



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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30 DECEMBER 1965

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LATE ITEM

North Vietnam

Hanoi today broadcast a tough re-statement of its basic position. The broadcast was carried as a Voice of Vietnam commentary, which, while authoritative, does not carry the full weight of an official government declaration.

Although the commentary makes no specific reference to the present pause in air strikes, it derides various US proposals to bring about talks, including US expressions of willingness for unconditional negotiations and the possibility of a cease-fire.

It rejects them all and implies that no movement in the Vietnam situation is possible until the US makes a solemn commitment to withdraw its forces from South Vietnam. In fact, the commentator says that the only way to end the state of war is for the US to withdraw its troops and leave the settlement in Vietnamese hands.

Hanoi stressed that the National Liberation Front must take part in any settlement.

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1. Zambia

Prospects for rapidly increasing overland transport of oil to Zambia are still poor.

A [redacted] survey of the only road connection with Tanzania confirms that heavy traffic during the current rainy season would quickly ruin it.

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As for deliveries from the Congo, the first rail and river shipment to Zambia is not expected before February. Even this date depends on the transfer of equipment and personnel from the jointly owned Zambia-Rhodesia railway. Zambia fears that Rhodesia would retaliate by cutting off coal supplies if asked to approve such a transfer.

The chances of getting sizable emergency supplies through Mozambique and Angola are also dimmed by major transportation problems.

2. Vietnam

Comment on the Shelepin visit to Hanoi is sparse. Hanoi limited itself to simply acknowledging the impending visit. Peking has not specifically mentioned it at all. Shelepin will be in Hanoi this weekend

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[redacted]
Moscow newspapers took note today of the prominence which the US press is giving to peace probes on Vietnam. Nothing substantive was published in Moscow, however.

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3. Communist China

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4. Nationalist China

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5. Thailand

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6. Dominican Republic

Garcia Godoy says that he has decided to delay any action on the Santiago affair for at least a few days. His present plan is to postpone his speech to the nation until after the New Year's holidays.

The president told Ambassador Bunker that this decision was motivated in part by the fact that efforts are currently under way to get a "binding agreement" from Bosch and Balaguer to support the government and oppose any new attempt at a general strike.

Garcia Godoy hopes that some kind of formal understanding between the two major political parties will result. This in turn would ease the problem of moving some of the military troublemakers on both sides out of the country.

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7. Colombia

Intercepts indicate that Colombian security forces are on alert in anticipation of Communist violence over the holiday. The police expect more trouble early next month when the Communists commemorate a guerrilla attack of a year ago.

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8. Bolivia

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