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25 November 1963

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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North Vietnam - South Vietnam: Hanoi appears to be renewing its campaign to generate international support for the "neutralization" of South Vietnam.



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In pressing its neutralization proposal, Hanoi probably hopes to take advantage of Cambodian Premier Sihanouk's recent reiteration of his scheme for an international guarantee of neutrality for Cambodia, Laos, and South Vietnam. The North Vietnamese reportedly have urged Premier Souvanna Phouma of Laos to press for adoption of their neutrality proposition.

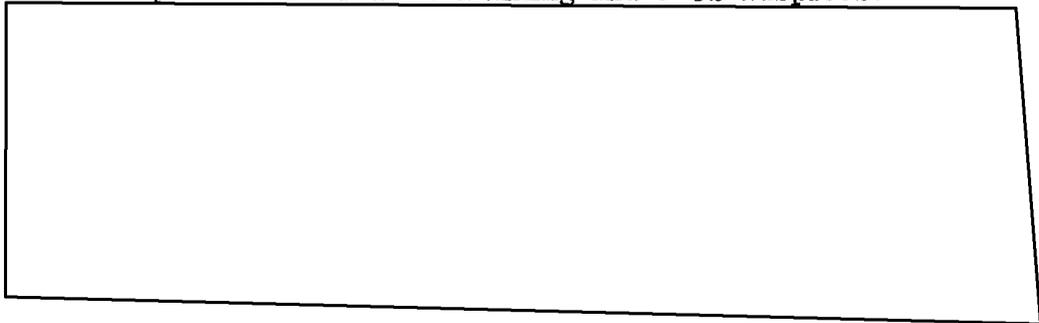
For the first time in nearly a year, moreover, the Hanoi-controlled National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam has publicly restated its support of the three-country neutrality plan. North Vietnam is also drawing support from Moscow and Peiping, whose propaganda has recently become less reticent on the subject of South Vietnamese neutrality.

North Vietnam's premier reportedly told a French official recently that his country sees indications of

growing weariness and dissatisfaction in the US with the war in South Vietnam. He implied that Hanoi intended to keep up military and political pressure in the South in order to help induce American withdrawal.

Viet Cong military activity in South Vietnam continues at a high pace and is apparently being aimed more directly at US armed force contingents. On 23 November, the Communists overran a post northwest of Saigon where special forces were training under US auspices.

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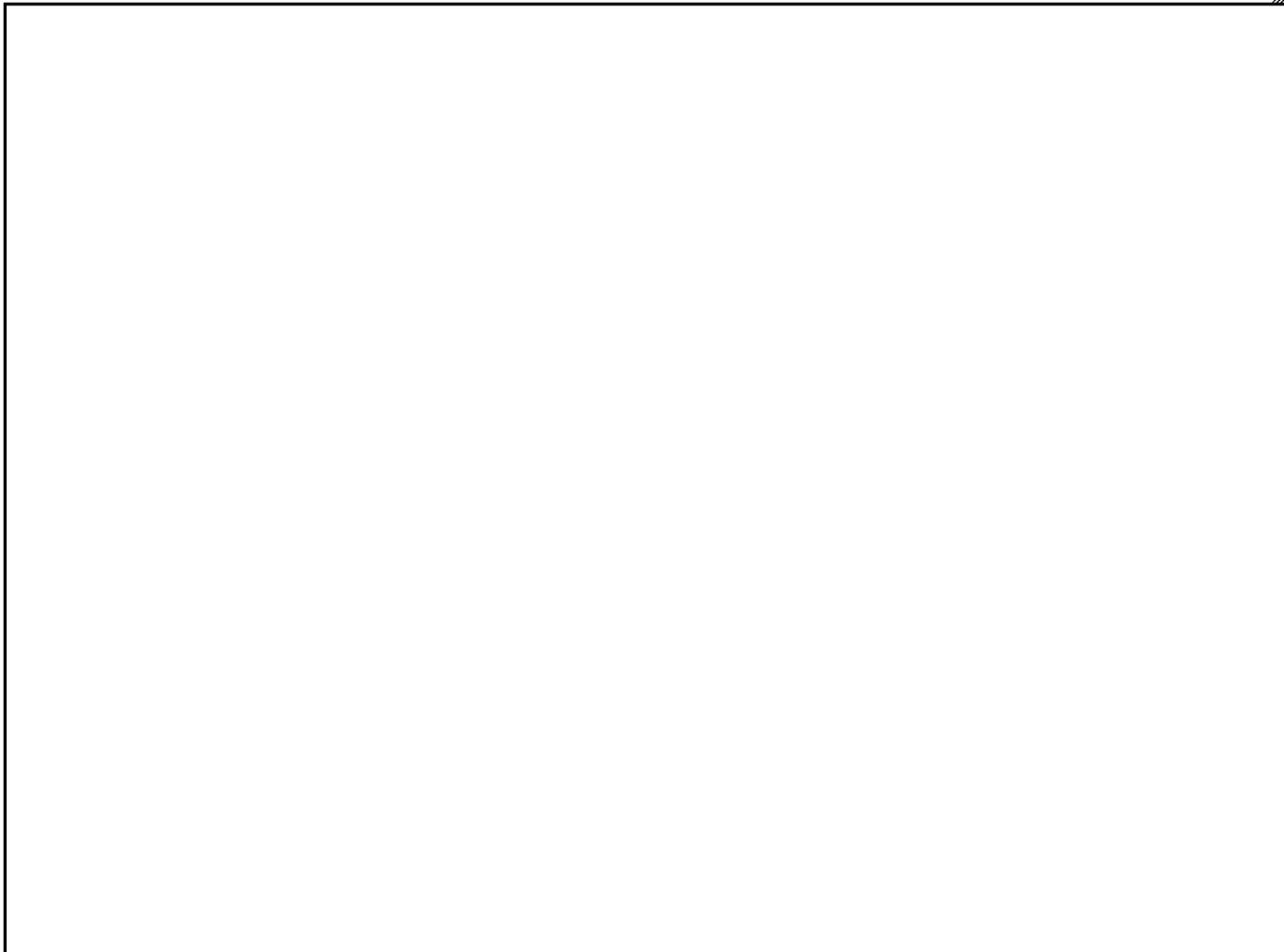
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NOTES

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Italy: Premier-designate Moro expects that the proposed government's program will be approved by the directing bodies of the coalition parties at their meetings today. Party leaders could then begin negotiations over the composition of the cabinet, a job which may take the rest of the week. Socialist Party chief Nenni intends to force his party's acceptance of the program even though he is faced with a threat from the pro-Communist left wing to secede

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Communist China - Australia: Communist China has contracted for 1.1 million tons of grain from Australia worth about \$66 million--China's first major grain purchase for 1964 delivery. The Australian announcement stated that terms of the sale were similar to previous Sino-Australian grain deals. China's 1963 grain crop will at most be no better than last year's mediocre crop and thus China would have to import more than the 5.5 million tons of grain it bought last year from the West, if it is to have available as much grain per person.

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

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The Director of the Budget

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

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