



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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28 OCTOBER 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

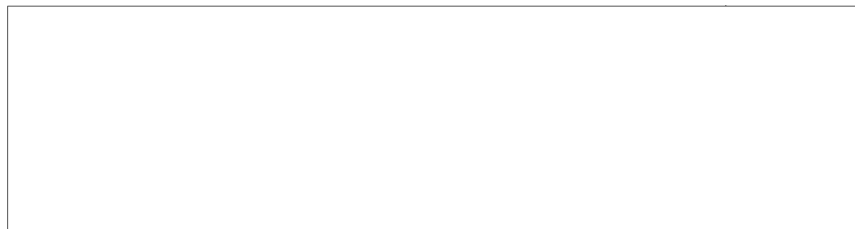
DAILY BRIEF
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1. Vietnam

A knowledgeable Polish official at the UN says that Warsaw will soon send a party delegation to Vietnam as part of a continuing effort to persuade Hanoi to negotiate.

When asked if the recent visits to Hanoi by a number of East European delegations should be viewed as a competitive effort or as part of a master plan, the Pole replied neither; they result from a common agreement among the East Europeans and the Soviets that this is the best way to proceed.

The Polish official said he will provide more details when available.



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2. North Vietnam

An appraisal of the bombing of North Vietnam through 11 October concludes that although air strikes against transport facilities continued at a high rate, the over-all capability of the transport system to move supplies to and within North Vietnam seems to have improved. This has been accomplished largely by expansion of rail and road networks and increased transport on the inland and coastal waterways.

The campaign against North Vietnamese POL continues to chip away at the country's storage capacity, but there is no evidence yet of actual shortages.



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3. Soviet Union

Luna 12 has been in orbit around the moon since Tuesday,

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4. Israel

Israeli authorities are now likely to feel less restrained in undertaking reprisals for the continuing terrorist actions by Syrian-backed terrorists. The UN Security Council was to complete action today on the Israeli complaint. Yesterday there was another terrorist incident.

5. West Germany

Chancellor Erhard

[Redacted] is showing a strong determination to hang on with his minority government. The constitution confers considerable job security on the chancellor and, conceivably, he could ride out the storm.

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6. Panama

[Redacted]

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7. Burma

Ne Win's trip to Washington last month is already having its effect in Burma. Before he went to the US, Ne Win feared that somehow we would try to do him in. More confident now, he has released from jail the two most prominent members of the regime he ousted in 1962. Ambassador Byroade feels more political prisoners will soon be coming out.

The releases could be the first step toward more significant changes. The terms under which former Premier U Nu and his deputy were released may well have involved assurances by Ne Win that, in return for their cooperation, he would revise some domestic policies.

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8. France

A reading of the first available portions of De Gaulle's press conference today indicates that it contained no surprises. He presented the picture of a peaceful France, serenely above the mundane quarrels in which other nations have become involved.

He specifically stated that he was not offering now to mediate in the Vietnam war. He left the impression, however, that he would be available when the contenders are ready for him to play the mediator's role.

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