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DIRECTORATE OF  
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# WEEKLY SUMMARY

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14 November 1969  
No. 0396/69

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The WEEKLY SUMMARY, issued every Friday morning by the Office of Current Intelligence, reports and analyzes significant developments of the week through noon on Thursday. It frequently includes material coordinated with or prepared by the Office of Economic Research, the Office of Strategic Research, and the Directorate of Science and Technology. Topics requiring more comprehensive treatment and therefore published separately as Special Reports are listed in the contents pages.

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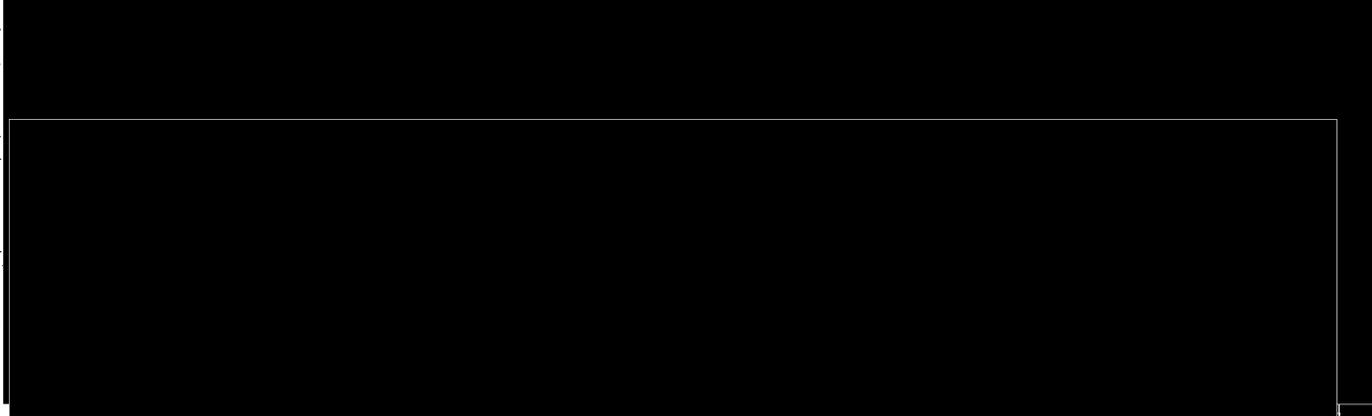
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C O N T E N T S

(Information as of noon EST, 13 November 1969)

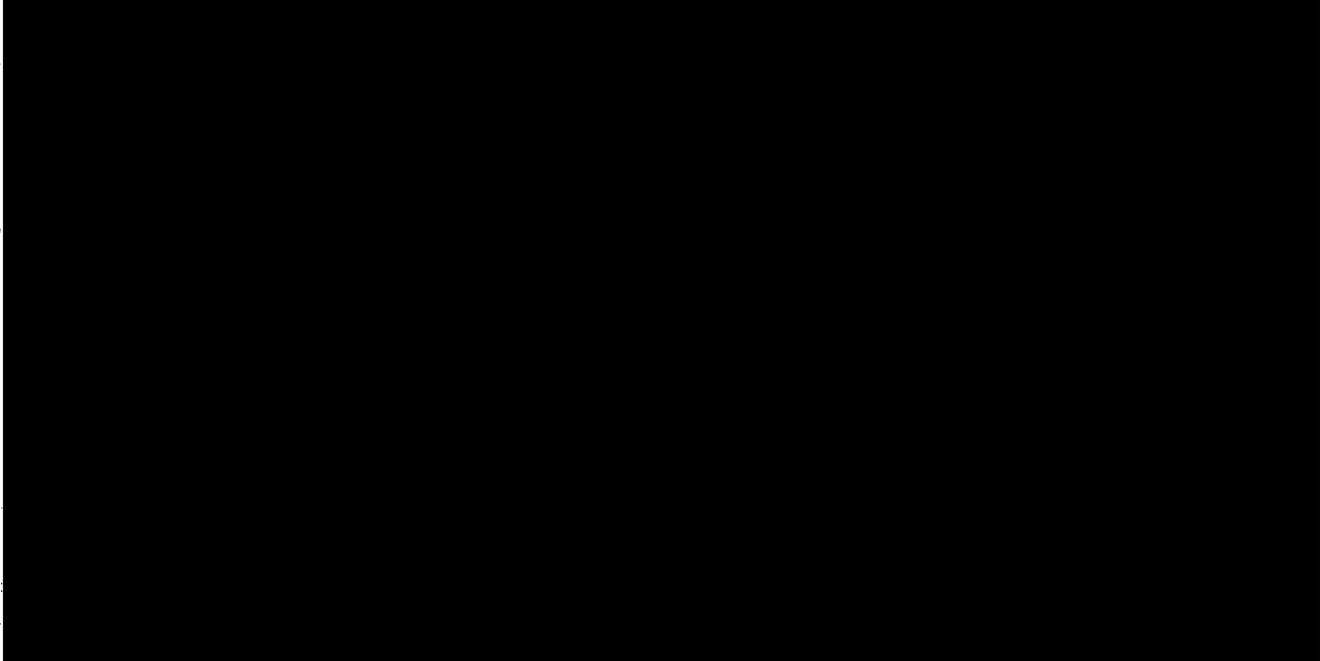
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SINO-SOVIET TALKS MAKE NO HEADWAY

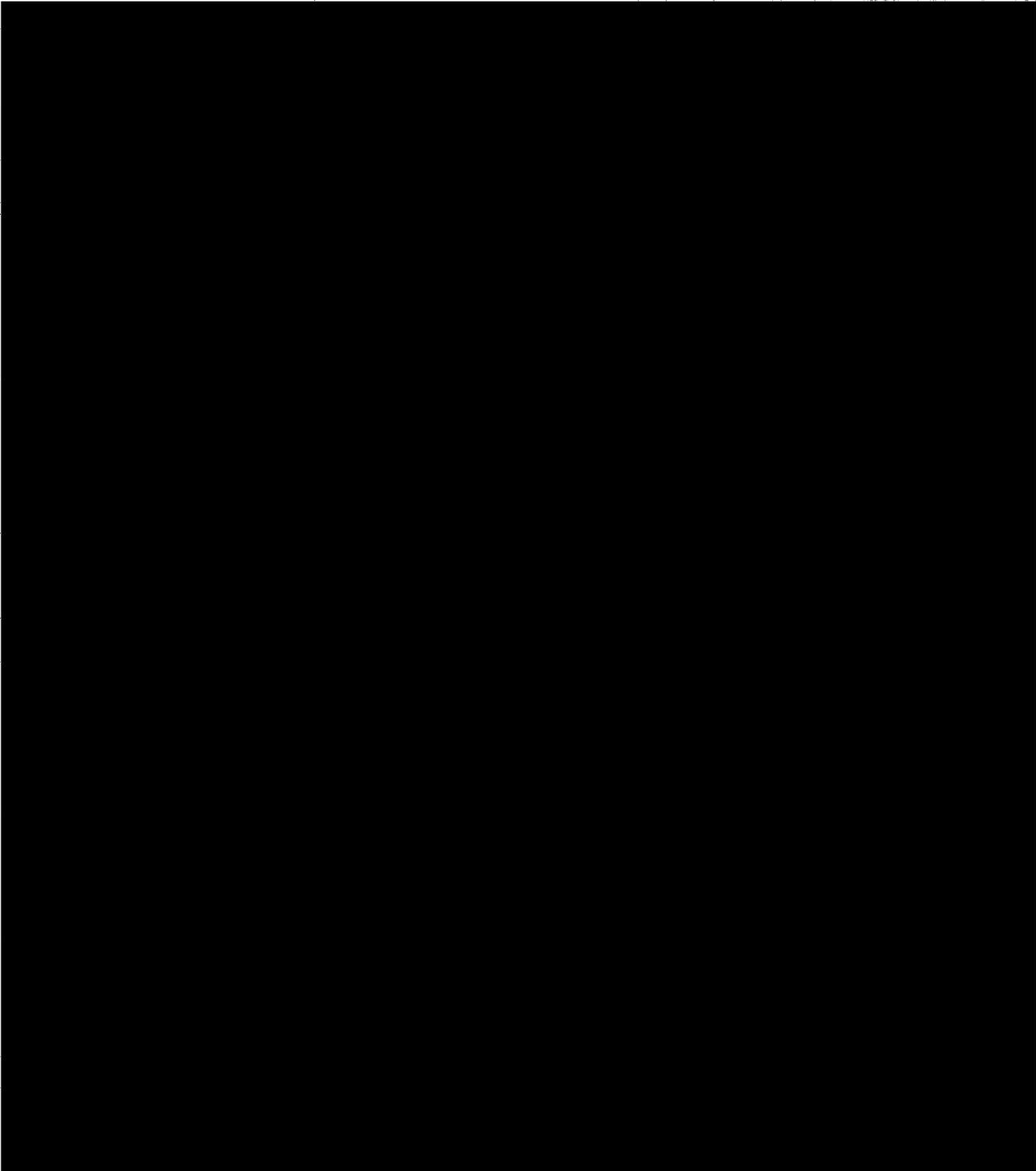
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The Sino-Soviet negotiations in Peking have entered their fourth week with no indication of even preliminary agreement. Both sides are making serious efforts to continue the talks, however.



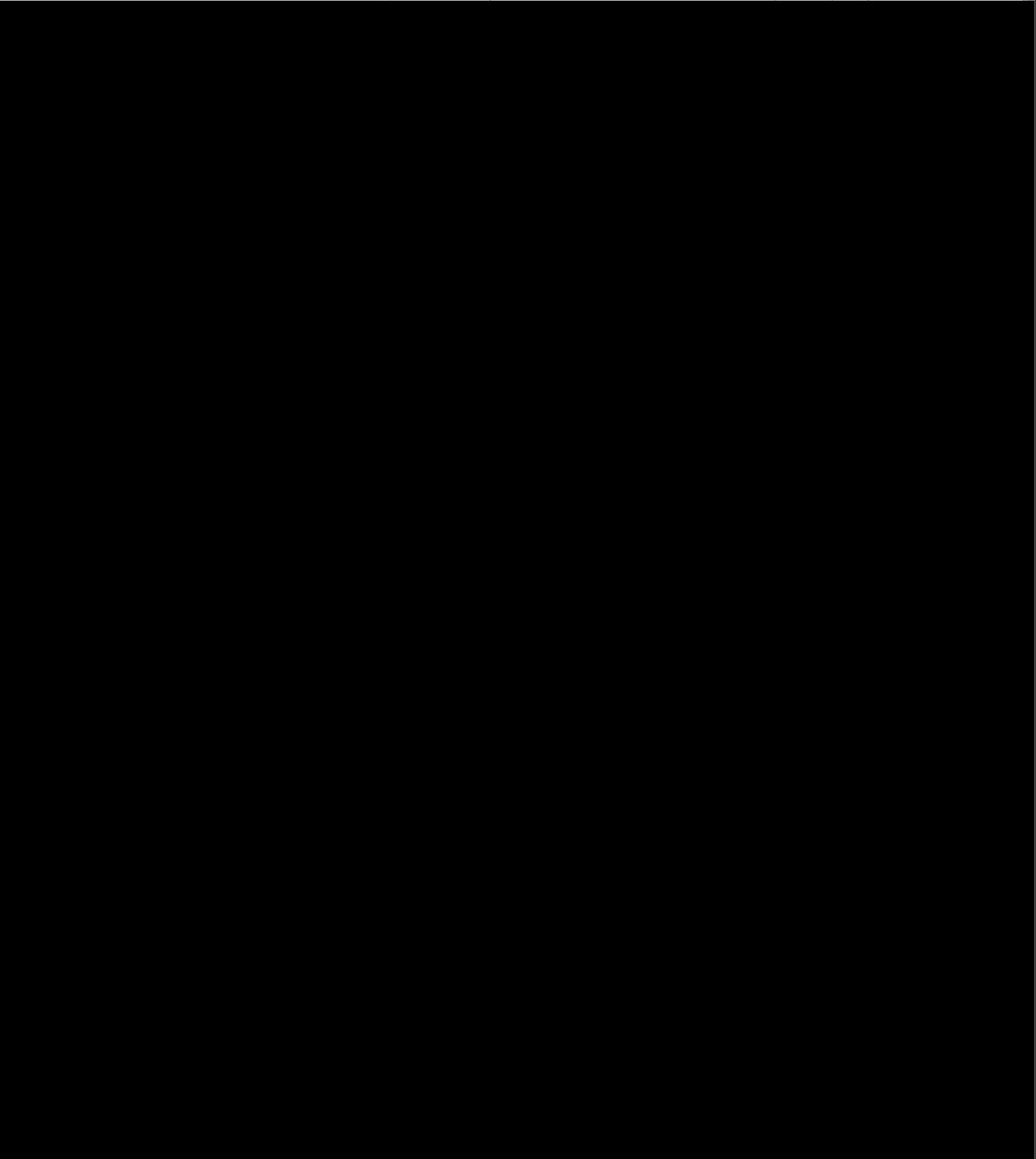
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## SINO-SOVIET TALKS MAKE NO HEADWAY

The Sino-Soviet negotiations in Peking have entered their fourth week with no indication of even preliminary agreement. The Chinese, concerned over the Soviet military build-up on the border, appear to be pressing hard for a firm preliminary agreement on military disengagement in disputed areas in order to avert further conflicts. Such an accord would satisfy most of Peking's objectives in advance of the talks by demonstrating China's "reasonableness" and reducing the threat of Soviet military action--all without jeopardy to China's long-standing political and territorial claims against the USSR.

The Soviets apparently intend to press for a comprehensive settlement that would help remove the border issue from the list of fundamental Sino-Soviet differences. Moscow is fully aware of its present political and military advantage over China, and may be withholding agreement on a tactical military disengagement until a broader agreement on specific territorial issues is reached. The Soviets apparently also want to link any agreement on border problems with steps leading to some normalization of state relations.

Although the Soviets initially maintained an optimistic

public attitude regarding the talks, several Russian political journalists indicated last week to US officials that the Soviets were finding the going difficult in Peking. They speculated that the Chinese were using the talks to "gain time" and to lull the USSR with false hopes of normalized relations. A Soviet official in Tokyo has also suggested that pessimism exists in some Soviet diplomatic circles, primarily over the belief that the Chinese may insist on bringing in the "unequal treaties issue." Meanwhile, the Chinese have taken steps to publicize their version of the impasse. A Hong Kong Communist newspaper on 6 November attributed the lack of progress in Peking to Moscow's desire to negotiate from a position of strength and strongly reiterated the Chinese contention that an agreement to calm the frontier must precede negotiations on substantive issues.

Despite the initial deadlock, neither side has shown any desire to break off the talks and both are making serious efforts to continue negotiations.

the top two members of each delegation are meeting privately in an effort to break the current deadlock. Moreover, each side continues to mute propaganda attacks against the other, and some limited progress has been

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made toward establishing more cordial diplomatic relations. Soviet President Podgorny, speaking last week at a meeting celebrating the 52nd anniversary of the Russian revolution, expressed the hope that the talks would help to normalize relations between the two countries. The Chinese sent unusually warm anniversary greet-

ings to the Soviets this year, and high-ranking Chinese officials, including the head of the Chinese delegation to the Peking talks, attended the Soviet Embassy anniversary reception in Peking for the first time since the start of the Cultural Revolution. [REDACTED]

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