



The President's Daily Brief

29 June 1971

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Prime Minister Gandhi is reported to have asked Kosygin for Soviet support in the event that India finds it necessary to move unilaterally against Pakistan. (Page 1)

On Page 2, we discuss President Yahya's newly announced plan for the transferring of power in Pakistan to a civilian government.

Prime Minister Erim has agreed to stop production of opium in Turkey after the 1972 harvest. (Page 3)

Malta

[Redacted]

(Page 4)

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INDIA

Prime Minister Gandhi has asked Premier Kosygin for Soviet support should India find it necessary to take unilateral military action against Pakistan, [redacted]

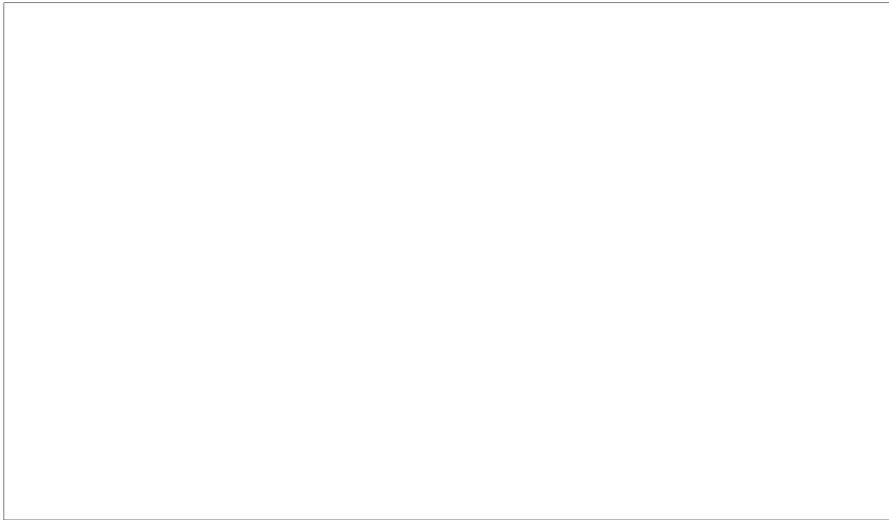
[redacted] Kosygin has yet to respond [redacted]

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[redacted] Mrs. Gandhi believes the Soviet attitude is the key to India's future actions. Giri assumes that India is seeking Soviet support as a guard against Chinese intervention in an Indo-Pakistani war.

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The USSR believes that only China and the West would profit from a renewal of Indo-Pakistani hostilities. From the outset of the present crisis, Moscow has cautioned both sides against precipitate actions. The Soviets, therefore, will probably counter Mrs. Gandhi's alleged request for support with further pleas for restraint and promises of renewed pressures on the Pakistanis. On 8 and 9 June, the Soviets again spoke out critically about West Pakistan's handling of the situation in the East wing, and Kosygin is likely to have made the same points privately in his meeting with the Pakistani ambassador in Moscow on 22 June.



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PAKISTAN

President Yahya's new program for transferring power to civilians, which he announced in a nationwide broadcast yesterday, indicates that he will keep a tight rein on the process. Politicians will have a much smaller role than envisaged before 25 March, when popularly elected representatives had been given the task of drafting a new constitution. The new constitution will now be written by a committee of "experts," while Yahya will merely consult political leaders.

His program calls for maximum provincial autonomy, while giving the federal government "adequate" powers--presumably more than most East Pakistanis would like it to have--and he stipulated further that martial law would continue for "a period of time," even after the national and provincial governments are formed. This may mean that the army intends to retain ultimate control.

Yahya did not commit himself to a firm timetable, but said that the transfer will take place in "four months or so" depending on the situation at that time.

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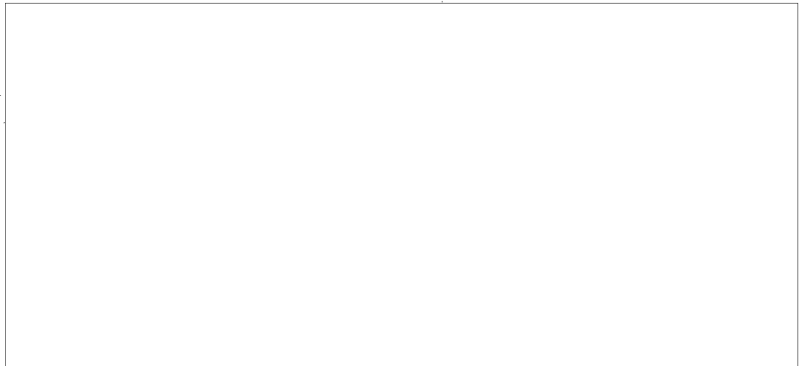
TURKEY

Prime Minister Erim has agreed to stop Turkish opium production in 1972. Erim told Ambassador Handley that as a first step he would issue a decree on 30 June limiting the planting of next fall's poppy crop to four provinces; after that, no planting would be allowed. Erim asked the US to provide compensation to Turkish farmers until their income from new sources equals that from opium production, which he estimated would take three to four years. He also asked for a public statement of congratulations from President Nixon and increased agricultural and industrial aid.

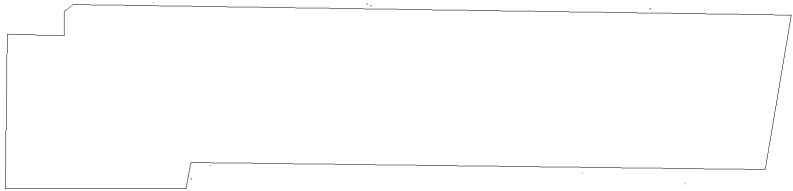
A major decline in the opium supply entering the US from Turkey is not expected until 1973. In addition to leakage from legal planting in the four provinces next year, there are large inventories from previous harvests.

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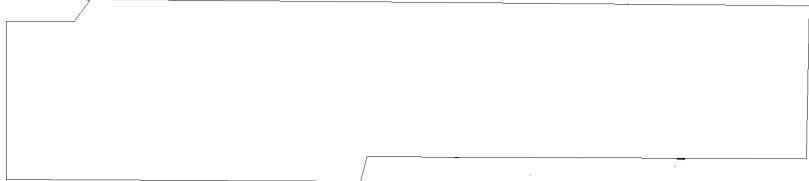
MALTA-UK



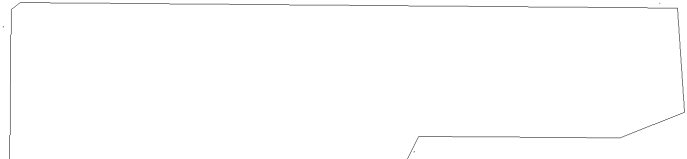
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