



# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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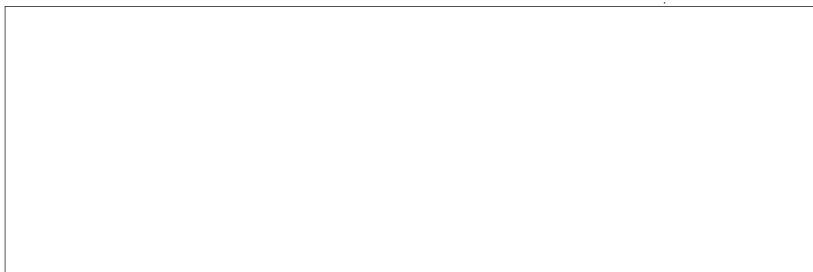
22 AUGUST 1966

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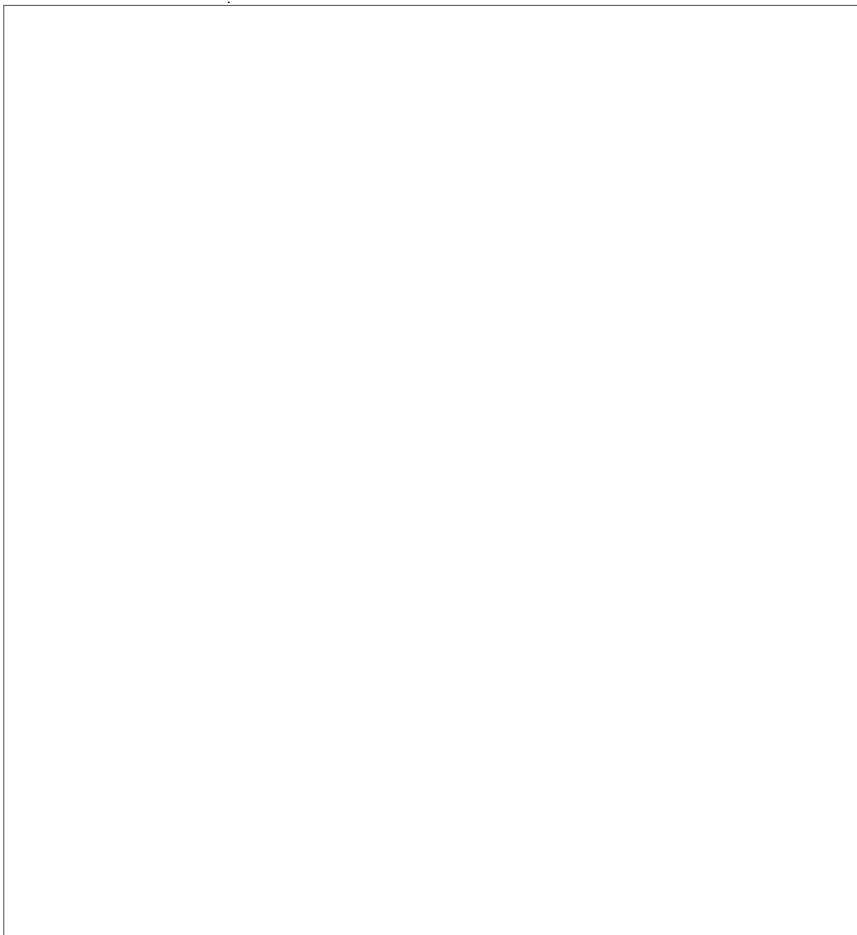
DAILY BRIEF  
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1. Communist China



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2. North Vietnam



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### 3. South Vietnam

Both Buddhists and Viet Cong are stepping up preparations to disrupt or discredit the September constituent assembly elections.

The Buddhist Institute's communiqué directly urging the faithful not to vote has been transmitted as an order to Buddhist representatives outside of Saigon. Today, one of the more radical monks told a Saigon press conference that the Buddhists have no intention of abandoning their boycott of the elections.

Recent Viet Cong broadcasts have made plain an intention to use all the traditional methods of terror and intimidation in the Saigon area. All candidates are being warned to withdraw, since their lives will not be "insured," and all voters are urged to stay away from the polls.

### 4. Syria-Israel

Syrian military forces on the Israeli border have been substantially reinforced in the last few days

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The immediate dispute is over salvaging a grounded Israeli patrol boat and a downed Syrian MIG-17 in the Sea of Galilee. Both were casualties of the incident on 15 August.

United Nations officials are trying to head off a major clash. However, the Syrian chief of staff has refused to withdraw his threat of military action if Israel persists in its apparent intention to salvage the boat without allowing Syria to retrieve the plane.

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