention of the trip was made by either Ba'thist weekly al-Ahrar or by the following Communist papers: pro-Soviet daily al-Nida and weekly al-Akhbar, and pro-Chicom weekly Ila-al-Aman.

### Syria

The Syrian press, available only through the publication date of 7 October, carried no coverage of the President's Far East trip.

### Turkey

Five newspapers were reviewed for the period 7-13 October. Only Istanbul independent Cumhuriyet carried any commentary on the President's Far East trip. Its 8 October issue contained an editorial article by Kayhan Saglamer titled "While Awaiting An Encouraging Meeting," stating that President Johnson's sincerity should be realized by all and noting viewpoints on the alternatives which he has before him with regard to Vietnam.

Ulus (Ankara RPP organ) carried factual news items in its 7, 8, 10, and 14 issues. The 10 October item was headlined, "Hanoi Calls Manila Conference Nothing More Than A Council of War," while the 14 October article noted that Pakistan had politely refused to attend the conference.

Istanbul Hurriyet (independent), Milliyet (independent), and Vatan (pro-RPP) had no coverage of the trip.

### UAR

Three major Cairo daily newspapers, all progovernment in orientation, had no editorial reaction to the President's Asian trip during the period 7-14 October. Their limited coverage of the subject consisted of news agency factual reports.

On 8 October, al-Ahram carried a news service report datelined Washington, 7 October, which noted the security aspects of the trip and the fact that demonstrations against the Vietnamese war were being planned in Australia and New Zealand. This item was also carried in the 8 October issue of al-Jumhuriyyah, which on 11 October also reported a Reuters item on President Johnson's forthcoming address to the Australian Parliament.

On 10 October, al-Akhbar published an AP report from Canberra on the White House denial of any political implications in the Presidential trip.

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Nicaragua

Three Nicaraguan dailies were scanned for the period from 7 through 12 October for coverage of President Johnson's trip to the Far East: Conservative, anti-Somoza La Prensa and Catholic La Noticia of Managua, and conservative El Centroamericano of Leon. La Noticia did not report on the subject; La Prensa relied on AP reports from correspondents in Tokyo and Wellington, which were carried in the 8, 11, and 12 October issues. The 8 October El Centroamericano report indicated that President Johnson was seeking an "honorable peace."

Panama

Seven Panama City daily newspapers were scanned for the general period 8-17 October. Except for two columns by US columnists, coverage of the trip was limited to news agency releases. The two columnists, Bob Considine and Barry Brown, both appeared in El Mundo, on 12 and 14 October, respectively.

Leftist La Hora and independent La Prensa were not available on 9 and 10 October; La Hora was also missing on 11 October. The issues scanned carried no mention of the President's trip.

Critica (ultranationalist, anti-US), from 11 to 17 October, carried only one article on the trip: a UPI release on 15 October stating that security within New Zealand has been reinforced because of President Johnson's visit to the country. It mentioned that one person who had previously threatened the President has been put in a mental institution.

Conservative El Dia was not available for 9 and 16 October. There was no comment on the conference before 13 October. On 13, 14, 15 and 17 October, there were UPI releases in the English-language section of the paper: the first mentioned that the President would hold a press conference on the trip; the second said that Moyers was hopeful that peace would be furthered through this trip; the next one stated that Rusk would travel to Manila earlier than the President, and included pictures of the seven heads of state; the last one mentioned the trip in connection with the announcement of President de Gaulle's press conference immediately after the conference. The issue of 17 October was the only one that also mentioned the trip in the Spanish section; this was by means of a UPI release entitled "LBJ Goes to Far East in Search of Peace."

Conservative La Estrella de Panama for 11-17 October carried four AP releases, as follows: 14 October, trip mentioned in the President's press conference; 16 October, a page 1 article by John Hightower saying that the next 6 months are crucial in Vietnam and the President's trip falls within this crucial period, followed by a page 12 article by George MacArthur saying that Manila is preparing for the conference; and finally, on 17 October, an article by Lewis Gulick stating that Johnson's trip was beginning "today" and giving the plans for the trip.

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La Peuple, daily organ of the Belgian Socialist Party, carried items on the trip in its issues of 6, 8/9, and 14 October, but with little comment. On 6 October, the paper referred to the Manila summit as "'the peace conference,' as President Johnson defined it, from which the US could very well profit by again putting forth, perhaps in spectacular fashion, its proposals (which are in fact conditions) for reaching the conference table." The 8/9 October issue mentioned the possibility of the President's stopping over in Vietnam and reported his itinerary, inferring that it is a great deal of territory to cover in about 15 days. On 14 October, the paper quoted briefly from the President's statements at the 13 October press conference.

The Catholic daily La Libre Belgique carried items concerning the Presidential trip in its issues of 7, 8/9, and 17 October. The 7 October issue contained two factual articles on the subject: one was a report of the President's 6 October press conference, while the other covered statements made by South Korean, Thai, and New Zealand government spokesmen on the President's itinerary. The 17 October article was also strictly factual, recounting the President's itinerary and referring to the conversations scheduled to take place among the Foreign Ministers of the participating nations prior to the Manila Conference proper. In its 8/9 October issue, La Libre Belgique again carried two articles on the Manila Conference. The first discussed the efforts of various world leaders to "open up the road to peace" and remarked that President Johnson's trip "also appears to be somewhat fruitless" and "motivated in part by electoral preoccupations." It discussed the latter point and the possibilities of "regaining prestige" for President Johnson, and also noted the President's statement in his 6 October press conference that the object of the Manila Conference would be "to study the prospects for a peaceful settlement in Vietnam." The second article limited itself to carrying the day-by-day schedule of the trip and to discussing the possibilities of a stop-over in Vietnam.

#### Denmark

Of the five Copenhagen papers scanned for the general period 6-17 October, both Social Democratic daily Aktuelt and independent daily Information of 7 October carried a Reuters dispatch datelined Washington, 6 October, which reported the announcement and itinerary of the President's journey incidentally to coverage of his 6 October press conference. Conservative daily Berlingske Tidende carried a report also on 7 October by its Washington correspondent, with no additional information or comment. Communist daily Land og Folk and SPP weekly SF Bladet made no mention of the trip.

#### Finland

With the exception of one brief comment in Kansan Uutiset, CP daily, the major Helsinki dailies carried no editorial or other commentary on the

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# FOREIGN PRESS INFORMATION REPORT

WORLD PRESS REACTION TO  
PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S FAR EASTERN TRIP

(Preliminary Survey)

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## USSR

A survey of the available Soviet press through 18 October revealed light coverage of President Johnson's Asian trip. The Manila Conference, stressed the Soviets, is being used by the US to bolster its forces in South Vietnam.

On 14 October, Pravda (page 3) published a report by its correspondent Ol'ga Chechetkina ascribing ulterior motives to the US in its role at the upcoming Manila Conference. The report stated, in part:

"President Marcos of the Philippines recently proposed that a 'summit conference' be held in Manila, with participation of the 'seven countries fighting Communism in Vietnam.' The 'Seven' include, besides the puppet Saigon 'government' and the US, which have been waging aggression in Vietnam, the following countries which are aiding this aggression: South Korea, Thailand, New Zealand, Australia, and the Philippines.

"President Johnson states that he himself would leave for Manila to participate in the conference, thus elevating it, so to speak, to a 'higher level'. Washington's speedy praise of Marcos' proposal was viewed throughout the world as evidence that the US capital took the initiative for the new gathering in Manila, or at least that the decision was made there....

"[McNamara's military build-up in Saigon] is considered a prelude to the Manila Conference. Thus, the West regards the Manila meeting as the 'culmination' of President Johnson's tour of Southeast Asia. Washington intends to achieve in Manila a certain "organizational" intensification of its plan to escalate aggression in Vietnam.

"The Christian Science Monitor recently revealed Washington's plan. "Just when the Manila Conference of the US and its allies is promoting its ultimatum for peace conditions in Vietnam," this newspaper wrote, "McNamara is preparing the American military machine for a new attack." This is just what the US Secretary of Defense is now doing in South Vietnam.

"Thus, the Manila Conference will proceed as a meeting of a 'War Council' of the countries which are participants in the Vietnam aggression. How this 'Council' will end may be judged by the statement of Vice-President Humphrey, who recently said that a so-called 'working committee' will be set up in Manila.

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American bases in the Philippines by 1991 instead of 2046, the article added sarcastically. Referring to the "Manila war council," the article said that the 2,000 Philippine troops being sent to Vietnam are "certainly the advance guard of an expedition." President Marcos' speech to the UN was condemned also. Although he proposed "Asian solutions to Asian problems," the article said, he considers the American presence indispensable and would leave out of the talks the Far East "socialist" countries. This proposal, the article asserted, is aimed at breaking up the Afro-Asian group in the UN. Reviewing the history of the Philippines, Reti stated that Philippine political life has been dominated by the US since Edward G. Lansdale ("Quiet American," "CIA chief resident," and "king maker") picked Magsaysay to be president. Finally, the writer said the islands might as well be named after President Johnson as after King Philip II.

As of 16 October, the two major Budapest dailies had not commented on the trip.

#### Poland

Reaction to President Johnson's Far Eastern trip was minimal in the Polish press through 16 October.

Trybuna Ludu of 7 October carried an article entitled "Why is President Johnson Going to Asia?", which was written by Zygmunt Broniarek, permanent correspondent in the US.

According to this article, there are three reasons for the trip: "internal-electoral ..., 'solidarity' - an intention to support the countries which are participating in the 'effort' of the US in Vietnam, and 'peace' - an intention to appear before the world as a politician who seeks 'a key to peace' everywhere. However, the route itself of President Johnson's trip indicates that there is no question as to the authentic striving for peace in Vietnam on the US side. It is a unilateral trip to only those countries already supporting the US in Vietnam.

As to the Manila conference, Broniarek cites the Chicago Daily News' statement that the conference has been arranged "even more hastily and incompetently than the disorganized Honolulu conference last February."

The 11 October issue of Zycie Warszawy carried an article by Anna Piasecka, entitled "Peace Meeting or War Conference?", which for the most part quoted unfavorable comments of certain US papers and the Philippines Herald. The peace motive of the trip was questioned in

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photograph of Johnson on a map of his planned itinerary. Coverage in the latter paper was fairly extensive, running into the international page. All other dailies gave the item brief coverage in the international page.

#### El Salvador

The San Salvador dailies Tribuna Libre, Diario de Hoy and La Prensa were reviewed for the general period 7 through 15 October. However, there were no papers on 13 October, and only Tribuna Libre was available for 8 and 14 October.

The pro-US government organ Tribuna Libre did not mention the President's trip at all.

Independent Diario de Hoy on 10 October had a UPI release saying that President Marcos had revealed that conflicts among the conferees had ended. There was no editorial comment and no further articles in other issues.

Moderate La Prensa carried an AP release on 15 October saying that the Army and Navy will be protecting the President while he is on his trip.

#### Guatemala

Six Guatemala City dailies (the official government Diario de Centro America, leftist Grafico, independent La Hora and Impacto, conservative Imparcial, and leftist but non-Communist Prensa Libre), reviewed for the period 6-14 October, carried AP dispatches on President Johnson's Asian trip in their 8 October issues. No additional coverage or commentary on the subject appeared on succeeding days.

#### Honduras

Five Honduran daily papers were scanned for coverage of President Johnson's trip. Four of them (El Nacional, the National Party organ, being the exception) were available for the period 6-10 October. El Nacional was reviewed for 6-8 October.

Independent La Prensa, conservative El Dia, and El Nacional did not mention the trip, either through news services or editorially. El Pueblo on 6 October mentioned that the date for the conference had been set, but did not comment on it. Both the Liberal Party organ El Pueblo and government-owned Diario del Norte carried the same Reuters release on 7 October: that Philippine President Marcos had confirmed the dates for the conference, and that President Johnson had accepted and would also travel to other countries but that there had been no official word from the White House yet.

#### Mexico

The Mexico City press from 6 to 15 October, in general, was scanned for this report. Three of the major papers -- El Universal (liberal),

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Sweden

None of the three major Stockholm dailies reviewed for the period 6-14 October commented on the President's trip. Social Democratic Aftonbladet and conservative Svenska Dagbladet failed to provide any news coverage of the event, while Liberal Dagens Nyheter only carried a news item in its 7 October issue reporting the announcement of the trip at the President's 6 October news conference.

Ny Dag and Tidsignal, Stockholm Communist weeklies, reviewed respectively through 20 and 18 October, made no mention of the trip.

Switzerland

No commentary on the President's trip was carried in any of the three Swiss daily newspapers reviewed. In his coverage of President Johnson's 6 October press conference, appearing on page one of the 8 October issue of Zurich independent Neue Zuercher Zeitung (reviewed for 6-11 October), the paper's Washington correspondent reported, without comment, the announcement and itinerary of the President's journey. The same information was reported incidentally in an ATS-AFP dispatch from Hanoi on the back page of the 7 October issue of La Voix Ouvriere, Geneva organ of the Party of Labor (Communist), reviewed for 6-17 October. Geneva Liberal Democrat Journal de Geneve (reviewed for 6-13 October) made no mention of the trip.

West Germany

The West German press reviewed for this survey has thus far devoted little editorial coverage to President Johnson's Asian tour. On 11 October, the Frankfurt/Main Frankfurter Rundschau (left-center) said: "The Southeast Asian countries allied with Washington are not preparing for the meeting with President Johnson in Manila with any special excitement. None of the leading politicians in Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Seoul, in Australia or New Zealand has false ideas about the real purpose of this ...fall conference. Officially, the meeting is to serve to assess the chances for ending the conflict in South Vietnam. Philippine President Marcos, who (at least outwardly) initiated the conference, has informed participants of an initial agenda of six points comprising a comprehensive catalogue for working out a formula for Southeast Asian security and for pacifying the Vietnam conflict. But hardly any of the invited heads of state will have any illusions about the fact that the meeting will probably serve President Johnson's tactical needs in the US elections.

"Two large Asian powers, India and Japan, have already declined to attend...Thailand, despite its close cooperation with the US, will continue to try not to expose itself more than is reconcilable with its traditional line. Malaysia will restrict itself to declamatory gestures, ...in view of its difficulties in North Borneo and its new distrust of Indonesia....

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"our boys in Asia" and stated that the President's trip would "relieve him of some of the embarrassments he is facing in the November elections at home, where Dr Gallup's polls show that his popularity is steadily declining. On the other hand, the trip will assure publicity [for him] on four sides of the world."

The Belgrade daily, Borba, organ of the Socialist Association of the Working People of Yugoslavia, merely reported in its 7 October issue that President Johnson was making the Asian trip and that he would also visit South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, and Malaysia.

The Zagreb daily, Vjesnik, organ of the Socialist Association of the Working People of Croatia, made no reference to the trip.

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