

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 3 March 1967

4 March 1967



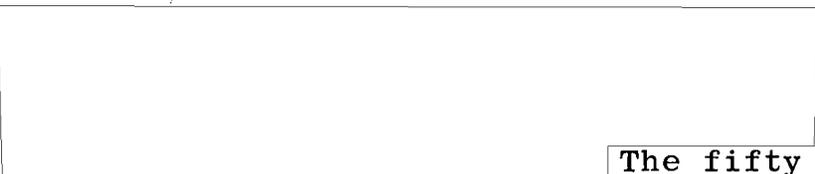
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DAILY BRIEF
3 - 4 MARCH 1967

1. North Korea -
Communist China

Now the North Koreans are beginning openly to take a few whacks at the Chinese.

North Korean diplomats in several countries have objected strongly and publicly to Red Guard poster attacks last month charging the Pyongyang regime with "revisionism."



The fifty remaining Chinese technicians in North Korea meanwhile have been forced to hole up at the embassy; the Koreans closed the hotel where they were living.

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2. Vietnam

Sea deliveries to North Vietnam last month totaled 100,000 tons--a figure in line with recent months.



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3. Soviet Union

It took only two days after launch for the Soviets to begin transmitting weather data to the US from their satellite Cosmos 144. With the last weather satellite it took two months, suggesting increased Soviet confidence in this system after two and a half years of flight testing.

Cosmos 144 is the first Soviet vehicle to have a near-polar orbit.

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4. India

The first of many problems arising from the Congress Party's loss of half the state governments in India has come to the surface in West Bengal, where a coalition dominated by a mixed bag of leftists and various Communist factions will take over.

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5. Britain

Britain, turning a deaf ear to sniping from its European allies, is going ahead with its projected friendship treaty with the Soviets. A senior British official says that the Foreign Office hopes to have the draft ready for signature when George Brown goes to Moscow in May.

London plans to keep its allies generally informed of the treaty's progress, but it has no intention of formally clearing what it considers strictly a bilateral affair with its alliance partners. They in turn view London's determination as another factor complicating an already exceedingly complicated European diplomatic scene.

6. Dominican Republic

Balaguer says he plans "in principle" to attend the Punta del Este summit conference if the timing is right and the domestic political situation holds still enough for him.

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7. Brazil

Costa e Silva will surely be no carbon copy of Castello Branco after he becomes President on 15 March. For one thing, the new cabinet he will bring in contains several open critics of the Castello regime. These men may try to give the appearance of new policy departures even though the government sticks basically to the course charted by its predecessor.

Brazil, while remaining strongly pro-West, will probably pursue a considerably more nationalistic policy, less closely tied to the US.

On the domestic scene, Costa will pursue policies pretty much like Castello's but with more emphasis on production and economic growth and with more permissive credit and wage policies.

NOTICE

Beginning Monday morning March 6 the President's Brief will be prepared during the night and will be delivered at the opening of business daily Monday through Saturday.

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