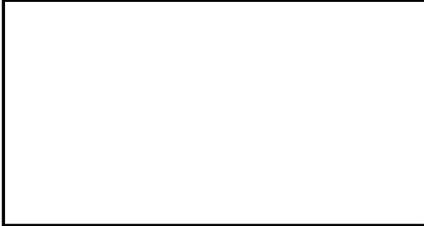


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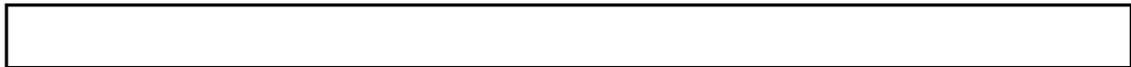
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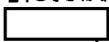
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Communist China - Japan: Peiping is trying a new tactic which it may hope will lead to diplomatic ties with Japan.

Chinese Communist trade officials are reported to have proposed that unofficial trade missions be established in both countries by exchanging "trade representatives" who would be replaced at two- or three-month intervals. This would, in effect, set up permanent trade missions.

The offer thus side-steps the question of the missions' diplomatic status, which has been a major stumbling block in the past. Peiping's willingness to hold in abeyance the question of quasi-diplomatic status for its proposed mission is probably designed to make it difficult for the Japanese to refuse the request. Once the mission was established, Peiping could be expected to press for enhancement of its status.

The Japanese are likely to temporize. They do not wish to discourage Peiping and they want to avoid raising tensions with Taipei.

The Ikeda government has made domestic capital from a "forward-looking" policy, which permits private trade deals with the Chinese Communists. Concern that European competitors may get ahead of Japan in the China market is a significant influence on Tokyo's attitude and one which Peiping has not hesitated to exploit.

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NOTES

France: De Gaulle appears to be encouraging speculation that he is available for a meeting with President Johnson in the French Caribbean. He told newsmen he would "probably" stop in Martinique and Guadeloupe on his return from Mexico in March, but parried a direct question on the possibility of a meeting. French officials reportedly hinted, however, that he may have such an idea in mind--perhaps as a way to escape the onus of appearing unwilling to meet with the President.

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Algeria-Tanganyika: [An Algerian ship has reached Dar-es-Salaam with a large consignment of arms which President Ben Bella reportedly promised to President Nyerere during his visit to Algiers last July. These arms are probably intended for the planned expansion of the Tanganyikan Army, but some may be destined for the Mozambique and South African refugees based there. Several hundred Mozambique nationalists have been receiving guerrilla training in Algeria, and the first contingent recently returned to Tanganyika.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Communist China: China's effort to procure a wide range of industrial plants from Free World suppliers continues. Peiping recently purchased \$5 million worth of oil refinery equipment from an Italian firm and has also just contracted for Italian fertilizer plants. Since mid-1963, Peiping has bought a synthetic fiber plant from Japan, a synthetic ammonia plant from the UK, and a urea plant from the Netherlands.

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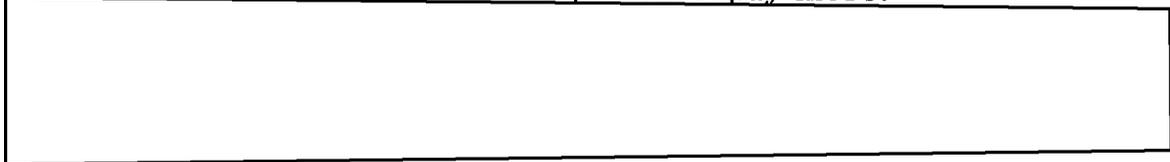
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*Middle East Oil: A showdown between the major international oil companies and the oil-producing states on the states' demands for increased oil income has been temporarily averted. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which met in Saudi Arabia last week, decided to continue negotiations with the companies. The representatives of Venezuela, Iraq, and Indonesia opposed this course and the Iraqi representative argued it was up to the OPEC members to force the companies to pay more.

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