



*The President's Daily Brief*

23 November 1972



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~~Top Secret~~

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

23 November 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Soviets have failed in a third attempt to launch their largest space booster, the "J-vehicle." (Page 1)

President Ceausescu has declared Romania's opposition to separate talks on European security and force reductions, again breaking ranks with the Warsaw Pact. (Page 2)

[Redacted] India. 25X1 25X1  
(Page 3)

Malta [Redacted] (Page 4) 25X1 25X1

Jordan [Redacted] 25X1  
[Redacted] (Page 5) 25X1

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USSR

The Soviets launched their largest space booster--the "J-vehicle"--this morning, but it failed early in flight.

*The "J-vehicle," about the same size as the US Saturn V space booster, was expected to send an unmanned spacecraft toward the moon with recovery either in the Indian Ocean or in the Soviet Union. Both previous tests of the "J-vehicle"--in July 1969 and in June 1971--also failed shortly after liftoff. Because of continuing problems with the booster, the Soviets' first attempt at a manned lunar landing is not expected until the late 1970s.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ROMANIA

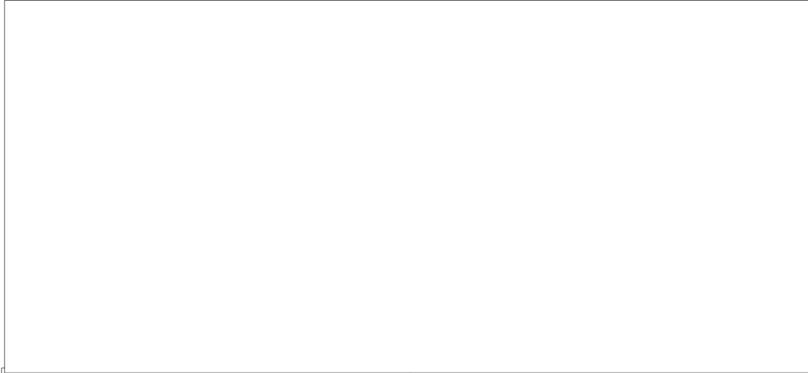
President Ceausescu has publicly taken positions on European security and force reductions which mean that Romania has again broken ranks with the Warsaw Pact. On Tuesday he declared his opposition to separate talks on these two major issues, expressing fear that talks on force reduction without participation of all European states would result in the division of the continent into Soviet and US spheres of influence. In Ceausescu's view such a step would mean Romania's domination again by the Soviets.

In addition, Ceausescu called for a European detente to include withdrawal of foreign troops from the territories of other states, the closing of all foreign military bases, the creation of regional nuclear-free zones, an end to military maneuvers, and lower military budgets.

*Most of these Romanian policy goals are contrary to those of the USSR. Ceausescu does not expect to achieve them, but he calculates that, if Romania remains silent on such issues during this period of negotiations, its independence will be eroded.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

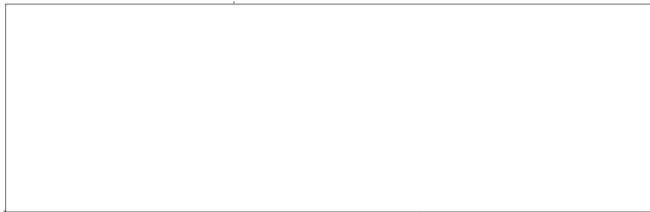
INDIA



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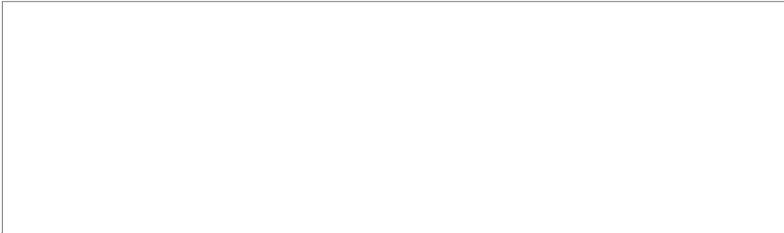
MALTA

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JORDAN-LEBANON-FEDAYEEN



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NOTES

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USSR-Cuba:

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Libya-Fedayeen:

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