

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 10 March 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
10 MARCH 1967

1. North Vietnam



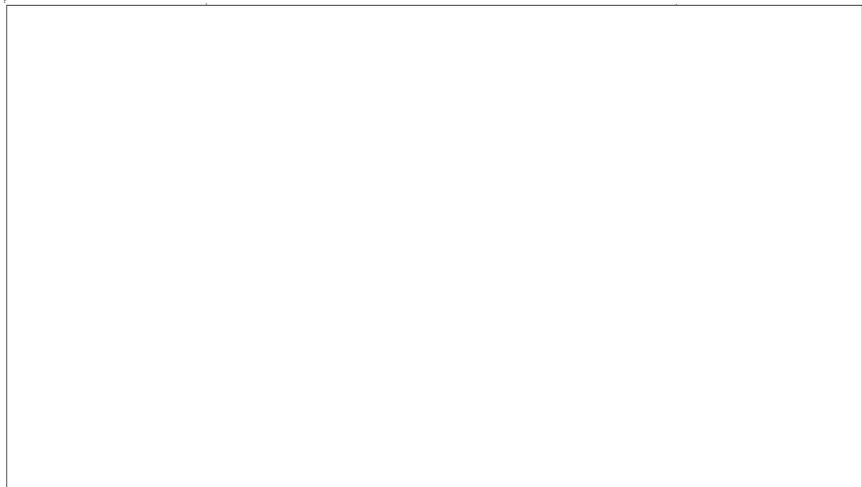
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2. South Vietnam

Saigon is beginning to experience a short-term economic crisis because of the temporary rice shortage. Stocks in Saigon are way down. Moreover, deliveries from the delta to the capital last month totaled only 17,500 tons--about 12,000 tons short of the February 1966 figure.

Some imported rice is now arriving and South Vietnamese officials are undertaking emergency distribution measures.

3. Soviet Union



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5. India

Chances for stable local governments are slim in at least five of the eight Indian states where the Congress Party failed to win a majority. New Delhi in fact may have to impose direct rule in some of these states if the political situation continues to deteriorate. Among the grim possibilities is a breakdown of cooperation between national and local governments on food policies.

6. Communist China

The situation continues to stabilize both in the cities and the provinces. Peking is quiet; the army now performs most of the police functions there.

Hong Kong press reports of disturbances in Canton cannot be substantiated. Recent visitors to the city say little or no ferment was evident.

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7. El Salvador

Ambassador Castro reports there is every indication that US interests will not suffer as a result of Colonel Fidel Sanchez's sweep in the presidential election last Sunday.

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8. Panama

Foreign Minister Eleta says that his government definitely plans to place the treaty negotiations at the top of the agenda for bilateral talks during the summit meeting. Eleta is still concerned about the pace of the negotiations. He believes the primary objective is to get Presidents Johnson and Robles "to agree to do whatever is required"--even to order up around-the-clock negotiations--to get signatures on the treaties by June.

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