

The President's Daily Brief

~~*Top Secret*~~ 22 November 1967



3.5(c)

DAILY BRIEF
22 NOVEMBER 1967

1. Cyprus

Time appears to be running out for peace on the island.

Although feverish diplomatic efforts to defuse the critical situation continue in Athens and Ankara, the Turkish war machine--already in a high state of readiness--is being geared both to move rapidly into Cyprus and to respond to any counter-move by Greek forces.

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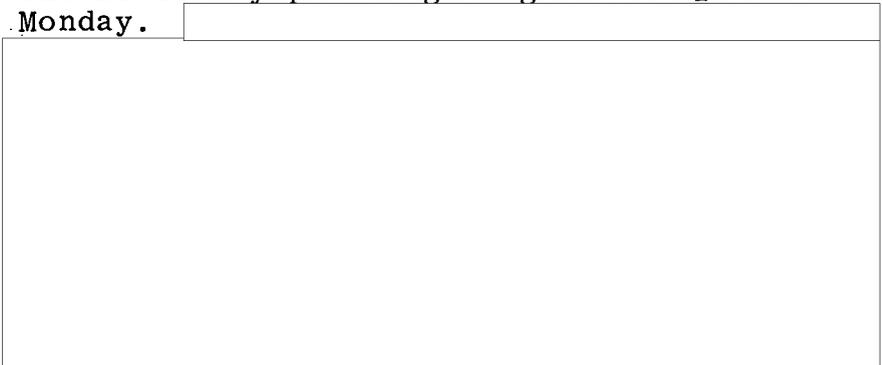
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The Greeks and Greek Cypriots, for their part, remain determined, despite Turkish military superiority, to resist any Turkish military move.

2. Israel-Jordan

Jordan's interest in discouraging terrorism along its borders has been shaken by the artillery pounding it got from Israel Monday.

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3. North Vietnam

The main rice crop now being harvested looks as if it will be below average. A combination of bad weather and disruptions brought on by bombing is responsible. In a normal year, North Vietnam can expect a three-million ton fall harvest. This year's may drop 200,000 tons below that mark. With this shortfall, Hanoi will have to maintain its already high level of food imports and perhaps increase them.

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7. South Korea

The five-month political impasse in the National Assembly has moved a step nearer resolution.

Opposition representatives have expressed willingness to end their boycott of the Assembly. For its part, the government party has promised that steps will be taken to satisfy opposition grievances, largely growing out of irregularities in last June's elections. But the protagonists ducked some of the major issues at stake--such as the number of seats to be "corrected." These omissions, along with factional struggles in both parties, could make for some further delay in seating the opposition.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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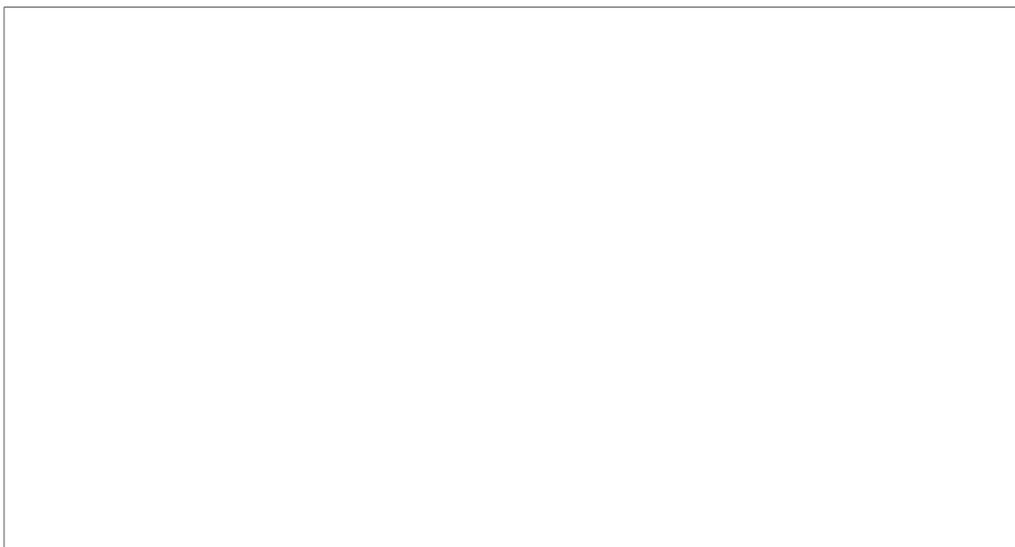
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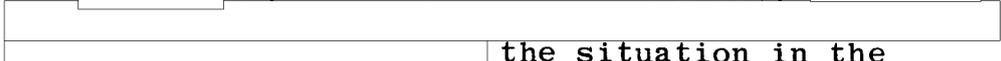
I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION



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Report on Situation in Hanoi:



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the situation in the capital early this month. during a lull in the bombing, following the intensive raids in late October.

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the raids had not broken the morale of the North Vietnamese nor appreciably weakened their capacity to fight. Neither the bombings nor the prospect of additional raids seemed to have affected the determination of Hanoi's leaders. Several North Vietnamese officials told however, that "Hanoi would experience more dark days."

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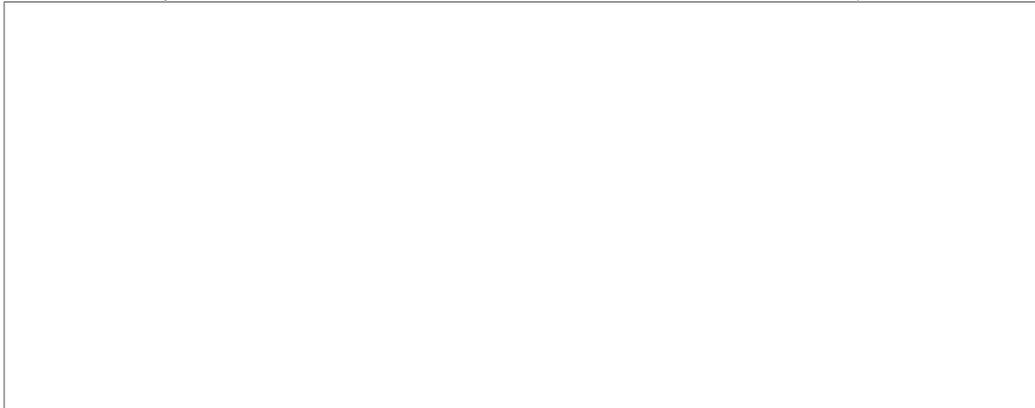
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a number of changes in Hanoi's preparations for air raids. the city's defenses remained alert despite the lull in bombing raids, and that security orders were strictly observed. Loudspeakers continued to announce the approach of enemy planes.

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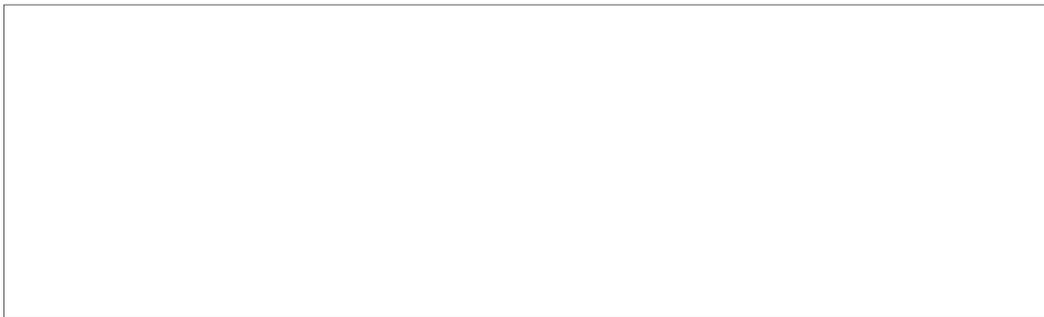
As soon as the sirens went off people entered shelters, no longer standing outside as in the past. In several sections of the city shelters were being constructed of reinforced concrete for North Vietnamese officials in case of prolonged attack.

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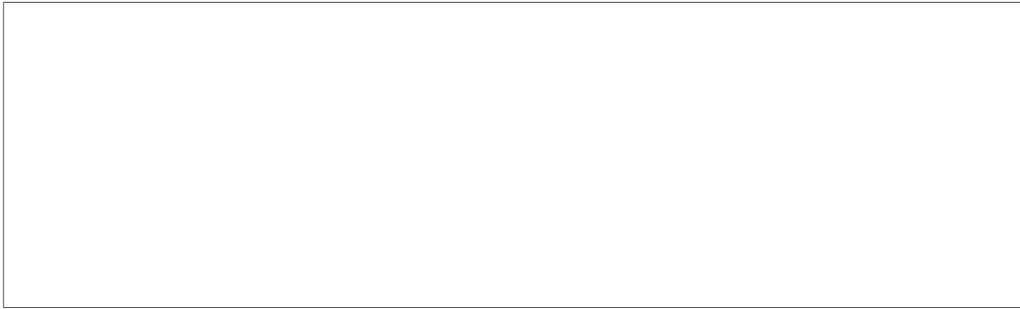
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Hanoi Urges Diplomatic Missions to Provide Own Water, Electricity:

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[redacted] the North Vietnamese have urged all foreign missions to dig wells and provide equipment to generate their own electricity. Hanoi claims this is necessary because of the "critical situation" and bombing of the power plants. For about \$800 per well, the North Vietnamese have offered to provide digging crews and pumps. The missions are expected to get their own generators abroad.



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More on [redacted] Parliamentarians: Last week we noted the possibility that some sort of [redacted] parliamentary delegation might try to visit Hanoi.

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[redacted]
We now have more detail.

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Early this month Parliament's Committee on External Affairs adopted a resolution asking the Department of External Affairs to look into the possibility of the committee visiting both North and South Vietnam. The resolution, however, has not been followed up with a formal request to the department. Until the request is put in writing, the department intends to take no action itself. The committee, of course, is free to ask both Hanoi and Saigon on its own.

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

Hanoi Broadcast Encourages Negroes to Desert:
A 20 November Hanoi broadcast in English to US troops in South Vietnam encourages Negro GI's to "rise up and oppose this Johnson war." Hanoi asserts that there are no reasons to justify Negroes fighting in Vietnam since "the Johnson administration does nothing good for Negroes." The broadcast goes on to claim that the Viet Cong has consistently treated prisoners well and notes the recent release of three US soldiers as an example. Therefore, Hanoi concludes, "the best way for the Negro GI is to let himself be taken prisoner rather than be killed."

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