

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 27 August 1968



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THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
27 AUGUST 1968

1. Czechoslovakia

The Moscow talks have ended and Svoboda returned to Prague late last night. With him were Dubcek and Premier Cernik.

No communiqué has been issued yet, although one may be forthcoming later today. A Western press report--unconfirmed, but sourced to the Czechoslovakian Embassy in Moscow--states the Czechoslovaks agreed to foreign troops remaining in the western border area and to cracking down on the press. The Russians, according to this report, agreed the pre-invasion leadership could keep their jobs.

There were fewer incidents in Czechoslovakia last night, and Soviet military equipment in Prague was somewhat less in evidence.

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2. East Germany

The Ulbricht regime faces growing defiance as East Germans rally behind Dubcek and the Czechoslovaks. Throughout East Germany officials have been harassed by inflammatory leaflets, hostile wall paintings, and anonymous telephone calls. There have been resignations from the party in protest over the German role in Czechoslovakia. Reacting in character, the regime is arresting dissenters and tightening the already formidable security apparatus.

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3. NATO

The invasion of Czechoslovakia has jarred some NATO members considerably. The West Germans want a review of the NATO system for advance warning of attack, and the Italians are calling for a 20-year extension of the treaty. Both countries have seized on the Czechoslovak crisis as an excuse to postpone signing the Nonproliferation Treaty.

4. Communist China

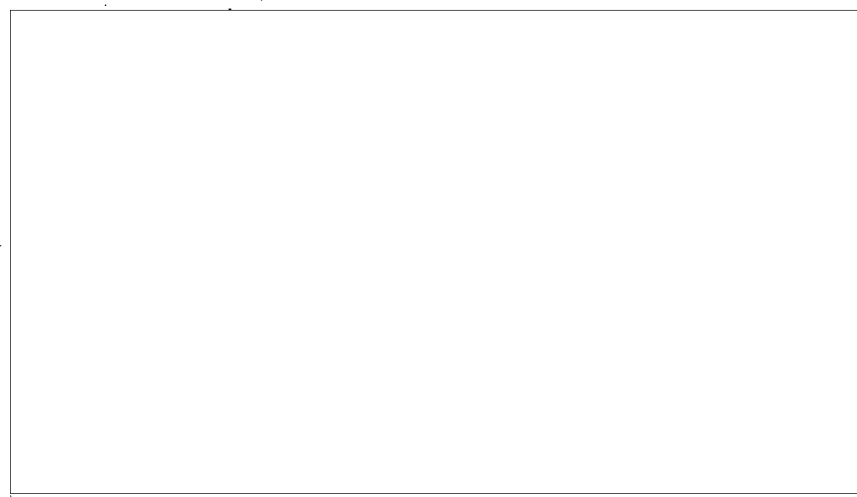


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5. Nigeria

Federal troops continue their slow drive into Biafra, but are meeting stiff resistance and getting bogged down in heavy rains. There are reports the Biafrans are importing 300 French mercenaries. If true, this will make things considerably tougher for the federals.

6. Soviet Union -
Egypt



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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam

- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S
Political Attitudes



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

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Shipping: Hanoi is pricing Japanese oil tankers,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

The North Vietnamese are looking

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[Redacted]

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for small ships in the 1,000 to 3,000 ton class and
are not asking for extended credit terms.

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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL
ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

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There is nothing of significance to report today.

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