

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 18 March 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Soviet Union

The Russians may well try another lunar probe next week. The optimum time will be Sunday through Tuesday.

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2. North Vietnam

We think Hanoi could be gearing up for a propaganda spectacular involving US prisoners in North Vietnam, but we have no solid evidence when this might come. Such a spectacular might be similar to the mass confessions on "germ warfare" the Communists exploited during the Korean war. It would be a key element in the Communists' present well-orchestrated, world-wide campaign to blacken the US for "war crimes."

We have good reason to believe that "confessions" have been extracted from all or most of the US prisoners in the North. Some individual statements have been released from time to time, but we believe Hanoi is holding back on a goodly collection still in its file for later use.

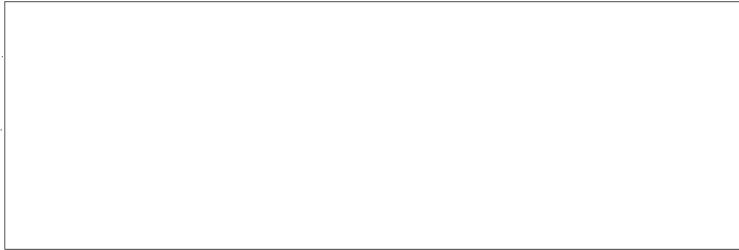
3. France

People around De Gaulle are beginning to admit that the government clearly lacks the money to implement its elaborate social welfare program. Instead, there is talk now of "improving the presentation" of existing programs and developing "a more effective dialogue" with the working class. The newly beefed-up Left should have quite a field day with this.

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4. Egypt

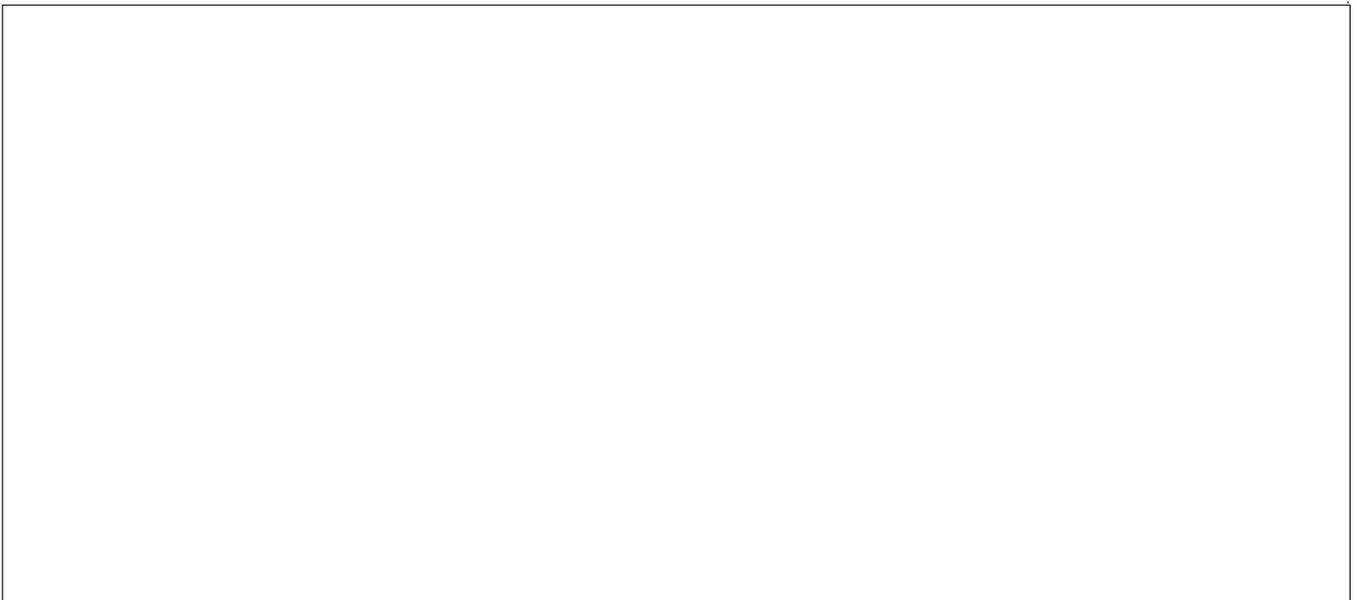
Egypt is on a collision course with the US, and recognizes a "duty to oppose and foil US policy in the Middle East and other parts of the world." This is the line of an editorial put out yesterday by one of Nasir's semi-official press spokesmen. The piece also says that Nasir told Ambassador Battle that Egypt would withdraw its long-standing request for renewal of the PL-480 wheat program.

5. Guinea

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