

The President's Daily Brief

Top Secret 29 November 1966

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DAILY BRIEF 29 NOVEMBER 1966

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1. Soviet Union

2. Vietnam

A Filipino congressman arrived in Saigon yesterday with word that President Marcos intends to visit South Vietnam "very shortly." Marcos is still publicly denying such plans, but rumors of his impending visit are already spreading in Saigon. Such a trip now would be consistent with Marcos' energetic efforts to follow up on the Manila conference.

3. Jordan

The antiregime demonstrations in west Jordan today resulted in some violence, but the day passed without the serious trouble that had been feared.

Israeli fighter planes clashed with Egyptian MIG-19s near the border and at least one of the Egyptian planes was downed. Israel has publicly claimed to have knocked out two MIGs, but Egypt has been mum about the whole affair.

4. Indonesia

Another delay has come to the army's drive to implicate Sukarno in last year's pro-Communist coup effort. The trial of former air force leader Dani has been postponed again. The postponement is attributed to the judge's illness. We suspect, however, that the cautious General Suharto may again be temporizing with Sukarno.

5. Burundi

A bad government has been replaced by a worse one. Yesterday's coup seems to have been the work of extremists who have long favored re-establishment of relations with Communist China. The new leaders will probably go slowly, however. They are inexperienced and probably anxious to avoid offending Belgium, on whose support the country depends.

6. Communist China

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7. Brazil

President-elect Costa e Silva plans to pass through the US sometime in January during the extensive world trip he is planning. Last week he gently needled the US defense attaché on the fact that the US, unlike other countries, had not yet issued him an invitation.

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8. Uruguay

The voters have approved a return to presidential government, but the president-elect may not have what it will take to pull his country out of the doldrums.

The 65-year-old Oscar Gestido, who will have to wait until next March to begin his five-year term, owes his victory to a well-oiled political machine. Neither particularly dynamic nor imaginative, Gestido is probably a good deal more honest than the political faction which helped elect him and with which he must share the spoils of victory.

As expected, the Communists' political front gained significantly. It now seems that it may double its small representation in Congress.

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