

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 12 July 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
12 JULY 1967

1. Middle East

King Husayn's meeting in Cairo with Nasir and Algerian President Boumediene broke up yesterday without a formal communique, suggesting they failed to agree on much. We doubt that Husayn made much headway in trying to persuade Nasir to take the lead in moving toward settlement, especially in the presence of the militant Boumediene.

Arab diplomatic activity is continuing, however, with Boumediene now in Syria where he publicly called for a continuation of the war on Israel. At the same time Iraqi President Arif has come to Cairo for talks with Nasir. At this point, it seems unlikely that the proposed Arab summit meeting will actually be held in Khartoum on 15 July.

2. United Nations

Prospects that the General Assembly, which reconvenes today, can come up with a compromise substantive resolution on the Middle East are not good. Although the Assembly would like to wind up on a positive note, many delegates fear the gap between last week's unsuccessful Yugoslav and Latin American resolutions cannot be bridged.

The Spanish proposal calling for Israeli withdrawal, asking all parties not to use force, and requesting the appointment of a special representative of the Secretary-General, is not gathering much support and may not even be introduced.

The Soviets are still working for an acceptable compromise but may be ready to fall back on a procedural resolution simply authorizing appointment of a United Nations special representative and dumping the whole problem back in the Security Council's lap.

3. North Vietnam



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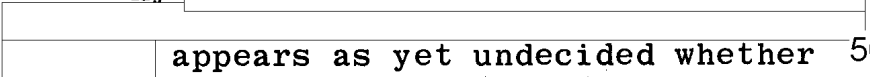
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4. South Vietnam

Ky



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appears as yet undecided whether to commit the full weight of his very considerable campaign apparatus behind the Thieu-Ky ticket.

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5. Nigeria

Federal forces are running into stiff resistance and thus far have penetrated only a few miles into the eastern region (Biafra). Biafran resistance to superior federal firepower has been more stubborn than the Lagos government expected. Both sides are said to have suffered numerous casualties.



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6. Panama

It now appears likely that opposition leader Arnulfo Arias will sit out the upcoming debate over ratification of the canal treaty. Some of his supporters are saying his abrupt departure for Europe last week reflects Arias' belief it would be useless to try to prevent ratification. By staying out of the country Arias can avoid implying personal approval of the treaty.

7. Brazil

Brazil is said to have signed a letter of intent on 8 July to buy 20 French Mirage tactical jet fighters at an attractive price. The Brazilians, with no modern jet fighters, have for some time been trying to buy supersonic F-5's, but in their impatience to get sophisticated aircraft, they may go through with the French deal.

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