

The President's Daily Brief

~~*Top Secret 5 September 1967*~~



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DAILY BRIEF
5 SEPTEMBER 1967

1. South Vietnam

Final but still unofficial figures give Thieu and Ky about 35 percent of the vote, better than a two-to-one lead over the runner-up ticket led by Truong Dinh Dzu. The vociferous Dzu, probably feeling a bit heady over his unexpected showing, has scheduled a press conference for tomorrow. He has promised a list of election irregularities, but we doubt that he can come up with anything very solid.

Some protest demonstrations are probably in the offing. Militant Buddhists and Saigon students are apparently gearing up for nonviolent demonstrations this week and some of the defeated candidates may send their supporters into the streets.

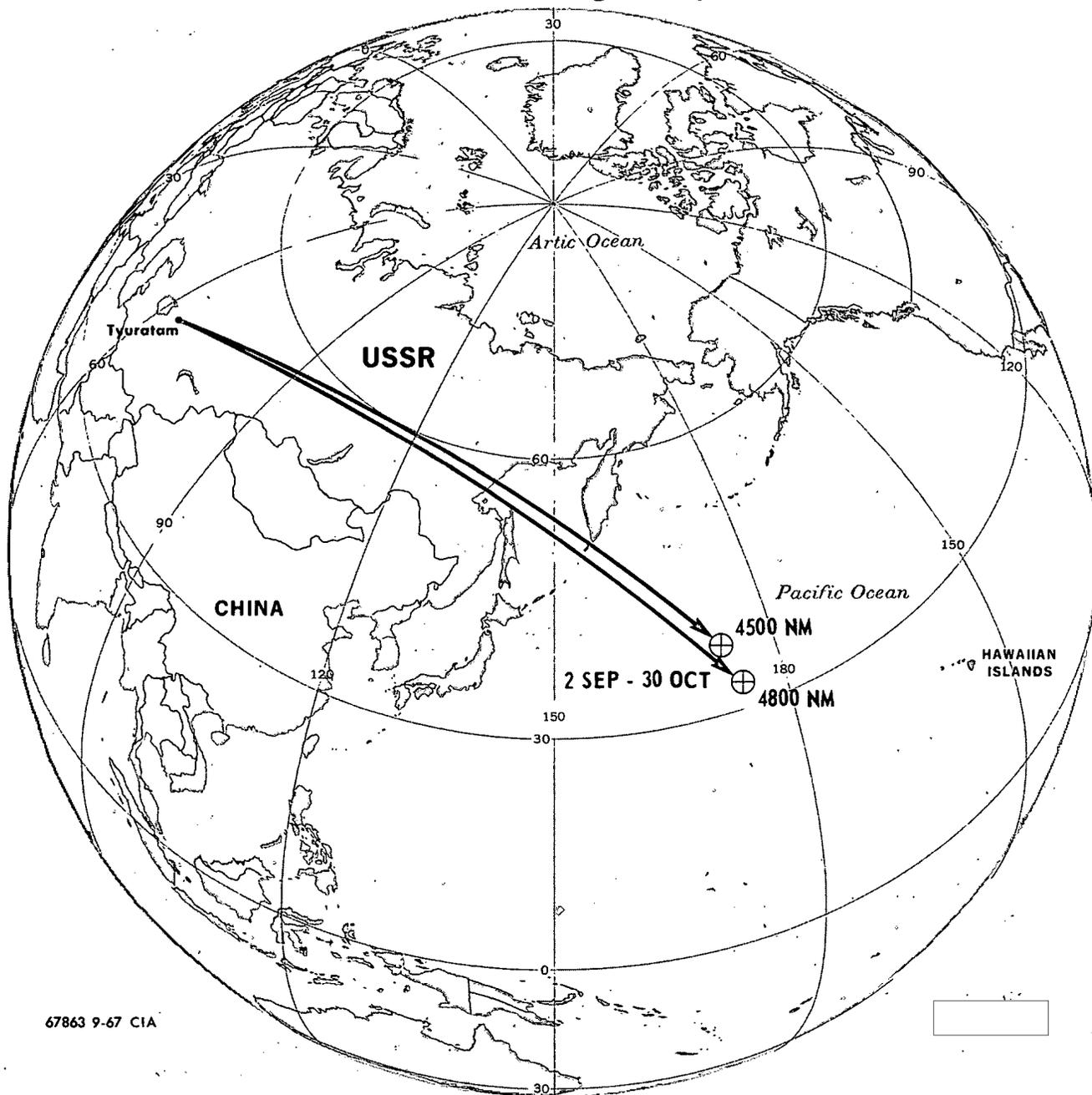
Election returns from the Senate races are still incomplete and probably will not be tabulated until late today.

2. Indonesia

The Indonesians and Malaysians, who formally re-established diplomatic relations last week, are now working toward much closer military cooperation in the drive against the guerrillas still operating along their common border in Borneo. Economic relations are also fast developing between the two countries, both members of the recently formed Association of Southeast Asian States.

Mutual suspicions still linger, particularly in Malaysia, but it is clear now that Sukarno's old policy of "confrontation" has been relegated-- along with its author--to the trash heap.

Soviet Extended-Range Impact Areas



3. Communist China

The upheaval inside China is becoming more intense and much bloodier. Not long ago, fists and rocks were the principal weapons. Now rifles, machine-guns, and even artillery and tanks are being used in hit-and-run battles in widely scattered parts of the country.

Posters seen in Canton claimed last week that 2,000 people had died there in recent fighting.

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The disorders are interfering increasingly with transportation, communications, and other government services. Some weather stations, including ones that had been supplying information for military use in the Vietnam border area, have apparently been shut down.

The regime continues issuing pronouncements designed to restore order, but with no apparent effect.

4. Soviet Union

On Saturday, Moscow announced the closure of two zones in the Pacific for eight weeks. The next day, an SS-9 was fired into one of the zones from Tyuratam. It looks like another series of ICBM practice shots is in the works (see map).

5. South America

High ranking Argentine and Peruvian army officers have been meeting to discuss the possibility of sending troops to help defeat the Cuban-supported guerrillas in Bolivia. Things would have to get very much worse in Bolivia, however, before President Barrientos swallowed his pride and permitted foreign troops to come in.

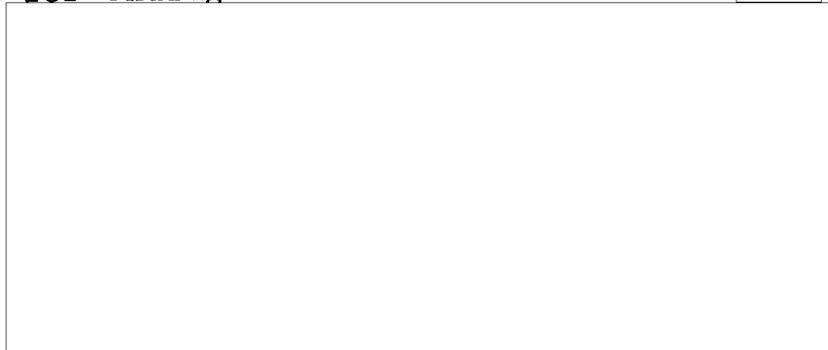
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6. Arab States

Saudi King Faysal is "pleased, but on the alert" about the deal with Nasir for ending the civil war in Yemen.

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7. Nigeria

Ghana, alarmed by growing Soviet influence in Nigeria, has invited six African states to meet in Accra to search for a solution to the Nigerian civil war. African pressure for an end to the war is also building elsewhere on the continent, and the issue is likely to come up during the sessions of the Organization of African Unity now under way in Kinshasa.

The Nigerian Government, however, continues to insist that its struggle with Biafra is an internal matter and that outside mediation is not welcome.

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