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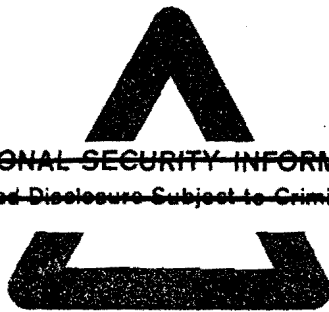
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THE PRESIDENT'S
DAILY BRIEF
11 DECEMBER 1968

SECRET
March 1970
Case # 01-255 ISCAR Appeal
December 8

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2. Soviet Union

Finance Minister Garbuzov avoided anti-American diatribes yesterday in presenting the new budget to the Supreme Soviet. This suggests a continued desire not to muddy the water before any strategic arms limitation talks.

The defense budget showed an increase of six percent, and that for science (three-quarters of which is military research and space programs) about 13-14 percent. Because we have not seen the early spadework that would go into major new programs, we are inclined at first glance to question whether the increases in defense and space spending will actually reach the figures given by Garbuzov.

On the whole, we estimate the Soviets probably will spend next year about the equivalent of \$60 billion US on defense and space.

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