



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 14 December 1967



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Approved for Release: 2019/03/29 C05974171

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DAILY BRIEF
14 DECEMBER 1967

1. Greece

The King and his family have fled to Rome following yesterday's abortive coup. Premier Papadopoulos is firmly in control of Greece.

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2. Yemen

Soviet aid has enabled the republican government to hold off the immediate royalist threat.

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3. Philippines

Marcos held a meeting on Monday to lay the groundwork for a new drive against the Huks. He said there would be no compromise and raised the price on the head of each Huk leader.

These prices are high by rural standards and should prove tempting to peasants in the barrios. Along with the campaign to eliminate Huks, Marcos called for a beefed-up civic action program.

4. Common Market

The Common Market partners less France are meeting outside Brussels today to discuss Britain's bid for membership. Only last week the Italians and Germans were dragging their feet, saying a meeting now would be "premature."

The decision to meet probably has been influenced by Wilson's drive to get a yes or no answer by next week on opening negotiations for membership. France's intransigent behavior on financial cooperation was probably also a factor.

5. Dominican Republic

Balaguer is determined to strengthen his own hand in the Dominican military by appointing faithful followers to key command posts.

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6. France

"The day will come when the Americans will crawl on the ground in front of me!" This statement was made by De Gaulle to a retired French four-star general, Jean Valluy, who was trying to explain NATO to the French President. Valluy, a strong NATO booster, bluntly told De Gaulle he was crazy. For that, Valluy was dismissed abruptly from the presence.

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Valluy did not say just when his meeting with De Gaulle took place.

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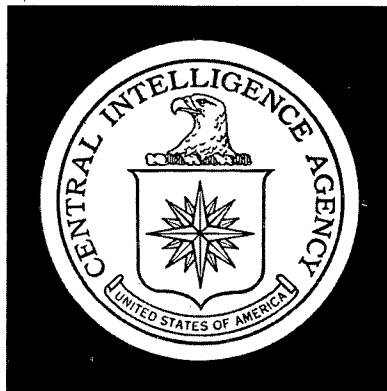
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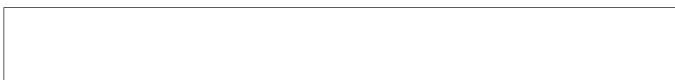
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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

More from Burchett: Wilfred Burchett had a three-hour conversation with US Embassy officers in Paris last week. These are his main conclusions:

--Compared with his visit to Hanoi last January, the North Vietnamese in October were taking a distinctly harder position on willingness to enter into a dialogue with the US; prospects of finding an early solution, therefore, are not bright.

(Burchett said the North Vietnamese accuse the US of talking peace while intensifying the war. For example, the North Vietnamese had agreed to talk at Warsaw last December and even had an official en route when the US resumed the bombing of Hanoi. He also claimed the North Vietnamese were ready to talk at Rangoon during the 37-day pause.)

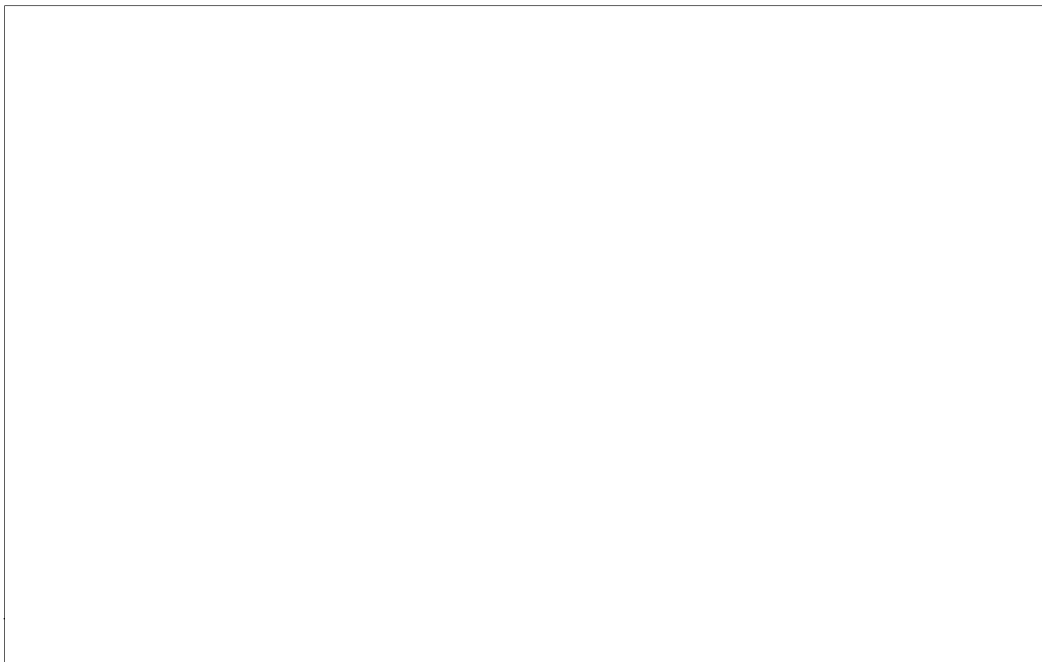
--There is little chance that Hanoi's position on cessation of the bombing can be altered since the North Vietnamese line as set forth in the Trinh interview last January has become so much a part of the public record.

(When asked whether the US would have to make a public declaration on cessation of the bombing in order to get talks started, Burchett said it was his impression that de facto cessation, coupled with word through diplomatic channels that the action was responsive to Hanoi statements, would suffice. As for the time lapse between cessation of bombing and starting of talks, Burchett said the North Vietnamese had not discussed this with him. He said reports indicating any specific time limit--three or four weeks--were pure conjecture.)

--In the negotiating phase, Hanoi would probably agree to having all "belligerents" participate, i.e., including both the Liberation Front and the government of South Vietnam.

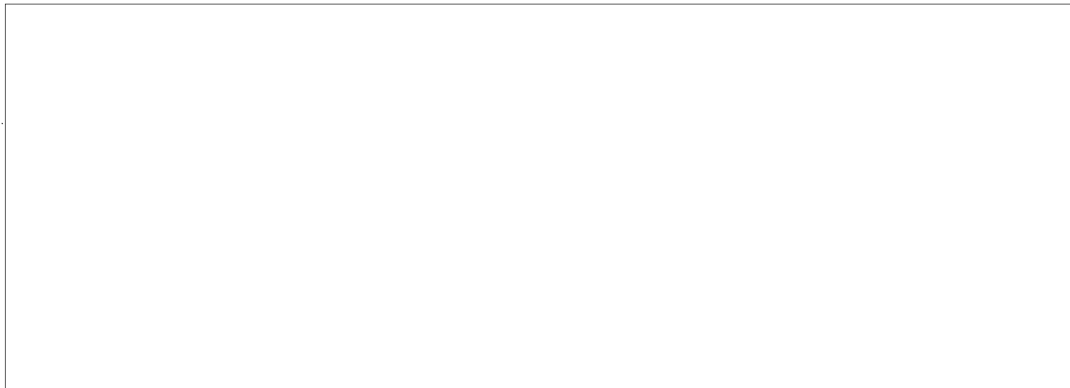
--The North Vietnamese over the last year have shown increased interest in getting more books and other information on all aspects of the US in order to improve their understanding. Far greater attention is now being paid to the analysis of developments in the US.

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

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Hanoi on US Antiwar Protests: The North Vietnamese routinely mentioned two recent US antiwar protests in an international service broadcast in English on 13 December. The broadcast noted a women's protest

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march in New York on 9 December and reported that another American woman burned herself to death on 11 December in New York to protest the war. According to the broadcast, this was the eleventh self-immolation in the US since March 1965.

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