



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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6 SEPTEMBER 1966

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1. Soviet Union

The Soviet ICBM deployment program continues at a vigorous pace. Satellite photography shows about 390 new dispersed "single-silo" launchers under construction at the present time.

This number, added to those already completed, brings a total of at least 660 launchers identified. Of these about 270 are now operational and, given the current rate of completion, all 660 should be operational by mid-1968. Although the number of operational launchers at present lies somewhat below our earlier estimate for mid-1966, the present pace of deployment will carry the Soviet force on the order of ten percent beyond the upper range of our estimates for mid-1968.

The new launchers come in two sizes. We have identified about 120 large silos for the SS-9, roughly comparable to an advanced Titan. There are also some 320 smaller silos for the SS-11, comparable to a liquid-fueled Minuteman.

2. Dominican Republic

In a speech last night Balaguer served notice that he intends to proceed with military reforms aimed at reducing the political potential of the armed forces. He also announced that General Wessin y Wessin has been given a job with the United Nations delegation, an honorable sinecure that may reduce dissidence among Wessin's rightist friends.

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3. South Vietnam

Leaders of the Buddhist Institute have finally clarified their stand on the upcoming elections. At a special news conference today, the institute not only called for complete "noncooperation" in the elections, but it also denounced ahead of time the constitutional assembly which will be elected.

The institute's leaders will lead a 72-hour hunger strike beginning on Thursday to back up their protest.

4. Indonesia

Foreign Minister Malik will not be visiting the Soviet Union this month as he had planned. Moscow has turned him down, claiming that Soviet leaders are otherwise occupied.

Malik had hoped to discuss rescheduling Indonesia's large debt to the Soviet Union and the possibility of new credits. Moscow probably wants to learn what concessions non-Communist creditors are prepared to make before committing itself. These creditors are scheduled to meet later this month in Tokyo.

5. West Germany

The Erhard government will not be in any shape to face a hard confrontation with France over the issue of French troops in Germany, in Ambassador McGhee's opinion.

With the question of the status of French forces largely resolved, the main point still up in the air is the mission of these forces. The ambassador feels that, in the end, Bonn will have to settle for De Gaulle's general assurance that France will fight if Germany is attacked.

6. South Africa

Verwoerd's assassination today is not expected to bring about any major policy changes. There has been little dissension within the ruling party over Verwoerd's apartheid policies except from a small group even further to the right. More liberal groups are virtually without influence.

Initial information on the assassin does not tie him in with any other person or group. A Portuguese citizen of Greek descent, he served in the US merchant marine during World War II. He was deported by the US in 1947

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