

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 10 November 1966



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DAILY BRIEF
10 NOVEMBER 1966

1. North Vietnam

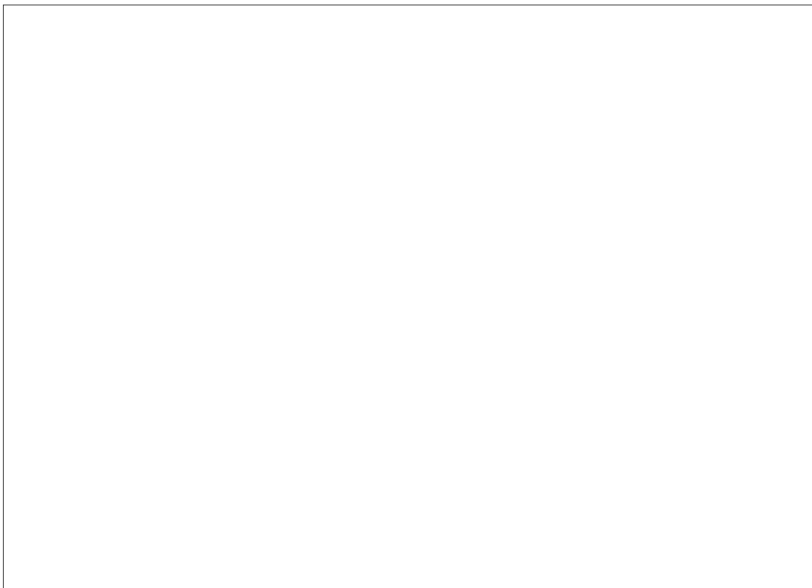
Hanoi radio told its listeners today that "there will certainly be no major changes" in American domestic and foreign policies as a result of the US elections. Hanoi's Communist Party daily claimed--in a short article on page four--that the election showed that the American people were opposed to "the war of aggression in Vietnam."

2. North Vietnam

The Polish deputy foreign minister has assured our ambassador in Warsaw that Poland will contribute no hard currency to North Vietnam.

The Pole discounted press stories that the recent Moscow conference had decided to create a hard currency fund to aid Hanoi. He said that hard currency was irrelevant to Hanoi's present needs which are food, consumer goods, and medicines.

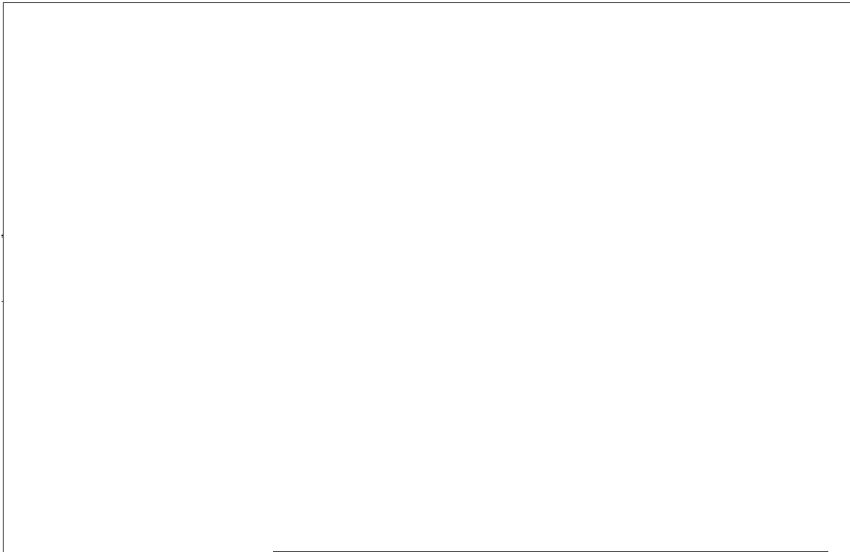
3. Haiti



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4. Communist China



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Yesterday a People's Daily editorial ordered workers and peasants not to leave their posts to participate in the cultural revolution, except in their spare time. The Red Guards were told-- as they had been in September--to stay out of industrial enterprises and agricultural areas.

Peking's jumpiness is understandable, since the over-all economy is so weak that even minor losses--especially in food production--could have serious consequences.

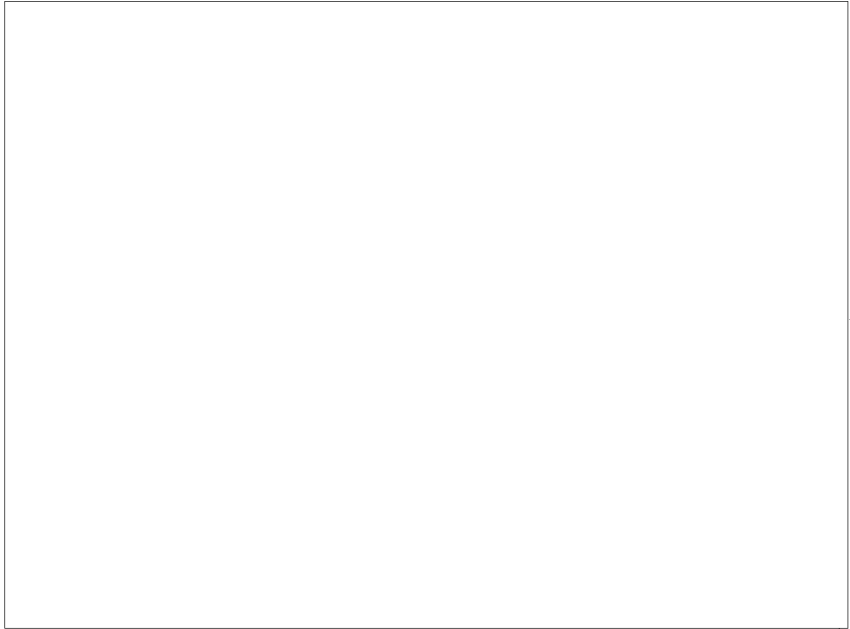
5. Africa

The once promising Organization of African Unity barely staggered through its summit meeting, which ended last night. The latest hassle between Ghana and Guinea made a shambles of the session, but disharmony and futility would probably have set in even without this irritant.

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6. West Germany

Kurt-Georg Kiesinger, nominated today by the Christian Democrats to succeed Erhard, is still a long way from becoming chancellor.



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Even if he gets the job, Kiesinger, whose looks do not make up for his indecisiveness, is unlikely to give Germany any stronger leadership than Erhard has.

7. Rhodesia

Tomorrow, Rhodesia will have survived for a year the British-inspired sanctions which last winter London predicted would defeat the rebels "within weeks." Instead, the country's economy is still operating reasonably well and the Smith government faces no serious threat from whites or Africans either inside or out.

Smith's only problem now is London's ultimatum to come to terms by the end of the year or face a British request for UN sanctions. He is probably far from panicky over this, since he knows Britain will not support any UN action which would endanger its trade with South Africa.

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