

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 27 February 1967

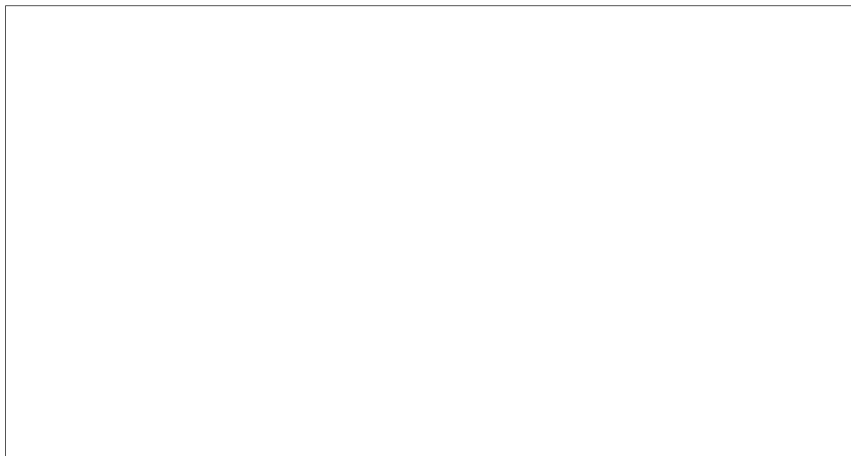


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DAILY BRIEF
27 FEBRUARY 1967

1. Vietnam

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2. Indonesia

Now that he has stripped Sukarno of just about everything except the fig leaf of his presidential title, Suharto is not anxious to go any further.

Suharto is trying to get Congress, when it meets next week, to settle for a resolution which, while explicitly excluding Sukarno from further governmental or political activity, would allow him to keep his title.

Suharto's principal concerns are to keep the armed forces together and avoid possible violence in pro-Sukarno areas. In view of pressures from anti-Sukarno groups, however, he might allow Congress to take one more step and actually suspend Sukarno from office.

3. Haiti

The consensus in Port au Prince is that President Duvalier will not attend the Punta del Este summit meeting. Papa Doc is expected to cite an "unprecedented carnival" to be held in observance of his 60th birthday on 14 April, or to come up with some equally persuasive reason why he must send his regrets.

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4. Cuba

Castro is relying heavily on credit guarantees from Western European governments to obtain much-needed industrial and agricultural equipment.

In recent months such credits have enabled Cuba to buy roadbuilding equipment and locomotives in support of the sugar industry and more than a dozen large merchant ships from Spain.

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So far, Cuba has met its credit payments on time, a good performance which the Soviets are no doubt encouraging.

5. Britain-NATO

Some of the permanent representatives in the North Atlantic Council have criticized Wilson's agreement with Kosygin to work toward a friendship treaty.

They complain that a UK-USSR treaty would have a highly divisive effect in NATO, putting member countries in the uncomfortable position of having to decide whether to get in a race to the Kremlin's door. Even the French representative shed a few crocodile tears, piously terming Wilson's undertaking "not really compatible with alliance obligations."

Some of the anxiety expressed by these worthies can be attributed to the fact that the British did not consult their governments.

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