

The President's Daily Brief

1 June 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

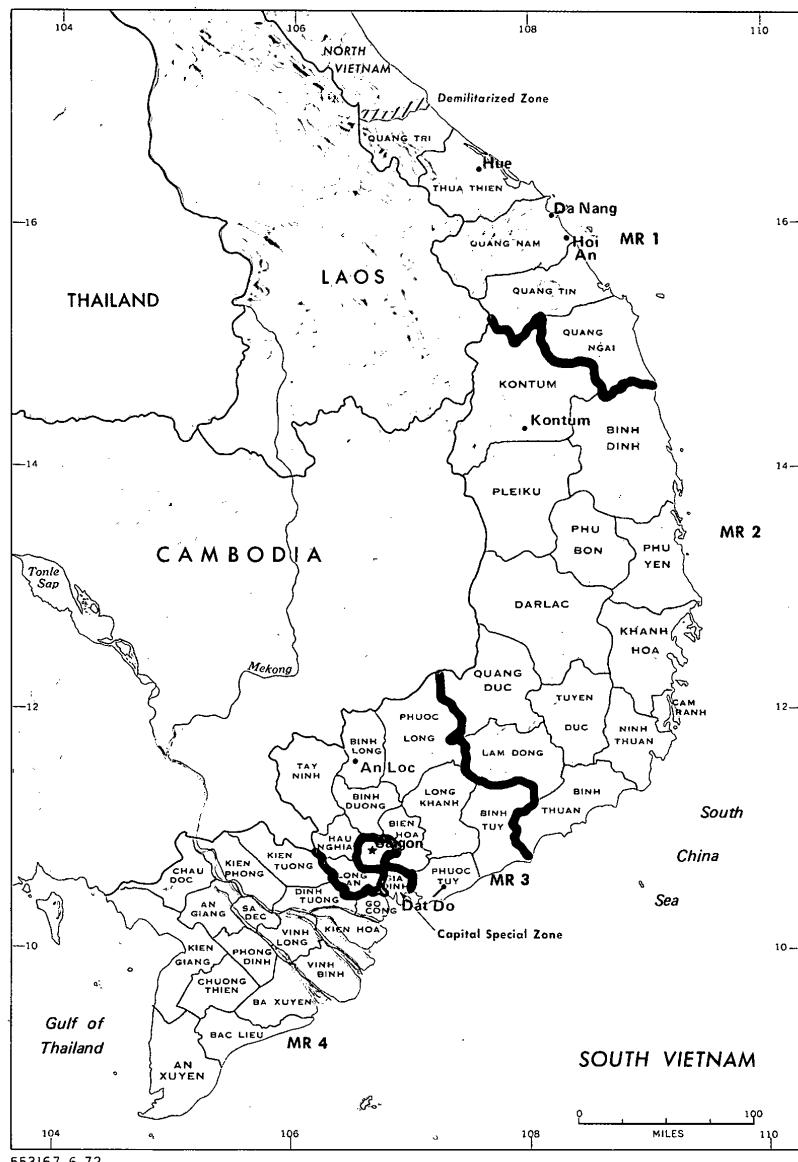
1 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese forces in the highlands are still trying to clear enemy pockets from inside Kontum City. (Page 1)

President Allende is trying to come to grips with another flare-up between the Communists and Socialists in his governing coalition, and might replace their cabinet members with military officers. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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VIETNAM

South Vietnamese forces in the highlands are still clearing enemy pockets in Kontum City. Yesterday government regulars with tank support engaged in house-to-house fighting to drive Communist troops from the city's northern portions, but territorial forces attempting to clear sappers from the southeastern section have so far been unable to prevent reinfiltration at night. There are indications, moreover, that the Communists may be committing another regiment against Kontum. A prisoner captured just north of the city on 30 May says his regiment has been reassigned [redacted]

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On the northern front, the Communists continue to harass defenses north and west of Hue with shelling and ground probes. Prisoners taken during the last several days along the Quang Tri - Thua Thien border are from four different regiments subordinate to three different divisions or commands. The proximity of these regiments suggests that a single authority may now be coordinating the campaign against Hue.

Farther south along the coast, the Communists apparently are preparing to increase activity in Quang Nam Province. Intercepts indicate that large amounts of weapons and ammunition are being brought into the province [redacted] enemy plans to attack roads and major towns, including Da Nang and the provincial capital at Hoi [redacted]

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North of Saigon, the government relief forces south of An Loc were in heavy contact much of yesterday. In adjacent Tay Ninh Province, government troops have reoccupied part of a border district that had been abandoned early in May. In Phuoc Tuy Province southeast of Saigon, however, no progress has been made in clearing Communist forces from the capital of Dat Do District, and three of the other four districts are under heavy enemy pressure.

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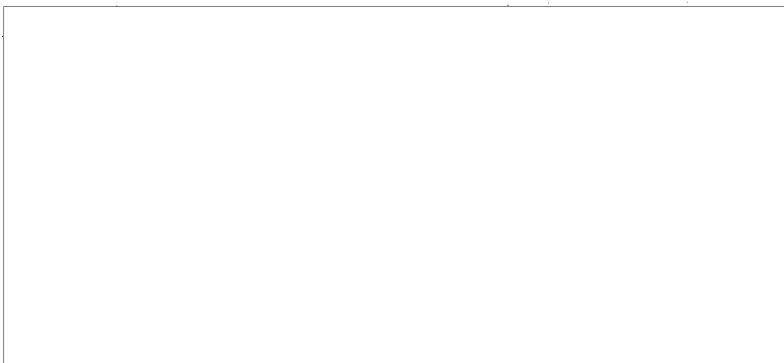
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An article appearing in the May issue of the North Vietnamese military journal hails battlefield successes to date as evidence that the "Vietnamese revolutionary forces" can and should continue fighting for a prolonged period, if necessary. Recently broadcast by Radio Hanoi to combatants in the South, it portrays allied setbacks as proof that Vietnamization has been defeated and that the way is open to further Communist gains--including "in areas adjacent to the cities." The article also makes numerous allusions to the "proven" value of using all forces at the disposal of the Communists and of adapting strategy to particular conditions.

Although the article apparently was written before the mining of North Vietnamese ports, its broadcasting as recently as 28 May shows that it reflects current policy. We believe that the author, who may be a high official in Hanoi, intended the commentary not only as a standard morale booster but as a device for quieting reservations in some circles over Hanoi's current military policy.

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CHILE

President Allende is trying to come to grips with another flare-up between the Communists and the Socialists, the two principal members of his coalition. [redacted] during a recent encounter with the president each party threatened to bolt the coalition unless it received support from Allende. Allende responded that he would then replace their cabinet members with military officers. He gave them until 7 June to settle their conflict.

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We believe Allende has been seeking an opportunity to bring more military men into his cabinet, and this could give him the chance. The constant quarreling between the ardently revolutionary Socialists and the more pragmatic Communists has prevented his coalition cabinet from becoming the efficient tool he believes he needs.

[redacted] Al-lende [redacted] discussed bringing more military officers into the cabinet with the army commander in chief, General Carlos Prats. He [redacted]

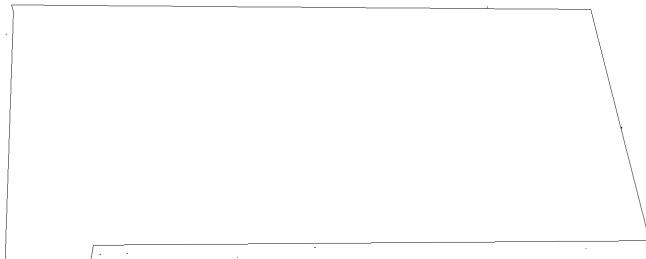
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[redacted] assured Prats that military men would be responsible only to him, not to the coalition political parties. Prats replied that he would not oppose having more military men in the cabinet, but would insist on a major change [redacted] in the government's economic policies.

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NOTE

Israel-Fedayeen: [redacted]

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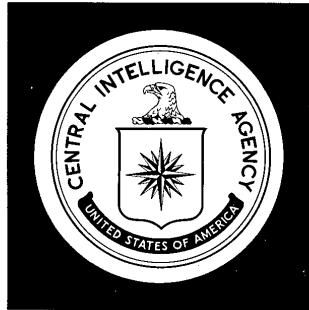
the surviving terrorist captured following the slaughter at the Tel Aviv airport Tuesday night belonged to the Japanese "Red Army Faction", some of the members of which have been trained by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine at its bases in Lebanon. Under an agreement of late 1971, PFLP officers have also gone to Tokyo to study the organization and methods of the small Japanese group, which has carried out a few sensational terrorist actions in Japan. Palestinian terrorists evidently have also gained the occasional cooperation of European radicals in hijacking and sabotage operations.

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The President's Daily Brief

2 June 1972

50

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

2 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

On *Page 1* we discuss the extensive and favorable reactions in Moscow to the President's visit.

The situation on the major South Vietnamese battle-fields is essentially unchanged. On North Vietnam we note signs of concern over the possibility of allied commando raids

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(*Page 2*)

In Cambodia, Lon Nol's campaign is picking up steam as the presidential election approaches. (*Page 3*)

The Iraq Petroleum Company has been nationalized.
(*Page 4*)

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At Annex

North Vietnam

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SOVIET UNION

TASS announced yesterday that General Secretary Brezhnev has reported the results of the summit meetings to top Soviet party and government organizations and that they have "wholly approved the important work" carried out by the Soviet side.

This formal endorsement caps the extraordinarily extensive and favorable coverage the Soviet media have given to President Nixon's visit. Lead editorials in the major newspapers on 30 and 31 May hail the summit as a major success for Moscow's foreign policy. The editorials are particularly approving of US treatment of the USSR as an equal, and they affirm that further improvement in Soviet-American relations is advantageous to Moscow. The press has also carried numerous photographs and texts of summit documents.

This is further proof that the summit success was extremely important to Soviet leaders. This applies particularly, of course, to party chief Brezhnev, who is reaping the lion's share of the public credit.

Although not all the summit-related documents have been published in full, never before has so much information on Soviet and US strategic weapons and their deployment been disclosed to the Soviet public. By the same token, the significance of front-page photos of the President and the Soviet leaders talking, signing, and celebrating together cannot have been lost on the Soviet people.

Despite these displays of satisfaction, the Soviet leaders remain realists. [redacted]

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VIETNAM

South Vietnamese troops are still trying to clear a few pockets of Communist troops from the northern and eastern parts of Kontum City. None of the North Vietnamese units around the city has shown signs of withdrawing despite the heavy losses they have suffered. At Hue, intercepted messages have referred with increasing frequency to an imminent attack, but at last word Communist forces were still holding their fire.

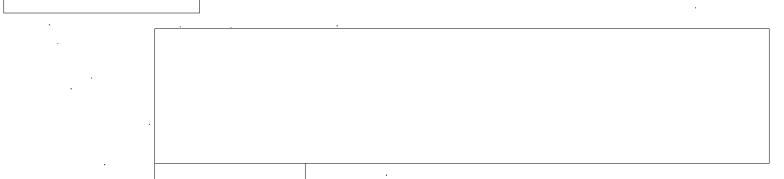
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Recent North Vietnamese intercepts have shown concern about the possibility of allied commando raids against prison camps and military installations in North Vietnam. A message of 29 May, for instance, warned units near Hanoi that allied forces were preparing "helicopters to land troops" which would attempt to "free prisoners" and "capture cadre." Periodically since the Son Tay raid in November 1970, the North Vietnamese have tried to increase the alertness of their home defense forces against a new raid of this kind.

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CAMBODIA

Lon Nol's presidential campaign is gathering steam, and he now is seeking to defeat In Tam, his chief opponent, by a substantial margin.

As the campaign enters its final days before the balloting on Sunday, civilian and military elements of the government have organized numerous rallies for Lon Nol in Phnom Penh, and some of the more popular cabinet ministers have been flying to provincial centers to speak for the President. Lon Nol himself has campaigned in Kompong Cham, In Tam's home province. The government has also published favorable highlights of a recent examination of Lon Nol by a team of US medical experts in order to counter opposition claims that his health has deteriorated.

Some of Lon Nol's supporters have also been engaging in heavy-handed campaign tactics. The governors of several provinces, for example, have refused to allow any canvassing for In Tam. Soldiers campaigning for the President reportedly have threatened those who would vote for In Tam with reprisals; in a few cases, they have roughed up civilians who refused to accept Lon Nol leaflets. Military commanders, meanwhile, are putting heavy pressure on their troops to ensure that they vote for Lon Nol. Although such measures have stirred up some resentment among the voters, there is no evidence that they will cause any substantial defections from Lon Nol.

With Lon Nol's political steamroller running in high gear, In Tam now appears to be on the defensive. Some of his partisans apparently are beginning to waver and are reluctantly professing that wartime conditions demand that Lon Nol continue in power.

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IRAQ

The government has announced nationalization of the Iraq Petroleum Company, a consortium of US, British, Dutch, and French interests. The Syrian Government followed suit today with the announcement that it was nationalizing the company's pipeline that transits Syria.

Baghdad warned the company earlier this month that action would be forthcoming if it failed to meet a series of demands including increased production in the northern oilfields and agreement on a long-term production program.

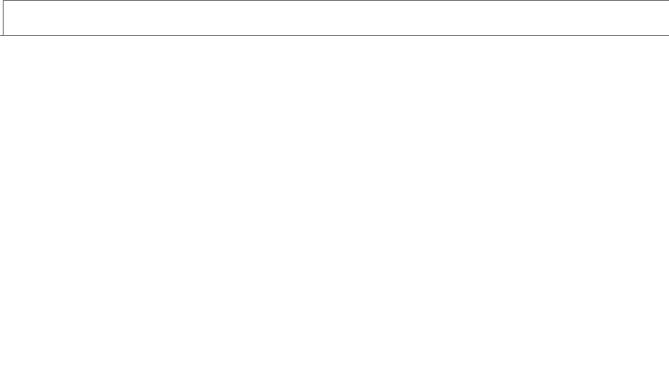
The company produces almost all of Iraq's oil, which last year amounted to 1.7 million barrels per day and about 3.5 percent of the world total. Although most of the oil has been exported to Western Europe, disruption of the supply would not seriously affect that area at this time because there are alternative supplies available. All of the companies that participate in the consortium have substantial production elsewhere, and, with the exception of the French firm, would have only short-term problems from the loss of Iraqi oil.

Iraq will have difficulty producing and marketing its oil at the 1971 level without the company's cooperation. The government depends on oil revenues--about \$950 million last year--for about 60 percent of its income.

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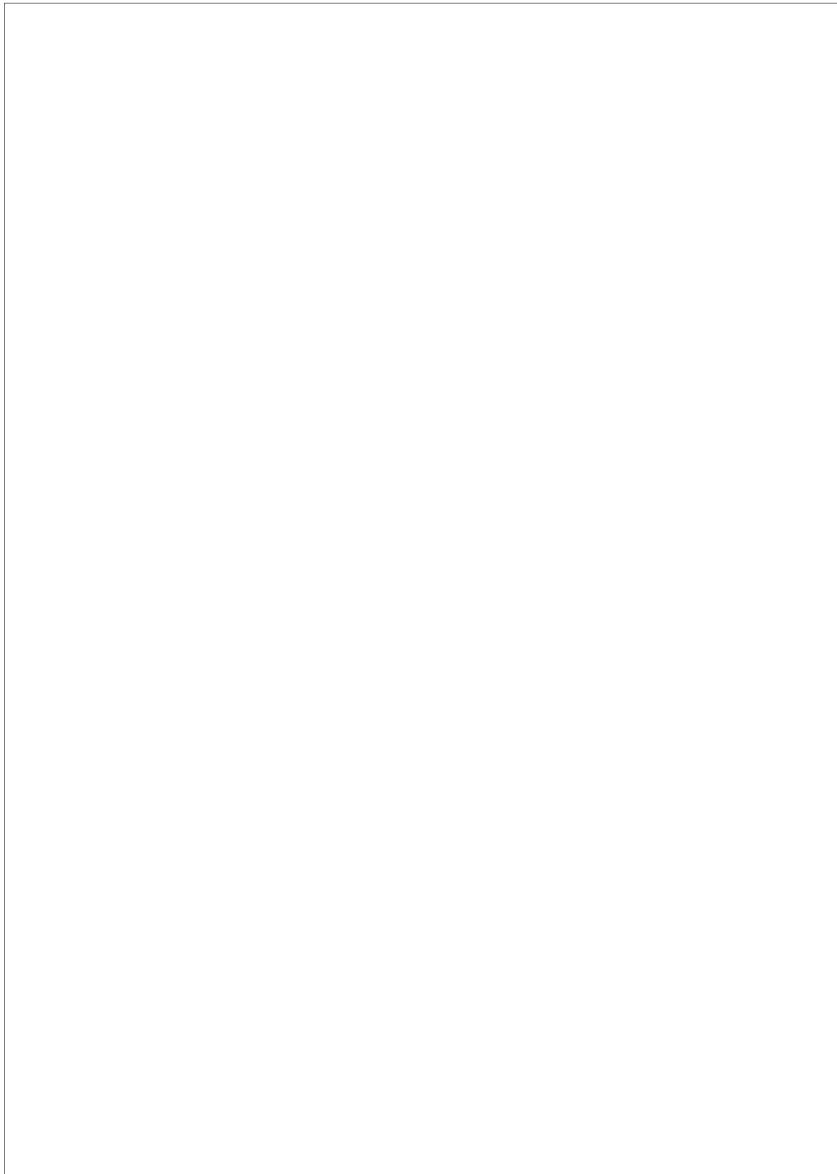
NOTES

USSR: A Soviet Foreign Ministry official told a US Embassy officer Wednesday night that the USSR will not attend the UN conference on the environment opening in Stockholm on Monday. His statement was foreshadowed by decisions of the Poles, Czechs, and Hungarians not to attend because East Germany has been denied full participatory status equivalent to that of West Germany.

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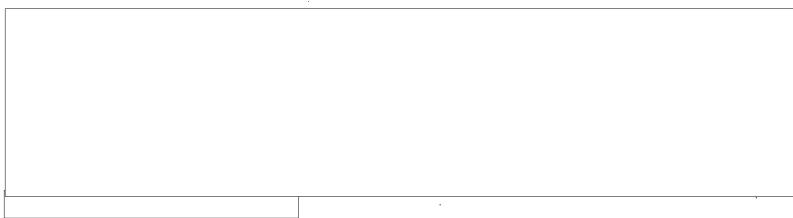
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NORTH VIETNAM



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Although there have been reports of congestion on the Chinese rail lines, intercepts indicate continued movement of traffic toward the border crossing point at P'ing-hsiang. Furthermore, photography of the yards at P'ing-hsiang on 22 May showed the yards operating at typical levels.

By far the heaviest concentration of air strikes has been south of Hanoi, where the primary targets have included rail yards, sidings, and bridges. Over 250 pieces of rolling stock have been [redacted] destroyed or damaged. The damage to bridges and rail yards has effectively stopped the through movement of trains from Hanoi into the southern North Vietnamese panhandle.

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In recent weeks, road travel has been maintained at a high level in the North Vietnamese panhandle, with large convoys reported along Route 1A and its feeder roads. Trucks traditionally have been employed to move goods from the north and coastal regions inland toward Laos. The enemy may have experienced some difficulty, however, in making the transition from rail to road. Intercepts from the Vinh area have indicated a shortage of experienced drivers to handle the increased burden on the road system. According to a message of 29 May, however, truck convoys carrying about 600 men would move south each day until 4 June.

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The President's Daily Brief

Sensitive
3 June 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Most of the fighting in South Vietnam is taking place in and around Kontum, but a new battle may be building on the Cambodian border. Although reduced locally by the monsoon, enemy logistic activity remains heavy. (Page 1)

Iraq appears to be seeking Soviet help in marketing the oil it nationalized yesterday. (Page 2)

West German opposition leader Barzel is thinking of making a deal with Chancellor Brandt for early elections. (Page 3)

[redacted] Chinese [redacted]
[redacted] Laos [redacted]

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[redacted] Chinese [redacted]
[redacted] Japan. (Page 5)

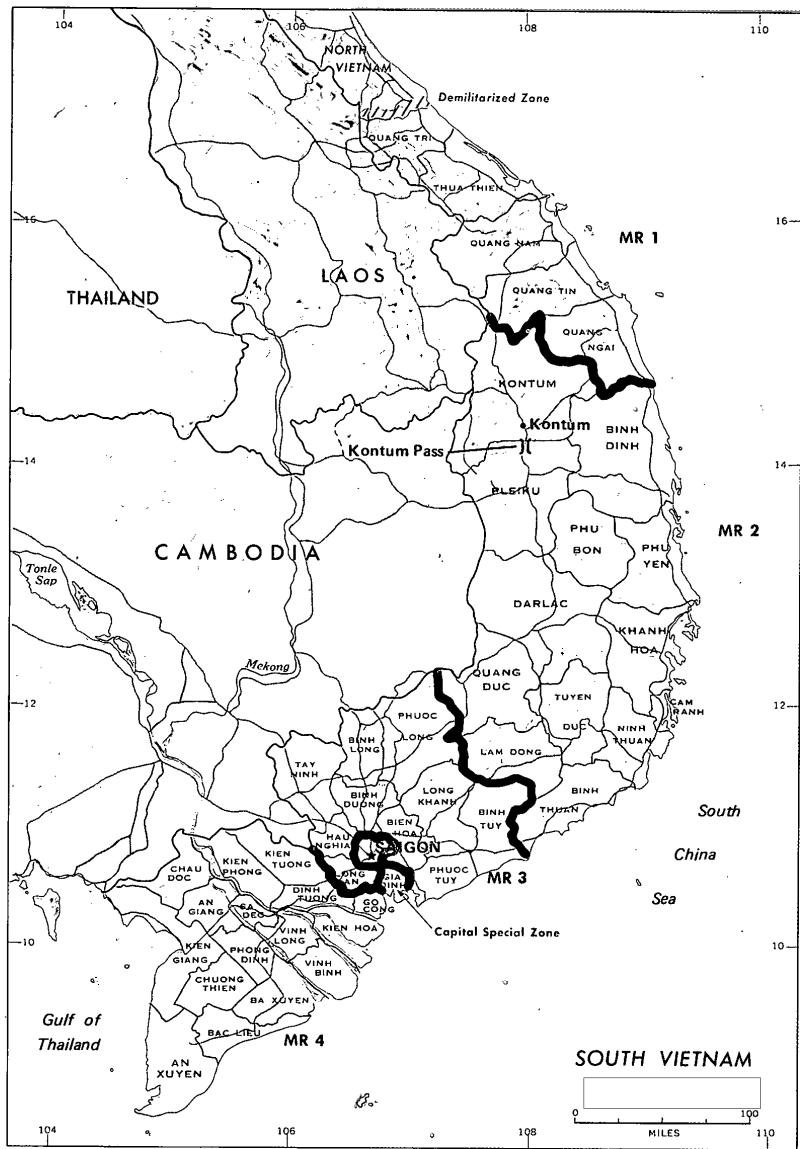
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There have been a number of deliberate steps by the Chinese to avoid allowing the situation in Vietnam to damage relations with the US. (Page 6)

[redacted] Chinese [redacted]
[redacted] Soviet [redacted]
[redacted] Vietnam [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Government defenders in Kontum City yesterday repulsed a light enemy attack from the north. The South Vietnamese are still trying to clear small pockets of enemy troops from Kontum City and to dislodge larger Communist forces from the Kontum Pass.

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[redacted] Interrogations of several prisoners captured during the fighting indicate that a replacement regiment suffered heavy casualties from bombings even before moving into the fray at Kontum, and this may have upset the enemy's timetable for the campaign against the city.

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On the northern front, intercepts, movements of enemy armor, and logistical activity indicate further preparations for renewing the battle. Intercepted enemy orders are for such preparations to be completed soon.

Since 1 June, heavy fighting has been under way along the Cambodian border (west of the Parrot's Beak) in Kien Phong and Kien Tuong provinces. South Vietnamese Rangers reported large enemy casualties as of this morning. In the meantime, the Communists are building up their forces within the Parrot's Beak region. Elements of two divisions are there now and they may soon be reinforced with armored vehicles.

Monsoon rains are forcing a sharp reduction in Communist logistic activities in the Laotian pan-handle.

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[redacted] Heavy enemy traffic continues to move south through the Demilitarized Zone, where the current monsoon has relatively little effect.

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[redacted] The roads in northeastern Cambodia as yet are largely unaffected by the rains, but intercepted messages indicate the senior Communist logistic authority for this region has ordered that the roads must be maintained and river routes developed even after the weather turns bad.

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The South Vietnamese Senate's rejection of a bill granting emergency powers to President Thieu was a political setback, but will not seriously impair Thieu's ability to deal with the crisis. Even without the emergency powers, Thieu has options that he has not yet exercised under constitutional provisions for invoking martial law. He may try to get the Lower House to override the Senate, but this would take a two-thirds majority, and at the moment Thieu does not have the votes.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

IRAQ-USSR

Just one day after nationalizing the properties of the Western oil consortium called the Iraq Petroleum Company, the Iraqi Government apparently has turned to the USSR for assistance. The Iraqi foreign minister and a delegation including the director of oil affairs arrived yesterday in Moscow, at the invitation of the Soviet government.

Iraq has halted all IPC operations and presumably is seeking Soviet help to market the oil. We doubt the Soviets would be willing to divert enough tankers to carry Iraq's oil production, and they would have great difficulty in finding a market for the large quantities involved.

The USSR already is helping to operate the Rumaila oilfield, an IPC concession taken over by Iraq a decade ago. In payment, the Soviets are taking a portion of the Rumaila oil, leaving the Iraqis to market the balance themselves. Thus far the Iraqis have had only limited success.

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WEST GERMANY

Opposition leader Barzel says he plans to offer Chancellor Brandt a deal for a political truce pending early parliamentary elections. Earlier this week Barzel told a US Embassy officer that he would forego further no-confidence votes in the Bundestag if Brandt would agree to develop a joint position on the budget and other matters likely to arise before elections. Under this plan, Barzel envisages holding elections either this November or next March, rather than in the fall of 1973 as scheduled.

Barzel is seeking to cut losses which both he and his Christian Democrats suffered from this spring's intensive parliamentary maneuvering over the Eastern treaties. His abortive effort to oust Brandt on 27 April brought a particularly negative reaction from the public and from his party's rank and file.

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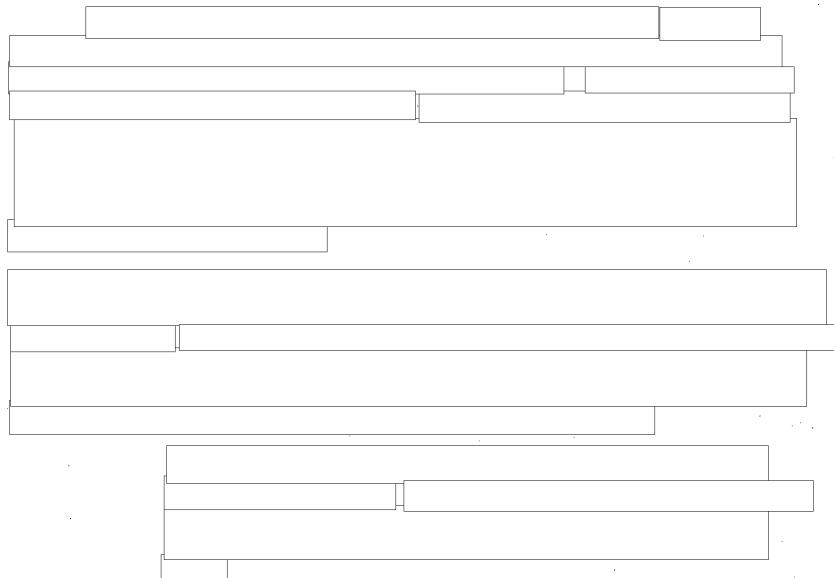
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CHINA-LAOS



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CHINA-JAPAN

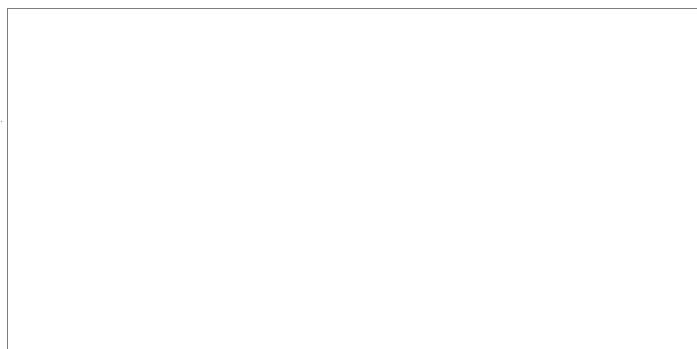


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CHINA-US

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Chinese officials abroad have commented [redacted] that the mining of North Vietnamese harbors is a problem between the United States and the USSR, with China playing merely an onlooker's role. While noting that Peking continues to support Hanoi, these officials have been virtually unanimous in stating that the US action would not seriously damage Sino-US relations. US businessmen who attended the recent Canton trade fair report that they were treated courteously--almost effusively on occasion--and that there were no recriminations over Vietnam.

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Comment in Chinese media on the war continues to be moderate and is largely confined to replays of material originating in North Vietnam and elsewhere. In such cases, personal attacks on the President, references to the Nixon doctrine, and other sensitive material have been removed.

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NOTE

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CHINA-USSR-VIETNAM



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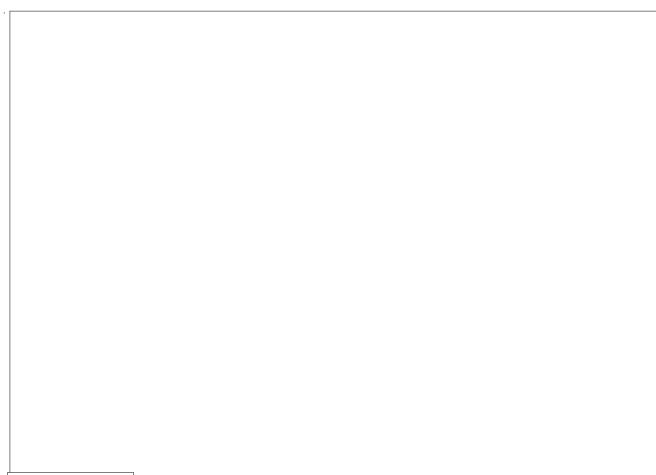


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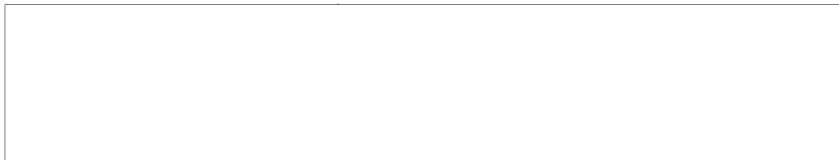
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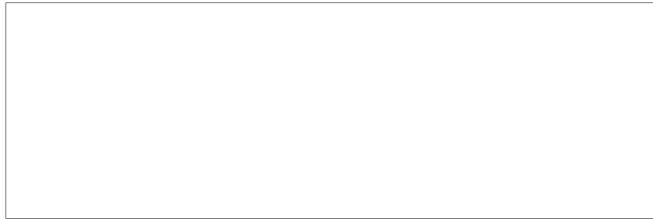
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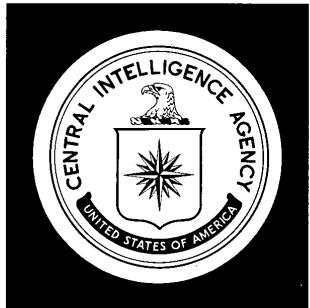
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The President's Daily Brief

5 June 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

5 June 1972

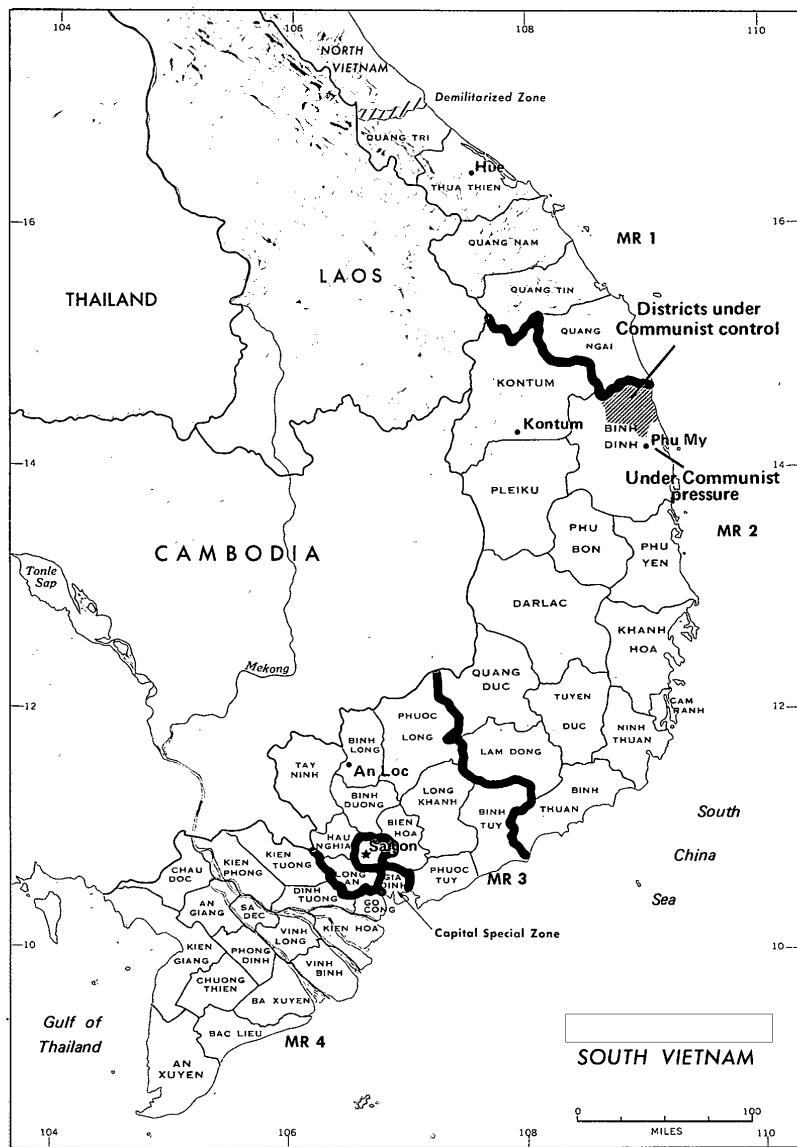
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In South Vietnam, government troops have eliminated most enemy resistance in Kontum City and launched another drive to open Route 13 south of An Loc.
(Page 1)

On *Page 2* we discuss the prospects for President Tito's five-day visit to Moscow beginning today.

Romania is the only Warsaw Pact government to be represented at the conference on the environment opening today in Stockholm. *(Page 3)*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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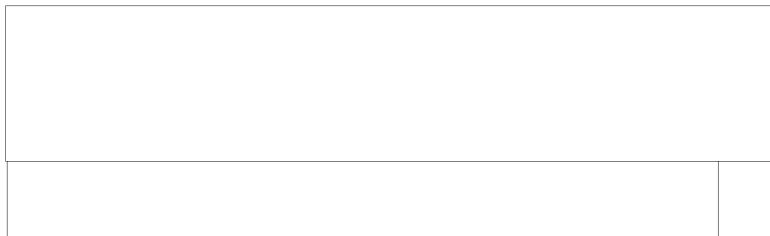
SOUTH VIETNAM

The situation on the three major battlefields is essentially unchanged. Enemy forces are still maneuvering for position north and west of Hue. At Kontum City, government troops have eliminated most of the pockets of enemy resistance in the city itself, but a few Communists are still holding on near the airfield. There has been no significant Communist pressure at An Loc, and the government has expanded its defensive perimeter. Saigon's forces have launched another drive to open Route 13 south of An Loc. At last report the operation was encountering little resistance.

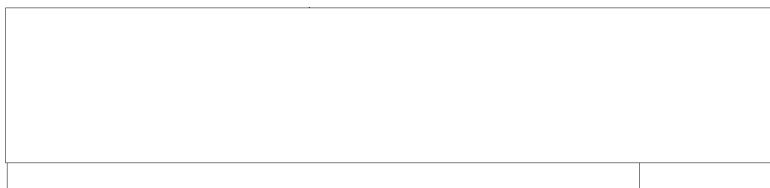
In Binh Dinh Province, where the Communists already control the three northern districts, the enemy on Saturday attacked Phu My, the northern-most district town still in government hands. Saigon's forces have turned back the attacks so far, but the Communists are preparing for further assaults.

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YUGOSLAVIA-USSR

President Tito has arrived in Moscow for five days of talks with Soviet leaders.

Tito, of course, will seek further details on the US-Soviet summit talks, particularly the SALT agreements and the implications of a coming period of European detente. Tito will attempt to assess the impact on Yugoslavia's nonaligned course. He is already trying to rally nonaligned leaders in the Mediterranean area to convene a conference to promote their joint interests in European security talks. This effort is not appreciated by Moscow, which sees it as an unwelcome complication. Tito will also want to discuss the Middle East. He has long feared that the interests of small states like Yugoslavia would be ignored in any great power confrontation in the area.

On the bilateral plane, the visit should further strengthen the agreement to downplay political differences that was reached during Brezhnev's visit to Belgrade last fall. Since then, Moscow has cleared the atmosphere by granting sizable credits to help bolster the troubled Yugoslav economy and has generally avoided raising contentious issues. The tenor of the visit was presaged by Moscow's lavish praise of Tito on his 80th birthday last month. Moscow seems to have concluded that a cooperative policy with Belgrade serves Soviet interests more effectively than the strong-arm tactics it has used in the past.

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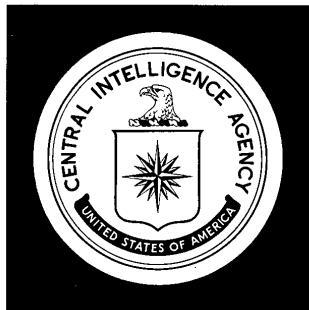
NOTES

Romania: The only Warsaw Pact government to be represented at the Stockholm conference on the environment opening today will be Romania. Bucharest announced it would attend on Thursday, after it had become clear that the USSR and its other Eastern European allies would boycott the meeting in protest against the exclusion of East Germany. Although they may have preferred not to go it alone, the Romanians presumably believed their participation would provide a relatively innocuous demonstration of their independence.

Cambodia: Voting was heavy in the presidential election yesterday. There were no reports of significant Communist military actions aimed at disrupting the balloting. Provisional results announced by the Information Ministry today give President Lon Nol 57 percent of the votes cast.

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The President's Daily Brief

6 June 1972

47

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The North Vietnamese are extending their petroleum pipeline toward China.

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(Page 1)

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Lon Nol's margin of victory in the presidential election on Sunday was short of the clear-cut vote of confidence he sought. (Page 2)

Public unrest is again on the increase in Bangladesh. (Page 3)

A general lull continues on the South Vietnamese battlefields. (Page 4)

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NORTH VIETNAM

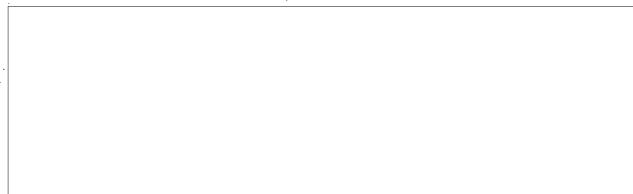
The North Vietnamese are extending their petroleum pipeline system toward China. Recent photography shows construction under way to extend the pipeline about 30 miles north, from the Hai Duong area to Kep. Kep lies on the Dong Dang railroad line about 50 miles from the Chinese border. A POL storage area is also under construction there.

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CAMBODIA

The results of the presidential election reflect widespread dissatisfaction with Lon Nol. Complete returns are not yet in, but it now appears certain that Lon Nol's margin of victory will fall short of the unequivocal vote of confidence he had hoped to obtain.

At last report, Lon Nol had 61 percent of the vote, In Tam 22 percent, and Keo An 17 percent. The respectable showing of Keo An, an unknown who attracted attention by pledging to permit Sihanouk to return to Cambodia, is embarrassing to the government since it will be interpreted as evidence of residual support for the former Cambodian leader.

In Tam actually ran ahead of Lon Nol in Phnom Penh, where he effectively exploited war-weariness and unhappiness over inflation and high-level corruption. Only energetic electioneering and some threats of a coup by the military enabled Lon Nol to get the national majority necessary to avoid a run-off election.

Although In Tam is claiming fraud, the election was reasonably honest by Khmer standards, and the closeness of the vote should help the government to portray the contest as a legitimate expression of the voters' will.

Lon Nol's next important political step will be to appoint a vice-president. He has not yet indicated who might be given the post or when the appointment will be made. Sirik Matak has repeatedly insisted that he does not want the job, and In Tam clearly is unacceptable to the military.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BANGLADESH

Public unrest is again on the increase, and there have been disorders in some parts of the country. Food shortages and allegations of official corruption seem to be the main reasons. Prime Minister Mujib's Awami League Party is coming in for increased criticism.

Mujib himself is still widely popular, and opposition groups pose no threat now. He is concerned, however, over the longer term threat that continued deterioration of law and order would bring. Mujib has scheduled a major policy address for tomorrow and may announce new measures for dealing with dissident elements.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTE

South Vietnam: The general lull in battlefield activity continues. In Kontum City, South Vietnamese forces have cleared the remaining Communist troops from the area south of the airfield, and only minor skirmishing is reported north of the field. In Binh Dinh Province, the fighting in and around Phu My District town has also lessened. Government forces have cleared the town of almost all the Communist troops that had infiltrated during the weekend fighting. To the north, the enemy continues resupply and reconnaissance activities in preparation for heavier fighting in the Hue area, but poor weather may be hindering some of this preparatory work.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

7 June 1972

45

Top Secret^{25X1}

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

There are persistent signs of North Vietnamese preparations for attacks in the northern provinces of South Vietnam. (Page 1)

The Soviets have not changed their public posture of support for the Vietnamese Communists. (Page 2)

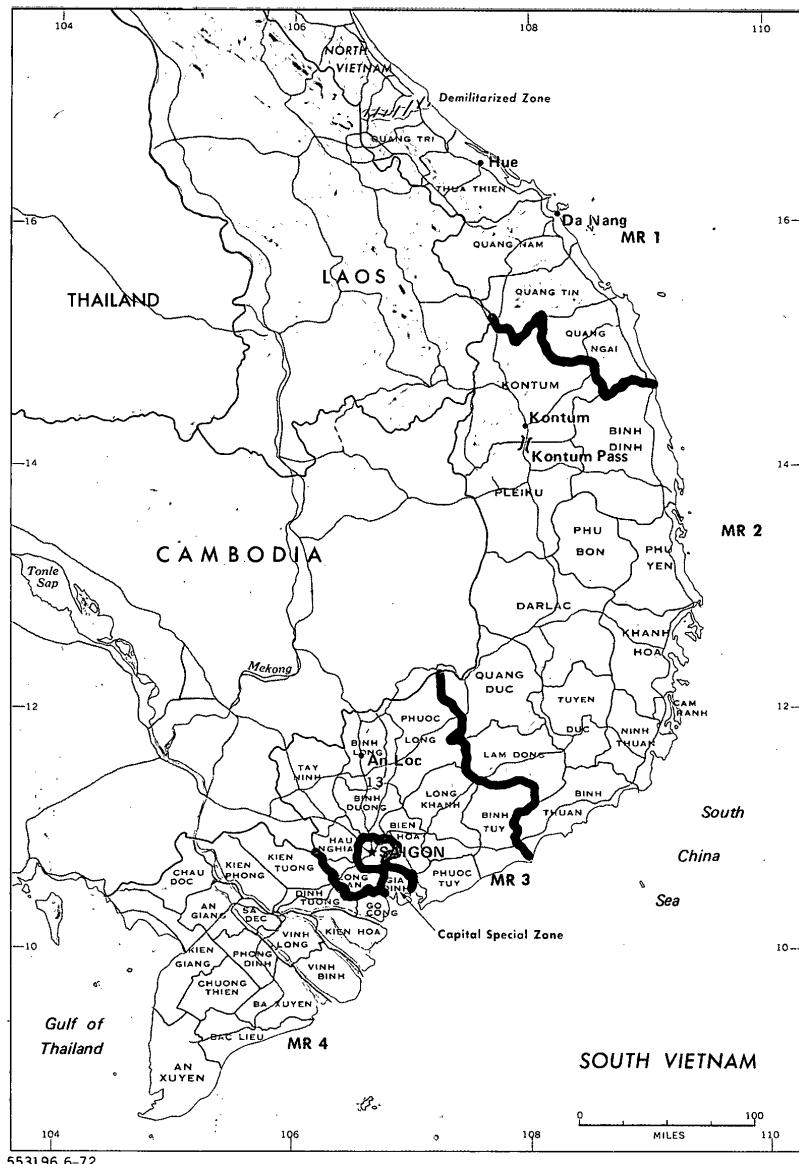
Lao officials are worried about a Communist threat to the town of Pakse. (Page 3)

There will be a great deal of international negotiating soon concerning Iraq's nationalization of the IPC's oil properties. (Page 4)

[redacted] fedayeen plans for new terrorist attacks in Israel. (Page 5)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Military action remains generally light as both sides prepare for further fighting.

Skirmishing continues in Hau Nghia Province just west of Saigon, along Route 13 south of An Loc, and in the Kontum Pass in the highlands. Enemy pressure against An Loc itself remains moderate, and government forces mopping up in Kontum City predict that the airfield there will soon be reopened.

There are persistent signs, however, that the North Vietnamese are trying to prepare a new round of strong attacks, particularly in the northern provinces. [redacted]

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[redacted] Intercepts [redacted]
[redacted] have indicated for some time that the North Vietnamese would try to regain offensive momentum in the Hue area early this month. There are also signs the enemy is preparing attacks around Da Nang and farther south in Binh Dinh Province.

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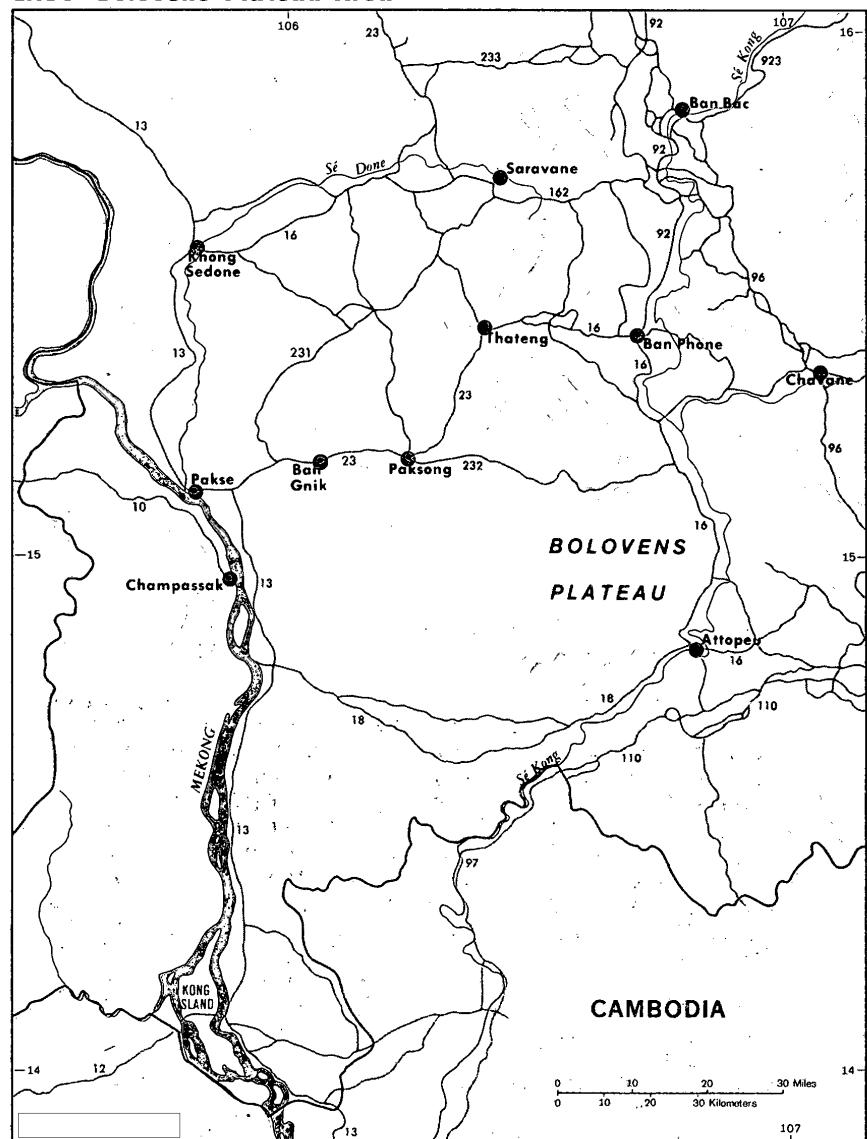
USSR-VIETNAM

The third anniversary this week of the Viet Cong's Provisional Revolutionary Government has given the Soviets their first opportunity since the summit to express their support for the Vietnamese Communists publicly. At the Viet Cong ambassador's reception on 5 June and in a message to the PRG leaders, the Soviets condemned "US aggression" in Indochina and affirmed that the USSR would fulfill its "internationalist duty" to support Vietnam. Pravda subsequently noted that the latest Communist offensive in South Vietnam had dealt a "heavy blow" to the US Vietnamization policy, but the article focused primarily on the reasonableness of the Vietnamese Communist negotiating position. It singled out the Vietnamese demand for a three-part government of national concord, noting that this would "exactly meet" the real political situation in South Vietnam.

This Soviet commentary is quite similar to the treatment accorded the anniversary last year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Bolovens Plateau Area



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

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Government officials in Pakse, in south Laos,
are alarmed over recent reports [redacted]
[redacted] the Communists will soon attack the town.
Reflecting this concern, Prime Minister Souvanna
has sent Defense Minister Sisouk to take charge of
military and civil affairs in the south.

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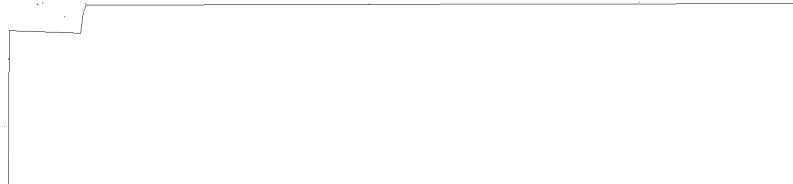
In fact, the military situation in the south has not changed since the North Vietnamese dispersed government forces attempting to retake the provincial capital of Khong Sedone two weeks ago. The Communists are still blocking Route 13 both north and south of Pakse. Moreover, recent heavy rains have washed out the town's supply route from Thailand, and Pakse is now virtually isolated, except by air.

The North Vietnamese clearly have the capability to attack Pakse with little warning. Such an attack, however, would be a significant change from the Communists' self-imposed policy of avoiding major actions against the Mekong River population centers. It seems more likely that, as in the past several years, the North Vietnamese are attempting to mount a credible threat that will keep government forces away from the Bolovens Plateau and the infiltration corridor farther east.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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INTERNATIONAL OIL



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OPEC is expected to take a more moderate position than the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, which meets Sunday.

Baghdad has publicly offered oil from its nationalized fields at market prices. [redacted]

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IPC's threat of legal action against buyers of the "hot" oil is likely to deter sales in major non-Communist markets.

In a move that may be related to the Iraqi nationalization, Libya has informed US companies operating there that they should send a high-level representative to Tripoli for a meeting with the Revolutionary Command Council tomorrow.

*Tripoli has given Iraq strong public support for its actions against IPC. The meeting may be a political move to assert Libya's solidarity with Iraq and to harangue the companies for boycotting nationalized oil from both countries.
(Tripoli nationalized British Petroleum assets in Libya last December.)*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

Fedayeen-Israel: The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and its collaborators from the Japanese "Red Army Faction" plan further acts of terrorism against Israel.

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The Israeli Government is aware of this plan.

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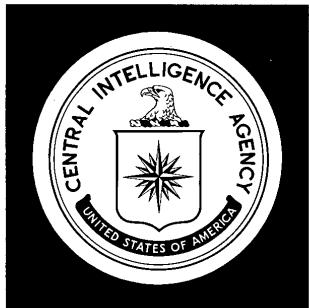
Cuba:

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The President's Daily Brief

8 June 1972

17

Top Secret

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

8 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] *Page 1.* The military situation in South Vietnam remains essentially unchanged.

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Intercommunal talks on Cyprus reopen today, but prospects for success seem slim. (*Page 3*)

At Annex we discuss some of the problems Pakistani President Bhutto faces on the domestic scene and in seeking a settlement with India.

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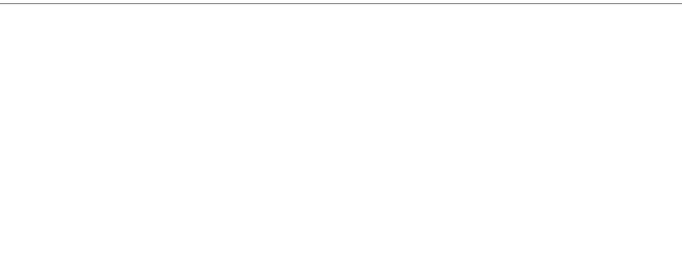
VIETNAM



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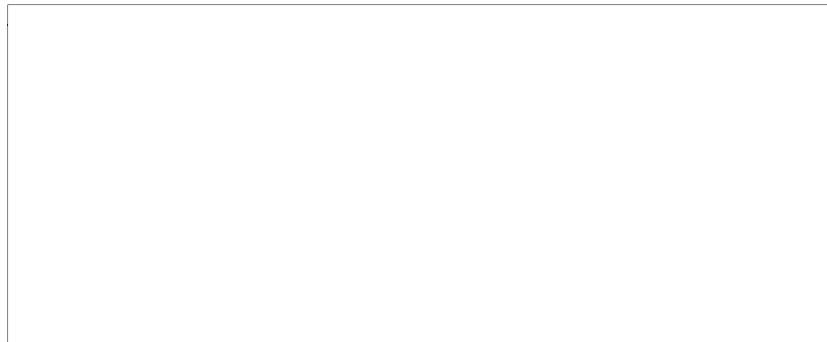


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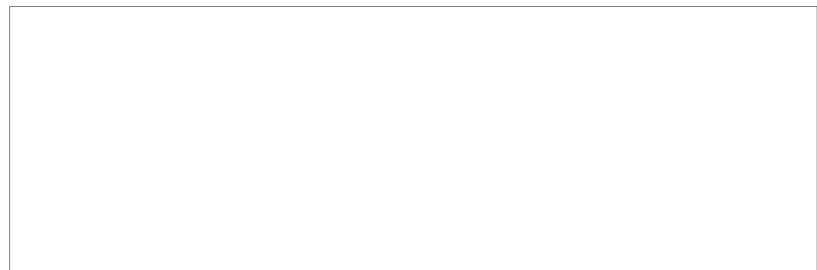


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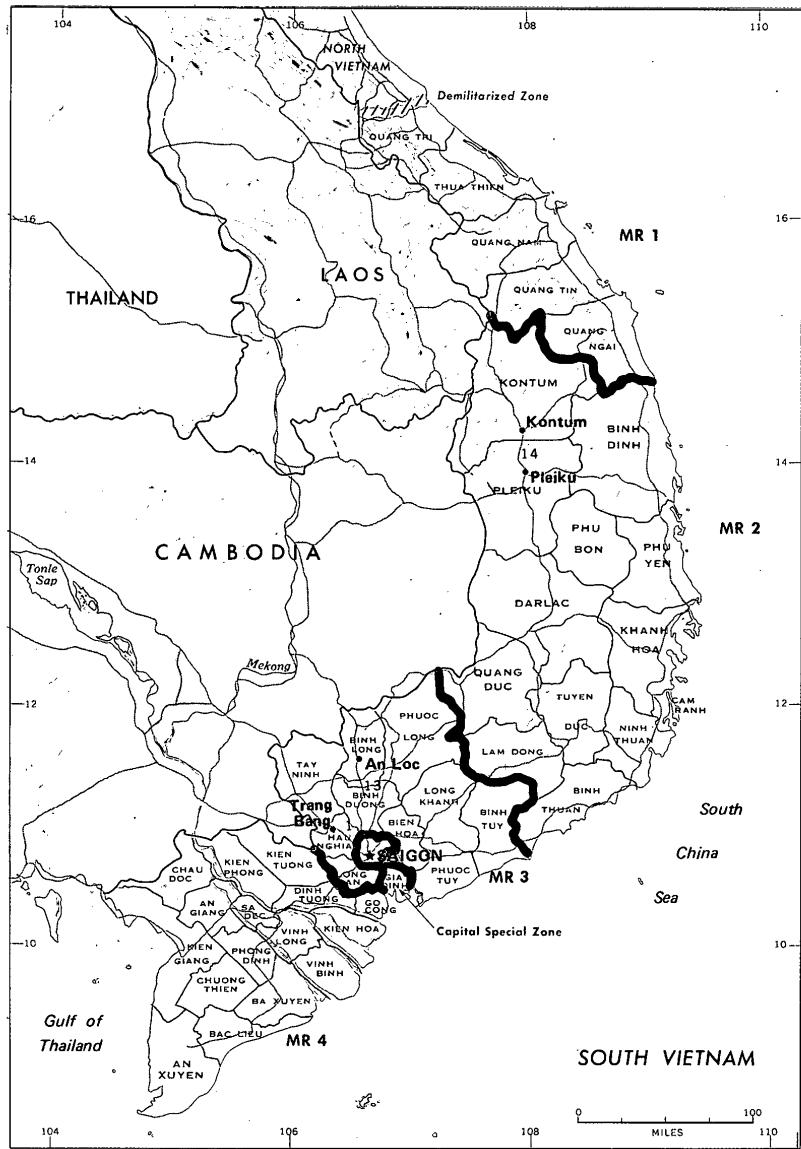
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The North Vietnamese are withdrawing portions of their air defense system from the general vicinity of the DMZ. Recent intercepts indicate that elements of three SAM regiments are moving north. One regiment appears to be shifting north within North Vietnam's southernmost Quang Binh Province, a second has moved elements to the Vinh area, and parts of a third have moved still farther north to Thanh Hoa Province.



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The military situation remains essentially unchanged, although increased combat activity is being reported from the Cambodian border provinces northwest of Saigon.

Brief but sharp clashes are continuing in Hau Nghia Province, particularly around Trang Bang, where the Communists have established several blocking points on Route 1. In nearby Tay Ninh Province, enemy-initiated actions are now at the highest level since the Communist offensive began. To the east, in Binh Long Province, elements [redacted] are keeping pressure on the South Vietnamese units attempting to relieve the defenders of An Loc. Communist shelling of An Loc has increased recently, but there are no signs that new ground attacks are in the offing.

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Elsewhere in South Vietnam, combat activity centered around a new government ground attack into Quang Tri Province and continuing clearing operations in the central highlands. South Vietnamese forces have reported good progress in clearing the remaining pockets of resistance from the northern limits of Kontum City, but continue to be stymied, however, in their efforts to open Route 14 between Kontum and Pleiku.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CYPRUS

Intercommunal talks resume today in Nicosia after a nine-month lapse. For the first time representatives of Greece, Turkey, and the UN will participate, in addition to spokesmen for the island's Greek and Turkish communities.

The talks recessed last September after three years of futile attempts to agree on how much the Turkish Cypriot minority should participate in the government and how much autonomy the Turks should have. The new format for the talks resulted from efforts by Ankara and Athens to break the deadlock, although the hassle over President Makarios' importation of Czech arms last winter further delayed the resumption.

There is little to suggest that these talks will make any more progress than the earlier ones, for Makarios still seems intent on withholding real political power from the Turkish community and an atmosphere of trust necessary for mutual concessions is lacking. As long as the talks last, however, they should help keep intercommunal tensions down.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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PAKISTAN

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In his six months as Pakistan's President, Z. A. Bhutto has maneuvered adroitly to balance conflicting political pressures. He has not yet, however, come to grips with the country's basic problems, the most pressing of which is to obtain a settlement with India. This mainly involves arranging for India to withdraw its troops from Pakistani territory and to release some 94,000 Pakistani prisoners of war. Unless Bhutto can achieve this, he will face continued pressure from the army and the prisoners' families, and he will be forced to find some place to settle about a million refugees from the areas occupied by Indian forces last December. These refugees have not posed a serious problem thus far, but the longer their return home is delayed, the more likely they are to cause trouble.

Bhutto has tried to prepare the Pakistanis for the price that will have to be paid for an agreement with India. He has had some success. Recognition of Bangladesh--once unthinkable--is no longer an issue, although Bhutto intends to use it as a bargaining point with both the Indians and Bengalis. Bhutto has shifted the government's long-standing policy on Kashmir. He now claims it is the responsibility of the Kashmiris themselves, rather than the Pakistanis, to end the Indian occupation, and Bhutto proposed easing conditions along the 1945 cease-fire line. On the other hand, neither Bhutto nor the Pakistani people yet appear willing to acknowledge formally New Delhi's claim that Indian-occupied Kashmir is part of India. Nor is Bhutto in a position to acquiesce in the trial of any significant number of prisoners of war for alleged "war crimes" in Bangladesh. Should Mrs. Gandhi transfer POWs to Dacca for such trials, the pending summit talks could easily break down.

If Bhutto were to fail in his efforts in New Delhi, he would most likely seek to absolve himself by placing all the blame on Mrs. Gandhi. Without a settlement, however, he would come under greater pressure to maintain a "credible deterrent" against Hindu expansionism, and to divert limited resources from social and economic programs to defense. Over the long run, an attempt to maintain a large military force without extensive outside assistance could have serious economic effects.

(continued)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Even if he does achieve a badly needed settlement with India, Bhutto still faces serious domestic difficulties. Although he has taken bold initiatives in some areas, his reforms have alienated elements of the population without fully satisfying the expectations of his supporters. The announcement of his ostensibly sweeping land reform program was well received, but many peasants are bound to be disappointed. The law contains loopholes intended to appease the powerful landowning families, and, in any case, there is not enough land to give each peasant what he thinks is his due.

Bhutto's labor and industrial policies have been even less successful. Many laborers assumed that with "their man" Bhutto in power, there would be major changes in the industrial sector favorable to their interests. These expectations have precipitated many strikes and demonstrations. His early moves, such as placing some industries under government control and jailing a few members of the 30 or so families that reputedly control most of Pakistan's wealth, were widely popular. He has since resolved his differences with the industrialists, however, and any major nationalization program apparently has been abandoned. At the same time, Bhutto has been careful to avoid dealing harshly with labor unrest. Although he has the power to end most strikes quickly, in practice he has rarely taken action against the workers. Eventually, Bhutto faces a difficult choice: giving in to workers' demands, with considerable risk of damaging the economy, or getting tough with the workers at some cost to his political support.

Bhutto has also been unable to resolve his problems with the opposition. The provincial governments of Baluchistan and the Northwest Frontier are controlled by a coalition headed by Wali Khan's National Awami Party. Although potentially secessionist, the NAP currently is more interested in attaining provincial autonomy and becoming a political force nationally by winning over leftists who now support Bhutto. Bhutto has temporarily avoided a confrontation by maneuvering the opposition into approving his interim constitution in order to avoid appearing to favor continued martial law. Nevertheless, he faces the risk of serious unrest along the frontier unless a relationship between the provinces and the central government acceptable to the NAP can be worked out.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

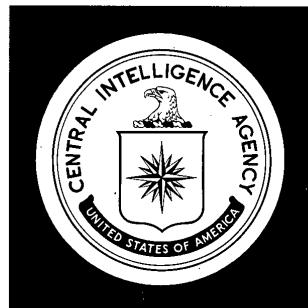
Ultimately, Bhutto's success in keeping secessionist tendencies in check is likely to depend on his ability to master his other problems. As long as he appears firmly in the saddle and there are signs of economic progress, the Baluchis and the Pathans are not likely to press their demands. Should Bhutto falter, however, the centrifugal pressures that have always existed in Pakistan may again come into play.

Not the least of Bhutto's problems is his continuing vulnerability to military pressure. Even though he has removed the ambitious officers who helped him to power, the military still poses a threat to his regime. There is still much dissatisfaction within the military over his reform programs and his conduct of foreign policy. Military leaders may feel compelled to step in once again if they become convinced that Bhutto intends to move against officer-class interests or if he permits a breakdown of law and order.

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The President's Daily Brief

9 June 1972

5

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

9 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese forces have driven the Communists from within firing range of Kontum City's airfield, and an airborne unit has linked up with a government position just south of An Loc. (Page 1)

Japan [redacted]

China [redacted]

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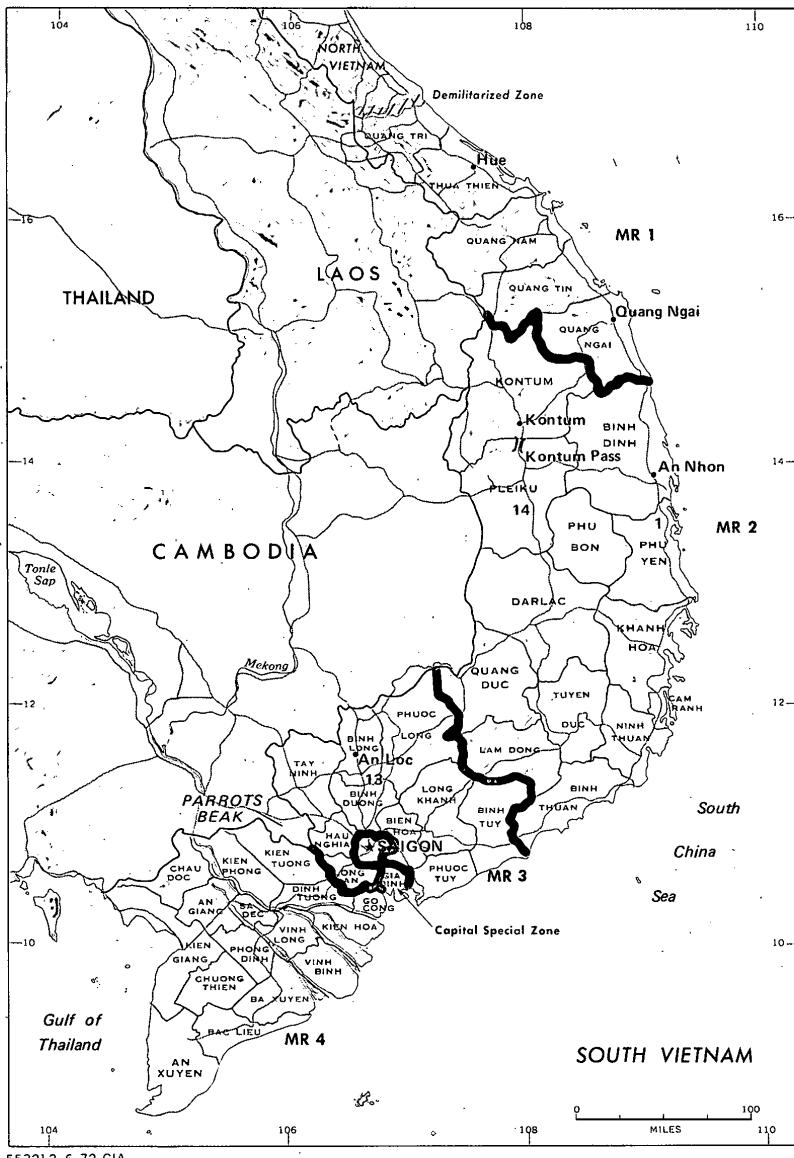
(Page 3)

Chinese [redacted] suggestions that might lead to Peking's participation in a reorganized Geneva disarmament conference. (Page 4)

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At Annex, we discuss the results of last Sunday's presidential election in Cambodia and the prospects for the country's political stability.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The attack by five South Vietnamese marine battalions into Quang Tri Province apparently has met only light resistance.

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South Vietnamese forces still are clearing the northern outskirts of Kontum City of the last enemy troops dug in there. The enemy has been driven from firing positions within range of the town's airfield and aircraft can land there again. Bad weather is hampering the government's efforts to clear the Communists from Route 14 at Kontum Pass. To the east, in Binh Dinh Province, the Communists appear to have committed two battalions in An Nhon District.

A South Vietnamese airborne unit has linked up with a government position just south of An Loc. The main relief column, however, remains stalled along Route 13 about nine miles south of the city.

Saigon has assigned more than two infantry divisions, an airborne brigade and an armored cavalry regiment to the An Loc operation. Forces defending other parts of MR-3 are spread thin, and the enemy is trying to take advantage of this. Elements of the Communists' 5th Division in the Parrot's Beak area of Cambodia pose a threat to Tay Ninh and Hau Nghia provinces and to the nearby delta. These areas are defended primarily by territorial security forces which have fought well but could not withstand a determined main-force assault. The North Vietnamese 7th Division is responsible for keeping Route 13 closed. Some reports indicate that elements of the Communists' 9th Division, which took part in the early heavy fighting around An Loc, have slipped south and are preparing to attack in Binh Duong and Bien Hoa provinces north of Saigon.

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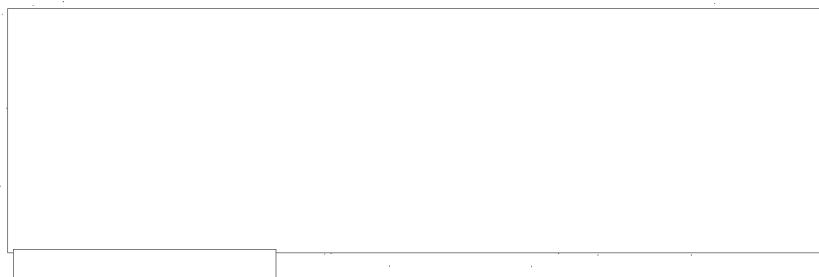
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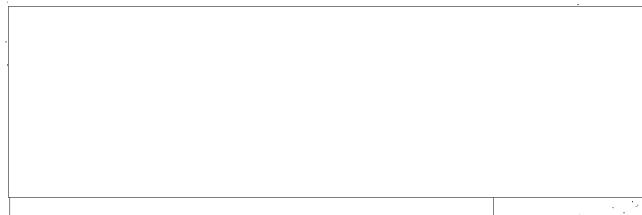
JAPAN-CHINA



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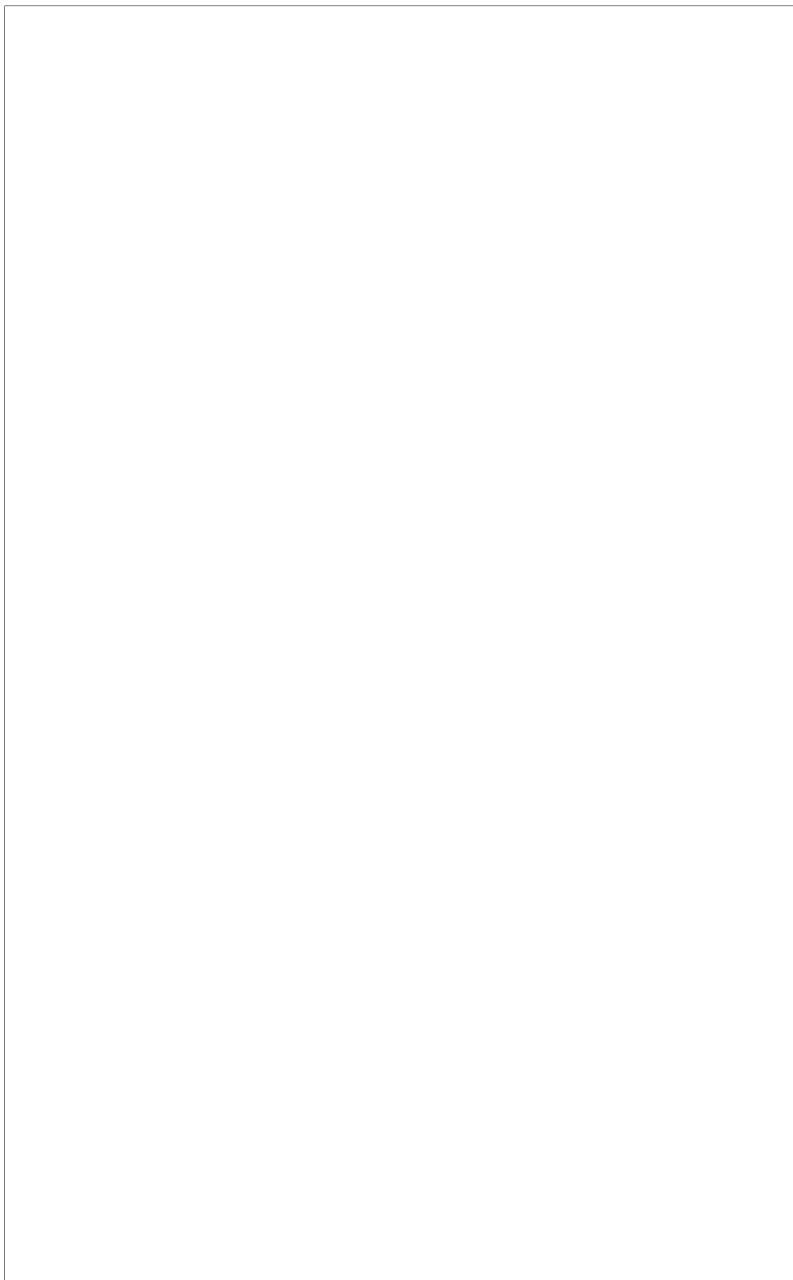
CHINA

Chinese [redacted] seeking
reactions [redacted]
[redacted] on the possibility of Peking's participation in a reorganized Geneva disarmament conference. They stressed Peking's desire to take part from the beginning in any discussions on reorganization, even though China is not now a conference member.

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The Chinese have long held open the option of joining the conference, but this appears to be their most explicit sounding to date. The Chinese apparently seek to have non-members allowed to attend conference sessions. They would presumably also call for the elimination of US-Soviet co-chairmanship. Consultations on so extensive a reorganization would, of course, be protracted.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



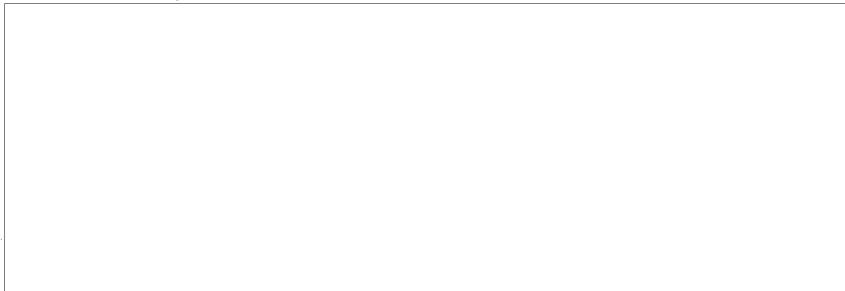
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NOTES

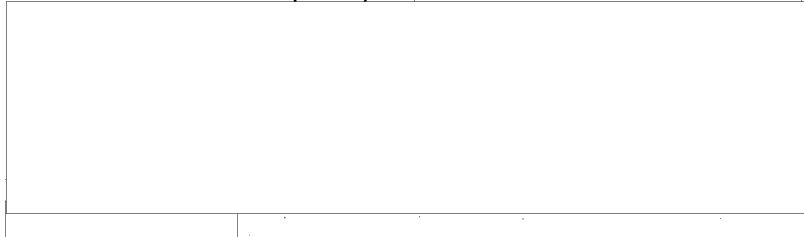
Cambodia: Communist shelling and ground attacks in the Phnom Penh area early yesterday resulted in only light damage and casualties. Targets included the Defense Ministry, the railroad station, the water works, and the airport. Shelling just south of the city was accompanied by small harassing attacks by a battalion-size sapper unit. Government units quickly responded with clearing operations and with fire against suspected enemy rocket positions, but the attacks underscore the capital's continuing vulnerability to Communist harassment.

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USSR - Yemen (Aden) : [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CAMBODIA

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Although this week's presidential election results fell short of Lon Nol's expectations, the outcome appears to augur well for Cambodia's short-term political stability. The government engaged in just enough skulduggery to ensure Lon Nol's election, but it stopped short of manipulating the lopsided victory Lon Nol wanted but could not win honestly. The result is that opposition elements cannot make a strong case for foul play, the students are quiescent, and the election has received favorable treatment in the international press. Moreover, Lon Nol's claim to legitimacy is enhanced. He can now counter Sihanouk's assertion that the royal government was illegally deposed by citing victory in an open and honest election as the legal basis for his rule.

On the other hand, the narrowness of his victory exposes the fragility of Lon Nol's hold on the Cambodian people. In Cambodia, where obeisance to the man in power is a matter of course, Lon Nol's 55 percent of the vote comes close to being a repudiation. In the populous and politically sophisticated Phnom Penh area, Lon Nol ran well behind his chief challenger, In Tam. Lon Nol almost certainly did poorly among the country's students and intellectuals, who have been particularly upset over his authoritarian style and over his failure to crack down on widespread corruption in the government and armed forces. He lost the votes of many civil servants and even some foot soldiers who have been hit hard by rising prices. Primarily, however, Lon Nol has been vulnerable to the complaints of Cambodians in all walks of life that he is responsible for the war and for the government's failure to defeat the Communists and end the fighting.

Many Cambodians obviously are drawing invidious comparisons between conditions under Lon Nol and those under Sihanouk. This is demonstrated by the remarkable 21 percent of the vote won by Keo An, a political nobody who had no money and did little campaigning. Keo An's only attraction was his promise to allow Sihanouk to return to Cambodia. The significance of his showing will not be lost on Khmer Communists, who continue to exploit the Prince's name for their own ends. At the same time, this also serves to harden the determination of Lon Nol and others not to accept any settlement with the Communists calling for Sihanouk's return.

The election also has further enhanced the political power of the military. Until recently, the country's senior military leaders have eschewed national-level politics. In this election, however, they openly campaigned for Lon Nol, and if it had

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

not been for the large military vote they delivered, Lon Nol might have been forced into an embarrassing runoff election, or even defeated. As a result, Lon Nol is now more dependent on the support of his military colleagues. In addition, the generals' statements critical of In Tam during the campaign indicate that they intend to exercise a veto over who rules Cambodia after Lon Nol is gone.

With the military solidly behind Lon Nol, the prospects for political stability in the short run appear good. Significant battlefield defeats could cause the military once again to question Lon Nol's leadership, but major reverses are not expected in the next four months or so. The rainy season will impair the Communists' mobility, and North Vietnamese main force units will most likely either remain preoccupied in South Vietnam, or will be in no condition to undertake a major offensive in Cambodia.

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[redacted] Lon Nol has not indicated whom he intends to appoint as his deputy. Prior to the election he offered the post to Sirik Matak, who turned it down, in part because he mistrusts the reliability of Lon Nol's support for him. However, in view of Matak's evident desire to remain in politics, he may reconsider if Lon Nol renews the offer. Matak seems to have more support among the military than any other successor now on the horizon [redacted]

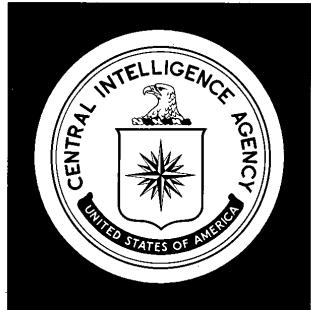
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[redacted] First Minister Son Ngoc Thanh is another possibility, but he is closely associated with the South Vietnamese, and it is doubtful that he has the adroitness and forcefulness to whip his opponents into line. In Tam, who would command support among civilian elements in Phnom Penh, is apparently unacceptable to the military. The military itself may put forth someone like Defense Minister Sak Sutsakhan as a candidate, but at this juncture events have not reached a point where the principal actors themselves have thought through the possibilities.

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The President's Daily Brief

10 June 1972

27



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

10 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

On *Page 1* we discuss the coming high-level Soviet visit to Hanoi.

The North Vietnamese are making heavy use of trucks as an alternative to rail transport from China. In South Vietnam, we note little change in the military situation. (*Page 2*)

Signs point to a deterioration in the pound sterling after its strong showing last year. (*Page 3*).

Recent actions by Peru against US interests have interrupted the two-year-old trend toward better relations. (*Page 4*).

Israeli air and naval maneuvers are keeping Arab nervousness at a high pitch. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - NORTH VIETNAM

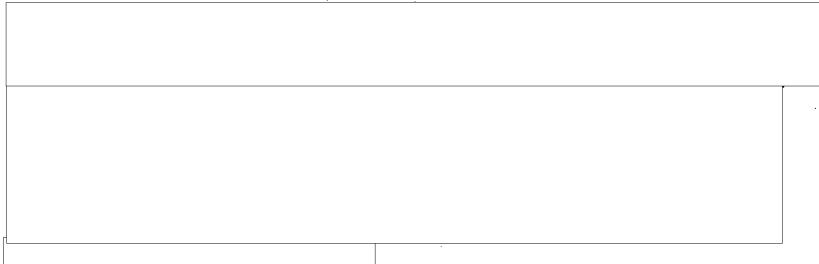
The North Vietnamese have confirmed [redacted] that Soviet President Podgorny will head a delegation to Hanoi for a four-day visit beginning 12 June.

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Soviet leaders have a busy schedule this month and there may be some slippage in the timetable. Nonetheless, a high-level Soviet visit to North Vietnam should take place soon.

It will not be an easy encounter. The North Vietnamese are clearly in need of Moscow's reassurance after the US-Soviet summit. We expect the Soviets to try to comply, but in ways that will not unduly disturb the US or dissipate the atmosphere generated at the summit. One such way--if Hanoi were willing--would be a joint request to the Chinese for cooperation in getting Soviet supplies to North Vietnam. At the same time, however, the Soviets will reiterate the view that negotiations offer the North Vietnamese as many advantages as fighting.

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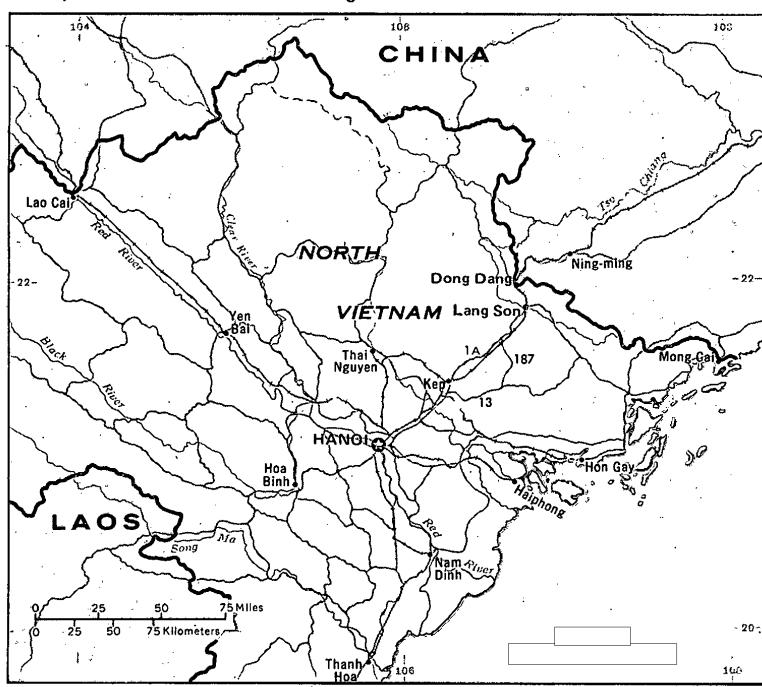
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Heavy Truck Traffic Between Lang Son and Hanoi



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The North Vietnamese appear to be organizing an alternative to rail transport from China. US pilots report that on the night of 7 June they sighted an average of eight to ten southbound trucks per mile along the 90-mile stretch of Route 1A between Lang Son and Hanoi. They also observed heavy traffic on parts of Route 13, which connects with Route 187 from the Chinese border.

* * *

There has been little change in the military situation in South Vietnam. Although South Vietnamese airborne troops linked up with An Loc's defenders on 8 June, Route 13 is still blocked farther south. Enemy artillery is continuing to fire both on the town and on a fire support base to the south. In the central highlands, South Vietnamese defenders are continuing to press outward from Kontum City, and government forces south of the city have been augmented for another attempt to open the Kontum Pass.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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UNITED KINGDOM

Britain's balance-of-payments surplus on current account declined sharply from \$629 million in the fourth quarter of last year to \$78 million in the first three months of this year. The decline is attributable to a poor trade showing and reduced income from insurance, shipping, and other services. This, together with a gloomy economic forecast by a prestigious private research institute, portends a steady deterioration of the pound sterling after its strong showing last year.

A weakened pound is particularly unwelcome now because of the substantial foreign exchange costs that will come with entry into the European Community next year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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PERU

Recent actions by Peru are causing new strains in Peruvian-US relations. Late last month the Peruvian Government took the final legal steps expropriating the International Petroleum Company without compensation. Secret negotiations that could have resolved the three-year-old impasse with the US collapsed after press leaks aroused Peruvian nationalist sensitivities. Moreover, Peruvian courts have recently ruled against two other US businesses in cases involving millions of dollars in back tax claims. On the international scene, Peru's intention shortly to re-establish relations with Cuba is motivated in part by the desire to show independence of the US.

These actions interrupt the trend toward improved relations which had been developing since US emergency assistance after the earthquake two years ago. One reason for this is pent-up Peruvian resentment over US efforts to secure compensation for the oil company. The Peruvians see the US as penalizing them by seeking to prevent multilateral lending institutions from meeting Peruvian requests.

Another factor is Peru's growing confidence that it has access to alternative sources of financing for its economic development. Peru has promises of credits from Japan, West Germany, France, Spain, and the Soviet Union. A high-level Soviet delegation arrived in Peru last week to discuss economic and technical cooperation in the mining and petroleum fields. In addition, recent oil strikes in the Amazon lowlands may ultimately provide a major source of funds.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Israel - Arab States: Arab fears of retaliation for the Lod airport massacre are being fed by Israeli air and naval maneuvers. Frequent Israeli flights over Lebanon are continuing almost daily.

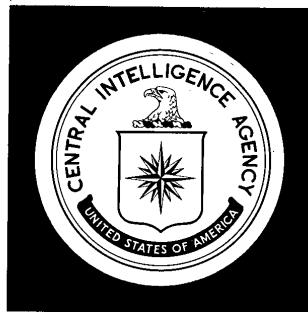
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Arab news sources have reported the presence of ships--presumably Israeli fast patrol boats--off the southern coast of Lebanon.

Egypt - West Germany: Cairo restored diplomatic relations with Bonn on 8 June. Egypt undoubtedly hopes to benefit economically from this move and already has a West German promise of some \$50 million for its Gulf of Suez - Mediterranean pipeline. Cairo may also be making a gesture of independence from the Soviet Union.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

12 June 1972

47

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

12 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

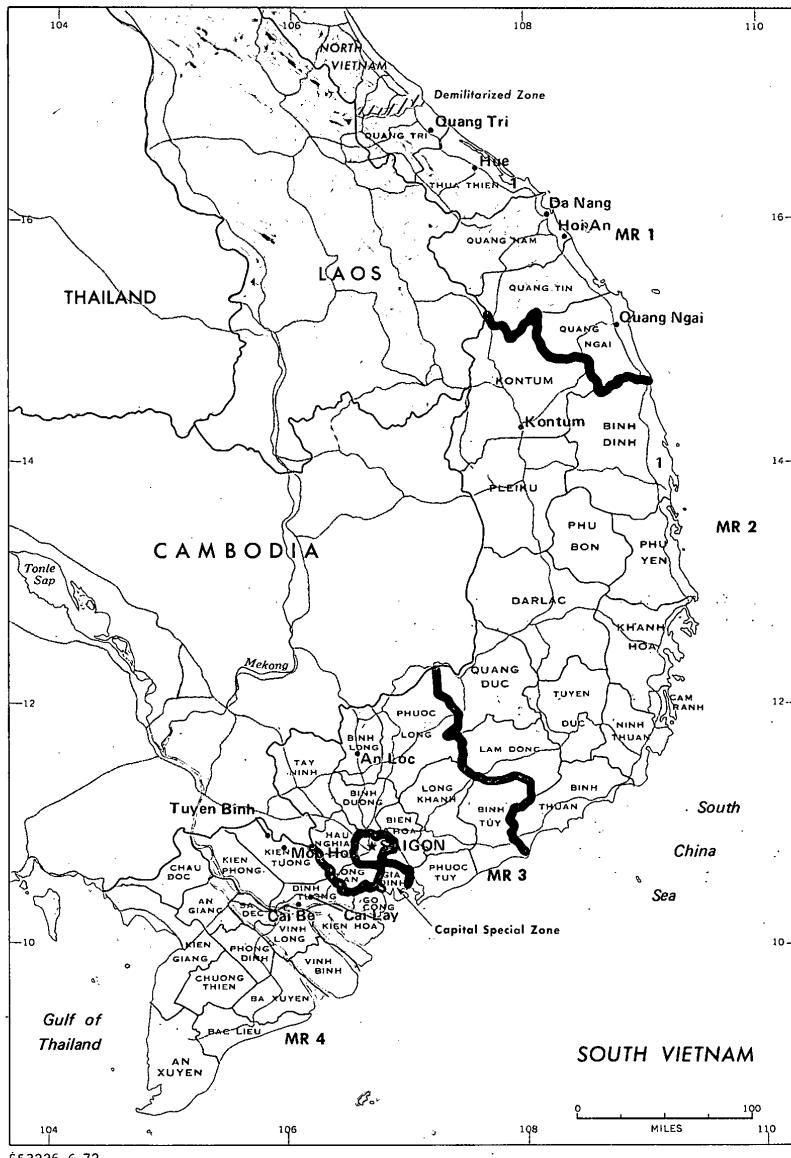
Military action in South Vietnam over the weekend was concentrated in the northern provinces and in the delta. The difficulties being encountered by the North Vietnamese during the current offensive in the South may be causing some Communist officials to take a more cautious line about the outcome of the offensive. (Page 1)

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's visit to France is to focus on a review of the Moscow summit and on European matters. (Page 3)

[redacted] Bangladesh [redacted]
Pakistan [redacted]
any negotiations. (Page 4)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553226 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Most of the military action in South Vietnam over the weekend occurred at the northern and southern ends of the country.

A number of enemy artillery attacks and ground engagements took place around Hue and along Route 1 north of the city. Da Nang and Hoi An were also hit by artillery, and the enemy is active near Quang Ngai City. The five-battalion South Vietnamese Marine foray into southern Quang Tri Province ended on schedule after three days. The enemy [redacted] and apparently suffered little damage.

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Fighting was also widespread in the Mekong Delta. Communist forces attacked Tuyen Binh district town in Kien Tuong Province on 10 June, and fighting is continuing between the town and the Cambodian border. The provincial capital, Moc Hoa, and three nearby ranger bases have been shelled or have come under ground attack, causing 2,000 of Moc Hoa's 15,000 residents to flee south. The enemy also overran outposts in Dinh Tuong, Kien Hoa, Kieng Giang, and Bac Lieu provinces, launched ground assaults against district headquarters in Ba Xuyen and An Xuyen provinces, and shelled the provincial capital of Bac Lieu.

The situation was relatively quiet around An Loc and Kontum over the weekend, but enemy forces have been detected moving closer to Kontum again. Communications intelligence indicates that the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 320th Division is moving toward the northern edge of the city, and the 2nd Division headquarters is moving in from the east. US pilots have reported enemy supply activity north and west of Kontum.

US pilots attacking power plants and railroad bridges in North Vietnam report encountering balloons suspended in clusters over target areas. Explosive charges attached to the balloons are detonated from the ground when aircraft come near.

Hanoi may be using the balloons to help conserve antiaircraft ammunition and surface-to-air missiles.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

* * *

Two reports concerning shipping into Haiphong are not borne out by currently available evidence. On Saturday, Radio Hanoi stated that a ship carrying medical supplies from Japan had berthed in Haiphong, whereas we have no information indicating any vessel has transited the minefields since their activation. A Japanese press report the same day stated that the Yasnomorsk, a Soviet freighter under charter to North Vietnam, had left Osaka and was scheduled to arrive in Haiphong on 20 June.

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It appears that word may have been passed from the southern battlefields to both Hanoi and its representatives abroad warning that the current offensive is not going so well as originally expected.

[redacted] the Viet Cong's chief negotiator in Paris, Madame Binh, recently said that the bombing of North Vietnam was disturbing, that Saigon's troops were fighting more effectively than expected, and that the people of South Vietnam were not supporting the Communists by remaining in the "liberated areas" but instead were moving closer to major government population centers. Another North Vietnamese official in Paris [redacted] [redacted] echoed her remarks and blamed the overestimation of popular support for the campaign on reports from the Communists' southern command indicating the people would support the revolution once the offensive began.

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These comments come on the heels of reports that the Communists' top southern command, COSVN, is displeased over the inability of the Viet Cong's political apparatus to generate "popular uprisings" throughout the country. Since mid-May, COSVN has issued several directives chastising its subordinate commands for failing to rally the people to support the revolution by revolting against the government. The latest directive, disseminated in early June, criticizes in fairly harsh terms the shortcomings of the Viet Cong apparatus and specifically warns the cadre not to rely solely on the military aspect of the offensive to accomplish their objectives.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-FRANCE

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko today begins a four-day official visit to France that is likely to focus on a review of the Moscow summit and on European matters. Gromyko is to meet with President Pompidou, Prime Minister Chaban-Delmas, and Foreign Minister Schumann. A French Foreign Ministry official has said that the visit will be largely devoted to substantive consultations on such matters as the planned Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), mutual and balanced force reductions, and inter-German relations. The Middle East and Vietnam will receive less attention.

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For his part, Gromyko is likely to push hard for more rapid movement toward a CSCE and should find the French rather receptive on this score. Gromyko is aware of French opposition to force reductions and may well be inclined to let Paris raise the question. Gromyko surely will press for quicker French recognition of East Germany, but Paris is likely to stress continued Four-Power consultations. The Soviets are also likely to seek French views on West European integration, a subject on which Moscow is having difficulty in formulating tactics.

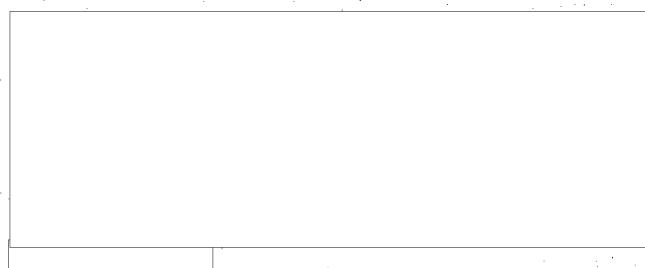
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Yugoslavia-USSR: President Tito's visit to Moscow, which ended Saturday, apparently continued the trend toward improved Soviet-Yugoslav relations without changes in the basic positions of either country. The Soviet reception was cordial, and party chief Brezhnev doled out honors for the aging Yugoslav leader with an open hand; Tito's, and indeed the general Yugoslav reaction, was warmly receptive. Both sides approved in principle an increase in their political contacts and economic co-operation. In international affairs, the communiqué focused on areas of agreement, ignoring or artfully veiling existing differences.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

*Sensitive
13 June 1972*

46

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The North Vietnamese have launched a massive over-land resupply effort from China, and together with the Chinese are working on a pipeline to carry petroleum south from the border. (Page 1)

Yesterday Peking issued its strongest statement in support of Hanoi since the intensification of the fighting this spring. (Page 2)

South Vietnamese troops have made gains in the fighting at An Loc, while Communist forces maintain heavy pressure in the northern delta area. (Page 3)

[redacted]
North Vietnam
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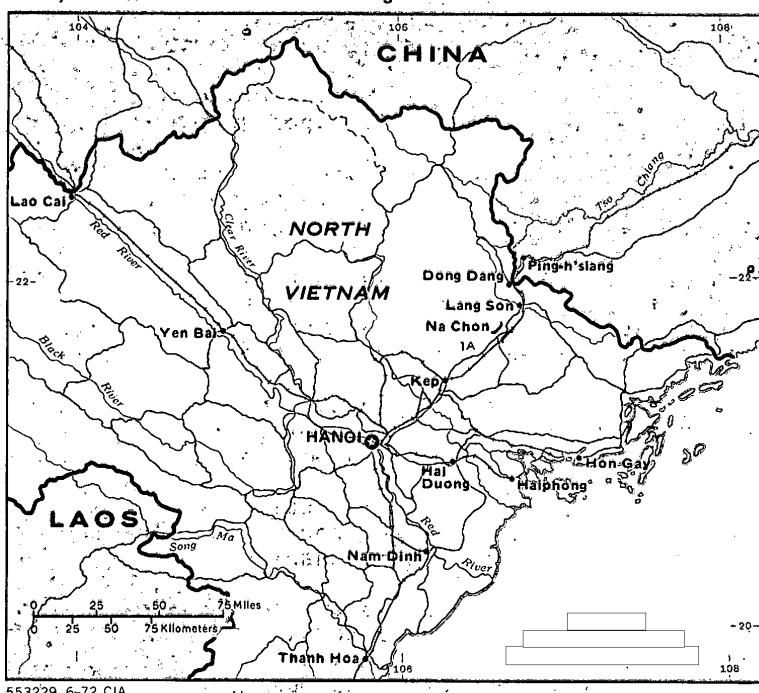
Egyptian President Sadat has given further evidence of his frustration at the lack of progress in solving the Arab-Israeli dispute. (Page 6)

Soviet President Podgorny now is scheduled to arrive in Hanoi tomorrow. (Page 7)

The resignation of President Allende's cabinet sets the stage for the long-awaited reorganization of the Chilean Government. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Heavy Road/Rail Traffic Between Lang Son and Hanoi



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

The North Vietnamese have evidently launched a massive overland resupply effort from China. On the night of 9 June, US Navy pilots estimated that between 30 and 40 trucks per mile were moving on the 90-mile segment of Route 1A between Lang Son and Hanoi--about four times the level observed on the same stretch two nights earlier. Very heavy truck traffic was sighted the next night along a 25-mile stretch of the road south of Lang Son, and on 11 June trucks were reported backed up bumper to bumper at the downed rail-highway bridge at Na Chon. Attacks on this concentration resulted in numerous secondary explosions and a "continuous wall of flame," suggesting that the vehicles were loaded with petroleum products.

Photography of 6 and 7 June indicates that the Chinese and North Vietnamese also are working on a pipeline to carry petroleum south from the Chinese border town of Ping-hsiang. The photographs show trenching between the petroleum storage area of Ping-hsiang and the North Vietnamese town of Dong Dang. Moreover, 40 storage tanks are being added to the 50 now at Ping-hsiang.

The construction between Ping-hsiang and Dong Dang is apparently related to the pipeline recently observed under construction from Hai Duong northward toward Kep. Photographs [redacted] show some segments of pipe above ground midway between Kep and Dong Dang, indicating an intention to link Hanoi with the Chinese border. The distance from Kep to Dong Dang is about 50 miles.

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[redacted] North Vietnamese communications show that one ship, anchored near Vinh with 3,000 tons of cargo still aboard, has been unable to unload during recent nights because of fear of attack. The second Chinese ship, located about 60 miles south at Hon La Island, has discharged only between 300 and 400 tons and has 3,000 tons still on board. One message reported that the Hon La area had been "terrorized" by US destroyers on 9 June.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA-VIETNAM

The Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a strong statement on Vietnam yesterday. This was in response to Hanoi's appeal of 10 June for strong international support. The statement links bombing of areas "close to the Sino-Vietnamese borders" to a "threat to Chinese security"--a reference the Chinese have avoided since the allied incursion into Laos in March 1971. The statement also labels US military actions in North Vietnam as "grave provocations against the Chinese people" and reiterates the "resolute support" of the Chinese people and government for Hanoi's cause, noting that "China and Vietnam are neighbors closely related like the lips and teeth"--formulations that Peking has employed--but rarely--within the past six months.

The statement concludes by noting that "US imperialism should know that the heroic peoples of Vietnam and other Indochinese countries are by no means alone in their struggle." This phraseology has never previously appeared in Chinese expressions of support for North Vietnam.

This is Peking's strongest statement in support of Hanoi since the intensification of fighting in Vietnam, but it commits the Chinese to no particular course of action. They have clearly delimited the area of their primary concern to the Sino-Vietnamese border, while at the same time moving some way to assuage North Vietnamese feelings. This Foreign Ministry statement, coupled with Peking's declaration at the UN environmental conference at Stockholm over the weekend, represents a general hardening of the public Chinese position on the fighting in Indochina. Peking's propaganda, however, still remains at a somewhat milder level than during the Laos incursion, considerably milder than in 1965 when operation Rolling Thunder first got under way, and in general neither overly provocative nor bellicose.

While much of the Foreign Ministry statement seems designed primarily for North Vietnamese consumption, the phrase noting that Washington should know that the Vietnamese are "not completely alone in their struggle" seems a signal to the US that Peking recognizes its continuing obligation to Hanoi.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553230 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

South Vietnamese troops have retaken the north-western section of An Loc, leaving only one pocket of enemy resistance within the town. Road access to An Loc remains blocked, however. Government forces yesterday reported sporadic fighting at several points along Route 13 but no further progress in clearing the highway.

In the northern Mekong Delta area, Communist forces are maintaining heavy pressure on government positions, particularly in Dinh Tuong and Kien Tuong provinces. [redacted]

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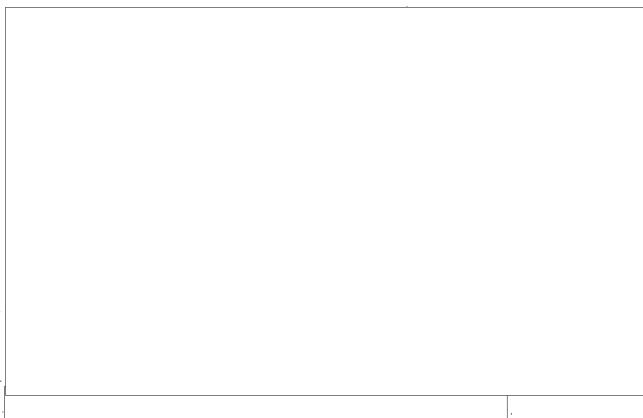
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Although the disposition of these forces suggests that they currently pose little direct threat to Saigon, small-scale actions such as road interdictions, terrorism, and shellings are well within their capabilities. The enemy's attacks elsewhere in MR 3 have served to divert troops from Saigon, but the government now is taking steps to improve the capital's defenses. The National Police are augmenting forces throughout the city and instituting intensive screening procedures to prevent the infiltration of weapons and supplies. On the city's outskirts, Regional Force units are patrolling along known infiltration routes and in areas where the Communists have frequently mounted rocket attacks.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM



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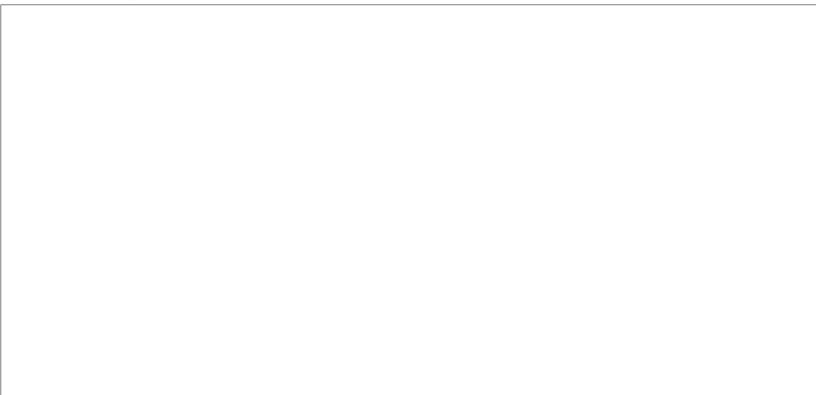
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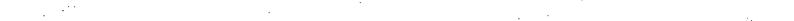


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EGYPT

In a conversation with former UN ambassador Yost on 10 June, President Sadat gave further evidence of his frustration at the lack of progress in solving the Arab-Israeli dispute. Sadat placed the blame for the impasse on Washington's failure to persuade Israel to match concessions made by Cairo, and charged that the US had abandoned efforts to find a peaceful way to liberate Egyptian territory. Because of the difficulty of harming the Israelis, he warned that US interests throughout the Arab world would suffer if peace did not come soon.

Egypt's frustration over the lack of movement toward a settlement and over its inability to achieve one by military means has been growing in recent months. Sadat, moreover, sees a threat to his own position in popular realization that he has made no progress toward resolving his dilemma.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

USSR - North Vietnam: There has been some slippage in the timing of Soviet President Podgorny's visit to North Vietnam,

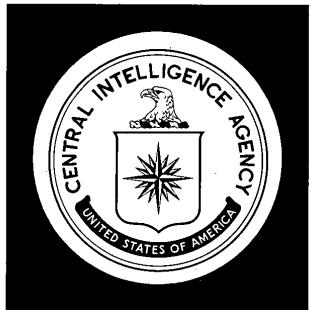
Podgorny is now scheduled to be in Hanoi from 14-17 June. He may be accompanied by Konstantin Katushev, the Central Committee official responsible for Moscow's relations with ruling Communist parties. Katushev accompanied Podgorny on his visit to North Vietnam last October, and he was in Hanoi again in April, immediately after Dr. Kissinger's visit to the USSR.

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Chile: The resignation of President Allende's entire cabinet, announced yesterday, sets the stage for the long-awaited government reorganization. A long and bitter debate has been under way within the governing coalition on the direction the government should take. The new cabinet list, not yet published, will show whether Allende and his more moderate supporters among the Communists have come out on top. Allende plans a major address later this week.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

14 June 1972

45

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

14 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

A British official has provided some interesting commentary on his recent visit to Peking. (Page 1)

Military activity in South Vietnam is widely scattered with the heaviest action in the delta. The movement of Communist forces away from Kontum City suggests that the city may have a respite. (Page 3)

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(Page 4)

Soviet President Podgorny arrives in Hanoi this morning. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

British Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Royle has briefed Ambassador Annenberg in confidence on his recent visit to Peking. Royle talked mostly with Deputy Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua; he did not see Chou En-lai although the Chinese had originally said that Chou wanted to meet him. The talks included an extensive tour d'horizon as well as discussion of bilateral issues. While there are no surprises in Royle's account, his assessment seems a good reading of the current mood in Peking.

--Royle said it was clear that the Chinese would not allow Soviet ships to unload supplies for North Vietnam in Chinese ports. He also thought they did not want to have an increase in Soviet goods transiting the country by rail. East European ships are being allowed to dock in Chinese ports because Peking wishes to draw a distinction between its relations with Moscow and with other European socialist states. The Chinese are anxious to improve relations with all the East European states, but not the USSR.

--Royle thought the conversations made it clear that Hanoi's offensive was undertaken against Chinese advice; the Chinese believe the Soviets were behind the decision. Royle gained the impression that the Chinese were not displeased with the current situation in Vietnam. He thought, however, that they would do certain things in support of Hanoi in order to maintain their bargaining position in any negotiation of a Vietnam settlement. They appeared to believe that definitive moves would come in the Paris talks context rather than through a revival of the Geneva conference.

--Once again the Chinese expressed apprehension about the possibility of a militaristic revival in Japan. They were deeply interested in the evolution of political events in Japan and wanted Royle's assessment of who would succeed Prime Minister Sato; they did not, however, express any preference among the candidates. They made it clear that normalization of relations would depend on resolution of the Taiwan issue.

--The Chinese response to Royle's plea that they work toward bringing India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh together, and that they recognize Dacca, made him believe that they would move in this general direction, although slowly.

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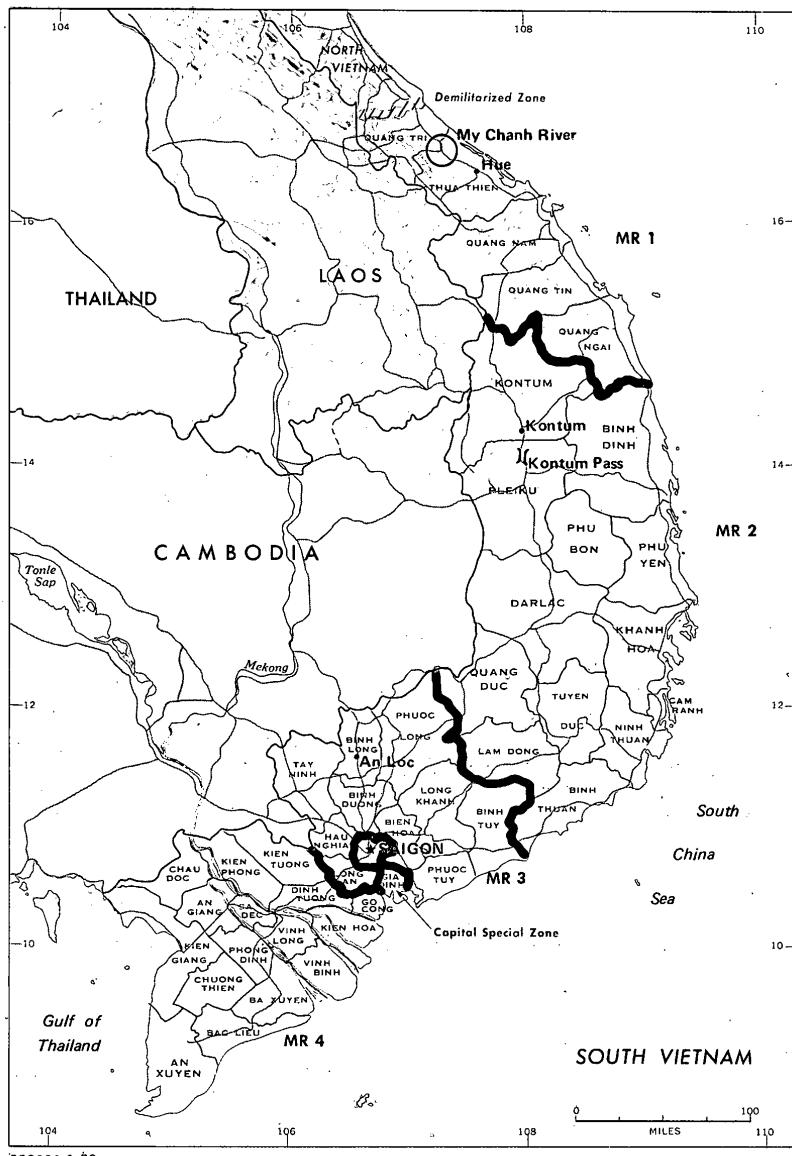
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

--The Chinese were intensely interested in the European Economic Community and were strongly in favor of its expansion. They clearly see its political significance as a counter to the USSR in Europe. At the same time they condemned NATO and the presence of US troops in Europe but apparently did not contest Royle's rebuttal on this point.

--The Chinese made their usual analysis of the world as divided into superpowers, middle powers, and small powers. Their fear of the Soviet Union was, Royle thought, all-pervasive and colored their talks with him. They see themselves ringed by Soviet power and forced to prepare for a war they do not want. He believes that they are anxious to improve relations with a wide variety of states, including the US, as a means of damping down the possibility of a world war stemming from superpower actions.

--The Chinese were anxious to enlarge exchanges with Great Britain in all possible areas; an ambassador will arrive in London in August and defense attachés no doubt will be exchanged. Our embassy in London thinks that Royle may have brought back an assessment on trade matters which has whetted British appetites for substantial sales of aircraft. Royle did not expand on bilateral trade matters, however.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553232 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Military activity in South Vietnam is heaviest in the delta area where skirmishing and Communist shellings continue in scattered areas. South Vietnamese forces are in contact with Communist troops just inside Cambodia near the Kien Tuong Province border. Communist forces have been attempting to gain control of the extensive canal network and river system in nearby Kien Phong Province to assist their infiltration of men and materiel into the delta.

Newly reinforced government forces are continuing to clear Communist troops from sections of An Loc. In the central highlands, Communist forces are shifting away from Kontum City, apparently for resupply and refitting. Communist forces are continuing to resist government efforts to clear the Kontum Pass, but South Vietnamese engineers are working on a bypass that would permit the reopening of overland communication with Kontum City.

In the north, South Vietnamese troops operating a few miles above the defensive line at the My Chanh River report no contact with Communist forces in the southernmost part of Quang Tri Province.

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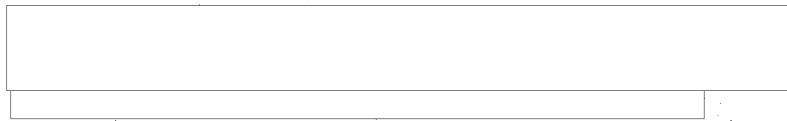
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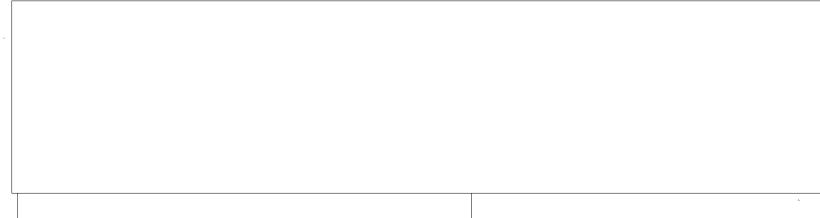
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR - North Vietnam: Soviet President Podgorny left Moscow for Hanoi yesterday.

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India: The US Embassy in New Delhi reports that American businessmen are finding it increasingly uncomfortable to operate in India as they cope with continuing discrimination against their firms. This is especially evident in New Delhi. One businessman went so far as to claim that the Indian Government has relegated the US to the position of last resort as a source for India's imports. The antagonism extends beyond business relationships; senior Indian officials are hesitant to make any decisions that might be construed as pro-US by their superiors or by members of Parliament.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

15 June 1972

7

Top Secret

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Enemy attacks are on the increase in the Mekong Delta, with the heaviest fighting in Kien Tuong and Kien Phong provinces. Casualties are high on both sides after three days of battle around the town of Tuyen Binh in Kien Tuong Province. Government forces are improving their positions at An Loc, having cleared the enemy from much of the town and re-occupied the city's airstrip. The effort to open Route 13 south of An Loc remains stalled, however.

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A fresh nuance on the conduct of the war appeared in Hanoi's daily newspaper on 1 June. The article called for a reorganization of society that would enable North Vietnam to wage a protracted war and insisted that victory did not require all the heavy equipment and material that the US has at its disposal. There was no direct reference to Soviet or Chinese aid, but boastful claims about the country's ability to survive on its own implicitly minimize Moscow's and Peking's contributions to the war effort. Alluding to an assessment of the "new situation," the article gave the impression that the North Vietnamese leaders have only recently decided on the precise political line it articulated.

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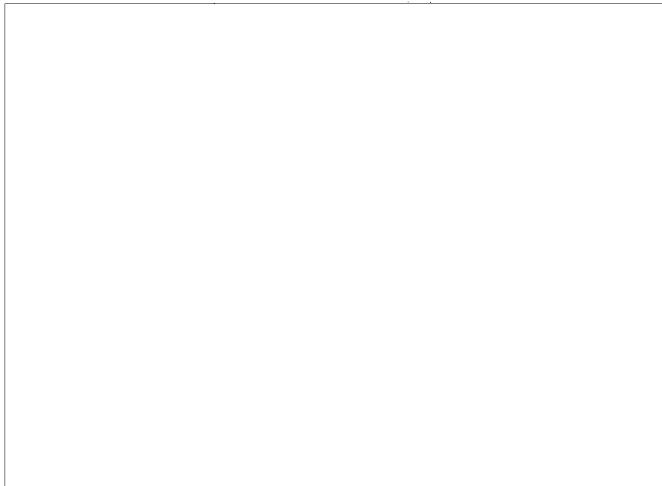
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

KOREA

In a conversation with Ambassador Habib on Monday, South Korean President Pak Chong-hui registered reservations about the course of the secret dialogue now under way with Pyongyang. He made it clear that he does not think the private negotiations should go forward without tangible progress on practical issues in the more open Red Cross talks. He has declined North Korean requests--pressed hard during North Korean Vice Premier Pak Song-chol's recent visit to Seoul--for the start of political negotiations and an early public revelation of the talks, and he has put off considering any personal meeting with North Korean Premier Kim Il-sung.

During Pak Song-chol's visit, however, some progress was made in advancing the three-point policy Kim had outlined during his discussions in Pyongyang with South Korean CIA Director Yi Hu-rak early last month. The two sides agreed on the first two points--no collusion with foreign powers and no armed provocation--but were unable to iron out their wide divergence of views on the timing and modalities of moving toward national unity. The two negotiators agreed to establish a coordinating committee to continue contacts, but President Pak believes this committee should be made up of lower level representatives and should deal only with the Red Cross talks, and possibly with misunderstandings arising from incidents along the DMZ. He has ruled out any additional travel by Yi, at least in the near future.

Pak's remarks to Ambassador Habib reflect his own personal concern, as well as the reservations of some of his colleagues about North Korean intentions. He appears particularly suspicious that the North Koreans may try to use the dialogue to divide the South Korean "national consensus" rather than to solve differences. Perhaps expressing more a judgment than a fear, Pak also said that the North Koreans' recent show of apparent reasonableness was intended to mislead the US public into demanding an early withdrawal of US forces from Korea and an end to the military modernization program. In fact, North Korea's Premier Kim Il-sung and Vice Premier Pak Song-chol have both publicly expressed such ideas.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Pyongyang has been voicing in public a much more flexible line on dealing with the South than it has put forward so far in private. The North has suggested publicly that if US troops were removed, Pyongyang would permit progress at the Red Cross talks before a political dialogue was begun.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTE

USSR: Although one of the aircraft accompanying President Podgorny went on to Hanoi yesterday, Podgorny himself remained overnight in Calcutta for talks with the Indian foreign minister. (Mrs. Gandhi left India on a long-planned European jaunt on 14 June.) Podgorny arrived in Hanoi this morning. According to a broadcast from New Delhi, he gave the Indians a full account of his recent talks with President Nixon, and also discussed the situations in the Middle East and in Vietnam. Podgorny may also have used the opportunity to underscore the importance the USSR attaches to the forthcoming Indo-Pakistani peace talks.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

While the Communists seemed to be opening a new battlefront in the Mekong Delta, Hanoi's press has raised the prospect of an indefinite extension of the war.

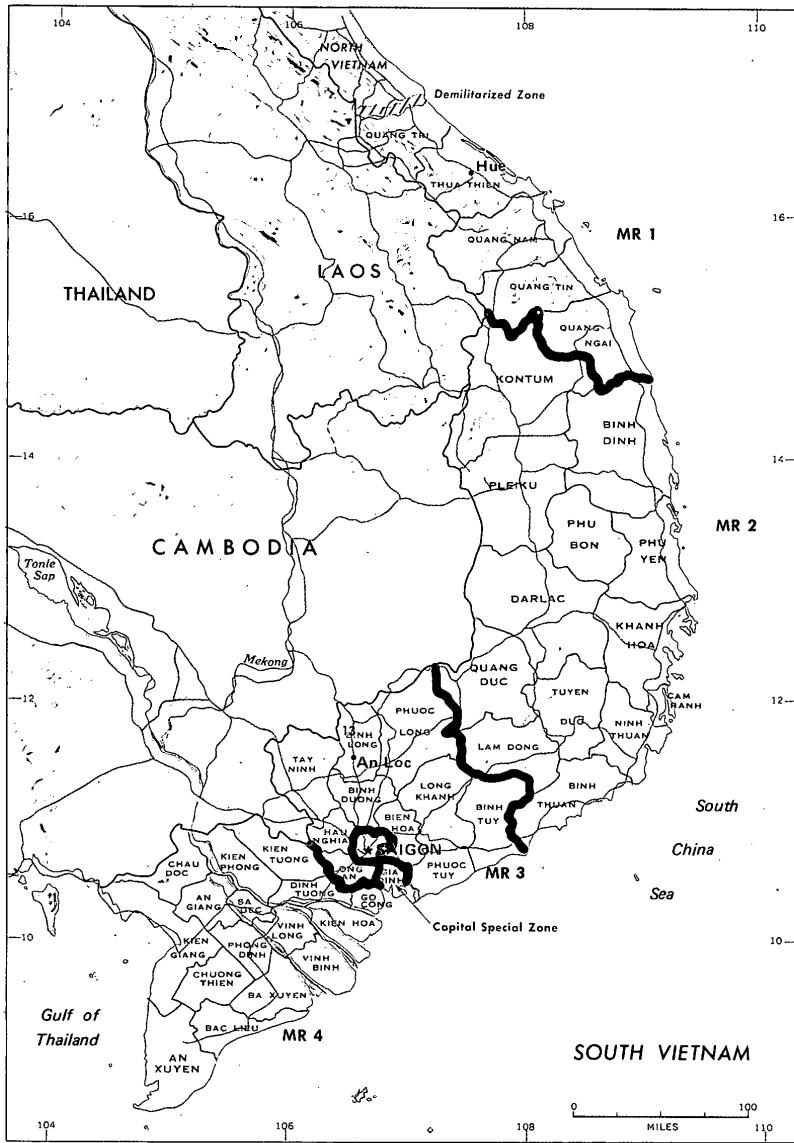
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(Page 1)

South Korean President Pak seems to have braked the secret talks with the North Koreans. (Page 3)

Soviet President Podgorny arrived in Hanoi this morning. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553235 6-72

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

16 June 1972

45

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Top Secret

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

16 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The current situation in Vietnam is discussed on
Page 1.

In discussions with the French last week, Soviet
Foreign Ministry officials appeared resigned to a
continuation of the status quo in the Middle East.
(Page 2)

Egypt [redacted]
(Page 3)

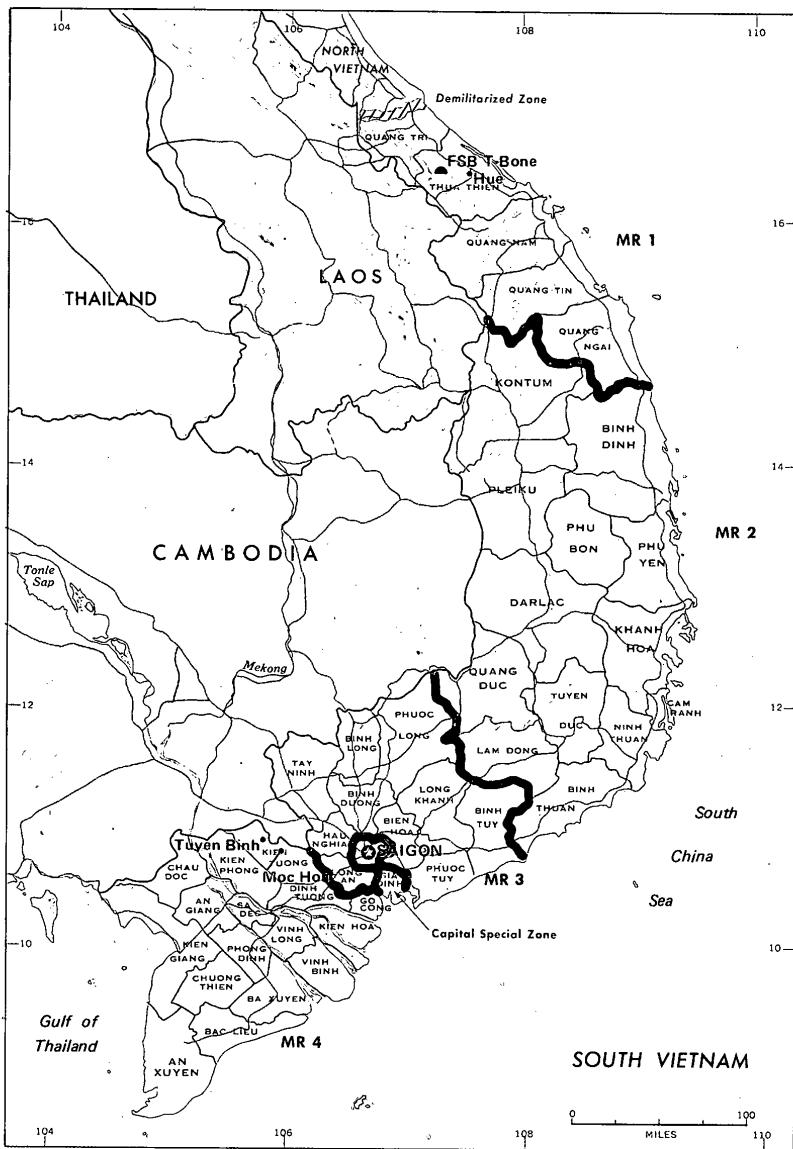
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The French, under a blend of foreign and domestic
policy pressures, are trying hard to shape the Euro-
pean Community to their liking. *(Page 4)*

West Germany's Christian Democrats are now on record
as favoring early elections. *(Page 5)*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553242 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The heavy fighting of the past five days in the northern Mekong Delta region has slacked off. Enemy activity in Tuyen Binh District of Kien Tuong Province has decreased sharply, but some action continues around the provincial capital at Moc Hoa. The attacks, carried out by units of the Communist 5th Division, have caused about 90 percent of Moc Hoa's population to flee the town. Enemy prisoners taken during the fighting claim that the 5th Division's mission is to overrun the entire province and open the way for more enemy troops to enter the delta.

Such a plan may account for the sharp resistance encountered by South Vietnamese Rangers operating in nearby Cambodia. Earlier this week, a ranger battalion suffered heavy losses in breaking out of a two-day enemy encirclement near the Kien Tuong - Kien Phong provincial border.

In the northern portion of the country, Communist main force units are continuing to edge closer to Hue. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 324B Division, one of its regiments, and a regiment of the North Vietnamese 308th Division have been detected a few miles west of the city, near the government's strongpoint at Fire Support Base T-Bone.

* * *

The North Vietnamese apparently have conducted a review of their war policy. A Soviet "commentator" article broadcast by Moscow Radio on 14 June refers to a "new analysis of the situation" by the Viet Cong and asserts that "the situation has also recently been examined by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam." Several North Vietnamese articles have mentioned assessments of the "new situation" in Vietnam and have noted that North Vietnam's Council of Ministers recently convened to discuss various policy problems. Most of Hanoi's top politburo members have been out of public view for the last two weeks.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - MIDDLE EAST

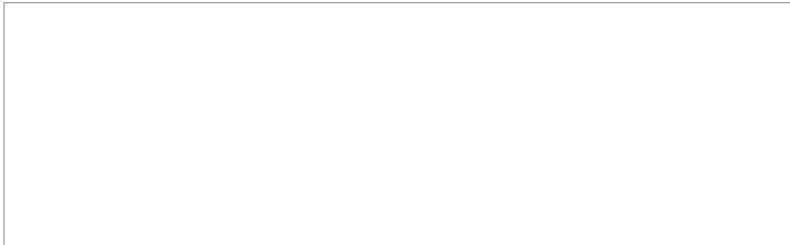
Soviet Foreign Ministry officials told the French during consultations in Moscow last week that all approaches to a Middle East settlement would be "futile" until the Israelis agree to total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. The Soviets appeared unhappy with the current impasse but resigned to a continuation of the status quo in view of Israeli intransigence. They were skeptical of the utility of interim talks on a Suez Canal settlement and of Four Power talks as well. The Soviets expressed satisfaction with the Middle East portion of the summit communiqué but said that the US, as the only power capable of making the Israelis shift their position on withdrawal, is the key to any settlement.

In the past, the Soviets have shown misgivings over the dominant role of the US in arranging an interim settlement or proximity talks. They appear obligated, however, to give the Arabs the impression that Moscow is taking an active role in the pursuit of a political settlement, if only to avoid appearing to advocate a military solution. Moscow has never been sanguine that Israel was prepared to make the concessions necessary to arrange a political settlement acceptable to the Arabs and, in view of its assessment, is not likely to get out in front of the Arab negotiating position.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE - EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

A new note of testiness has recently emerged in France's relations with its partners in the European Community. Earlier this month, President Pompidou warned [redacted] that France might be unwilling to host the summit of the Ten next October unless Paris were assured it would result in solid achievements. He also urged the Community to get on with the practical tasks at hand and to avoid premature attempts to reform Community institutions. Moreover, Pompidou wants any new secretariat for political consultation to be located in Paris, where he believes it will be easier to keep reins on Community political development.

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Pompidou's pointed and brusque demarche, reminiscent of Gaullist diplomatic ploys, stems from a blend of domestic and foreign policy pressures. On the domestic side, he apparently is still smarting over his failure to obtain more than a small majority in favor of his recent referendum on EC enlargement.

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His primary worry, however, appears to be over the role of France--and Europe--in world affairs. He believes that the Moscow summit increased the threat that Europe will be dominated by the superpowers and that the only way to avoid this is to build what he calls a "European Europe." Pompidou's vision of Europe would require rapid progress toward economic and monetary union, but it would also allow France to retain a considerable measure of political independence.

France's partners, of course, are not merely concerned with further economic integration, but also want to strengthen Community institutions and to develop some kind of regular dialogue with the US. Pompidou may well be annoyed to have found the British taking a more "Community-minded" stance than he had counted on. Thus, he may have concluded that he must act now to shape the Community to his liking.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY

Early this week the Christian Democrats' presidium went on record as favoring early elections, but rejected the idea of seeking a formal agreement with the government parties concerning the timing of the voting. Chancellor Brandt and Foreign Minister Scheel had wanted a Christian Democratic guarantee not to try to form a government before the Bundestag is dissolved for the elections.

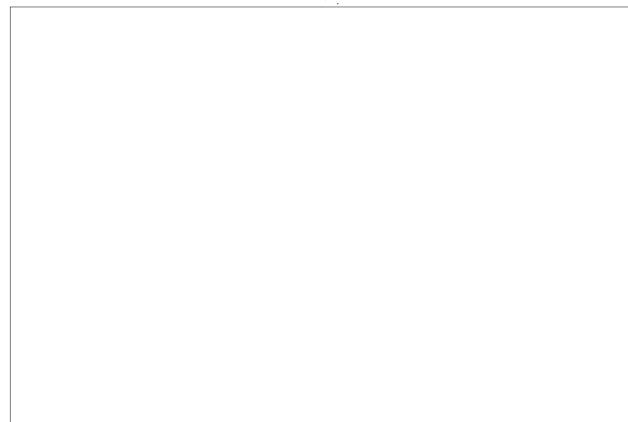
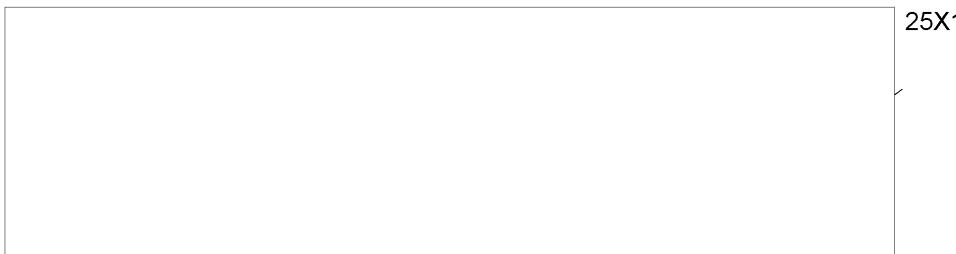
Both government and opposition now publicly favor elections in the fall. The opposition's refusal to enter a formal pact on the timing seems designed to embarrass the government by requiring it either formally to resign or to arrange to lose a vote of confidence in order to hold the elections before the scheduled time of late 1973.

There is only an outside chance that the Christian Democrats still will try to avoid elections by seeking to form a parliamentary majority before the Bundestag is dissolved. Opposition leaders presumably are aware that such tactics would further erode their chances of victory in the elections; the public now clearly wants to hold the elections soon.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE-USSR



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

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USSR:

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USSR-Bolivia: Moscow has provided another example of its willingness to deal even with strongly anti-Communist governments in its effort to build influence in Latin America. Early this month the Soviets agreed to supply about \$6 million worth of machinery and equipment for an \$8.4-million tin processing complex in Bolivia, which expelled most of the Soviet diplomatic mission last March. The arrangement will draw upon a \$27.5-million credit line made available to Bolivia under an earlier leftist government.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

17 June 1972

46

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 June 1972

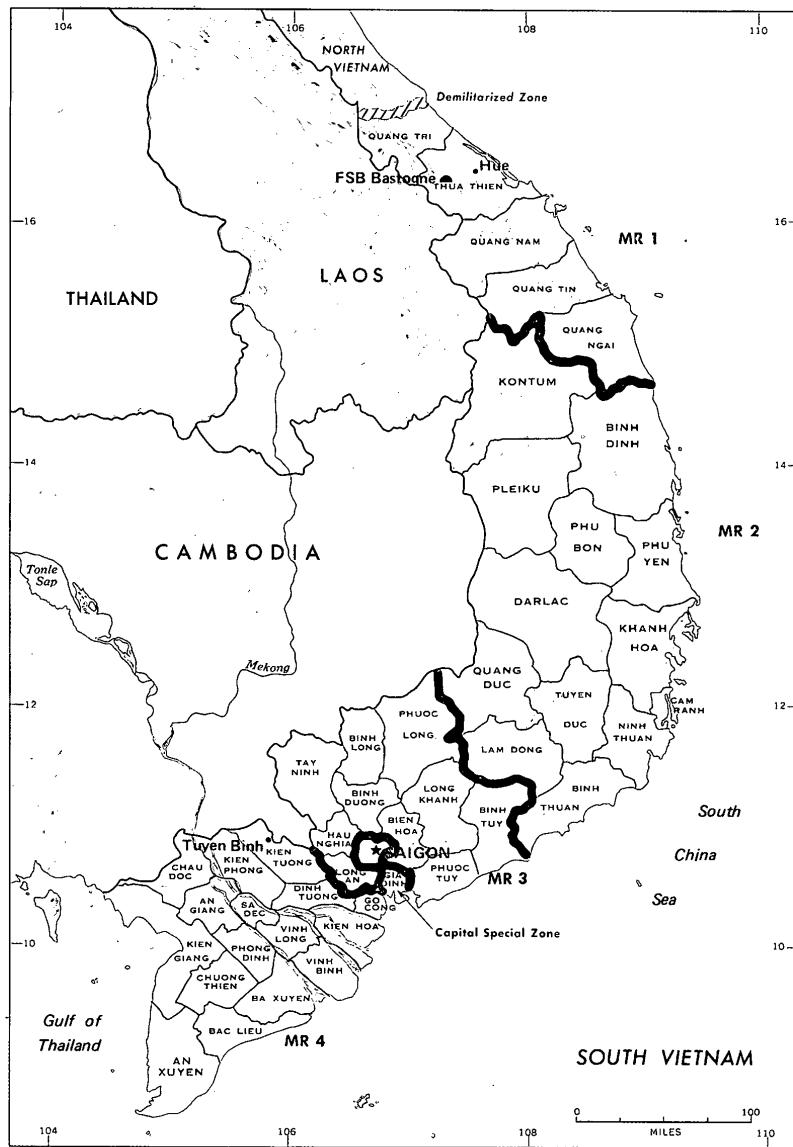
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists appear to be moving additional forces into northern South Vietnam; otherwise, the military situation has not changed significantly. (Page 1)

In southern Laos, government forces are trying to retake territory north of Pakse. (Page 2)

Sirik Matak and some other veteran Cambodian politicians have established a new party, which evidently will oppose President Lon Nol. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553252 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists appear to be moving additional forces into northern South Vietnam.

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Government positions in MR-1 were subjected to fairly heavy shelling yesterday. In MR-4, fighting around Tuyen Binh district town in Kien Tuong Province has fallen off somewhat

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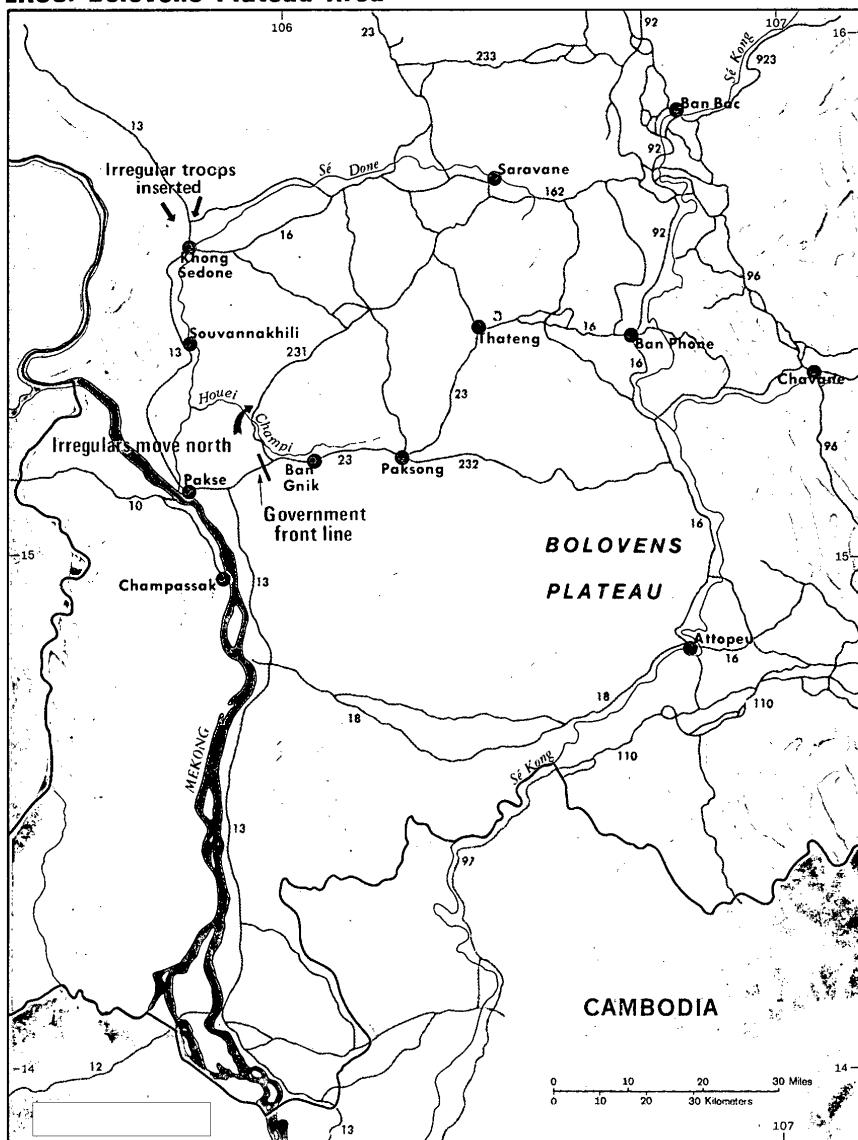
Communist forces were also active in parts of Kien Phong and Dinh Tuong provinces.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Bolovens Plateau Area



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- Government-held location
- Communist-held location

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Government forces are attempting to retake territory in the Pakse area of southern Laos. On Thursday four fresh irregular battalions were airlifted to a point seven miles north of Khong Sedone, the provincial capital that was lost to the Communists in mid-May. These forces have pushed through several North Vietnamese blocking positions. An additional four irregular battalions were airlifted to the west of Khong Sedone yesterday. The North Vietnamese have three battalions, together with artillery and antiaircraft units, in and near the town.

Government units have also begun an effort to clear the Communists from the area northeast of Pakse. Four irregular battalions that had been in reserve along Route 23 are moving north parallel to Route 231 along the western edge of the Bolovens Plateau and have now crossed the Houei Champi stream.

This thrust should prevent the North Vietnamese from diverting their 9th Regiment toward Khong Sedone and also reduce pressure on the Lao Army units holding defenses near the intersection of Routes 23 and 231.

The situation in north Laos remains essentially unchanged. The Communists still hold most of the major high ground positions northeast of Long Tieng, and government forces have made no serious attempts to dislodge them in the past several days. The withdrawal of several battalions for rest and refitting has temporarily reduced the government's strength in this area.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Sirik Matak and a number of other veteran politicians on 15 June established a new Republican Party, which evidently will oppose President Lon Nol. Matak will serve as secretary-general of the party. There are rumors in Phnom Penh that several senior military leaders, including Defense Minister Sak Sutsakhan, intend to join Matak's party.

The rift between Matak and Lon Nol has slowly broadened since last March, when Lon Nol jettisoned Matak under pressure from students. Matak refrained from campaigning for Lon Nol during the recent presidential election, and last week he turned down Lon Nol's offer of the vice-presidency or an ambassadorship. Matak may have interpreted the proffered post of ambassador as an attempt by Lon Nol to get him out of the country and thereby deny his considerable talents to the opposition. Lon Nol's relatively poor showing in the election most likely influenced Matak's decision to go his own way.

The first objective of Matak's new party will be to take part in the legislative elections in September. As things now stand, the government's banner in that campaign will be carried by the Socio-Republican Party, which is directed by Lon Nol's brother, Colonel Lon Non. Over the longer term, Matak is intent upon staking a serious claim to succeed Lon Nol. He seems certain to be opposed in this effort by both Lon Non and First Minister Son Ngoc Thanh, who currently are working together in the Socio-Republican Party.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Thailand: A Thai investigation of charges
that Chinese Irregular Forces in northern Thailand
are still involved in the narcotics trade out of
Burma has not turned up any substantiating evidence.

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Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

*Sunday, June 18th 1972
25X1*

18 June 1972

45

~~*Top Secret*~~



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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 June 1972

VIETNAM

Hanoi's chief negotiator, Le Duc Tho, arrived in Peking yesterday. According to Peking radio, he flew from Moscow aboard a scheduled Aeroflot flight while en route home. Shortly after his arrival, he was feted at a banquet in his honor amid a "warm atmosphere of friendship." Later, he met with Premier Chou En-lai for a "very cordial conversation." No [redacted] substantive details concerning his talks have been released.

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

A French news report from Peking indicates that the North Vietnamese embassy there has scheduled an "important" news conference for today. If it is still held, the press conference may shed some light on Le Duc Tho's visit.

(Continued)

* * *

Civil air communications confirm that Soviet President Podgorny delayed his departure from Hanoi by one day. His plane is now scheduled to leave for home this morning and to make only brief stops in Calcutta, Delhi, and Tashkent.

So far, neither Soviet nor North Vietnamese media have reported Podgorny's presence in Hanoi.

* * *

The military situation in South Vietnam remains essentially unchanged.

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* * *

President Thieu's bill granting him emergency powers has been remanded to a special study committee

Vietnam - 2 (Continued)

CHILE

President Allende reorganized his coalition cabinet yesterday. The Socialists gained two ministries while keeping the four key posts they previously held. The Communists retained the same three ministries but put more prestigious party leaders in the places of the earlier incumbents. The Radical Party grudgingly gave up one of its three ministries and the smaller parties retained one seat apiece.

The most important change was the replacement of Pedro Vuskovic, who as Minister of Economy had created many problems by his drastic policies.

Vuskovic may yet be heard from again, however; Allende has promised to name him to an important post next week at the same time he will announce major new economic programs.

The shifts do not mean that Allende has solved the internal conflicts in his coalition. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] the Socialists 25X1

are furious because Allende and the Communists--at the urging of the Soviet embassy--have worked out an important compromise with the opposition Christian Democrats. If the compromise holds, it may result in a slower pace toward nationalization of industries, while the government consolidates its hold on other

(Continued)

private sectors of the economy. The Socialists have a numerical pre-eminence in the new cabinet, [redacted] and this may enable them to push harder their campaign to destroy the economic resources of those who oppose the government. Such action would destroy the compromise.

Allende can take comfort in the fact that the compromise has hurt the Christian Democrats. As news of the deal spreads, the opposition political forces are becoming divided over its necessity and this can only weaken them politically.

Allende [redacted] was not successful in inducing any military officers into joining his new cabinet. Their absence confirms reports [redacted] that the army high command refused Allende's recent request that the military take a larger role in the cabinet. The frustrating experience of the one general who became Minister of Mining in April evidently strengthened the military's distrust of the administration.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE

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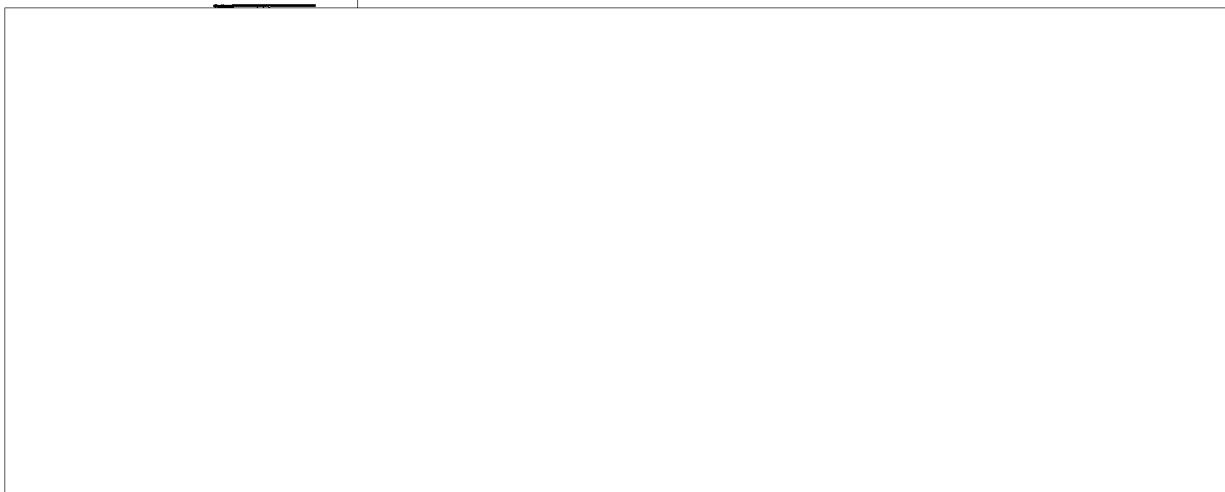
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NOTE

China:

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

of the Upper House. The committee is due to report to the house leadership on 21 June and a plenary debate on the bill will not be held before the end of next week. According to Ambassador Bunker, the outcome of the vote on the bill still seems very close, even though pro-administration senators are showing cautious optimism.

Vietnam - 3

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

19 June 1972

46

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

19 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

An uncommunicative Le Duc Tho has returned to Hanoi, while an ebullient President Podgorny returned to Moscow after predicting an early resumption of the Paris talks. No new major fighting was reported in South Vietnam during the weekend. (Page 1)

25X1

(Page 3)

25X1

President Allende's cabinet reorganization cloaks continuing disunity among the parties of the coalition government. (Page 4)

East German views on relations between the two German states have been tabled in the form of a draft treaty and a declaration of principles. (Page 5)

At Annex, [redacted] Japa-[redacted] nese [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Following President Podgorny's return home from Hanoi, Moscow Radio today demanded that the US "immediately and unconditionally" halt military actions against North Vietnamese ports, put an end to the "Vietnamization" policy in South Vietnam, and resume "constructive talks" in Paris. The broadcast also reaffirmed the USSR's intention to continue supplying "all necessary aid" to the North Vietnamese war effort and once again endorsed the Vietnamese Communists' standard proposals for a peace settlement.

This is Moscow's first word about Podgorny's trip and seems to be a minimum expression of support for Hanoi.

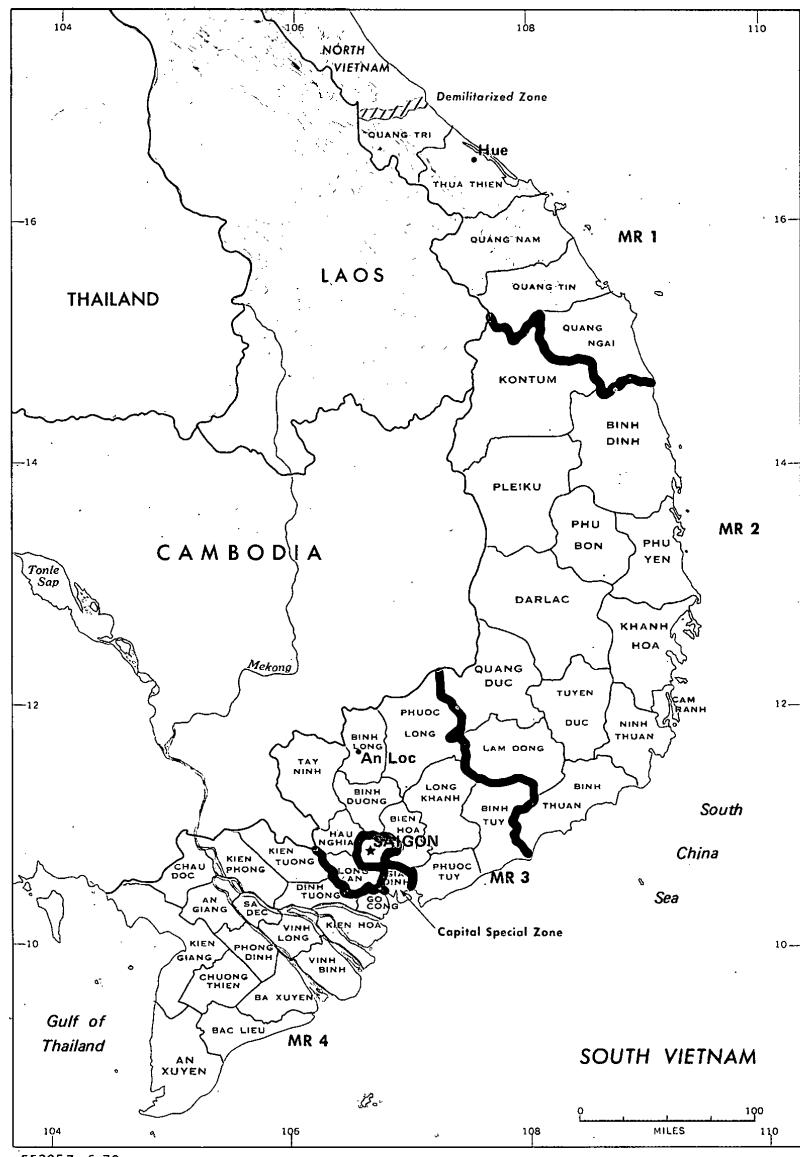
President Podgorny had told reporters in Calcutta, where he touched down en route to Moscow, that his talks with North Vietnamese leaders had gone "as we desired," that the peace talks in Paris would be resumed soon, and that the USSR would do everything possible to bring about a de-escalation of the Vietnam conflict.

North Vietnamese politburo member Le Duc Tho returned to Hanoi from Paris yesterday after stopovers in Moscow and Peking. His one-day stop in Moscow has so far been mentioned only in a North Vietnamese news dispatch, suggesting that he had been welcomed and seen off at the airport by a relatively low-ranking Soviet delegation. Peking Radio, which announced Tho's departure for Hanoi yesterday, reported that during his short stay in China, Tho attended a banquet in his honor and later had a "very cordial conversation" with Premier Chou En-lai.

* * *

There were light Communist shellings and ground probes in several areas of South Vietnam during the weekend, but no major new fighting was reported. In the far north, four battalions of South Vietnamese

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Marines have launched another operation into enemy-held territory north of the Quang Tri - Thua Thien provincial border. The marines have encountered little resistance. There continue to be indications from both Quang Tri and Thua Thien that the Communists are moving men and equipment closer to Hue.

In the provinces around Saigon, pressure has eased somewhat, but the government relief column trying to reach An Loc is still stalled south of the town on Route 13. New skirmishing was reported east of Saigon in Phuoc Tuy Province. Fighting is continuing in the Kien Tuong Province - Cambodian border area, but its intensity has diminished and much of it apparently has been initiated by South Vietnamese troops operating across the Cambodian border.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

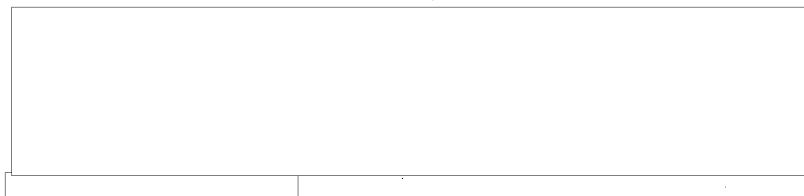
WESTERN EUROPE



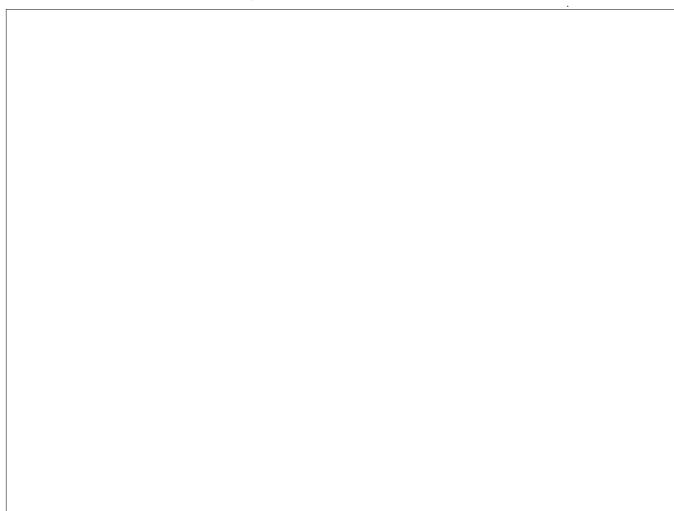
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

President Allende reorganized his coalition cabinet on 17 June. The Socialists kept the four key posts they previously held and gained two more ministries. The Communists retained the same three seats but filled them with more prestigious party leaders. The Radical Party grudgingly gave up one of its three portfolios and the smaller parties retained one apiece.

The most important change was the replacement of Pedro Vuskovic, who as Minister of Economy had created many problems by his drastic policies. Vuskovic may be heard from again, however. Allende has promised to name him to an important post next week, when he will announce changes in his economic programs.

The shifts do not mean that Allende has solved the internal conflicts in his coalition.

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[redacted] the Socialists are furious because Allende and the Communists--at the urging of the Soviet Embassy--are working out an important compromise on economic policy with the opposition Christian Democrats. If the compromise holds, it may result in a slower pace toward nationalization of industries. The Socialists have the largest bloc in the new cabinet, and this may aid them in their campaign to destroy the economic resources of those who oppose the government. Should they attempt this, the compromise would most likely fail.

Allende was unsuccessful in inducing any military officers to accept a ministry. The one general who became Minister of Mining in April--and resigned along with the rest of the cabinet last week--was frustrated in trying to deal with the coalition's fractious politicians. This experience evidently strengthened the military's distrust of the administration.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

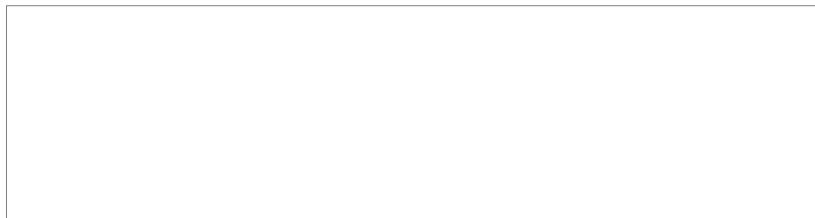
NOTE

East Germany - West Germany: Pankow on 15 June set forth its views on relations between the two German states in a draft treaty and a declaration of principles. The documents stress the need for the early conclusion of normal diplomatic relations and simultaneous entry into the United Nations. The East Germans reject Chancellor Brandt's proposal for a "special relationship" based on mutual recognition of the concept that the German people, regardless of the political system under which they live, in fact belong to one nation. A clause declaring that an inter-German agreement would not affect previous treaties dealing with the two Germanies appears to be the East's formula for implying recognition of residual Four Power rights in Germany.

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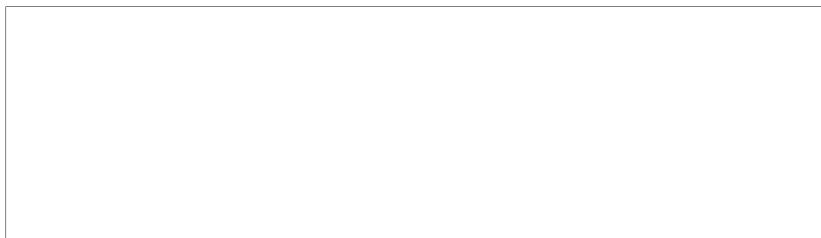
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN

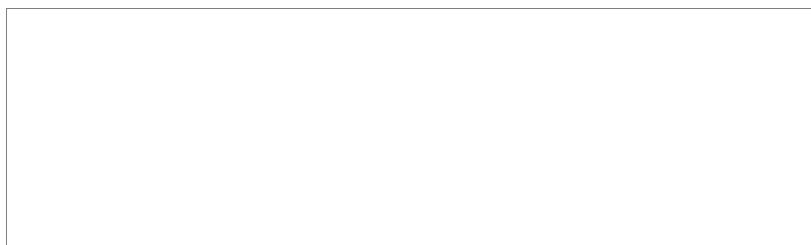


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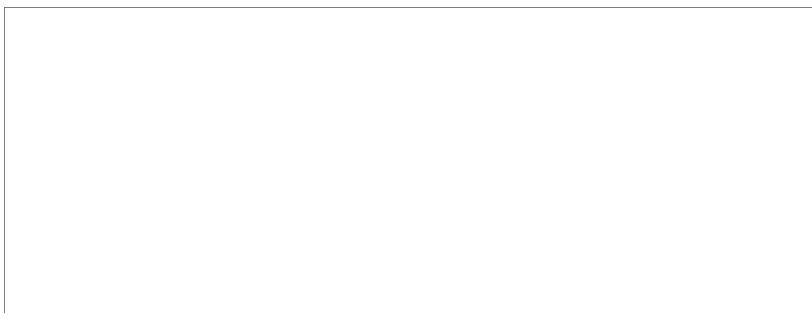
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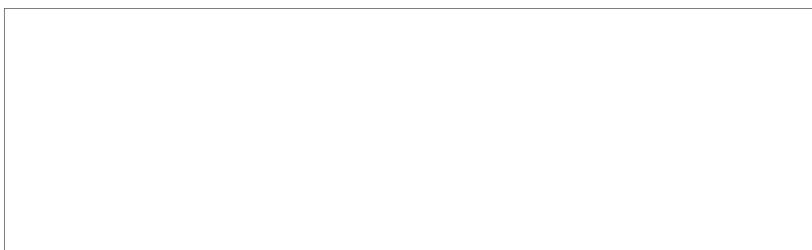
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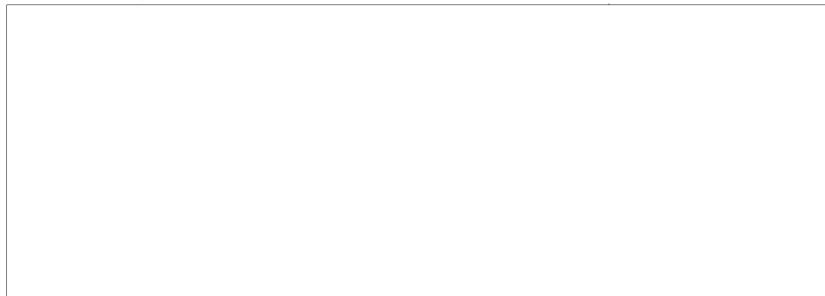


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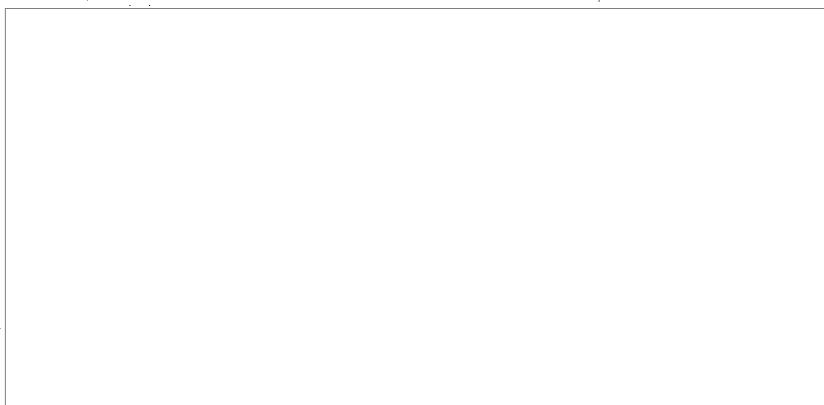
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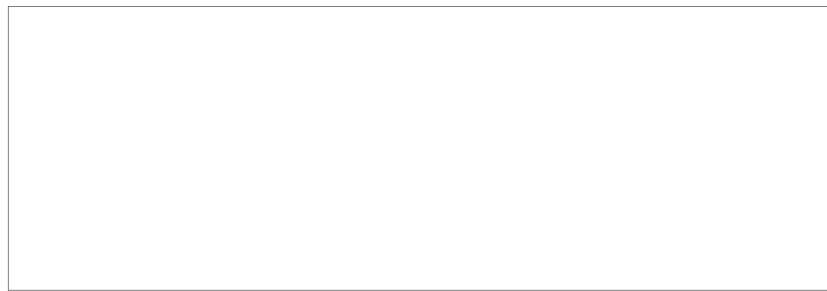
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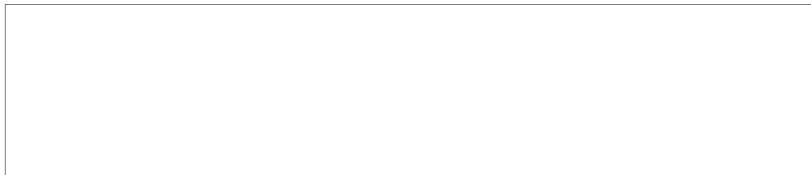


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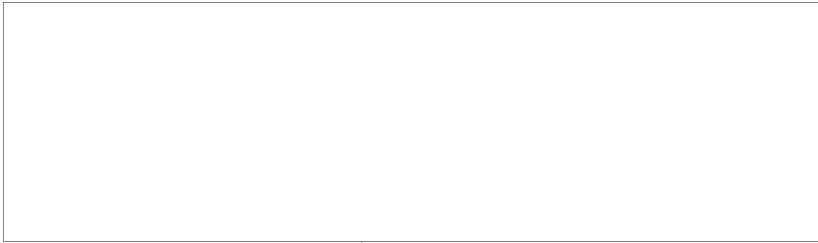
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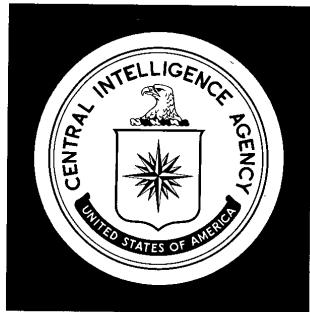


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The President's Daily Brief

20 June 1972

47

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 June 1972

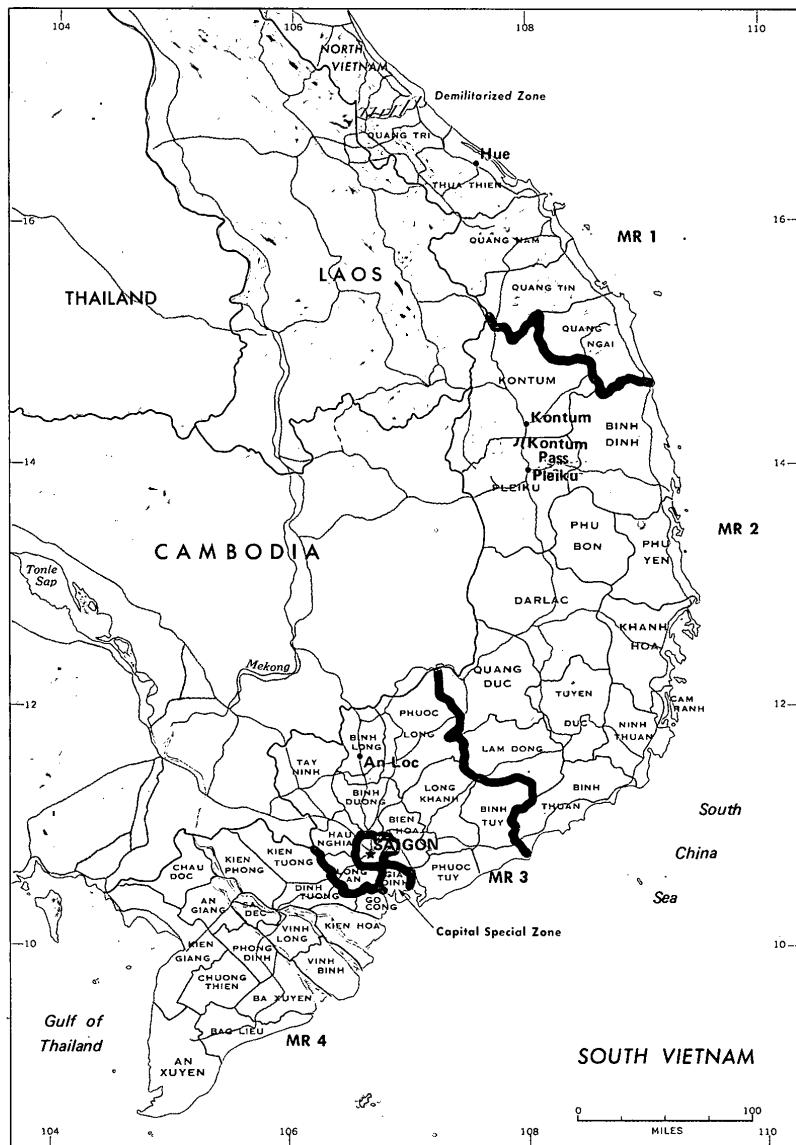
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The military situation in South Vietnam remains fairly quiet. (Page 1)

We expect the Soviets to conduct another Soyuz space mission in the next week or so. (Page 2)

Ground support equipment for China's medium range ballistic missile system has been photographed in south China. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

In South Vietnam, the major battlefields are fairly quiet. North of Hue, the South Vietnamese operation into Quang Tri Province continues to meet only moderate resistance. In the central highlands, a Communist infantry regiment and an artillery regiment appear to be moving back toward Kontum City from nearby base areas where they have been refitting. A South Vietnamese force of 30 tanks and armored personnel carriers yesterday transited the recently constructed bypass west of the Kontum Pass with only light enemy resistance. This route should provide Kontum City with a sorely needed resupply link with Pleiku to the south, but it is also vulnerable to enemy interdiction.

Farther south, shelling of An Loc remains at a low level, and the South Vietnamese 1st Airborne Brigade is being withdrawn for reassignment elsewhere. Fairly heavy action continues in parts of Kien Tuong, Dinh Tuong, and Vinh Long provinces in the Mekong Delta.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Preparations are under way for a Soyuz space mission which we expect to be conducted within the next week or so. Five space support ships in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific are moving into positions from which they could monitor a Soyuz flight.

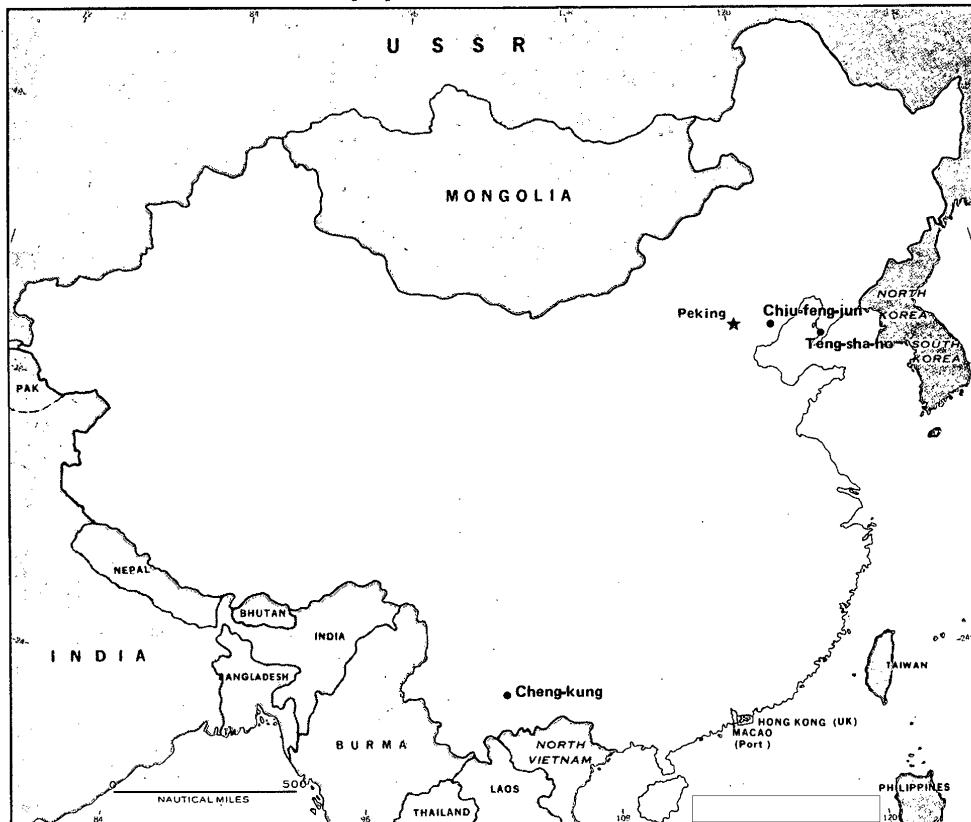
Soyuz spacecraft are being prepared at the Tyuratam Space Center, although both may not be intended for use in the mission.

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We do not yet have enough evidence to determine whether this will be a manned mission. The Soviets' last manned effort, in June 1971, involved the docking of a Soyuz spacecraft with a Salyut space station and ended in the death of the crew during de-orbit. This mission presumably is intended to test engineering changes that were made as a result of that accident.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA: CSS-1 Missile Equipment



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553260 6-72 CIA TCS 886139/72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

China: Ground support equipment for China's 600-nm. ballistic missile system--the CSS-1--has been identified in satellite photography of a military installation at Cheng-kung in south China. An area about six miles away appears to have a prepared launch site. It also contains several buildings, including one long drive-in structure that could be intended for missile handling and storage. The Cheng-kung installation is the third facility identified this year that contains CSS-1 equipment, and the first with a prepared launch site. The other two are in northeastern China within range of South Korea and the Soviet border. From Cheng-kung, the CSS-1 could reach targets within an arc extending from northern South Vietnam to the eastern regions of India.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

21 June 1972

45



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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

21 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

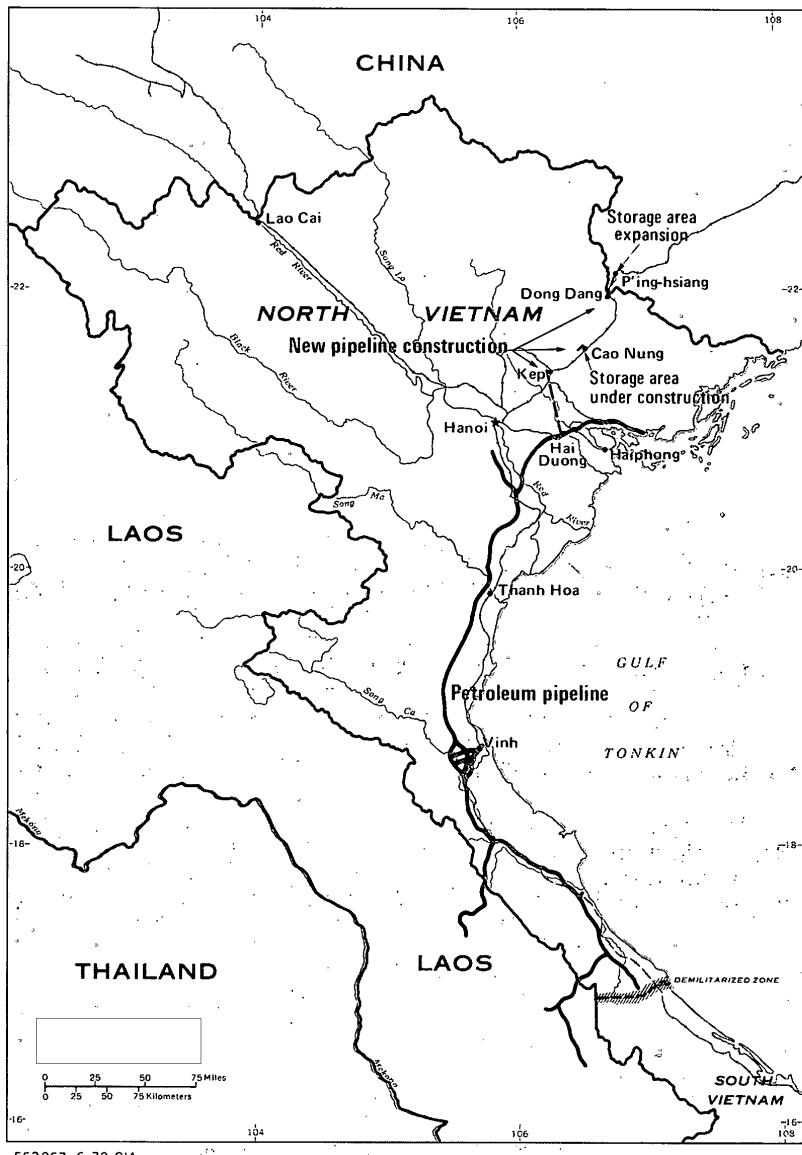
In South Vietnam, the Communists have stepped up the tempo of their shellings along the My Chanh River. Construction is proceeding rapidly on the petroleum pipeline from China into North Vietnam. (Page 1)

In the race to succeed Japanese Prime Minister Sato, party chairman Nakasone has withdrawn and thrown his support to Trade Minister Tanaka. (Page 2)

The Scandinavian countries seem to be closer to recognition of East Germany. (Page 3)

OPEC has made some progress toward getting talks started on compensation for the assets of the nationalized Iraq Petroleum Company. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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553267 6-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists yesterday stepped up the tempo of their shellings against the government's My Chanh River defenses between Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces. They are continuing to shift troops and equipment toward Hue. Heavy fighting persists south of An Loc and the transfer of the South Vietnamese 1st Airborne Brigade out of the town has been postponed a day. Heavy fighting also continues in several parts of the Mekong Delta, notably in Dinh Tuong and Kien Giang provinces.

* * *

Aerial photography [redacted] showed that construction was proceeding rapidly on the petroleum pipeline from Ping-hsiang in China into North Vietnam. The pipeline then extended across the border to Dong Dang. A short segment was also visible at Cao Nung, about 35 miles south of Dong Dang. The capacity of the petroleum storage area at Ping-hsiang continues to be expanded. Photography also shows that dispersed storage tanks are being built at Cao Nung.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN

Yasuhiro Nakasone, chairman of the governing party's executive board, has withdrawn from the race to succeed Prime Minister Sato and has thrown his support to Trade Minister Tanaka.

This puts Tanaka clearly ahead in the contest for party leadership that is to culminate in the Liberal Democratic Party convention scheduled for 5 July. Tanaka's principal rival, Foreign Minister Fukuda, is now forced to intensify his efforts to win over the still-uncommitted factions and to forestall a bandwagon rush to Tanaka.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SCANDINAVIA - EAST GERMANY

The Scandinavian countries seem to be closer to recognition of East Germany. They have all accepted the principle, but thus far put off the action in deference to Bonn. Pressures are building up, however. The Socialist governments all depend on leftist elements among whom East German recognition is a popular issue, and some governments also hope to earn credit with Moscow or to gain trade advantages. If one Nordic state recognizes Pankow, the others will find it very difficult not to follow suit.

Recent developments include:



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--On 1 June, the Danish parliament defeated a resolution demanding immediate recognition but adopted a motion calling for improved relations with Pankow aimed at eventual recognition.



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--In April, Norwegian Foreign Minister Cappelen told the Storting that his government would wait until Bonn had settled the question of the Eastern treaties, but apart from the timing saw "no disagreement" between Oslo's position and that of the other Scandinavian governments.

--On 9 June, the Finnish Government, which recognizes neither Germany, reiterated its desire to recognize both



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The West Germans naturally prefer that these countries hold off any action until Bonn and Pankow have worked out their own arrangements on regularizing relations. Although Bonn may be able to persuade the Nordic states to continue to defer action, the recent developments serve to put pressure on the West Germans to conclude arrangements with the East Germans as soon as possible.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

IRAQ

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has made some progress toward getting talks started on compensation for the assets of the Iraq Petroleum Company which were nationalized early this month. The OPEC secretary-general has proposed a 90-day moratorium on legal action against any purchasers of oil produced after nationalization. He has also proposed continuation of tax payments to the Iraqi Government on oil produced before nationalization. The companies that shared ownership in the nationalized consortium are inclined to accept the proposals, thus opening the way for negotiations.

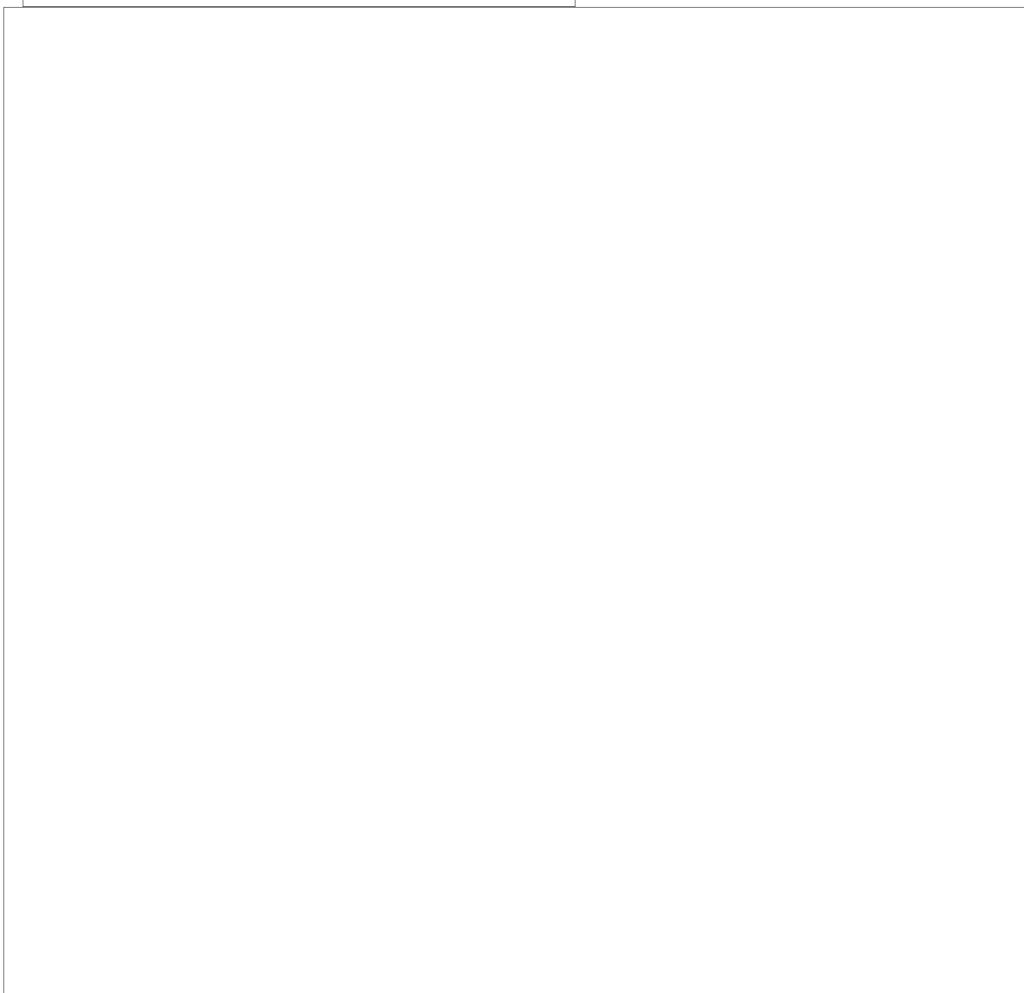
The Iraqis have tried to split the French company from its partners in the consortium. The French-Iraqi agreement, announced last weekend, commits Iraq to supply the French company with a share of the production from the nationalized fields for ten years. The agreement has not resulted in a complete break in the consortium, but it may lead the French company to be more forthcoming than its partners in the coming talks with the Iraqis.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

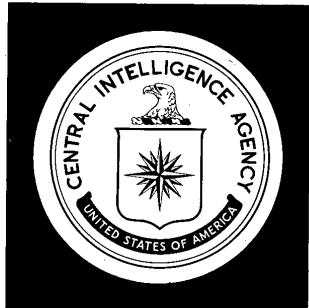
NOTE

China: [redacted]

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The President's Daily Brief

22 June 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet [redacted] 25X1
North Vietnam [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] (Page 1) 25X1

North Vietnam [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 2) 25X1

No major change is reported in the South Vietnamese military situation. (Page 3)

There are signs that a series of major meetings has been under way among Chinese leaders since late May. (Page 4)

The Israeli raid into southern Lebanon yesterday is discussed on Page 5.

Greek [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 6) 25X1

The Shah has negotiated a major new agreement with the companies that produce the bulk of Iran's oil. (Page 7)

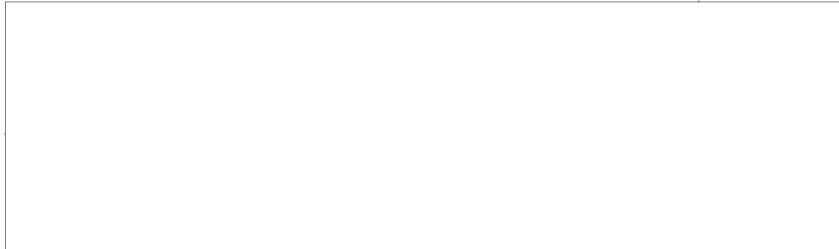
Fidel Castro, due in Moscow on 26 June [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] Ireland. (Page 9) 25X1

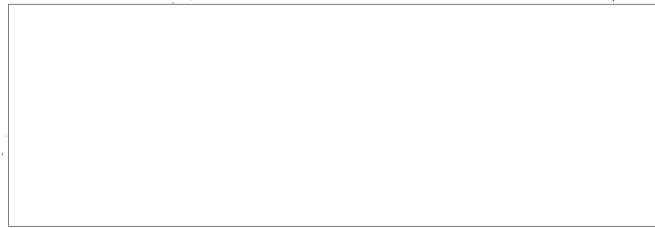
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USSR - NORTH VIETNAM

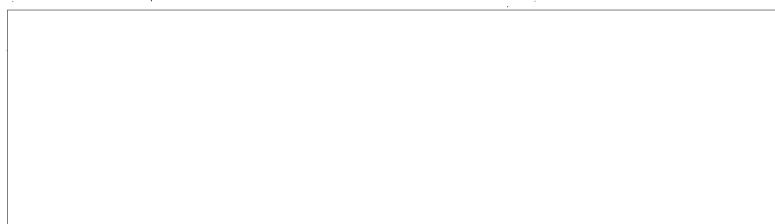


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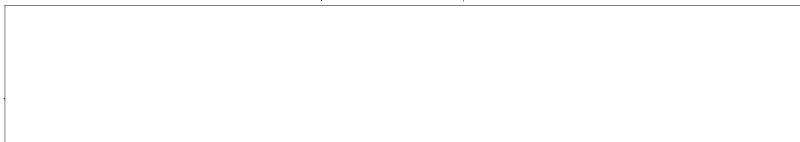


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM



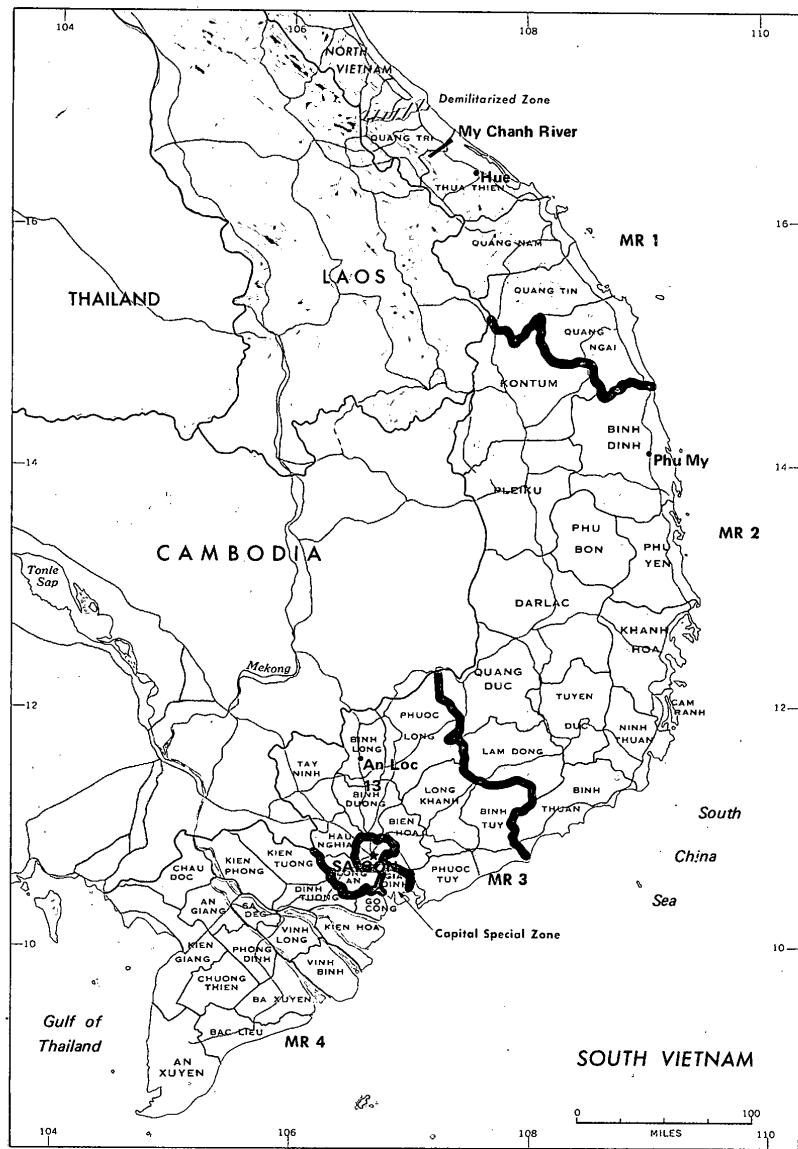
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553273 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

The South Vietnamese Marine operation into Quang Tri Province has been ended, and all units have been withdrawn to government defense lines along the My Chanh River. The withdrawing marines were attacked by Communist troops and tanks, but the attackers were driven off with fairly heavy losses. Nearby, Communist gunners have increased artillery attacks against government strongpoints northwest of Hue.

Farther south, South Vietnamese troops in Binh Dinh Province are under increasing pressure and have been forced to abandon at least one position south of the district capital. There are indications that elements of a North Vietnamese division are moving closer to other government positions along the coast.

In the delta, heavy fighting continues in western Kien Tuong Province and along the Cambodian border. Action has also picked up in three provinces in the lower delta area.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

[redacted] recent absences of Chinese leaders from public view were due to a series of high-level leadership meetings, not Mao Tse-tung's health.

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[redacted] rumors were circulating among low-level government officials and journalists that a party central committee meeting was in progress.

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[redacted] most provincial party leaders have been out of sight since mid-May. Furthermore, in the past few weeks there have been several gaps in the public appearance patterns of many normally active central leaders, including the ubiquitous Chou En-lai. There are a number of pressing and difficult domestic problems that the Chinese leaders could be discussing. Foremost among these are: the need to fill the many vacant positions in top party and military councils, the need to establish a new working relationship between the reconstructed party apparatus and the military, and the need to create a mechanism for transferring power after Mao's passing.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-LEBANON

Israel raided southern Lebanon yesterday, capturing one touring Syrian Army brigadier general, four colonels, and a Lebanese Army intelligence officer on one road, and interdicting civilian traffic on others. Israeli aircraft hit a town and a Lebanese Army barracks, while Israeli artillery shelled a few villages. Seven Lebanese soldiers and policemen were reported killed. Lebanese officials claim that at least 12 civilians were killed and more than 20 wounded.

The Israeli action followed two incidents on Monday in the occupied Golan Heights: a fedayeen rocket attack on an Israeli tourist bus, and the wounding of two Israeli soldiers in a mine explosion. It is in this context that the Israelis have justified yesterday's activity, not the Lod airport massacre on 30 May.

Lebanese officials believe that Israeli intelligence was aware of the presence of the Syrian officers.

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Lebanon appears to be preparing to bring the Israeli attack formally before the UN Security Council.

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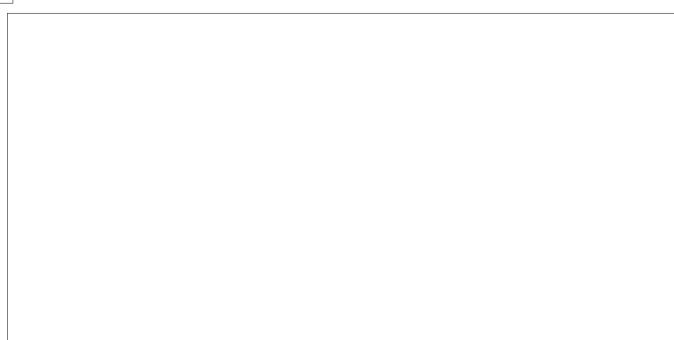
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

GREECE

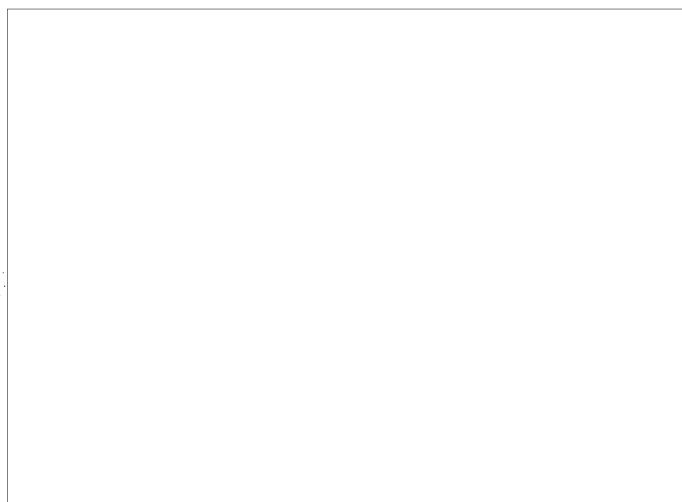


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

IRAN

The Shah expects within the next few days to announce a major new agreement with the consortium of companies that produce the bulk of Iran's oil. He has extended the consortium's concession by 15 years to 1994. The consortium, in return, will nearly double oil production by 1976 to 8 million barrels per day. In addition, the companies will turn over the large Abadan refinery to the government, build a new refinery, and make increasing quantities of oil available to Iran at cost.

The agreement, highly beneficial to Iran, contrasts with the efforts to other oil producing countries to achieve greater control over the companies operating within their borders.

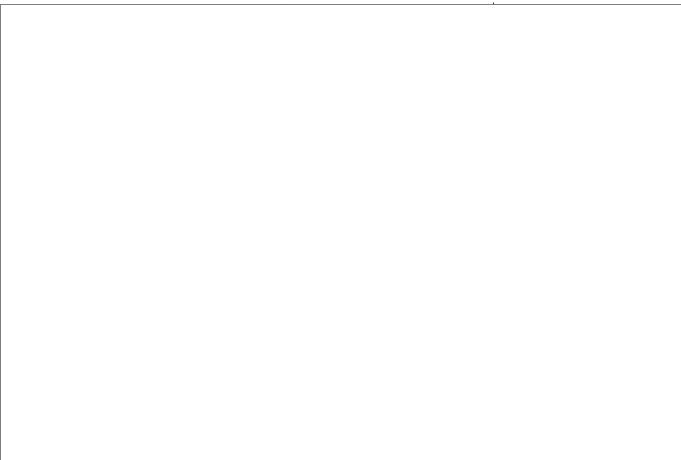
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CUBA

Fidel Castro is scheduled to arrive in Moscow on 26 June for the most important segment of his eight-week, ten-nation journey.

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Castro should expect some tough bargaining about future Soviet aid to Cuba. There are signs that this year's sugar crop will be nearly as poor as the disastrous 1963 harvest. A bad harvest would require a sharp increase in Soviet credits. Castro has no guarantee that the Soviets, who are disillusioned about repeated mismanagement of the Cuban economy, would be willing to shoulder an even greater trade deficit with Cuba.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

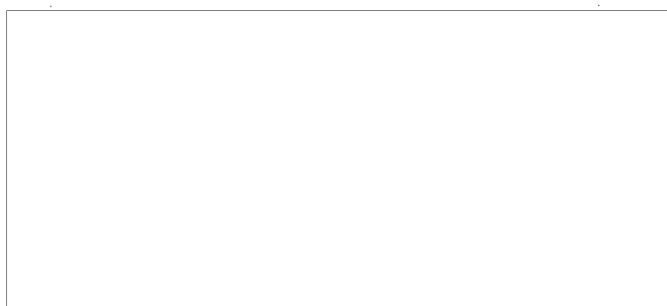
IRELAND



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The President's Daily Brief

23 June 1972

5

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

23 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

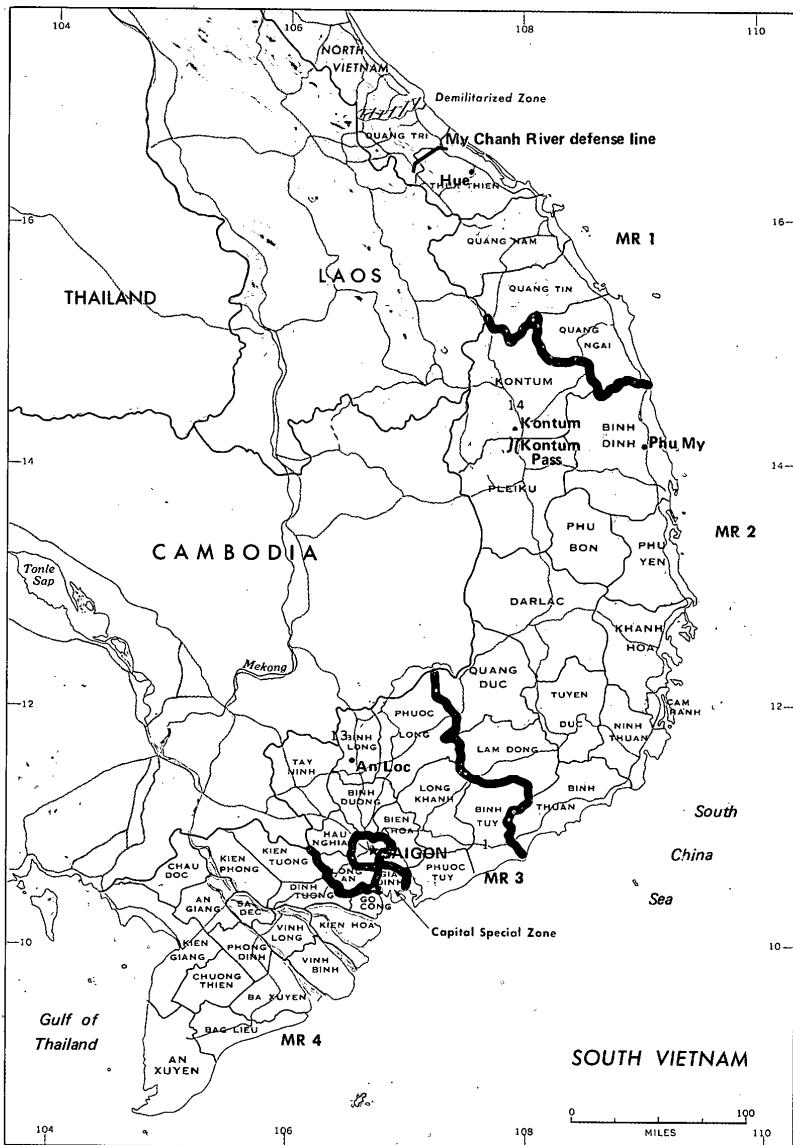
The heaviest fighting in South Vietnam is on the northern front. (Page 1)

Vietnamese Communist officials in foreign countries are complaining about the behavior of the USSR and China. (Page 2)

Government forces in south Laos are making headway against the enemy. (Page 3)

The European Communities have agreed to regular consultations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553278 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The fighting has eased somewhat northwest of Hue, where the Communists are attacking the government's My Chanh River defense line. The heaviest action has been reported in the western sector of the line where South Vietnamese airborne forces and allied air strikes drove back the enemy. Camp Evans, the government's northernmost strongpoint, came under heavy rocket and artillery fire and its artillery ammunition depot reportedly has been destroyed. At least two North Vietnamese regiments, supported by artillery and armor, were involved in the attacks. Intercepted communications indicate that the "immediate mission" of these forces is to "prepare to liberate Thua Thien Province and Hue."

Along the central coast, the Communists are continuing light mortar attacks and ground probes in Phu My District of Binh Dinh Province. Elsewhere, South Vietnamese forces are still meeting resistance near the Kontum Pass and to the south of An Loc. Radio direction-finding shows that elements of the North Vietnamese 5th Division have moved deeper into the northern part of the Mekong Delta.

* * *

Communist supply activity in the Laos panhandle is at very low levels as a result of seasonal rains, but aerial photography indicates that large quantities of supplies are moving across the DMZ, presumably to support Communist military action in northern South Vietnam. Farther south, large quantities of supplies have been stockpiled in southern Laos and there are signs of extensive activity--including the use of waterways--to move supplies into southern South Vietnam and Cambodia.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM - CHINA - USSR

Vietnamese Communist officials abroad are putting out a gloomy line on US actions against North Vietnam and the subsequent behavior of Hanoi's two major allies.

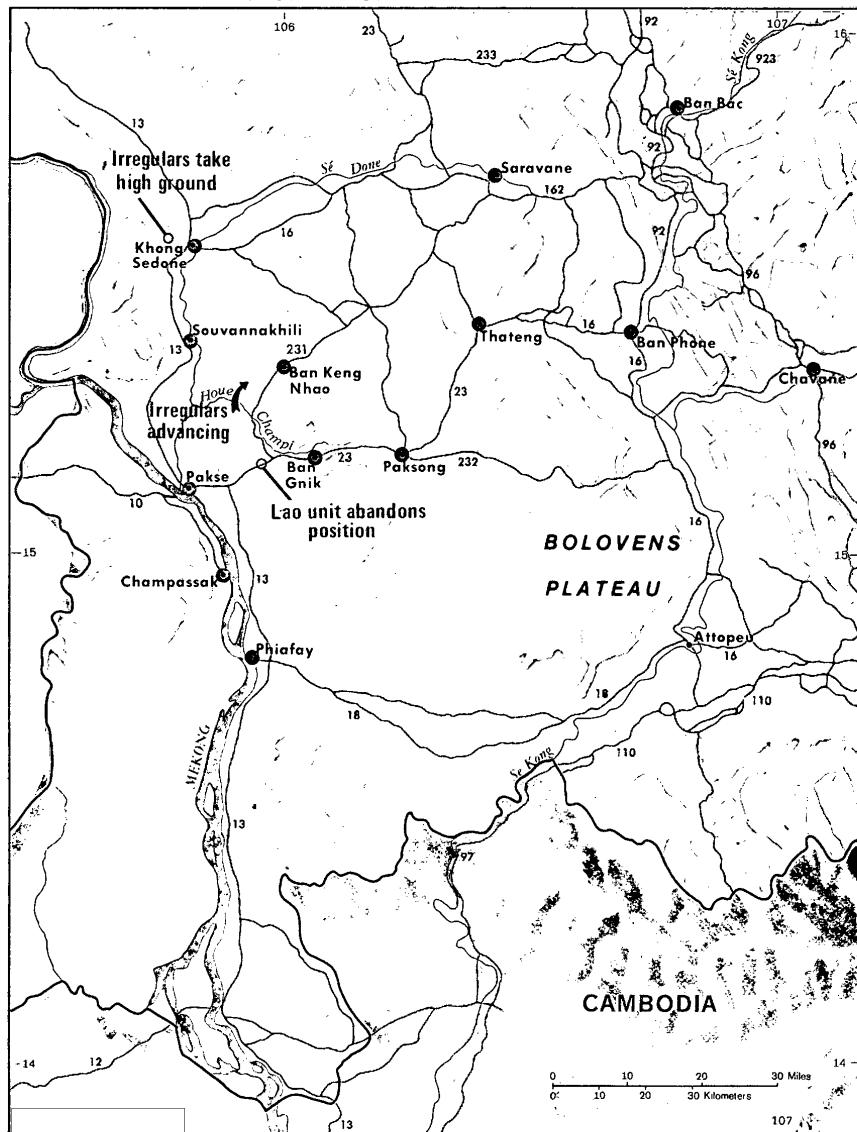
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Such grumbling is becoming a staple among North Vietnamese representatives abroad. In some cases the complainers may be reflecting genuine concern within the leadership in Hanoi, but they may be deliberately overplaying Hanoi's domestic and international woes in order to win additional sympathy and support for the Vietnamese Communist cause.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Bolovens Plateau Area



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553277 6-72 CIA

- Government-held location
- Communist-held location

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Government forces in south Laos are gradually regaining control of the Khong Sedone area despite some determined enemy resistance. Irregular units have occupied the main part of the town and driven North Vietnamese forces from hilltop positions to the west. Communist troops, however, are still hitting the government forces with artillery fire.

Farther south, irregular units are also making some progress in their efforts to clear enemy forces from the western edge of the Bolovens Plateau. Intercepts indicate, however, that North Vietnamese forces have been ordered to halt the irregulars who are pushing north along Route 231. Other enemy troops, meanwhile, have increased pressure near the junction of Routes 23/231, but the government has several battalions in reserve to block any Communist move westward.

The success thus far of the irregular battalions at Khong Sedone and on the edge of the Bolovens will ease fears of a Communist assault on Pakse.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

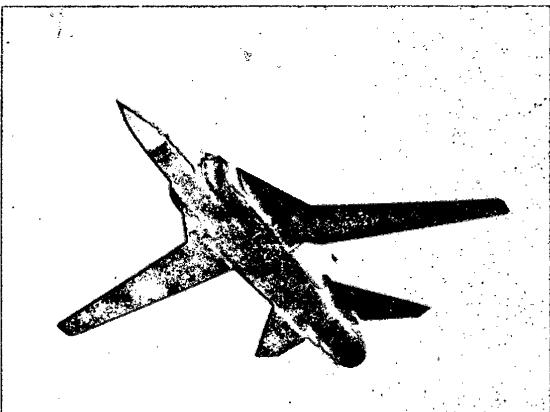
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES - ASEAN

Last week, representatives of the European Communities and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations created a permanent committee for consultations between the two groups, culminating a process that began last fall. The ASEAN is composed of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Last autumn, EC representatives had hinted they would have liked the participation of South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, as well, but these states were not represented in Brussels. The meeting last week did not go into detail about future EC-ASEAN relations, but drew up a long list of economic topics for subsequent discussion.

This arrangement may mark the beginning of greater European involvement in Southeast Asian affairs. Since last fall, the talks have been carried on by the EC's directorate for external relations, rather than the office for external trade, giving the initiative a political tone.

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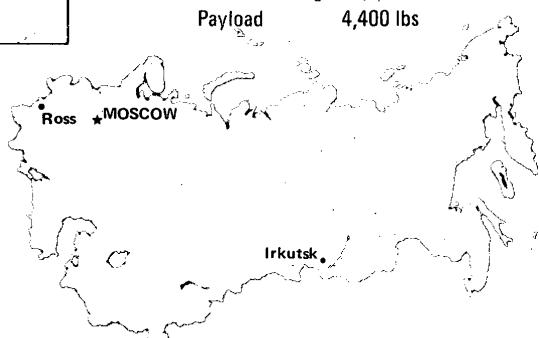
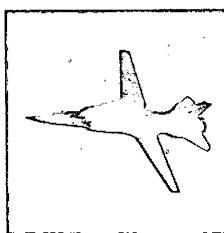
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



**Soviets Resume
Flogger Deliveries**



Length	53 ft
Wing span	46 ft extended 26 ft swept
Speed	1,320 kts
Combat radius	630 nm
Combat ceiling	54,000 ft
Payload	4,400 lbs



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553276 6-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR:

Soviets have resumed delivery of their new swing-wing fighter (Flogger) to tactical air units after a hiatus of almost 20 months. Ross airfield in the western USSR recently received as many as 17 of the craft. The last delivery of Floggers was made in late 1970, but production has continued at Moscow and Irkutsk and over 200 have been turned out. The delay in deliveries may have been due to technical difficulties within the aircraft. The Flogger is expected to supplant the MIG-21 as the primary Soviet fighter by the late 1970s.

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France:

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The President's Daily Brief

24 June 1972

46

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in South Vietnam's Military Region 1 is discussed on *Page 1*.

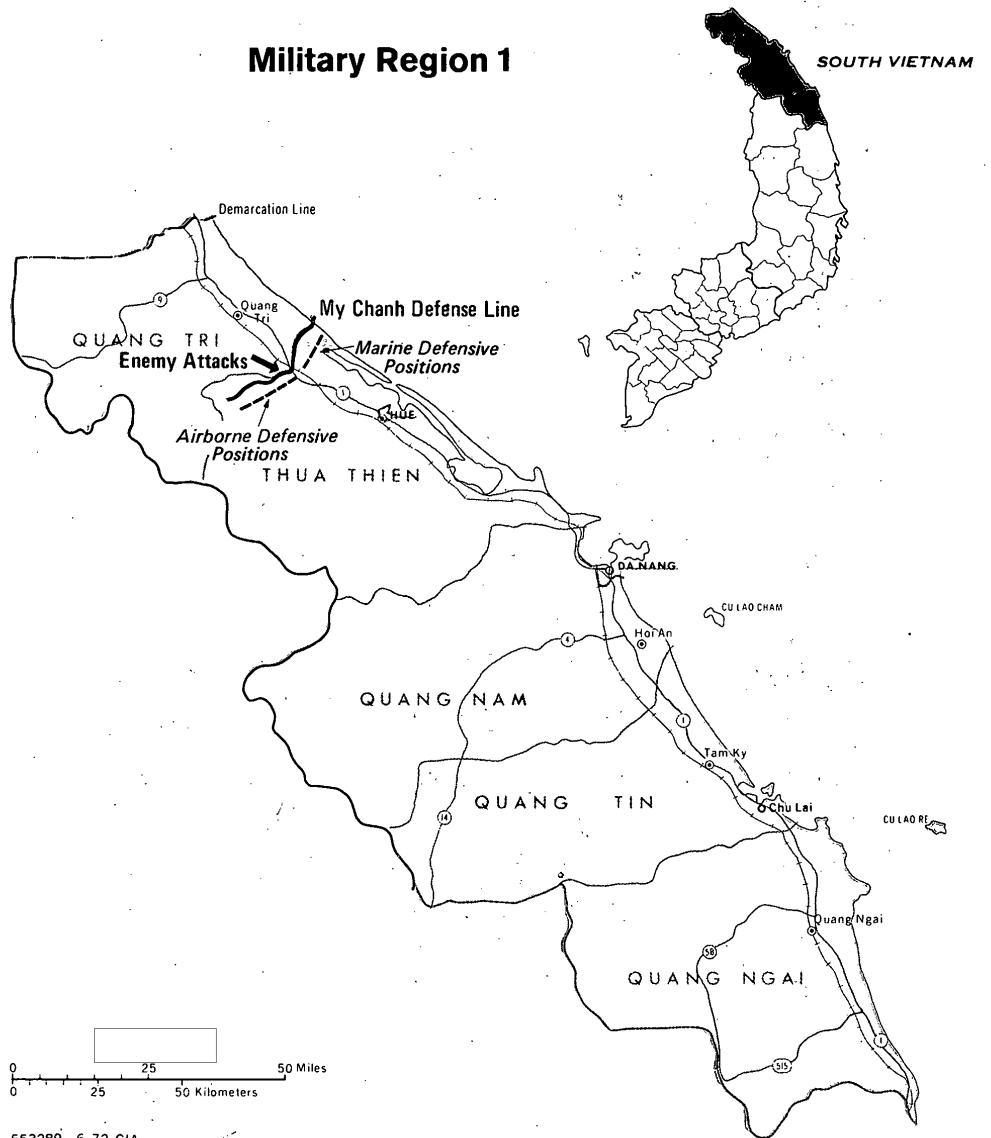
The implications of Britain's decision to allow sterling to float will be discussed at several international meetings this weekend. (*Page 2*)

The Chinese			25X1
	Europe	(Page 3)	25X1
	Panama		25X1
		(Page 4)	25X1

The Soviet First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade is to make an unexpected trip to the US to discuss trade matters. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Military Region 1



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553289 6-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists are continuing to probe and shell South Vietnamese positions along the My Chanh River north of Hue, but they have so far been unable to breach the government's defense line. South Vietnamese airborne units responsible for the defensive positions along the My Chanh west of Route 1 are taking the brunt of the current North Vietnamese campaign, but so far are holding their own with the help of heavy allied air strikes.

The current enemy effort appears designed as a test of the government's defenses or as a spoiling operation to keep the South Vietnamese on the defensive, rather than as an all-out drive. Similar Communist attacks were made against marine-manned positions in the eastern sector of the line in May, but apparently were called off after it became clear that the lack of a natural barrier to enemy armor thrusts was more than offset by allied naval gun-fire support. In the current campaign, the Communists have not committed all of the infantry units available to them in the area west of Route 1. Intercepts and prisoners indicate that only two of some seven regiments in the area have been directly engaged in the fighting.

It seems, therefore, that the North Vietnamese are still "preparing the battlefield" for an attempt to "liberate" Hue and the rest of Thua Thien Province. They appear to have set the stage so that, should armored elements break through government defenses, their infantry units could quickly pour through the gap--the tactics they used in overrunning Quang Tri Province. Intercepts [redacted]

[redacted] indicate that additional enemy tanks, artillery, ammunition, and supplies continue to be moved into position both north and west of Hue. Various Communist artillery and infantry units are maintaining unusually frequent contact with each other and are closely monitoring South Vietnamese activities.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UNITED KINGDOM

The British decision to allow sterling to float poses a challenge to the Smithsonian Agreement by reducing the size of the internationally agreed US dollar devaluation. In just a few hours following Britain's announcement, heavy speculation against the dollar required about \$2 billion of European support operations and forced all major European markets to close before noon.

European officials generally have expressed approval of the sterling float. Several international meetings are scheduled this weekend to consider the implications for the US dollar and for the European Community's narrow exchange rate band. Tighter European controls over capital movements and the collective floating of Community currencies against the dollar are among possible courses of action.

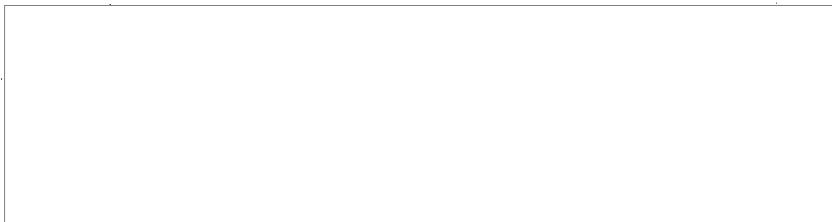
Sterling depreciation will improve Britain's competitive position in international markets and ease the burden of foreign exchange costs associated with entry into the European Community.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

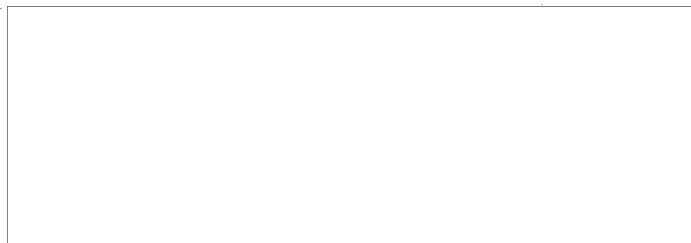
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA - WESTERN EUROPE

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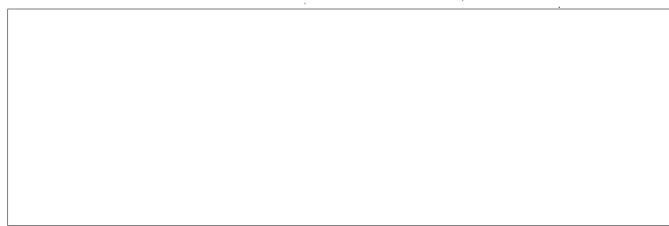
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR: Soviet First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Kuzmin will leave for the US tomorrow to "continue talks begun at the summit on a broad range of trade matters." The trip, which is both unexpected and so far unpublicized, may be prompted by Moscow's desire to put forward a new proposal on settling its lend-lease debt, a major stumbling block in expanding economic relations. Kuzmin may hope to resolve this problem before a US team leaves for Moscow in mid-July for the first session of the Soviet-US committee on trade and economic matters.

UK-MBFR: In a paper recently submitted to NATO, the British emphasized the dangers of mutual and balanced force reductions and noted that negotiations on MBFR should come only after thorough exploration. The British agreed with the nearly unanimous sentiment in NATO that MBFR is too complicated to be negotiated at a Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They proposed that the conference create a special "security commission" to consider MBFR, a proposal similar to one already put forward by Moscow. The British apparently favor this approach at least in part because it would delay the opening of any talks on MBFR.

Fedayeen:

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The President's Daily Brief

26 June 1972

47



Top Secret

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

26 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In South Vietnam, most government positions along
the My Chanh River defense line are holding firm
against Communist attacks.

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(Page 1)

The continuing fallout from the Israeli raids in
Lebanon last week is discussed on page 2.

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Britain's future partners in the European Community
are under pressure to find a unified response to the
pound float

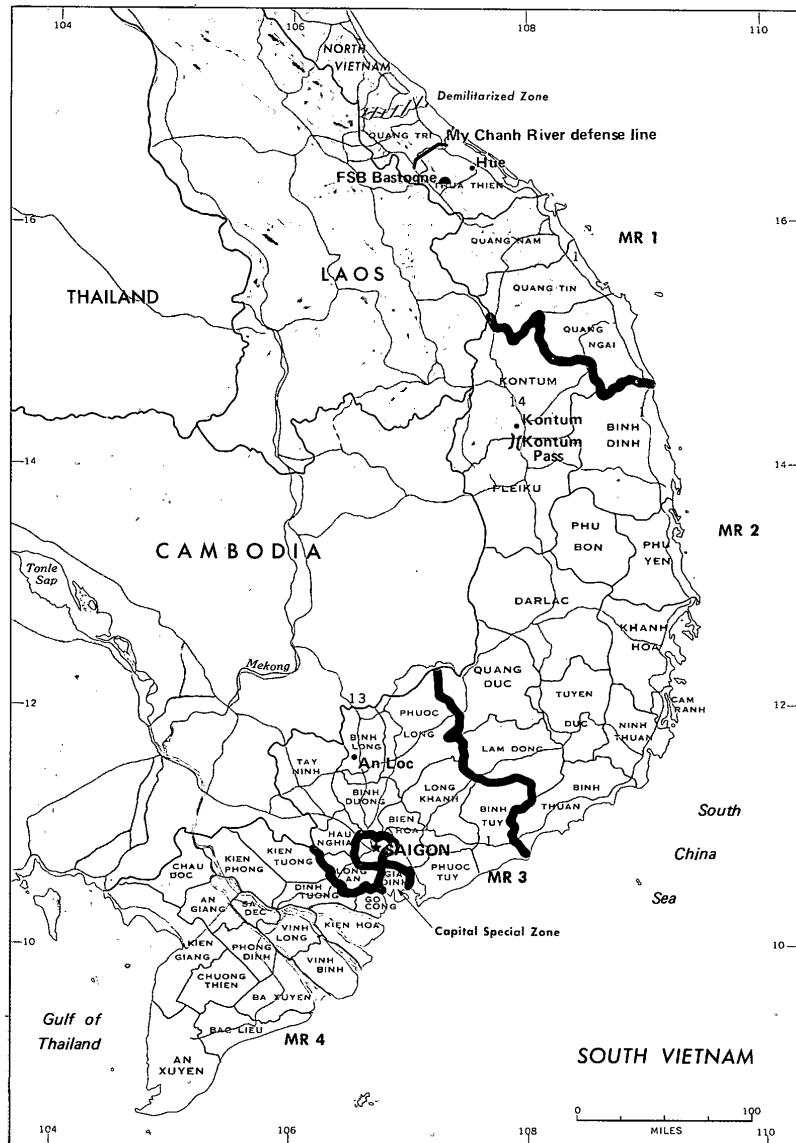
(Page 3)

The Italians have finally settled on a formula for a
new government, but it is a fragile one. (Page 4)

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(Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553282 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

During the weekend, North Vietnamese infantry units supported by tanks and artillery began attacks on government positions along the My Chanh defense line to the north of Hue and in the vicinity of Fire Support Base Bastogne to the west. Intercepts show that elements of three Communist divisions are involved in the attacks. Enemy messages also indicate that the Communists have captured some government positions south of the My Chanh River, but for the most part South Vietnamese troops, aided by allied air strikes, appear to be holding the line.

In the western highlands, Kontum City was quiet, but in the Kontum Pass along Route 14, well-entrenched Communist forces are still preventing government reinforcements from moving along the highway. Other Communist units in the area appear to be building defensive positions and undergoing extensive refitting in base areas north and west of the city.

Artillery attacks on An Loc increased over the weekend, but caused only light casualties to the defenders. South Vietnamese units patrolling the town's perimeter skirmished with the enemy a number of times. To the south, elements of the enemy's 7th Division continue to bar government reinforcements from using Route 13.

* * *

On 19 June, the North Vietnamese reactivated a communications authority in the panhandle that had passed position reports on US ships operating in the Gulf of Tonkin in mid-April. The information was used by two MIGs that came from the Khe Phat airfield on 19 April to attack the US destroyer Higbee. The communications terminal had been inactive for the past two months.

Aerial photography of 22 June showed that the airfield at Khe Phat was operational; just three days earlier the runway was cratered.

The rapid restoration of Khe Phat, along with the reappearance of the communications terminal, North Vietnamese messages indicating plans to increase MIG activity over the panhandle

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL - ARAB STATES

The Lebanese Army is apparently moving to prevent further fedayeen attacks against Israel, despite Beirut's public declaration that it would not crack down on the terrorists.

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The Israelis concede that Lebanon has taken some measures to curb the fedayeen--but not enough. Foreign Minister Eban says Lebanon should shut down all fedayeen offices in Beirut and prevent the training of foreigners in fedayeen camps in Lebanon. Regarding the Syrian and Lebanese officers captured last week, Eban said Israel would agree to return them, along with a large number of Egyptian and Syrian prisoners, in return for the relatively few Israelis held by Syria and Egypt.

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25X1

A prominent Israeli, meanwhile, has publicly raised the possibility that Israel may occupy a portion of southern Lebanon. He described the region as a no-man's land abandoned to the fedayeen by the Lebanese Government and said that Israel, which is being attacked from the area, should have as much right in it as others.

These remarks, made in an English-language radio interview, look like an effort to gauge world opinion on an Israeli occupation and to increase the pressure on Lebanon.

The United Nations Security Council will convene again this morning for its third round of debate since Friday on the recent Israeli attacks on Lebanon.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Britain's future partners in the European Community are under heavy pressure today to come up with a unified response to the decision to float the pound. No consensus emerged over the weekend at meetings of European central bank and finance ministry officials. Most major European foreign exchange markets remain closed today but are still scheduled to reopen tomorrow.

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The viewpoint of an interested outsider was provided on Saturday by a spokesman of the Swiss Finance Ministry. He said he believes that all members of the European Community except France will eventually decide to float their currencies--presumably individually rather than jointly--against the dollar. Swiss and Japanese officials have already said that if this happens they would also be forced to float their currencies.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

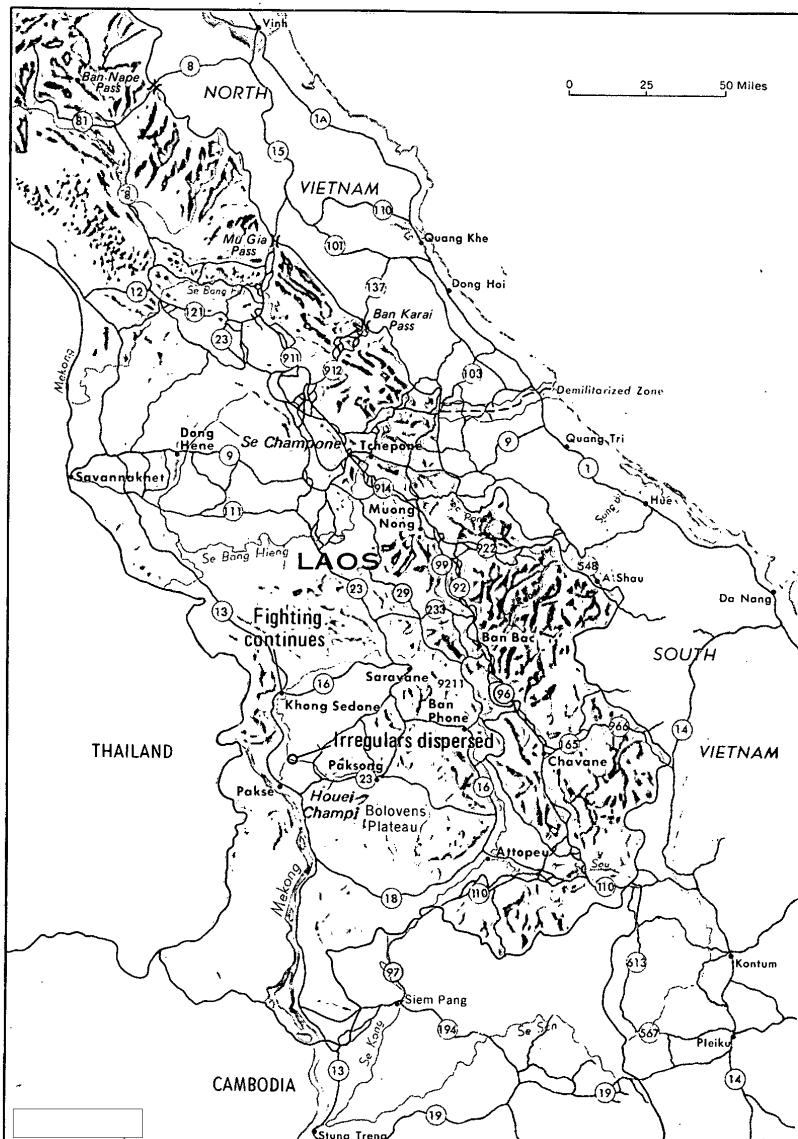
ITALY

Seven weeks after the national election last May, Italy has finally settled on a formula for a new government. Premier-designate Andreotti will seek parliamentary approval for a three-party centrist government composed of his own Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats, and the Liberals. He has promises of parliamentary support from two other parties.

This is an extremely fragile coalition. Its majority in the lower house is only two votes and it is in the minority in the Senate. Some of the coalition partners may well regard it as only a caretaker regime until autumn. National congresses of the Christian Democratic and Socialist parties then might reach some compromise to permit a return to the center-left alliance that governed Italy for most of the decade preceding the last election.

The centrist formula may in part be an attempt by the Christian Democrats to pressure the Socialists to abandon their campaign pledge to allow the Communist Party a bigger role in parliament. If so, the maneuver may backfire. The Socialists will be in a stronger position to push their demands if, as seems likely, Andreotti's centrist experiment ultimately fails.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

France:

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Yugoslavia-Poland: Tito's successful visit to Poland from 19 to 23 June reflected the conciliatory line Brezhnev had earlier taken toward Yugoslavia. In his departure speech on Friday, Tito said he was very pleased, particularly with the signing of an agreement that is intended to raise bilateral trade by 25 percent--to over \$1 billion--during the 1971-1975 five-year plan. Following the pattern of Tito's visit to Moscow in early June, the Poles and Yugoslavs took pains to avoid contentious issues and promised to improve bilateral contacts.

Laos: Government efforts to clear the area northeast of Pakse received a setback this weekend. Three of the four irregular battalions attempting to move north of the town dispersed following clashes with elements of the North Vietnamese 9th Regiment. These battalions appear to have suffered only minor casualties, but the attacks have further hurt their morale. The irregulars have been in the field for nearly two months, and many are suffering from malaria and other diseases. In the Khong Sedone area Communist troops are still holding positions west of the town, despite assaults by irregular units supported by air strikes.

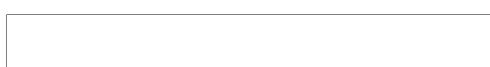
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The President's Daily Brief

27 June 1972

45



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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

North Vietnam has hinted at the arrival of Chinese communications and transportation workers. Fighting in the South is relatively light. (Page 1)

The Soviets orbited an unmanned Soyuz spacecraft yesterday. (Page 2)

The North Koreans are pressing the South to enter into substantive negotiations on political and military matters. (Page 3)

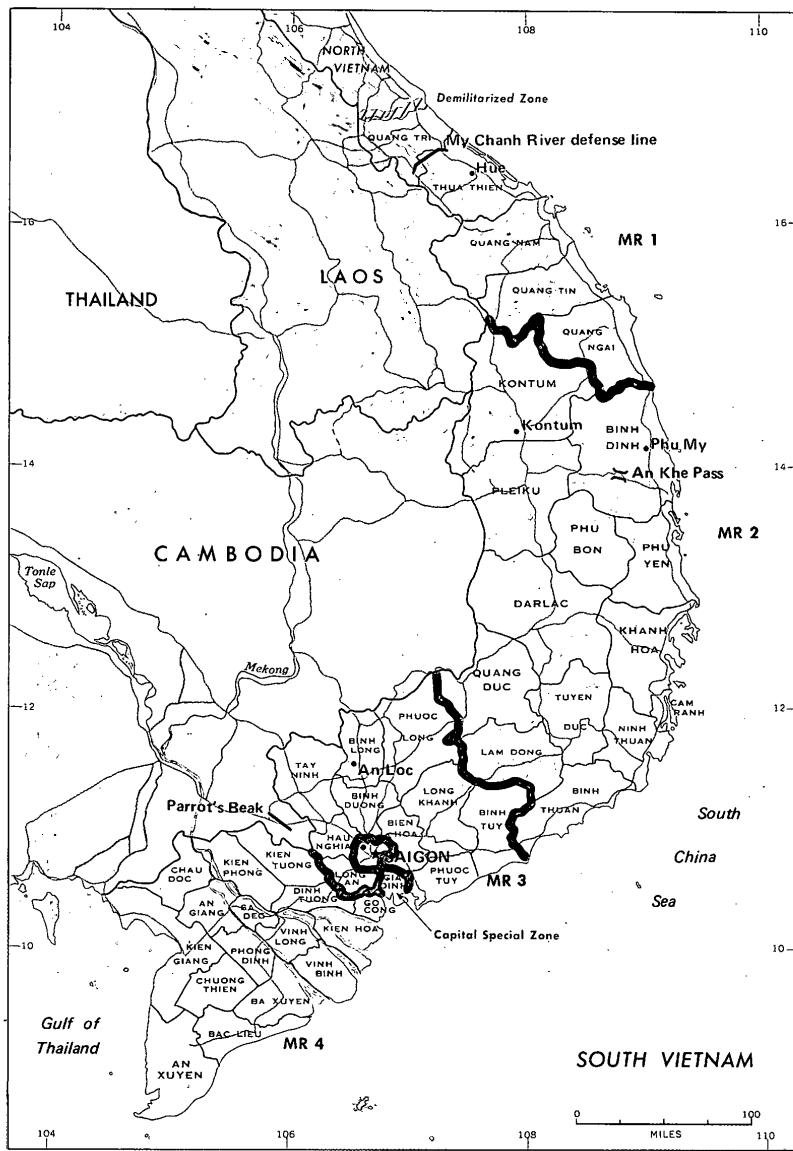
The first French nuclear test in the South Pacific this year was extremely low in yield. (Page 4)

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Finance ministers of the European Communities have agreed to support the dollar. (Page 5)

At Annex, we discuss the coming summit meeting between Indian Prime Minister Gandhi and Pakistani President Bhutto.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553284 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

A Radio Hanoi broadcast yesterday stating that "new forces" were supplementing communications and transportation workers in North Vietnam seems meant to imply that Chinese personnel are involved. The short statement was buried in a long article by North Vietnam's minister of communications, which urged Vietnamese workers to provide the new forces with the "utmost assistance," and to "closely cooperate" with them.

While there have been rumors in Hanoi over the last few weeks that the Chinese had sent or were planning to send transportation workers to North Vietnam, this is the first official hint that the Chinese are on the scene. In past years, the Chinese established radio links serving such personnel; none has yet been observed.

* * *

North Vietnamese pressure on the My Chanh line north of Hue has eased for the moment, partly as a result of heavy allied air and artillery bombardment. The enemy is still moving troops and equipment forward, however, and further attacks are almost certain.

In Military Region 2, the North Vietnamese have been maintaining pressure around Phu My District town in Binh Dinh Province. Other Communist units destroyed or damaged over a third of a 100-truck South Vietnamese convoy just east of the An Khe Pass. In the highlands, the Communists appear to be concentrating for the time being on reconnaissance

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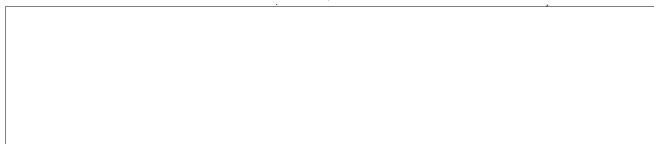
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Yesterday the Soviets orbited an unmanned Soyuz spacecraft from the Tyuratam space center. As in past unmanned Soyuz missions, TASS gave the spacecraft a Cosmos designation--496--and stated only that it is intended for space research.

We think the real purpose of the flight is to test changes in the spacecraft that were made as a result of the Soyuz 11 tragedy in June 1971. The last unmanned Soyuz with a Cosmos designation was launched in 1968. At that time the Soviets conducted a series of engineering tests of the spacecraft following the death of Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov, who was killed after his braking chute failed to open.



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KOREA

The North Koreans appear to be building a case for turning [redacted] high-level discussions with the South into public substantive negotiations. In his recent interviews with American correspondents, Northern Premier Kim Il-sung has stressed the desirability of mutual high-level visits between the two sides to discuss major political issues.

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[redacted]
[redacted] Kim argued for lowering the barriers that divide the two sides and for eliminating outside influence from the peninsula. Aware of Seoul's reluctance to move the [redacted] talks more rapidly, Kim nonetheless publicly called for a meeting with President Pak Chong-hui and for immediate discussions on military and political matters.

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Having moved the South Koreans a considerable distance [redacted] Pyongyang now senses that it can reap considerable benefits by bringing the talks into the open. The North Koreans no doubt calculate that public talks between the leaders of the two Koreas would accelerate the withdrawal of US forces from South Korea and effectively end the need for UN involvement on the peninsula. For its part, Seoul sees these same consequences as reasons for moving slowly. Moreover, the South Koreans are also concerned about a possibly adverse popular reaction to such talks. Pak has made some effort to prepare the populace for broader dealings with the North, but he still portrays Pyongyang as essentially hostile and aggressive, and his policies center on militant defense against threats from the North.

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FRANCE

The scheduled French nuclear test in the South Pacific, five days late because of technical and weather problems, finally took place on 25 June.

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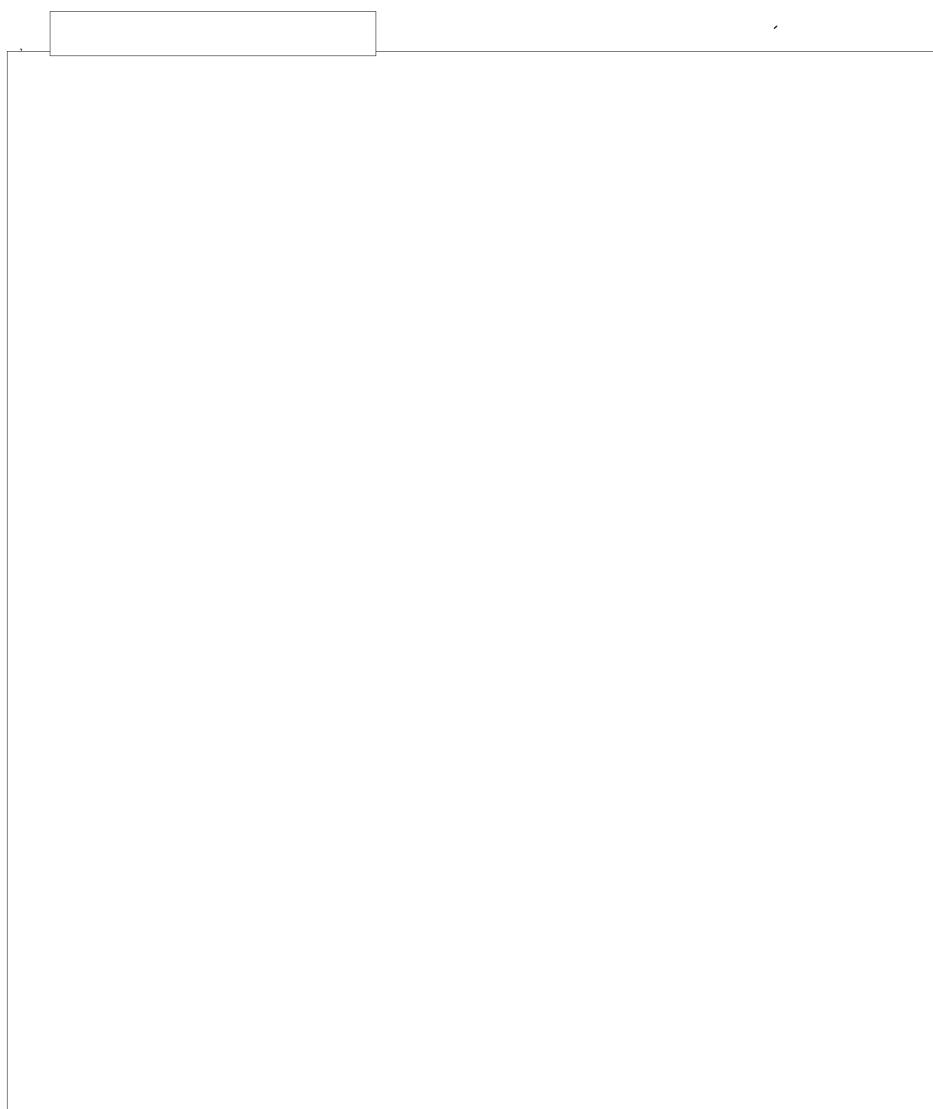
French officials have said that the series this year is to include three or four low-yield explosions testing miniaturization of detonators for thermonuclear weapons.

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The French have been testing nuclear devices in the atmosphere at their Pacific site since 1966, disregarding protests from governments in the area. They intend to continue such tests at least through 1976.

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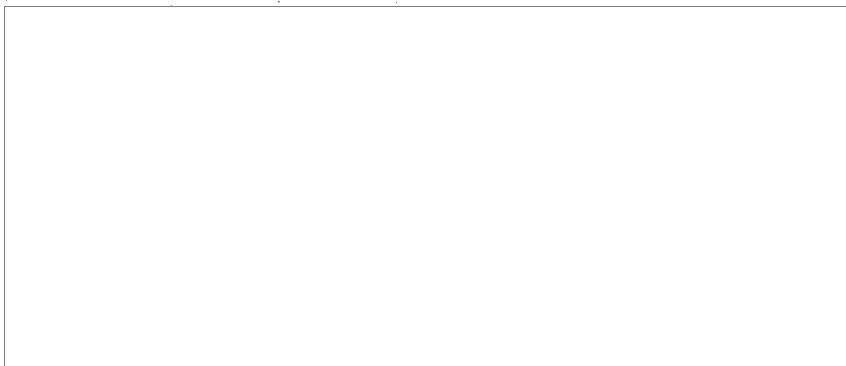


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NOTES



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INTERNATIONAL MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS: Finance ministers of the European Communities agreed last night to support the dollar (and the weakened lira as well) in a manner that allows their governments to meet commitments under the Smithsonian currency agreement and the EC's rules. The possibility remains, however, that if pressure against the dollar continues heavy after European money markets reopen on Wednesday, the ministers may adopt more stringent measures, such as currency floats or exchange controls. Special provisions were made for the lira, exempting Italy from EC regulations until 15 July. Chancellor of the Exchequer Barber, who also attended the meeting, said that Britain intends to end its float as soon as possible, hopefully at the rate set in the Smithsonian accord, and to return to harmony with EC currencies.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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INDIA-PAKISTAN

The summit meeting between Indian Prime Minister Gandhi and Pakistani President Bhutto, which begins on 28 June, is unlikely to resolve the major issues between the two nations. It may, nonetheless, lead to agreement on less important questions which could, in turn, permit further negotiations on the primary problems.

The prospects for a successful summit hinge primarily on the ability of Mrs. Gandhi and Bhutto to establish a good personal working relationship. Their principal emissaries at the pre-summit talks in Pakistan last April established a reasonable rapport, and a generally optimistic atmosphere prevailed in the immediate period after those talks. As the weeks wore on, however, old doubts resurfaced and both leaders, in actions and statements designed to shore up foreign and domestic support, managed to rekindle the basic distrust that has consistently marked Indo-Pakistani relations. Mrs. Gandhi and Bhutto could again reverse this trend. Both leaders appreciate that their nations' underdeveloped economies would benefit from an understanding that would ultimately allow a reduction in defense spending.

Neither side has taken an inflexible position on the status of Kashmir, potentially the most troublesome bilateral problem. An agreement on a permanent international boundary in Kashmir more or less along the present cease-fire line would be a major step in ending the 25-year-old controversy. New Delhi most likely will try to include a permanent boundary in Kashmir as part of a package deal to "end the confrontation," to settle issues outstanding from the 14-day war, and to return diplomatic relations between all parties on the sub-continent to a more normal state. Bhutto, however, is unlikely to agree to this, at least formally. In the absence of such an outcome, the two sides might issue a general declaration of intent to settle all future disputes peacefully.

Both countries appear to have fastened on the intransigence of Bangladesh Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman--who reportedly will not be present at the talks--as a primary cause for any summit failure. Mujib continues to insist that Bhutto extend official recognition to Bangladesh before he will meet

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with him to discuss repatriating Pakistani war prisoners held in India. The Indians, meanwhile, say they cannot release these prisoners without Mujib's consent because they surrendered last December to a joint India-Bengali command. Bhutto, in turn, while warning that failure to make progress toward the prisoners' release would make the summit an ineffective exercise, says he cannot recognize Bangladesh until he has an opportunity to meet with Mujib.

Some Indian officials have gone so far as to imply privately that Mujib is being unreasonable in his demand that some 1,500 Pakistani prisoners be tried for war crimes. Furthermore, the Indians imply that were it not for obligations derived from the fact that they fought the war in partnership with the Bengalis, New Delhi would be amenable to some formula for salvaging Pakistani honor by trying only the worst offenders simply as common criminals and repatriating the rest. For the present, however, New Delhi has not consented openly to intercede on Pakistan's behalf on this or any other prisoner-related issue with the leaders of Bangladesh. There is tenuous evidence, however, that the Indians may have tried to exert some quiet pressure in Dacca on this issue.

For the summit to succeed, Bhutto will have to make major concessions, but his ability to accept Indian terms is circumscribed by his need to retain domestic support in Pakistan. Bhutto will also have to convince Mrs. Gandhi that he will be able to deliver on his promises. Her estimate of Bhutto's durability in his present office will perhaps be the primary factor in determining how far India will go. Much will depend on Indian willingness to be the magnanimous victor.

Should, as appears likely, a stalemate develop over the major issues--the prisoners of war and Kashmir--the two leaders may decide to settle for agreement on less controversial questions. The re-establishment of diplomatic relations and the reactivation of communication and transportation links are possibilities. Even relatively modest progress on such issues could be enough to allow time for further quiet diplomatic exploration and negotiations, and even subsequent summit meetings.

A2

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The President's Daily Brief

28 June 1972

49



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

28 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Communist forces have stepped up their activity in northern Military Region 1, with heavy ground and artillery attacks north and southwest of Hue.

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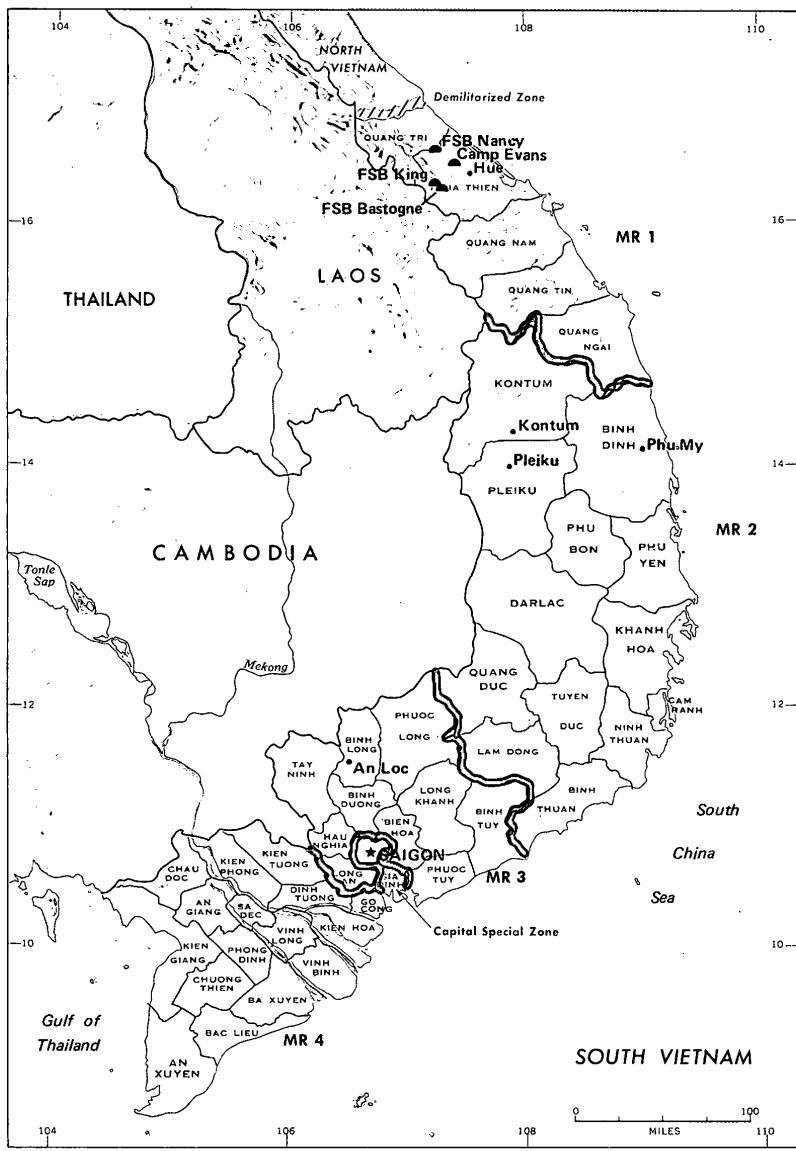
(Page 1)

The North Vietnamese are rapidly completing their pipeline link with a recently expanded petroleum storage area in southern China. (Page 3)

West German Chancellor Brandt's commitment to call elections in November evidently reflects his belief that this is the only way to break Bonn's parliamentary deadlock. Such a course involves some political hazards. (Page 4)

Soviet party boss Brezhnev has issued a sharp new blast at US actions in Vietnam. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553288 6-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Communist forces have stepped up their attacks against government positions in northern Military Region 1. They have launched heavy ground and artillery attacks against South Vietnamese Airborne units near Fire Support Base Nancy in southern Quang Tri Province, and against Camp Evans in northern Thua Thien Province. Similar action was also reported southwest of Hue against government troops at Fire Support Bases King and Bastogne.

Early this morning, a large force of South Vietnamese marines and paratroopers, supported by artillery fire and allied naval shelling and air strikes, attacked enemy forces north of the My Chanh defense line.

Farther south, Communist units in the western highlands are keeping Route 14 from Pleiku to Kontum cities blocked, while on the coast in Binh Dinh Province enemy units are keeping up the pressure against government forces around Phu My District town. In the southern half of the country, enemy shellings against An Loc continue at the accelerated pace of last weekend. Skirmishes have occurred on the outskirts of the town and along Route 3 to the south.

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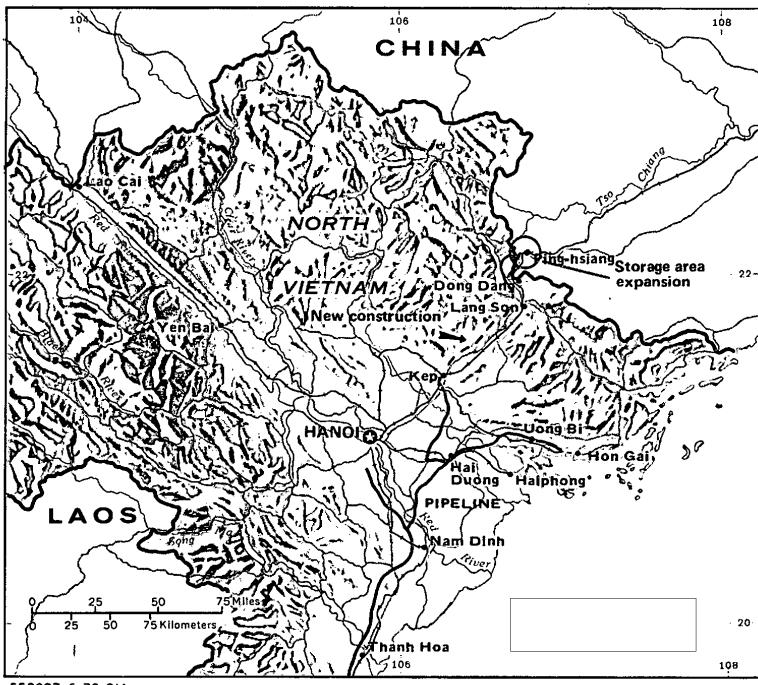
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Photography of 22 June shows that the North Vietnamese are rapidly completing their petroleum pipeline link with China. Some 41 additional miles of pipeline have been constructed since 14 June between Dong Dang and Kep, where it joins the line extending north from Hai Duong.

When the new system is fully operational, petroleum supplies unloaded at the recently expanded Ping-hsiang petroleum storage area in China will flow directly into North Vietnam. This new system will thus give the North Vietnamese a complete pipeline link from China through North Vietnam to the DMZ and southern Laos.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY

Chancellor Brandt's public commitment last week to call elections in November evidently reflects a decision that resort to the electorate is the only way to break Bonn's parliamentary deadlock. In choosing this course, Brandt had to overcome the reluctance of parliamentary deputies for whom early elections could mean a loss of pensions.)

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There is still uncertainty, however, over how the early elections are to be arranged. Under the constitution, the chancellor cannot simply call them, but must arrange for the dissolution of his government either by resigning or by deliberately losing a vote of confidence. Both options are politically hazardous without the cooperation of the opposition, however, since the opposition has the right to try to elect a chancellor before the elections are formally called. So far, efforts to obtain such cooperation have foundered largely because Christian Democrat leader Barzel has been unable to persuade other major leaders to go along. Whatever course Brandt chooses, no action will be taken until the Bundestag reconvenes on 20 September.

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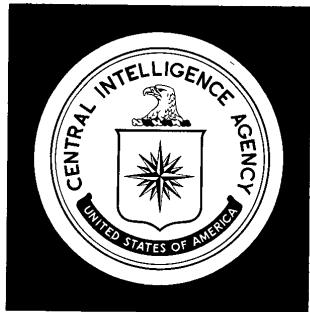
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NOTE

USSR: Soviet party boss Brezhnev, speaking at a reception yesterday for visiting Cuban Premier Castro, issued his harshest criticism of US actions in Vietnam since the President's visit to Moscow. Brezhnev condemned the "blockade of DRV ports" and the bombing of "economic objectives, transport routes, and populated localities." The statement likely was intended to appease Castro, who has been critical of Moscow's restrained response to recent US actions in Indochina. The statement may also have been intended to shore up the Soviet position with the North Vietnamese.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

29 June 1972

25



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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

COSVN has linked orders for further offensive action to the suggestion that negotiations with the US may be in the offing. Meanwhile, South Vietnamese forces are continuing their push into Quang Tri Province. (Page 1)

On Page 4 we discuss the Israeli defense minister's warning that Israel will act to stop fedayeen terrorism from Lebanon.

The Soviets are preparing for a manned space event which may be similar to last year's mission involving Soyuz 11 and a Salyut station. (Page 5)

The Turkish Government's ban on opium poppy cultivation faces new opposition in Parliament. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

COSVN has ordered further offensive action on the military and political fronts, linking this to the suggestion that negotiations with the US may be in the offing.

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Communist cadre recently were briefed on new directives from the southern command. The directives called for strenuous efforts to seize territory, gain control over more people, undermine the pacification program, and defeat the South Vietnamese Army.

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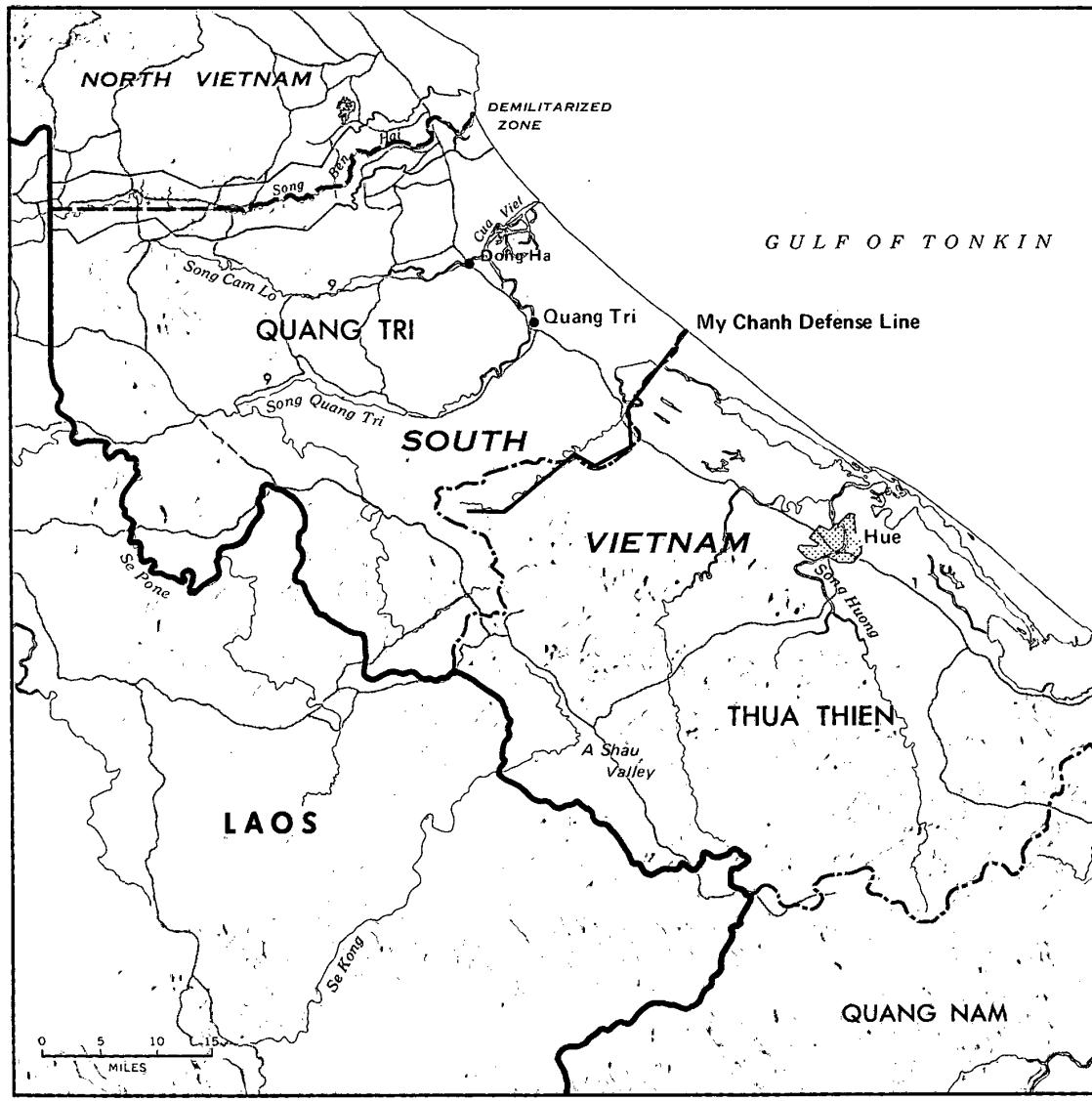
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The directives may simply be designed to get one more all-out effort from Communist cadres. Communist commanders have tried in the past to exhort their forces to better performance by holding out the prospect of a cessation of the war after certain objectives, usually the occupation of larger areas, are achieved. If this is all the Communists are aiming at, however, it is hard to explain why they raised the possibility that their side might have to compromise on a point as important as the continued existence of the Thieu government.

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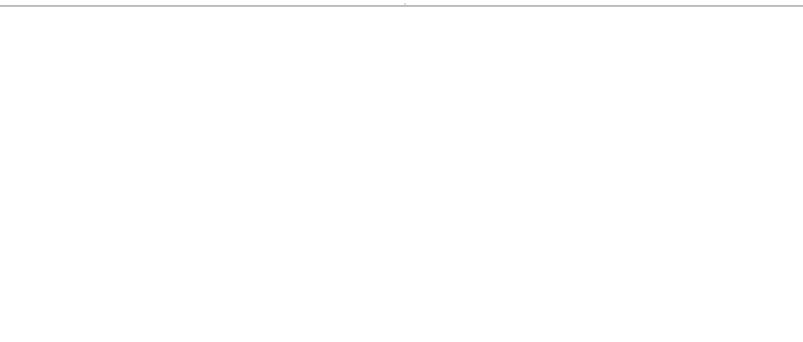
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Communists will be maintaining strong military pressure over the short run and that they will be doing their best to keep open their military options even if negotiations should get under way.

* * *

South Vietnamese forces driving into Quang Tri Province have moved about halfway to Quang Tri City from the My Chanh defense line, according to South Vietnamese officials today. Heavy fighting has been reported by paratroopers moving to the west of Route 1 and by marines pushing along the coast. Helicopters landed an additional 1,000 marines in the coastal area today.

A brigade of South Vietnamese paratroopers from An Loc and two regular army regiments have moved into the defensive positions previously manned by the forces now moving toward Quang Tri. Nevertheless, government forces northwest of Hue are stretched thin, with few reserves available to meet any major enemy attack along the western approach to the city.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The North Vietnamese have moved at least some supplies from China deep into North Vietnam's pan-handle. According to a recently available message of 21 June from a major logistics authority in the Vinh area, six vehicles had delivered 23 tons of ordnance, including 122-mm. and 130-mm. artillery shells from Dong Dang, the rail yard at the Chinese border. On some recent nights, aerial observers have reported spotting long truck convoys moving south from the Dong Dang area.

* * *

Another supplementary economic and military aid agreement between China and North Vietnam was signed yesterday in Peking. As is customary, the amount of aid--which includes "gratuitous" military equipment and supplies--was not disclosed.

The agreement came almost two months after North Vietnam's chief negotiator arrived in China, suggesting that things did not go as smoothly as the North Vietnamese may have wished.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-LEBANON

Israeli Defense Minister Dayan on Tuesday publicly warned that Israel would henceforth take forthright action to stop terrorist acts from Lebanon, including preventive strikes against the fedayeen there.

The Israelis believe that Lebanon must crack down on the fedayeen the way King Husayn did in 1970-71, and their warning of new strikes inside Lebanon is intended to increase further the pressure on Beirut to act.

The Israelis may be too optimistic about what Beirut can do. The Lebanese Army does not have the physical capability completely to seal the border, especially in the troublesome Arquib area. Beirut, nevertheless, appears to be trying. President Franjiyah announced yesterday that the fedayeen had agreed to suspend their operations against Israel. We doubt, however, that all fedayeen groups will honor this agreement.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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USSR

Preparations are now under way for a manned space event that evidently is scheduled to take place within the next several weeks.

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If the Soviets do launch a space station, we believe that the mission will be similar to the ill-fated one conducted last year involving Soyuz 11 and a Salyut station. The Salyut launch would then be followed by the launch of a manned Soyuz. The timing of the coming mission presumably depends on successful tests of the unmanned Soyuz spacecraft--Cosmos 496--launched Monday.

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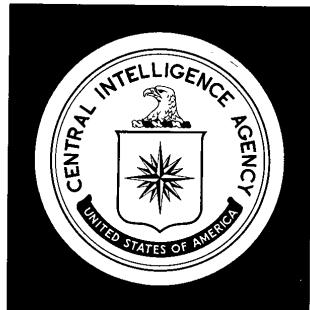
TURKEY

The government's ban on opium poppy cultivation is running into new opposition in Parliament. Prominent politicians from both major parties have recently been criticizing various aspects of the ban. Over a hundred members of Parliament, all from the predominant Justice Party, now are sponsoring legislation to permit farmers to resume poppy cultivation exclusively for processing in government factories and use in pharmaceuticals.

Although the growers would be forbidden to extract opium, the proposed scheme would greatly complicate the problem of government control over illicit opium traffic. At least for the present, the Melen government appears determined to continue the ban and move ahead with related compensation and crop substitution projects, but the opium issue could become difficult to handle as the national elections of September 1973 approach.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

30 June 1972

46
Top Secret

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

30 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The South Vietnamese counteroffensive into Quang Tri Province is encountering only moderate resistance; two government marine brigades have advanced to a point northeast of Quang Tri City, and two marine battalions have been airlifted into positions east of the city. (Page 1)

Hanoi's propagandists are giving unusually heavy coverage to the need for strengthening North Vietnam's military structure and the party's control over it. (Page 2)

The EC summit and monetary policies will be the key topics when Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou confer in Bonn next week. (Page 3)

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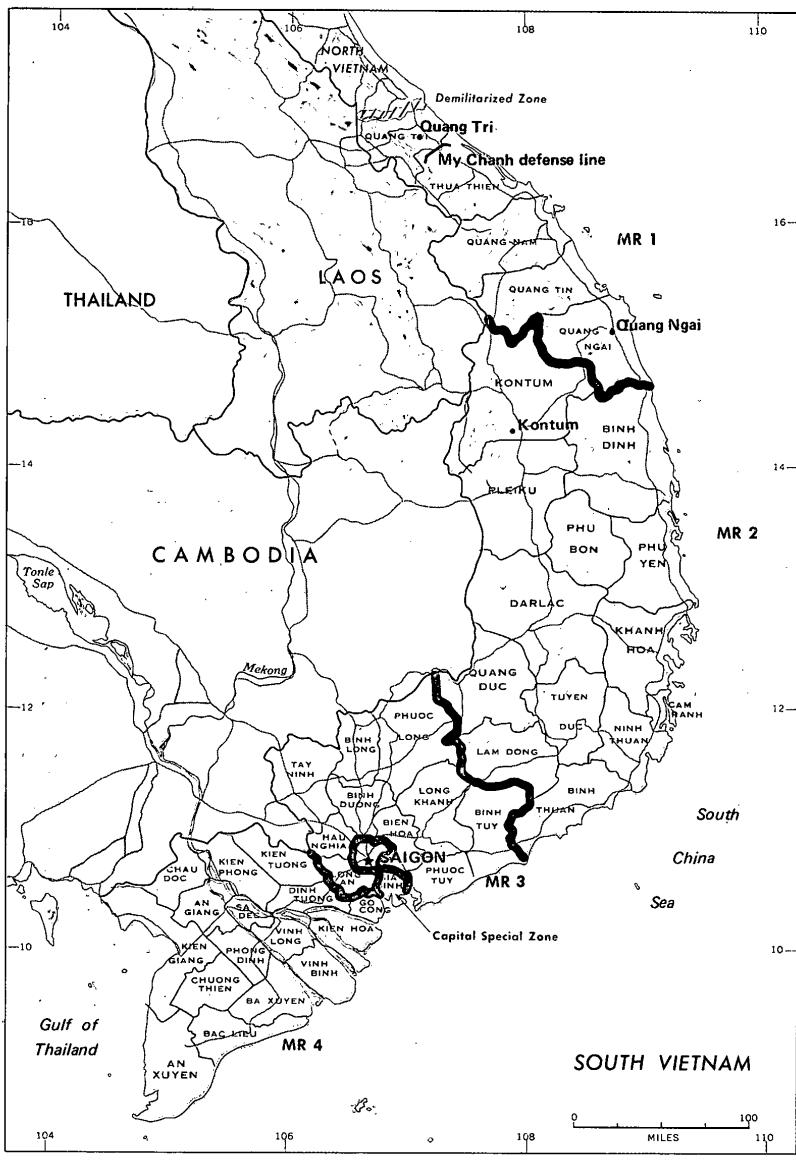
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The government's counteroffensive into Quang Tri Province is encountering only moderate enemy resistance. Two South Vietnamese Marine brigades have advanced from the My Chanh defense line to a point northeast of Quang Tri City, while two marine battalions have been airlifted into positions east of the city. The airborne units operating west of Route 1 have made less progress, but are reported to have killed several hundred enemy troops.

Intercepted Communist messages indicate the enemy is uncertain about the objectives of the government drive but call for a variety of measures to counter it. Subordinate units were ordered to "prepare for battle," and one North Vietnamese artillery regiment directed its units to shell the invading forces. The 304th Division, moreover, noted that it had already begun to engage the government troops. One element of the division reported, however, that the "enemy has the capability to attack and occupy Quang Tri," and this unit indicated that it might even receive orders for a "partial" withdrawal.

Communist units have often been slow to react to South Vietnamese offensive thrusts, but, as in the past, their resistance is expected to stiffen once they have determined the best way to counter the current drive. In spite of heavy losses in recent months, the Communists still have a substantial force of infantry, along with artillery and armor, in the area.

Farther south, there are signs that the North Vietnamese 2nd Division may be returning from Kontum Province to its former base area in Quang Ngai after an absence of nearly two years. The division headquarters has been tentatively located by recent radio direction-finding in an area some 15 miles southwest of Quang Ngai City. Such a move would indicate that the 2nd Division has been retargeted and will soon operate in the coastal lowlands of Military Region 1.

The withdrawal of the 2nd Division from the Kontum City area suggests that the Communists do not intend to launch another large-scale attack against the city in the near future. [redacted]

[redacted] Most Communist forces in this area sustained heavy casualties in fighting near the city and have withdrawn to refit and resupply.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

Propagandists in Hanoi are giving unusually heavy coverage to the need for strengthening the country's military structure and the party's control over it. Recent articles in the army newspaper have stressed that the party network must be developed within the army even under combat conditions. Strengthening the party's leadership in every field--particularly in the armed forces--is "a decisive factor for victory." Hanoi's domestic radio service has broadcast a long directive in the same vein prepared by the army's political department.

The regime's sudden preoccupation with such organizational problems is almost certainly related to the current military situation both in the north and the south. The toll on the manpower and morale of Communist units, and the resulting pressure on the party's lines of command and control have given new urgency to the recruitment of party cadres who can fill positions of authority in the army. The regime's current emphasis on the need for such cadres reinforces other evidence from the Communists themselves--such as intercepted messages from units in combat--that they are concerned over attrition of their battlefield strength.

The heavy propaganda play on this point may also reflect new official efforts to shore up discipline within the army. Recurring rumors of a cease-fire or some change on the political front could be causing confusion and ferment within the military, and a reassertion of the party's control would be useful in keeping soldiers' and cadres' reaction in check.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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WEST GERMANY - FRANCE

The EC summit and monetary policies will be the key topics when Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou confer in Bonn on 3-4 July. National elections are approaching in both West Germany and France, and both leaders appear eager to assure a successful European summit this fall. To this end, they now appear willing to postpone a decision on the creation of an EC political secretariat, an issue that has been clouding summit prospects.

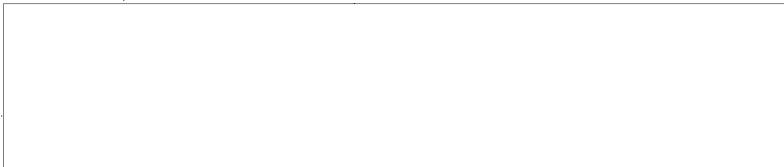
Brandt and Pompidou may have greater difficulty agreeing on what to do about the problems generated by the weakness of the dollar in European money markets and by the British pound float. The French want more monetary policy coordination and see an urgent need for a European monetary union as a way of enabling Europe to fend off the encroachment of American economic power. Brandt, however, is expected to resist French demands for establishment of a European monetary zone, and to insist that any agreement on monetary matters not be harmful to the EC's relations with the US.

Some of the German-French differences in the monetary field may well have been narrowed by Bonn's decision yesterday to tighten controls over the inflow of capital as Paris has been demanding.

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USSR-SYRIA



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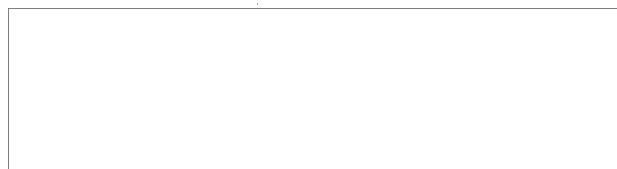


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