

The President's Daily Brief

7 April 1969
(Afternoon)

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with the Communists in Paris and subsequently in post-settlement political competition. This is also apparent in his "exultation, bordering on euphoria" in a conversation with Ambassador Green on 4 April.

EUROPE

The appeal issued by the Warsaw Pact countries at their recent meeting in Budapest for a European security conference has revitalized West European interest in detente, with the Belgians and the Italians taking the lead. Some NATO members believe Soviet problems with China may influence Moscow to make genuine compromises in Europe; others think it would be poor politics to appear unresponsive even though some of them are skeptical that the Russians are in earnest. Most of the NATO foreign ministers apparently want an exchange of views on the subject at this week's ministerial meetings.

On the Soviet side, Ambassador Dobrynin mentioned Moscow's interest in the European security conference idea to Under Secretary Richardson last week. While we think that the Soviets are interested in turning Western European attention away from Czechoslovakia and toward detente, we doubt that they plan to make specific proposals for a meeting any time soon.

SOVIET AFFAIRS

Further modifications are under way in the Moscow ABM system. Recent satellite photography shows a new wing being added to one of the two large radar buildings at each

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of the four active complexes.

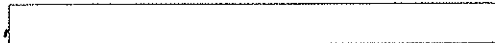


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In addition to the new construction, the photography shows a large number of missile cannisters at the ABM support facility near Moscow,

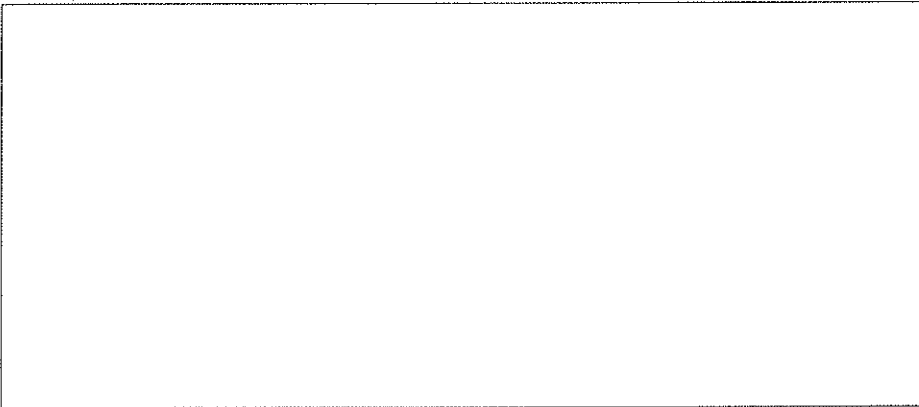


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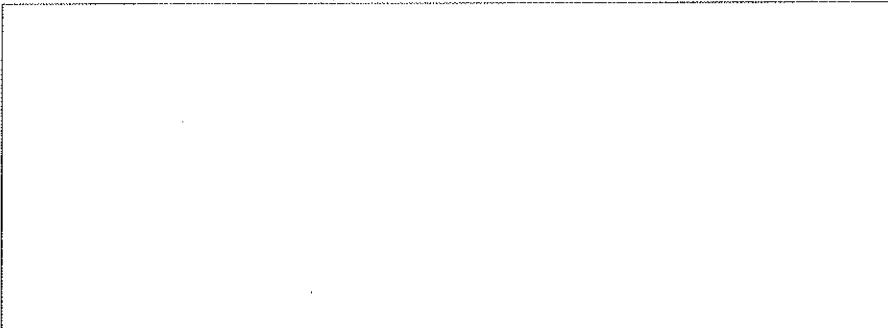


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