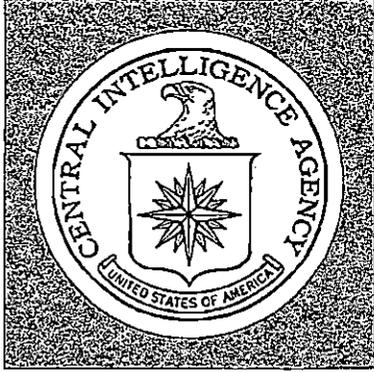


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Case # NLJ/RAC 13-23 ISCAP Appeal
Document # 13



The President's Daily Brief

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)
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~~Top Secret~~ 15 April 1968

DAILY BRIEF
15 APRIL 1968

1. Vietnam

There are further indications that Thieu is getting ready to dump Prime Minister Loc and replace him with Tran Van Huong. Huong is a widely respected southerner and a former presidential candidate.

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[redacted] Thieu recently sent his brother to tell Huong he is being considered for the post and would soon be approached directly by Thieu. Huong accepted in principle, but he wants to talk with Thieu before making a definite commitment.

* * *

The relative lull in fighting continues. Communist main-force units are avoiding engagements and appear to be concentrating on resupply, redeployment, and reorganization.

2. West Germany

Police in large West German cities are braced for trouble this morning as radicals try to convert annual student peace marches into riots. There are some signs, however, that student enthusiasm is flagging.

West Berlin Communists are openly egging on the students in that city, and the East Germans have announced that West German officials will not be allowed to transit East Germany en route to Berlin. This ban is not likely to have much effect as most such officials fly.

3. Korea

North Korean raiders may stage more ambushes over the next few days in hopes of providing discordant background noise for the Honolulu meeting. Two American and two South Korean soldiers were killed yesterday when ambushed near Panmunjom.

4. Gold Market

CIA has just completed a study of Communist transactions on Western gold markets between the pound's devaluation in November and the temporary closing of the London market in March. While Communist countries bought at least \$200 million in bullion, this represents only seven percent of total transactions.

Major Communist purchasers were East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and China. Motivation appears to be the same as for other buyers--flight from the pound and expectation of a rise in price. The Soviets did not enter the markets either to buy or sell.

5. Soviet Union

Yesterday the Soviets put their sixth Soyuz-type space capsule into earth orbit. All have been unmanned except for the ill-fated flight of Komarov in Soyuz 1. If the present flight is successful, a manned flight could occur within the next few weeks.

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[redacted] the Tyuratam rangehead began activity which may involve the launch of another vehicle and a try at docking with the Soyuz.

* * *

Luna 14, now orbiting the moon, may be having trouble with some of the missions it was programmed to do. One of its jobs was to test voice communications.

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