



The President's Daily Brief

~~*Top Secret*~~ 16 December 1967

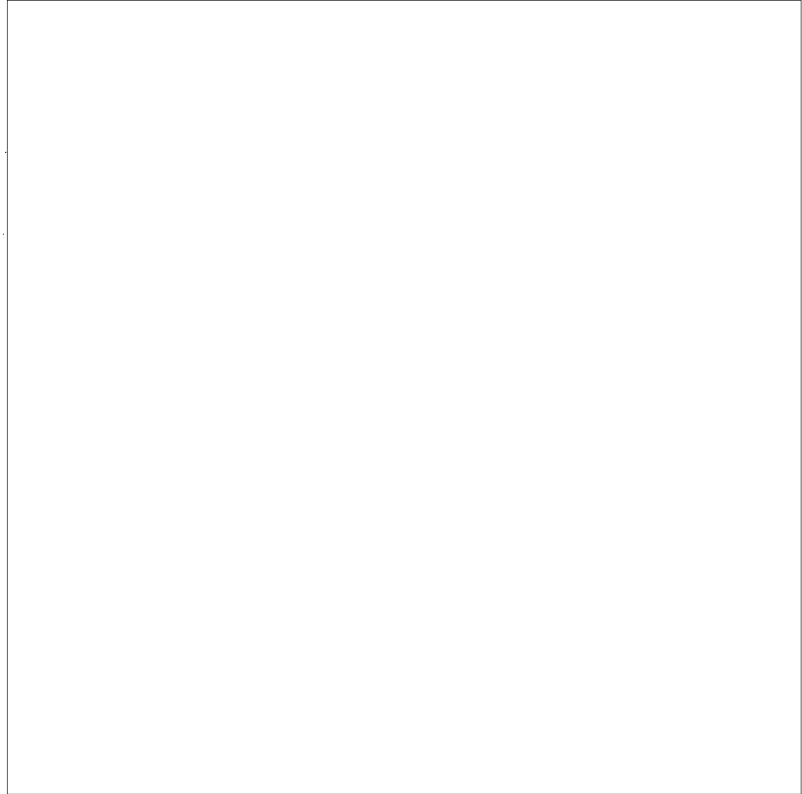


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DAILY BRIEF
16 DECEMBER 1967

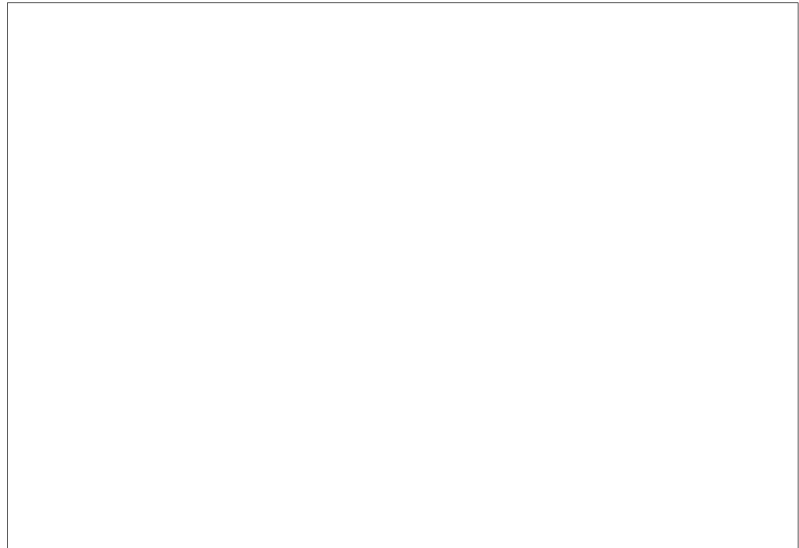
1. Thailand

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2. Yemen

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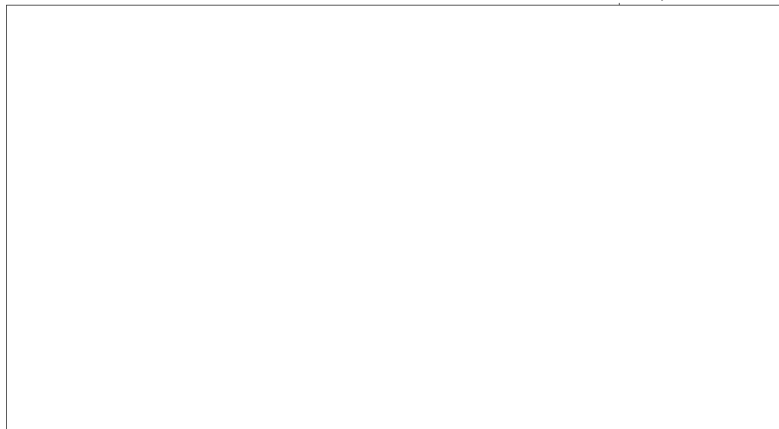
3. Greece

The junta seems willing, or even eager, to have the King return. The colonels probably feel his presence would lend a needed aura of legitimacy to their regime.

Various emissaries are en route to Rome to see the King, and presumably to convey the junta's conditions for his return. Constantine says he will not return unless the junta at least fixes a date for a constitutional referendum.

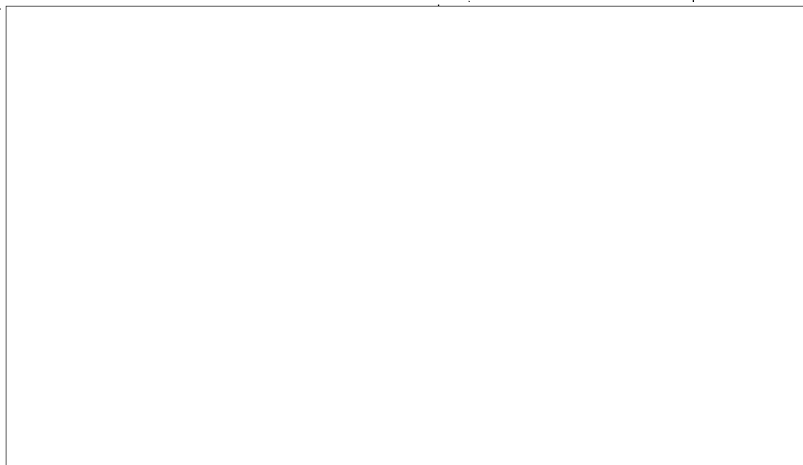
4. Communist China

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5. Soviet Union

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6. Algeria

The dispute between Boumediene and Army chief of staff Z'Biri, simmering for over a month, has apparently come to a boil. Tanks are being moved about, and there could be some disorders. But Boumediene, to whom the army owes its favored position, has assumed personal command and does not seem to be in danger.

7. Denmark

Krag, defeated on an anti-inflation measure last night, has resigned and called new elections for 23 January. He will have a rough time: the polls show his party's popularity has gone down steadily ever since he took office a year ago.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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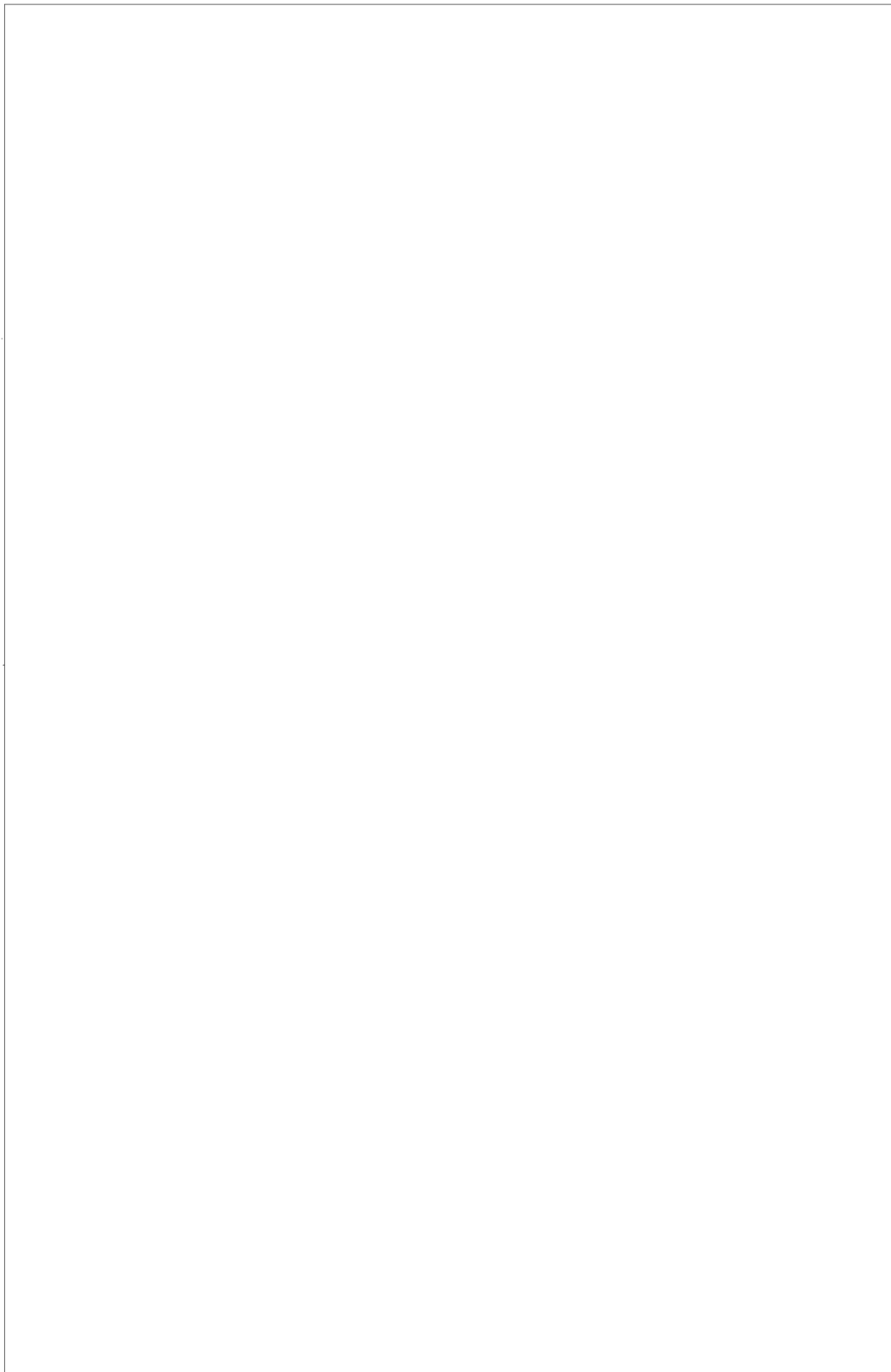
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION



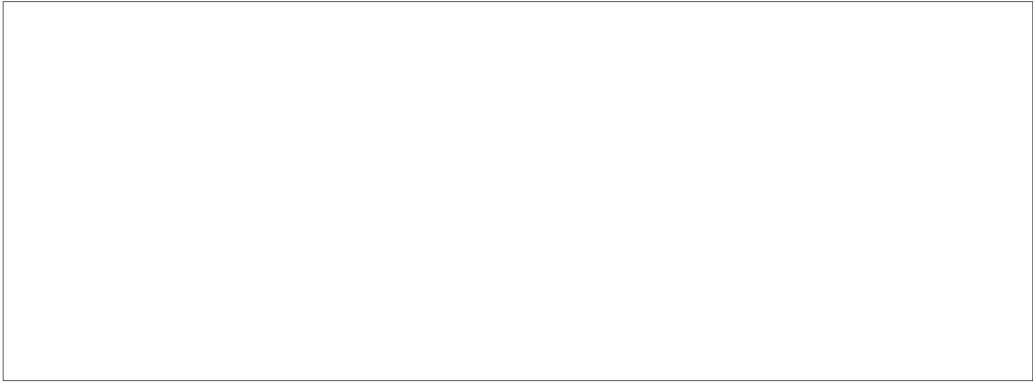
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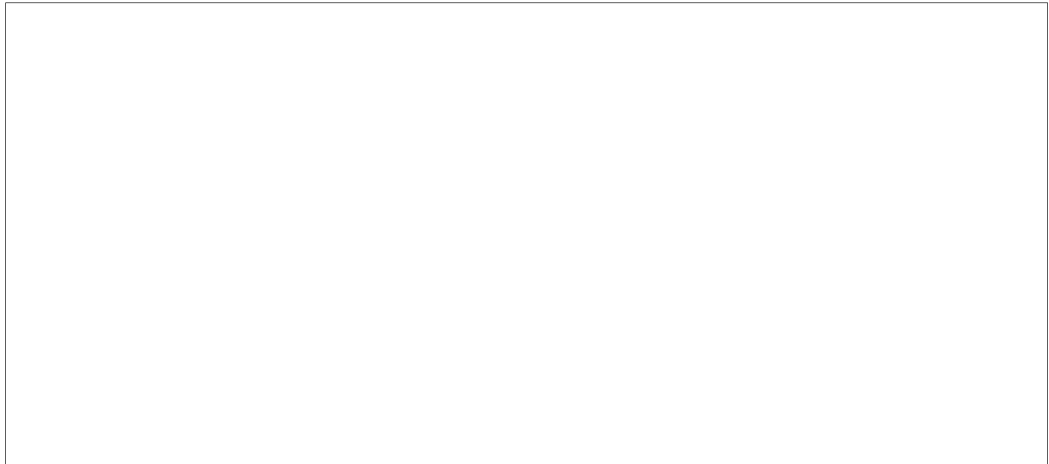
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Chinese Refugees from North Vietnam: Former Chinese residents in North Vietnam who have gone back to China to escape the war have come up with a rather flimsy excuse: they say they could not adequately study Mao's works in North Vietnam. According to a Red Guard newspaper, Chou En-lai told a group of Red Guards last month that he does not accept this. "Actually," Chou said, "they fled for fear of being killed" by US planes.

Peking clearly finds the refugees unwelcome. Not only are they excusing their flight by spreading stories detrimental to Sino-Vietnamese relations, but they also mean more mouths to feed.

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Desertion of a North Vietnamese Soldier:



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a deserter from the North Vietnamese Army. The soldier said he had been wounded in South Vietnam and had subsequently escaped from the hospital. He said he would never return to the South, that the only things awaiting North Vietnamese soldiers there are hunger, sickness, and misery.



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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Nothing of significance to report today.

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