



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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2 APRIL 1966

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

The political situation continues to deteriorate. Some 5,000 troops, police, and government workers were involved in a protest march in Hué today. The civil servants' strike there is still effective.

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At Da Nang, 7,000 to 10,000 people, including about 2,000 military, staged a march similar to that in Hué. In addition, student leaders have announced that their ultimatum to US officials over an incident involving demonstrations and US Marines has expired. This raises the possibility of action against American installations in the Da Nang area.

General Chieu has been released from custody at General Thi's residence in Hué and is now back in Saigon. He denies that he was held against his will.

Premier Ky announced in a public speech yesterday that further demonstrations would be illegal and that he would use force to prevent them. We see no current signs that Ky is ready to back up this statement.

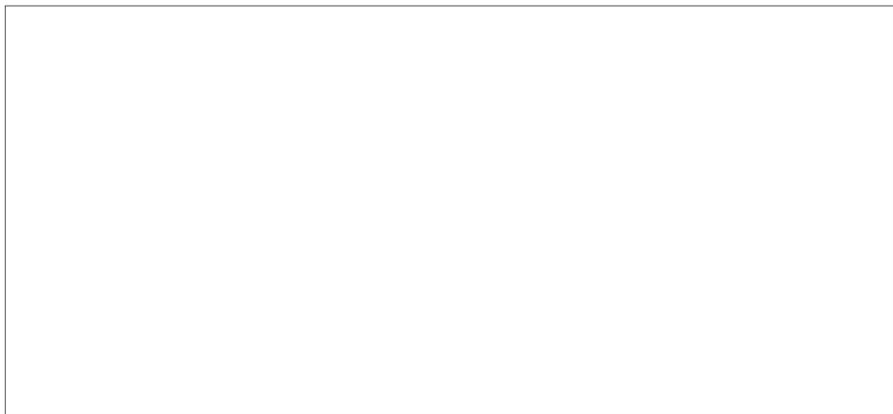
✓ 2. Indonesia

Another milestone in the dismantling of Sukarnoism may come on Monday. The new leaders revealed today that an "important political statement" is to be issued then. Ambassador Green has been privately informed that it will rephrase the government's policy goals in "positive and constructive" terms.

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3. Soviet Union

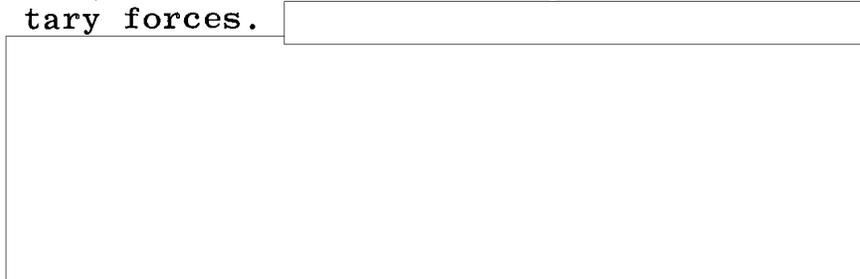
Moscow seems to be desirous of freer exchange with the US on some military matters. Recently, US military attachés have been allowed to make trips in the Soviet Union to certain areas that had been restricted. They have also been granted more freedom in arranging their transportation and accommodations on these trips.



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✓ 8. Uganda

Communist countries are helping Prime Minister Obote strengthen his military forces.

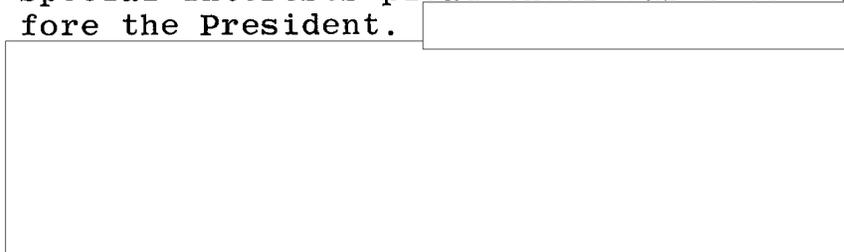


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Obote has alienated every political grouping in the country. He is being kept in office almost solely by the army and security forces, to whom he must increasingly cater.

✓ 9. Ecuador

The country is generally calm as special interests plead their cases before the President.



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✓ 10. 16. Brazil

A new wave of public unrest is weakening Castello Branco's effort to instill order and stability into the political structure. Continuing inflationary pressures and the disquiet of an election year tend to magnify the government's difficulties. The military leaders are disturbed by labor and student demonstrations.

The President continues to use his broad powers very sparingly, but he may have to adopt harsher tactics if the trend continues.

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