



The President's Daily Brief

1 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

1 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Many Cambodians are unhappy about the presence of South Vietnamese troops in their country. (Page 1)

Israeli forces are active on all fronts. (Page 3)

Gromyko will talk with the French about a number of things. (Page 4)

Laos continues to be quiet. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

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[redacted] a dispute between those who strongly oppose the use of South Vietnamese troops and those who regard it as an unfortunate necessity of war. The disputants are junior army officers and civilian bureaucrats. Both factions are laboring to drive a wedge between Lon Nol and Matak, but thus far the two leaders have not been drawn openly into the dispute.

Cambodian nationalists outside government circles have also been irked by the use of South Vietnamese troops and Phnom Penh's efforts to establish close relations with Saigon. [redacted]

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[redacted] a Cambodian nationalist group that heretofore has been strongly behind Lon Nol put up anti-Vietnamese posters in the capital. The group also complained directly to Lon Nol.

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[redacted] that although certain "progressive intellectual" elements were less rigid in their opposition to the use of South Vietnamese troops, they too were against such troops remaining in Cambodia after 30 June.

Military expediency has caused Lon Nol to rely heavily on the South Vietnamese, but he is also sympathetic to the protests.

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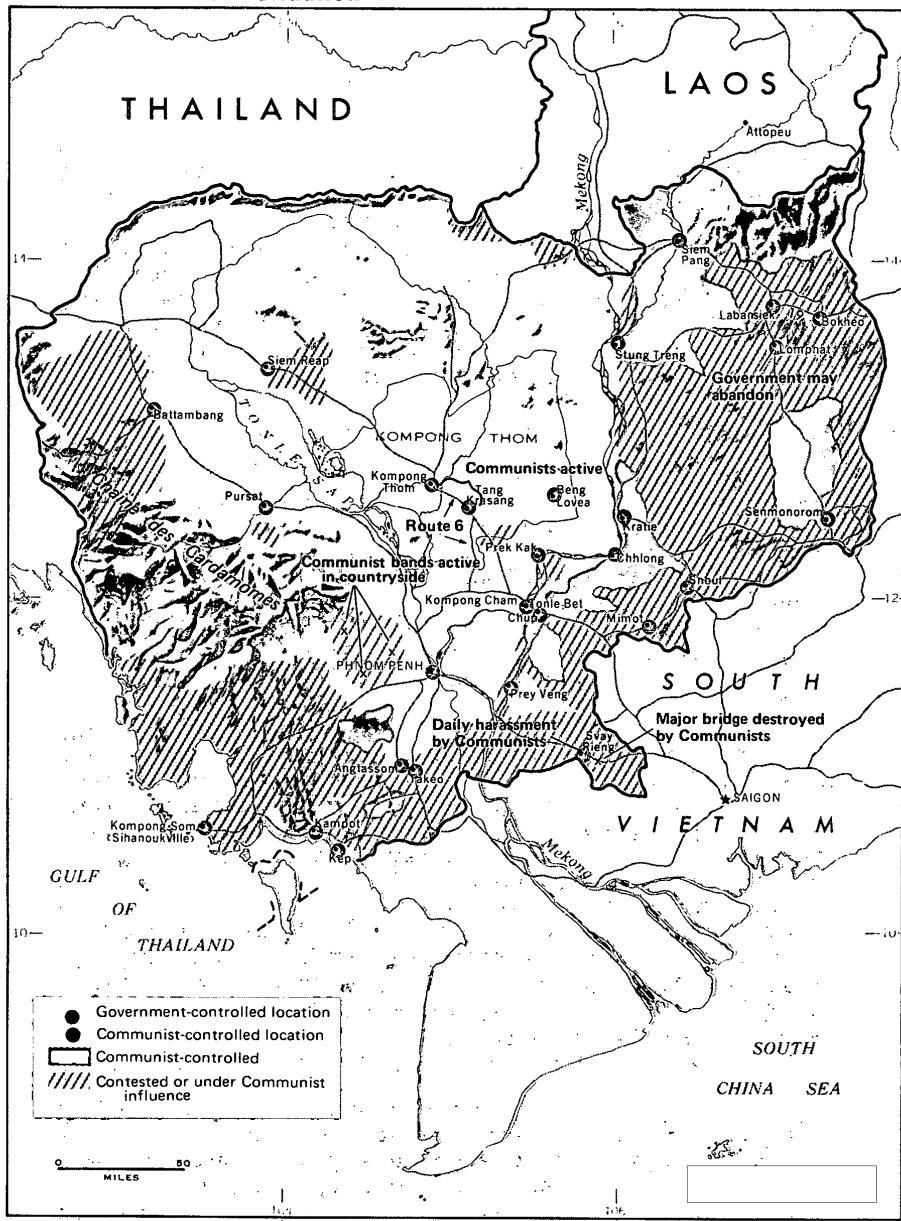
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Prey Veng town has been recaptured by South Vietnamese and Cambodian units, but the Communists are continuing to hit them with mortar fire. South Vietnamese troops are sweeping west of the town toward the Mekong River. Farther south, the Communists continue to harass Svay Rieng town. They have destroyed a large bridge on the road connecting Svay Rieng with South Vietnam--thus demonstrating that they retain significant strength in the Parrot's Beak area in spite of extensive South Vietnamese operations.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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The anticipated attack against Kompong Thom city has not yet materialized, but the Communists appear to be extending their control over Route 6. Cambodian officers fear that the Communists may move south and cut the land access between Phnom Penh and Kompong Cham city.

[redacted] that South Vietnamese troops have been requested to help secure Route 6.

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According to intercepted Cambodian messages, several large Cambodian Communist bands have become active in the countryside west of Phnom Penh. One group has destroyed bridges on a rural road some 30 miles west of the capital.

These groups pose no threat to the capital, but they may be attempting to isolate Phnom Penh from areas to the west. It is also possible that they may have begun establishing lines of communication from their bases in the foothills of the Cardamom mountains to the encampments of the Vietnamese Communist forces in Kompong Thom Province.

The government may abandon the town of Lomphat, one of its three remaining major outposts in the northeast, although heavy allied air strikes have eased the pressure somewhat. If the two battalions there pull out, they will be sent north to help defend Labansiek, which lies astride the principal road to the South Vietnamese border.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL - ARAB STATES

Over the week end, Israel continued its bombing of Egyptian positions immediately west of the Canal. On Friday, Israeli planes hit again at the Egyptian port of Safaga in the Gulf of Suez. Egypt responded with air strikes, artillery barrages, and two cross-canal raids which resulted in the deaths of at least 13 Israeli soldiers. Cairo claims to have shot down two Israeli planes.

Israeli patrols continued to cross the border into southern Lebanon, and Israeli artillery began sporadic shelling into the area to harass fedayeen concentrations. According to a press report, villagers there have clashed with the commandos in an effort to prevent them from firing into Israeli settlements. Interior Minister Jumblatt appears to be softening the government's ban on the carrying of arms by the Palestinians. In a press statement he said the ban only applied to those Palestinians who are unable to prove their membership in a fedayeen organization.

Jordanian and Israeli artillery engaged in several duels along the cease-fire line, but no assessment of damages or casualties, if any, is yet available. An Israeli infantry patrol claimed it killed 11 Arab guerrillas in the northern Jordan Valley on 28 May, and two Israeli soldiers died in another clash on 31 May.

On the political front, a conference of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and possibly Sudan and Libya, is scheduled for 5 June in Cairo. Libyan chief of state Qaddafi, now in Baghdad, is continuing his tour to drum up more unified Arab action against Israel. Palestinian guerrilla leaders are in Cairo attempting to create a more unified command structure within the framework of the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

Arab leaders reacted negatively to Mrs. Meir's "acceptance" of the November 1967 UN Security Council resolution. They regard her speech as a "new US-Israeli maneuver." In Khartoum, Nasir again called for complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories as the only way to peace.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE-USSR

Gromyko arrived in Paris today for wide-ranging discussions with France's highest officials. Although the French have described the visit as "completely routine," the Quai anticipates discussions underscoring France's independent attitudes on current international topics.

The talks probably will cover European security, problems of the Middle East and Southeast Asia, French plans to buy natural gas from the Soviets, and French consideration of proposals to build a truck plant in the USSR. Beginning talks on these topics will lay the groundwork for more detailed discussions when French President Pompidou visits the Soviet Union, probably in the fall.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTE

Laos: No major fighting was reported over the week end. In the north, Vang Pao's drive toward Ban Na continues to be thwarted by well-entrenched North Vietnamese troops, but government guerrillas have been meeting only light resistance as they re-take positions near the Bouam Long base north of the Plaine des Jarres. In southern Laos, government forces have had some success in clearing Communist elements from the eastern edge of the Bolovens Plateau, but the area is not yet secure.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

2 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

Libya may try to enhance its image in the Arab world by moving against US interests. (*Page 3*)

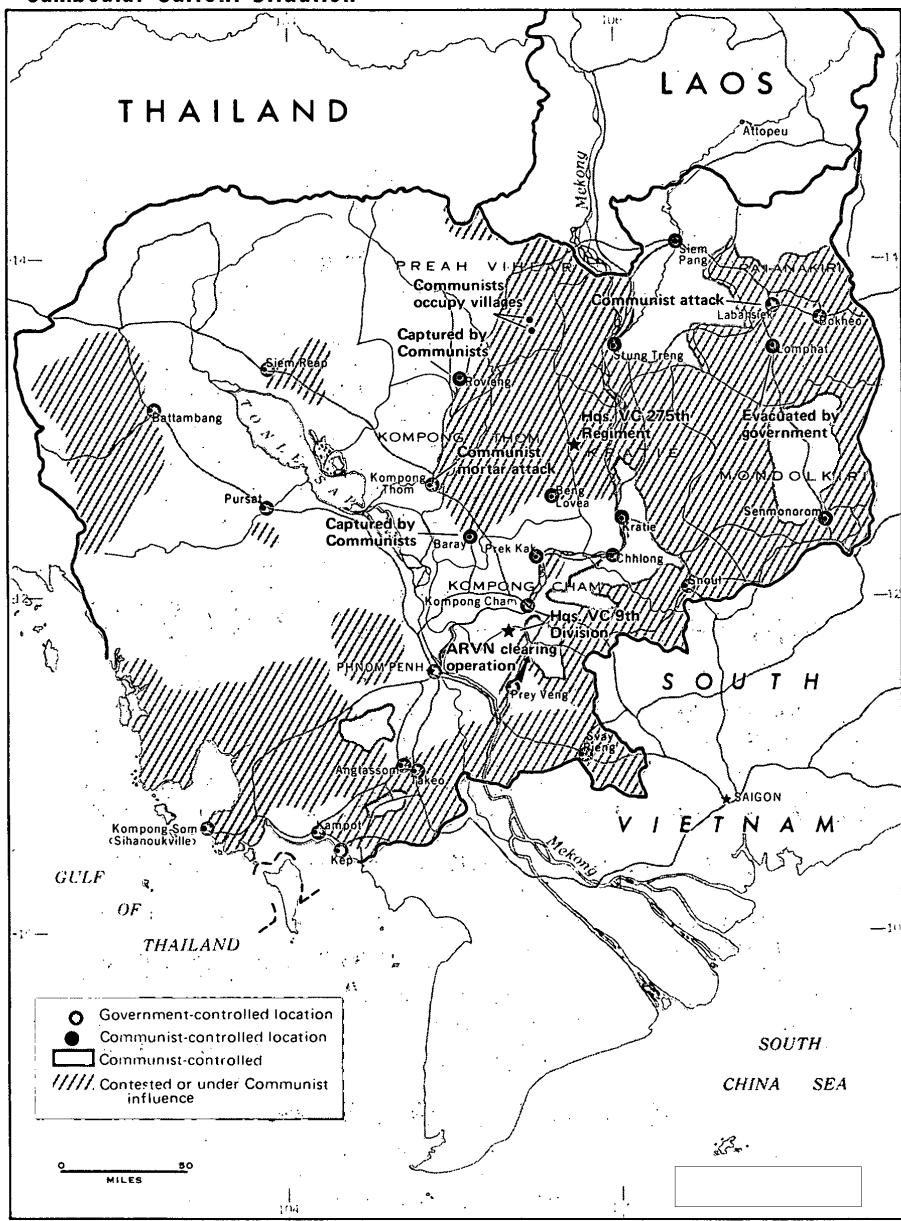
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(*Page 4*)

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On *Page 5* we examine various aspects of the situation in Peru.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Recent Cambodian Army reports indicate that increasing numbers of enemy troops are infiltrating the northern provinces of Preah Vihear and Kompong Thom. One intercepted army message claimed that Communist elements have been assembling in groups of about 100 men and infiltrating eastern areas of Preah Vihear, where they have occupied two villages. On 30 May some 150 Communist troops captured the town of Rovieng on Route 12.

In Kompong Thom Province, the Communists directed mortar fire on the capital during the night of 31 May - 1 June; this was the first enemy action against the city. Additional attacks are certain to follow. During the same night the Communists captured the town of Baray, south of the capital, thereby tightening their control over Route 6.

The Communists' objectives in moving into areas well west of the Mekong are still difficult to determine. They may be pushing toward the sizable Vietnamese community near the Tonle Sap in western Kompong Thom, or they may be preparing for an eventual linkup with other forces now operating in provinces west of Phnom Penh, possibly to open new logistics routes. The recent northwestward shift of the headquarters of the Viet Cong 275th Regiment from Kratie suggests that this unit may also be involved.

In the northeast, steady enemy pressure finally forced the government to evacuate the town of Lomphat on 31 May, under the cover of allied air support. Two government battalions previously stationed at Lomphat, as well as most of the town's civilian population, are moving north to Labansiek. Army messages report that yesterday the Communists ambushed several government convoys carrying evacuees from Lomphat and destroyed a number of trucks. The Communists also attacked Labansiek again, but thus far air support has prevented the town's capture. It probably is only a matter of time, however, before the government's presence in Ratanakiri Province is completely eliminated.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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A large South Vietnamese armored column is continuing its drive to clear the Communists from the east side of the Mekong River between the Neak Luong ferry crossing and the town of Kompong Cham to the north. The column hopes to engage retreating elements of the Viet Cong 9th Division, which were driven out of the town of Prey Veng last weekend after occupying parts of it briefly. The headquarters of the division was located about 13 miles southwest of Kompong Cham town on 31 May.

* * *

Thai Prime Minister Thanom has all but confirmed that Bangkok intends to send "volunteers" into Cambodia. He told the press yesterday that while no final decision had been made, the government was "considering" training battalion-sized units for deployment into the major towns in western Cambodia and into Phnom Penh. He implied that the objections raised by some members of his government would be overruled.

* * *

The main political headquarters of COSVN has moved farther northward in Cambodia. It is now some 33 miles north of South Vietnam's Tay Ninh Province border.

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LIBYA

According to Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals Undersecretary Qiblaaiwi, the very large increase in oil prices demanded by a government committee headed by former premier Maghribi may be intended by him to provide an excuse for unilateral action against the companies. Qiblaaiwi told a US Embassy officer last week that he believes the only way the companies might avoid a showdown with the government is to make a prompt offer to settle on higher prices than they had previously wished to accept. The official implied that the government's intent was to engineer a seizure of Anglo-American oil interests in retribution for US and UK support of Israel.

Premier Qaddafi is currently urging other Arab states to exert maximum pressure on the US if the US decides to grant further military aid to Israel.

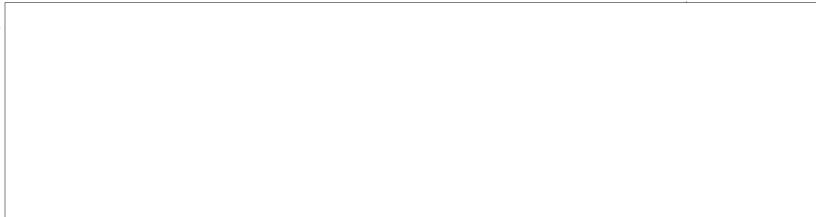
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It is clear, nevertheless, that Qaddafi would not hesitate to try to intimidate the oil companies and the US through direct action against American interests in Libya. Rather than move against the oil companies directly, he could seize virtually empty Wheelus Field in a symbolic act of defiance before 11 June-- the date the US now plans for a formal turnover of the base to the Libyans. The Libyan Air Force already has moved automatic weapons inside the base perimeter and armed some 500 airmen there. Qaddafi would gain great credit among the Arabs for seizure of Wheelus, and it would boost his image as a leader in the campaign against US policy on Israel.

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WEST GERMANY



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PERU

The following is a general roundup of recent developments in Peru:

The military government has stepped up its so-called revolution in 1970, promulgating new reform measures and becoming more repressive against its opponents. Among the reforms, two that were decreed in December 1969--the reorganization of the court system and the new regulatory press law--have provided the Velasco government with the tools to begin silencing its critics. The newly appointed Supreme Court has already demonstrated that it will uphold the government when government actions are challenged, and one newspaper publishing company has been expropriated and turned over to a Communist-dominated workers' cooperative.

President Velasco has continued to lead the campaign to reduce the influence of the wealthy oligarchy--the people he sees as the principal "enemies of the revolution." New foreign exchange controls issued last week are typical of government moves to curb the economic influence of the oligarchs. Under these controls, Peruvians who maintain banking accounts in dollars, in Peruvian banks or in accounts abroad, must turn their dollars in for soles or face severe penalties.

The principal economic problem that has faced the Velasco government is its failure to attract new investment, either from domestic or foreign sources. The new restrictions, which could set the stage for a large increase in public investment, have instead frightened Peruvian businessmen and could hinder government efforts to get the stagnating Peruvian economy moving again.

President Velasco has demonstrated increasing sensitivity to the charges of Communist influence in his government. He has forcefully denied the charges on several occasions and has declared his revolution to be "nationalist and humanist." The government in recent weeks has attempted to reduce the growing Communist influence in certain sectors of Peruvian society. For instance, the Communist Party tried to gain control of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, which were developed with the encouragement of the government as a means

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of achieving a popular base. The government is now taking steps it hopes will assure its control of newly formed groups.

The government's reaction to the Communist question undoubtedly reflects the fear that such charges, combined with increasing economic problems, could lead to disaffection within the military establishment and the possible eventual collapse of the government. Disagreement with some of the Velasco government's policies exists within the military, but such opposition has thus far been subordinate to the concept of unity behind the military government. Only a serious deterioration in the internal situation--widespread economic failure, labor unrest and student discontent--would be likely to prompt the military to reverse President Velasco's policies or overthrow his government.

* * *

In a press conference the other day, President Velasco said that Peru's relations with the US have improved considerably from their low point in October 1968--the date of the expropriation of the International Petroleum Company's holdings. Velasco has given no indication, however, that his government is prepared to yield on compensation of IPC and Peru's claim to a 200-mile territorial sea--the major issues impeding further improvement of relations.

Relations with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have slowly become more cordial, and talks continue on economic cooperation, trade, and technical assistance. Perhaps the major event in Peru's foreign relations in recent months was the visit to Lima last month of the apparent number two man in Yugoslavia, Edvard Kardelj. He received red carpet treatment from the Peruvians and appears to have gained some advocates for the Yugoslav model of economic self-management and possibly for the policy of nonalignment.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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	South Vietnam	(Page 1)

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Current developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 3.

Room for peaceful maneuvering in the Middle East appears to be decreasing. Soviet propaganda has become more harsh and the Israelis are incensed over their highest monthly casualty rate since the end of the June war. (Page 5)

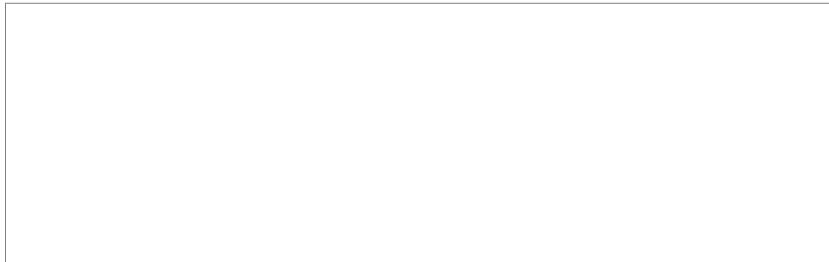
US oil firms are involved in two multilateral controversies over exploration concessions in the Persian Gulf area. (Page 6)

Italy's upcoming regional elections are discussed at Annex.

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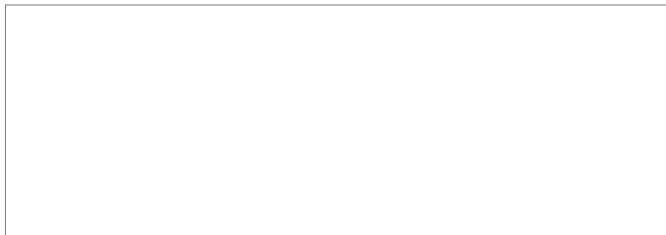
SOUTH VIETNAM



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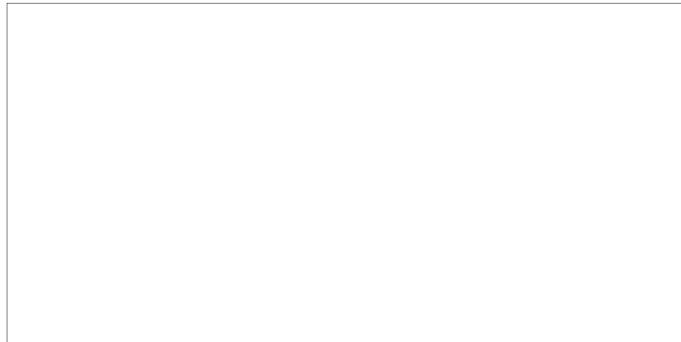
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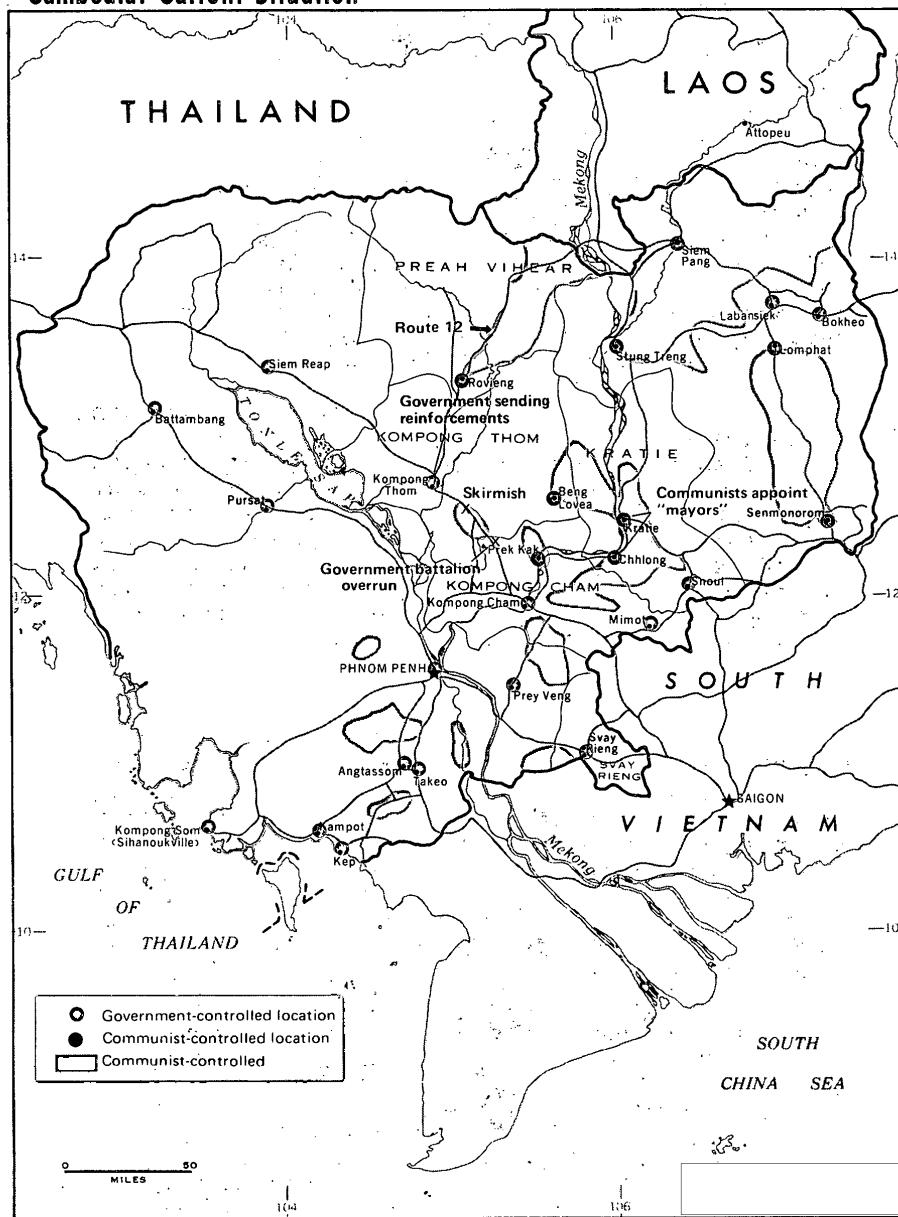


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

There are growing signs the Communists intend to develop an extensive infiltration and base area on the west bank of the Mekong. Cambodian military messages indicate the enemy is now largely in control of Route 12 from the Laos border as far south as Rovieng. Communist units are fanning out in the countryside and seem to be establishing a rudimentary administrative apparatus. Government battalions in Preah Vihear Province have broken down into smaller units and are planning to run guerrilla operations against the Communists.

* * *

Elsewhere in the country, the government is sending reinforcements into Kompong Thom city, and the area commander has asked for air attacks on road sections in the province held by the enemy. In Kompong Cham Province, a government position near the Communist-controlled Prek Kak rubber plantation was overrun on the night of 31 May - 1 June. The defending battalion was forced to withdraw. This reverse increases the threat to Kompong Cham city from the north.

* * *

The Communists appear to be having some success recruiting ethnic Cambodians to help administer newly won towns. A Cambodian deputy from Chhlong town, which fell to the Communists in late April, has told US officials that ethnic Cambodians as well as Vietnamese and other minorities were collaborating with the small occupying force of between 50 and 100 men. The Communists have gone so far as to name ethnic Cambodians as "mayors" of Chhlong and Kratie towns.

The commitment of most of these new Cambodian recruits is probably highly tentative.

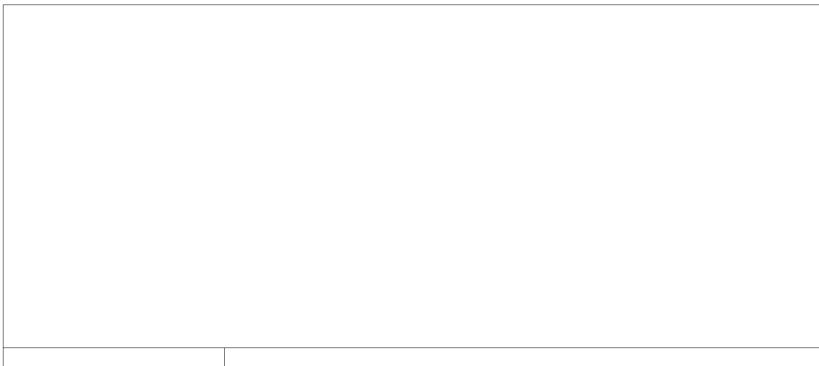
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USSR - MIDDLE EAST - ISRAEL

Soviet propaganda has recently taken an uncommonly tough stand on the Middle East.

--The Soviet press has caustically ridiculed Mrs. Meir's speech to the Knesset on 26 May, characterizing it as US-inspired propaganda calculated to offset the reaction to further arms deliveries.

--A Pravda commentary on 31 May advocated "forcing" Israel to respect the UN Charter. The same day, Pravda reverted to the toughest Kremlin interpretation of the Security Council resolution, calling for the "speediest" Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands. The article also said that a political settlement must be just and "naturally without any concessions to the aggressor."

--Other press commentaries have noted Egypt's intention to repulse any aggression from the air and have claimed that Israeli military superiority is "coming slowly but surely to an end." On 29 May, an official TASS statement warned that Tel Aviv's present policy is "fraught with dangerous consequences, for Israel itself above all."

Moscow's hard public line, together with its recent military and diplomatic steps, suggests that the Kremlin has adopted a policy of trying to squeeze concessions out of Israel by steadily increasing political, psychological, and military pressure on Tel Aviv.

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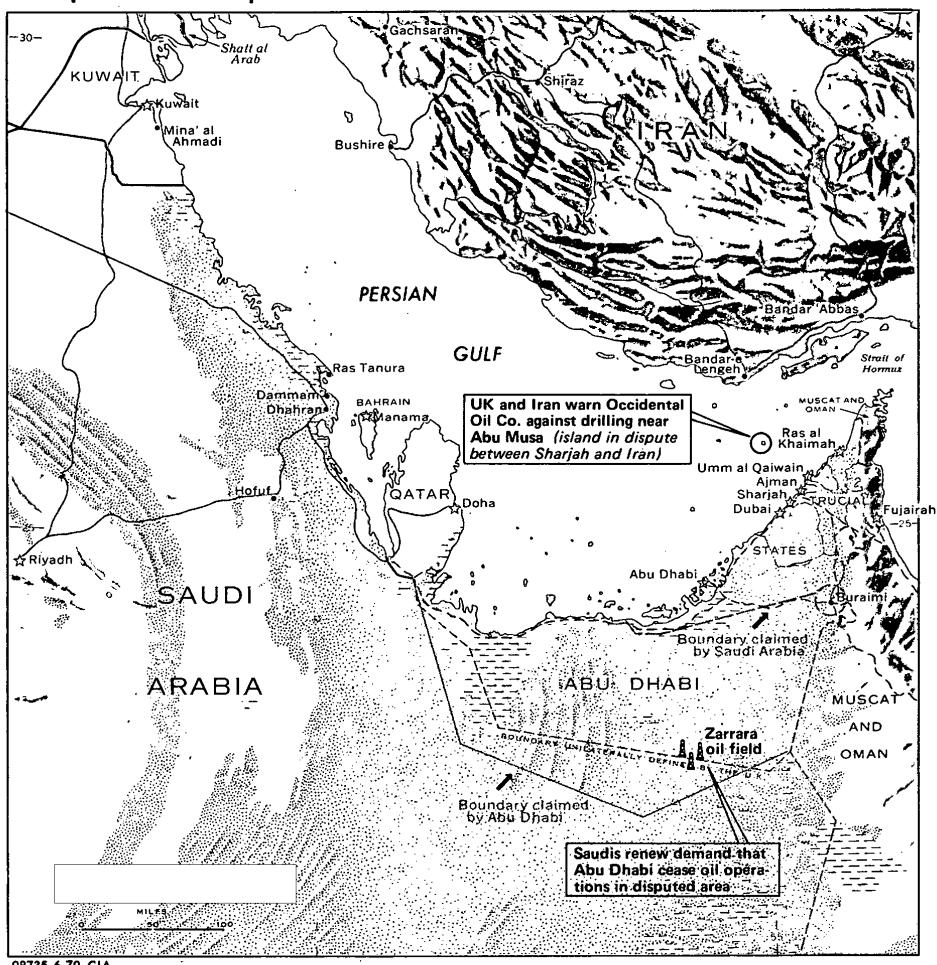
Given Israel's present "siege mentality," such a course on Moscow's part could be a dangerous miscalculation.

Sixty-five Israelis were killed on the various fronts last month, including 19 civilians. This is the highest monthly total since the June war. About half of the losses were sustained on the Egyptian front. Israeli casualties since the June war now total about 690 dead and 2,425 wounded; in the war itself, the figures were 800 and 3,000.

The Israeli public tends to associate the increased casualties with Soviet support for Nasir. Should the losses continue at the May rate, the government would be under more pressure than ever to attempt some new and drastic military action, despite the risk of direct clashes with the Soviets in Egypt.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Oil Operations in Disputed Areas



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**PERSIAN GULF**

US-owned international oil firms are currently embroiled in two political controversies in the Persian Gulf. Occidental is threatened by both the UK and Iran, if it commences operations off Abu Musa Island in a location granted it by the British-protected sheikhdom of Umm al-Qaiwain. The neighboring sheikhdom of Sharjah, also a British charge, is acknowledged by Britain and the other sheikhdoms to own Abu Musa, and it has granted oil rights on the island itself to another US firm, Buttes Gas and Oil Company. Recently Sharjah extended the territorial waters of Abu Musa so that they now overlap the concession area of Occidental. The UK has proposed a three-month moratorium on oil operations so that the dispute may be worked out. Occidental representatives yesterday told the British the company would honor the moratorium.

There was a minor incident the day before, however, when Occidental barges in the disputed area near Abu Musa Island were boarded by a British minesweeper. Occidental responded by filing a high court writ in London claiming "damages" from the minesweeper commander and the UK Defense Ministry. The "damages" referred to probably are legal rather than physical.

Iran disregards the claims of the two sheikhdoms and views the island as Iranian. It threatens to take direct action against any oil operations not sanctioned by Tehran. The Iranians are apprehensive about the "devious" British role in the concession dispute. Iran's Acting Foreign Minister Khalatbari told Ambassador MacArthur on 31 May that the Iranians suspect that the UK will use force if Tehran asserts its rights to Abu Musa.

On the southern shore of the Persian Gulf, the Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company (ADPC) is working in an area disputed between Abu Dhabi, a British protectorate, and Saudi Arabia. The British are the majority owners of ADPC but Mobil and Jersey have a 22 1/2 percent interest. Saudi Arabia, which formally claimed the area in 1949, insists that ADPC is working in an area assigned to Saudi Arabia under a 1955 agreement with the UK.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Some work has continued, however

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Another American company,
Aramco, has already given up its concession rights
in the disputed area.

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NOTE

USSR: The Soyuz 9 spacecraft and its two-man crew seem to be functioning satisfactorily.

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the two cosmonauts may attempt a longer-duration mission than previous Soviet manned space flights. The longest such flight to date was five days.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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ELECTIONS IN ITALY

On 7 and 8 June the electorate in most of Italy will vote to fill the usual local and provincial posts and to choose 15 new regional councils. These councils are due to take over a number of the functions now exercised by the central government, in effect decentralizing it to a degree. At least three of them will probably be dominated by the Communists, who will then be operating at a higher level of governmental authority than at any time since they left the national government in the late 1940s. The non-Communist parties are concerned about this and about the political alliances some of their local affiliates may accept in the new structures of regional government.

The four member parties of Premier Mariano Rumor's coalition government will view the returns as a gauge against which to check their assessment of political currents in Italy today. In particular, the voting will test the popularity of the vigorous anti-Communist position of the Unitary Socialist Party; its fortunes will affect politicians' judgments about the expediency of cooperating with the Communists in the future.

Regional Elections

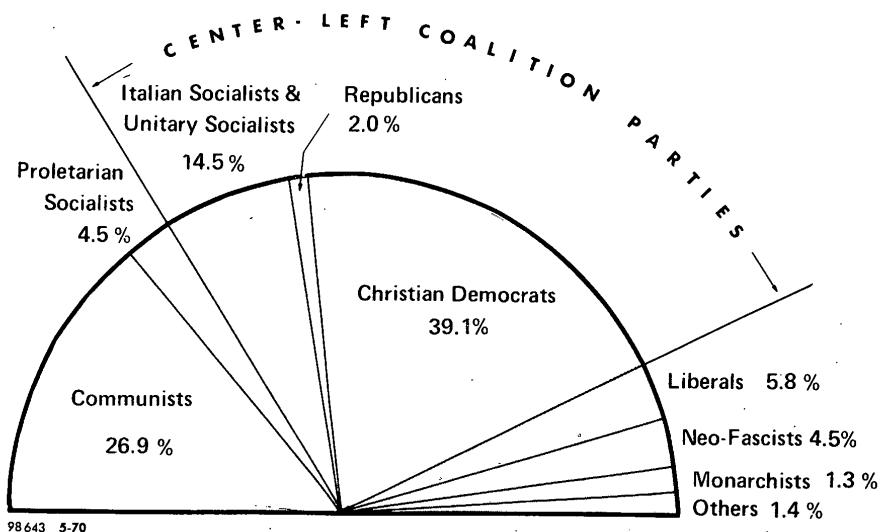
The establishment of regional councils for the country's 15 new regions will mark a fundamental change in the organization and administration of the country. (Five special regions including the islands of Sicily and Sardinia and the three ethnic minority areas in the north are already functioning but are peripheral to the national life politically as well as geographically.) The regions will have quasi-autonomous status in various fields including some police functions, welfare and regional public works. They will also have independent financial resources estimated initially at \$1 billion from national revenues and \$200 million in locally collected revenue. The councils that will administer them will have a membership numbering 30-80, under a president chosen from the council. Legislation governing the councils' powers is to be worked out by the central and regional governments after the elections.

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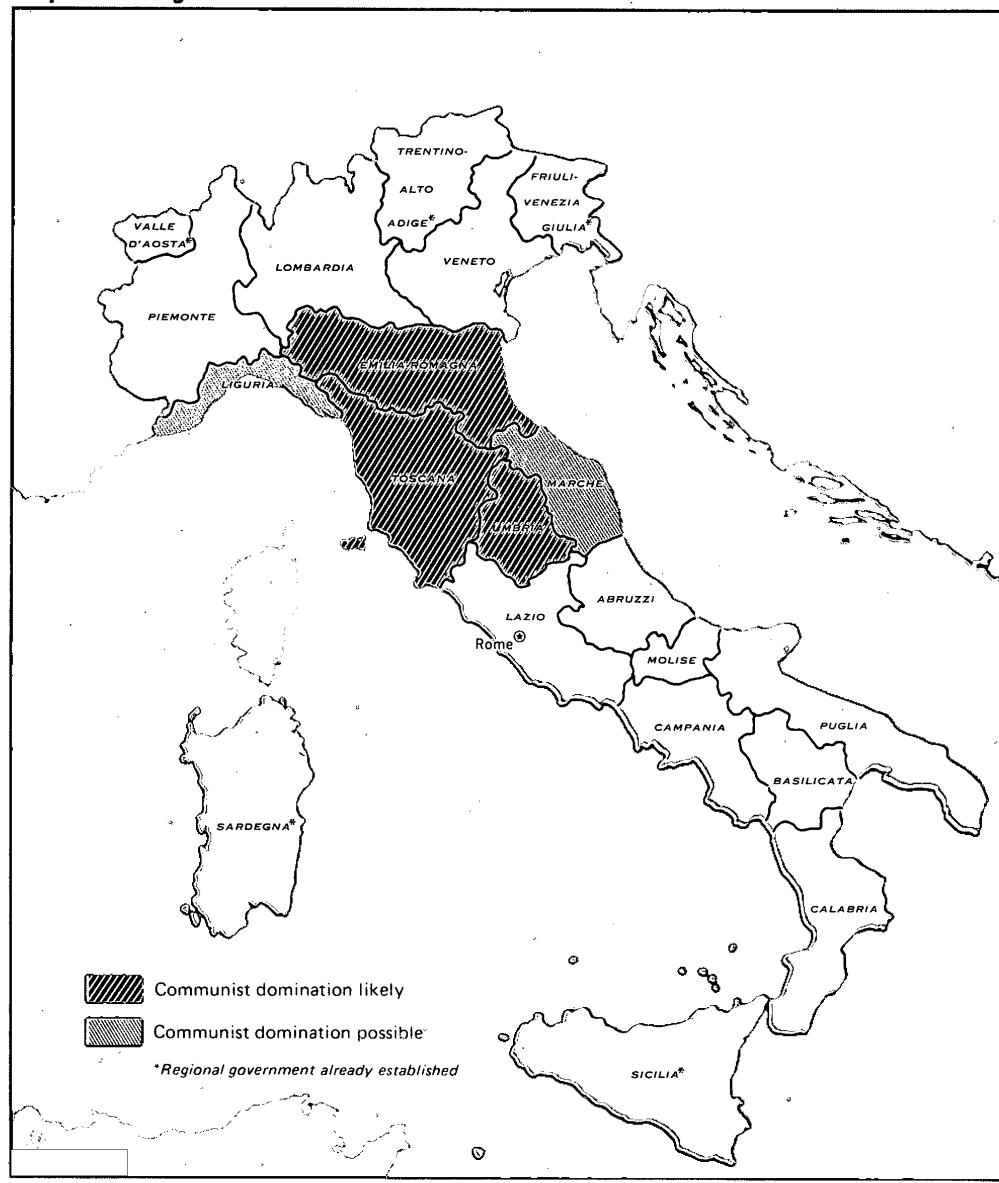
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Results of Italian National Elections, May 1968



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Italy Faces Regional Elections



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Extrapolations from previous election results indicate that three regions in the center of the country--Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, and Umbria--are likely to have governments controlled by the Communists and their allies, possibly including the Socialists. There may also be Communist-dominated regional governments in Liguria and Marche.

The Communist campaigns in the three regions they are likely to dominate illustrate the differences in approach of two key factions within the Italian Communist Party. The campaign in Umbria is stressing the importance of the strike weapon, of the worker, and of the leadership of the proletariat. The chief Communist candidate and proposed regional president is a labor leader. The campaigns in Emilia-Romagna and in Tuscany, in contrast, are stressing the party's pragmatic ability to work with men of various political beliefs. The chief Communist candidates in these two regions have political rather than labor backgrounds. The Communists in Tuscany have been candid in stating that they would use their victory to provide a model of what Communist government on a national scale would be like, to gain experience in working with various political currents, and to lobby in Rome for national policies favored by the party.

In other parts of the country, both north and south of the red belt, most of the regions will probably be run by coalitions resembling the center-left coalition of the central government. Significant for the future will be the extent to which the Socialist Party breaks the national pattern to join the Communists on the local and regional level.

Implications for the National Coalition

On the level of national government, the June elections have particular importance as a test of the competitive political strengths of the center-left coalition parties and of the Communists. Voting patterns are usually extremely stable in Italy, and political leaders give great weight to gains or losses of one or two percent of the electorate. Even changes of this magnitude, therefore, have national repercussions. Interpretation of the elections, however, will be influenced by the political bias of the interpreter as he studies inevitable inconsistencies in the vote on the local, provincial, and regional levels.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Of special interest will be the performance of the Unitary Socialist Party (PSU), which seceded from the main body of the Socialist Party (PSI) in July 1969 after almost three years of union. The PSU said it seceded because the PSI was too willing to work with the Communists. The PSI, on the other hand, attributed the secession to personal rivalries. In any case, the PSU is waging a vigorous anti-Communist election campaign, attacking both Socialists and Christian Democrats as too left-leaning.

Should the PSU do significantly better than it did as an independent party in 1963, it would insist on recognition of its enhanced standing at the national level. In any such move, its efforts would be aided by its implied threat that President Saragat, who is sympathetic to the PSU, might use his constitutional power to call new national parliamentary elections before the normal expiration of the parliamentary term in 1973.

Failure of the PSU to increase its vote significantly, on the other hand, would tend to strengthen the hand of Socialists and left-wing Christian Democrats who favor some degree of acceptance of Communist cooperation in regional government and in the national parliament.

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LATE ITEM

CAMBODIA

According to a report from the US Embassy in Phnom Penh, a Communist force of undetermined size captured the village of Setbo Leu, about ten miles southeast of the Cambodian capital, early today. Few details are available, but air support is being used in an effort to halt the advance. This is the closest Communist move to date toward Phnom Penh. The fact that the thrust coincided with the arrival in Phnom Penh of South Vietnamese Vice President Ky suggests that it was intended to cause maximum political embarrassment to the Lon Nol regime. It probably does not represent a serious military threat to the security of the capital.

The embassy also reported that in the north, the city of Kompong Thom has come under attack from three sides and that part of it is in enemy hands. There has been a buildup of Communist forces around the city in recent days and government defenders there have been predicting an assault.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

4 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The deployments of Vietnamese Communist main force infantry units since allied cross-border operations commenced in late April [redacted] *Page 1.*

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The Communists moved sizable quantities of supplies through the Laos panhandle last month, but relatively few new troops were introduced into the infiltration system. *(Page 3)*

In Bonn [redacted]

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[redacted] *(Page 4)*

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Argentine [redacted]

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[redacted] *(Page 5)*

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The Soviet performance at the four-power talks Tuesday is viewed as another manifestation of the tough line Moscow has recently been taking on the Middle East to force concessions from Israel. *(Page 6)*

Latin American reactions to the US plan to limit national jurisdictions over the continental shelf are summarized on *Page 7.*

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[redacted] in Turkey. *(Page 7)*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Movement of Enemy Units - 30 April-3 June



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA

There has been a general movement of Communist main force infantry units from their long-time safehavens along the South Vietnamese - Cambodian border since allied cross-border operations began in late April. Communications intelligence provides a fairly complete picture of these movements, which involve some 11 enemy regiments and their respective divisional headquarters. With few exceptions, these elements have moved to the west or north-west--deeper into Cambodia.

Most, but not all, of these relocations appear to have been in direct response to allied operations, reflecting the enemy's anxiety to avoid contact while dropping back to more secure areas. At least five first-line combat regiments which have pulled back from the border remain inside the 21.7-mile limit on US operations. These units evidently elected to disperse and seek cover to avoid detection. Another regiment--the North Vietnamese 95C--remains just across the border from western Tay Ninh Province, but continues to move about within Base Area 354. Only one regiment--the North Vietnamese 209th--actually moved from Cambodia back into South Vietnam, where it posed a threat to allied positions in northern Tay Ninh Province before moving back into Cambodia on 1 June. Although elements of the North Vietnamese 24th Regiment have been moving supplies in the far reaches of northeastern Cambodia, most of the enemy's forces that are normally deployed along the border opposite South Vietnam's central highlands have been operating for some time farther to the north in Kontum Province and adjacent areas of Laos.

In at least one instance, an enemy unit which has apparently sought to evade allied sweeps has at the same time put itself in position to increase pressure in a key sector of Cambodia. This unit, the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment, left its base area in the Seven Mountains region of Chau Doc Province and moved more than 25 miles into southern Cambodia. Because a sister regiment--the 18B--remained behind, we suspect that the westward move of the 101D was intended to improve the Communists' military position near the coast.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

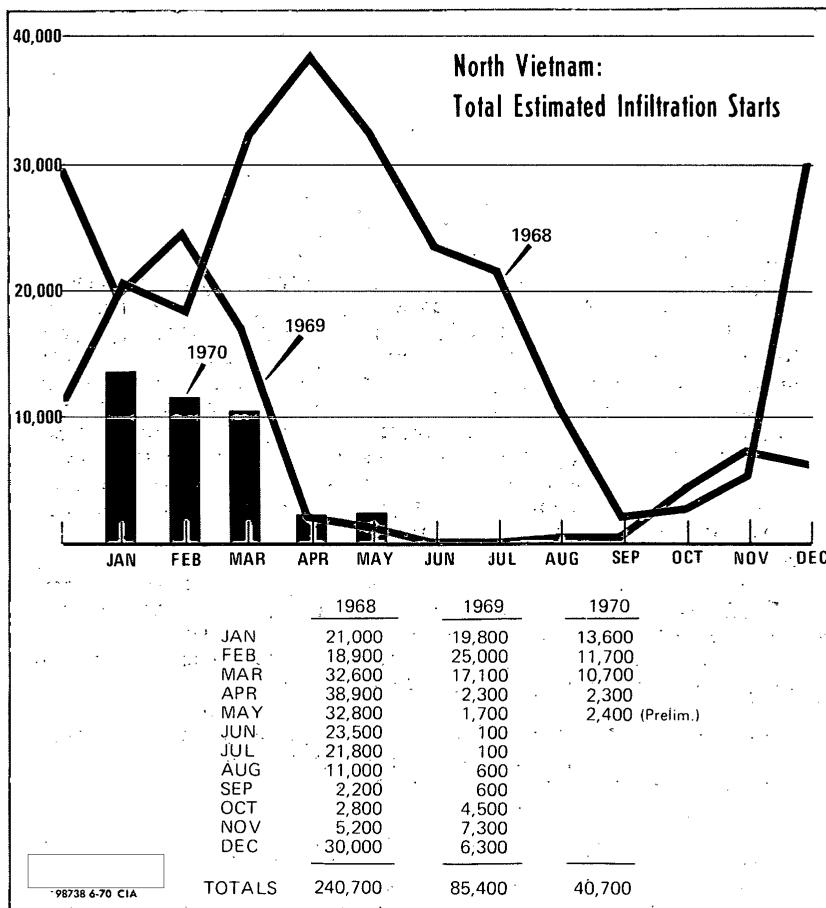
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Two Communist regiments that normally operate in South Vietnam's III Corps have been involved in offensive operations against major Cambodian targets. The 5th Division's 275th Regiment helped overrun the Cambodian provincial capital of Kratie. It has since crossed the Mekong River and is now well into north-central Cambodia. The 9th Division's 272nd Regiment, meanwhile, has been in combat in northern Prey Veng Province. Other first-line combat units may have assisted rear guard and security forces in the enemy's effort to secure sectors of northeastern Cambodia as a terminal for logistic and reinforcement routes from the north.

Major staff sections of COSVN, including the main political headquarters, have also withdrawn deeper into Cambodia and are now situated near the Mekong River, some 34 miles north of South Vietnam's Tay Ninh Province border. It is increasingly apparent that this area is being used as a fall back position from which enemy staffs can carry on necessary functions until they can drift back closer to the border.

In sum, the Communists have in most cases responded skillfully to allied Cambodian operations. For the most part, key combat forces have used evasive tactics. In only a few instances have the Communists chosen to stand and slug it out, and these occasions may have been diversionary to allow larger units to escape. While most enemy units moved to evade allied operations, a few went on the offensive against relatively weak Cambodian targets to gain control of the more remote regions of northeastern Cambodian.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

The Communists have succeeded in moving substantial quantities of supplies through the Laotian panhandle during May in spite of rain and bombings. A recently intercepted message shows that shipments into the southern panhandle in the first three weeks of May averaged 72 tons a day. During May last year the North Vietnamese were in the process of virtually closing down their logistics and infiltration system for the rainy season.

The continued movement of large quantities of supplies during May, when road conditions deteriorate markedly, underscores the Communists' determination to make up the losses caused by recent allied operations.

The three battalion-sized units plus two smaller groups forecast last week entered the pipeline on schedule. Infiltration totals for May stand at about 2,400 troops. There are still no indications that Hanoi intends to increase the flow of replacement infiltration groups to the South in the near future.

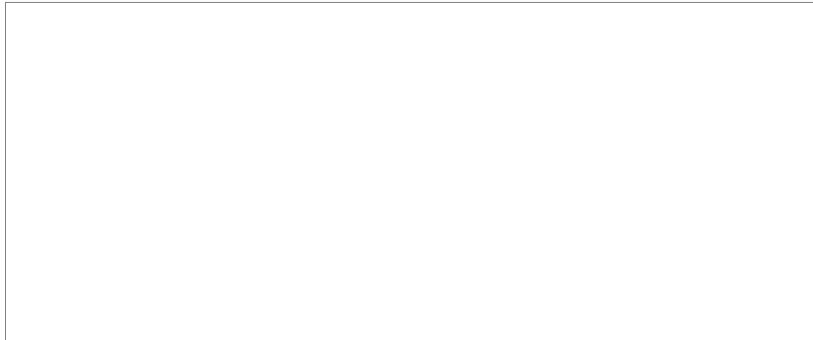
There are some signs, however, that combat units from the North Vietnamese 304th Division, now based about 30 miles north of the DMZ, may be moving southward. The two regiments involved, the 9th and the 24B, both have recently been in touch with other division components in Quang Tri Province, and elements of the 9th were located in Laos opposite the DMZ area on 1 June.

The 304th Division already has sent its 66th Regiment to northern South Vietnam. The southward movement of the other regiments might be either reinforcements or a periodic rotation of forces.

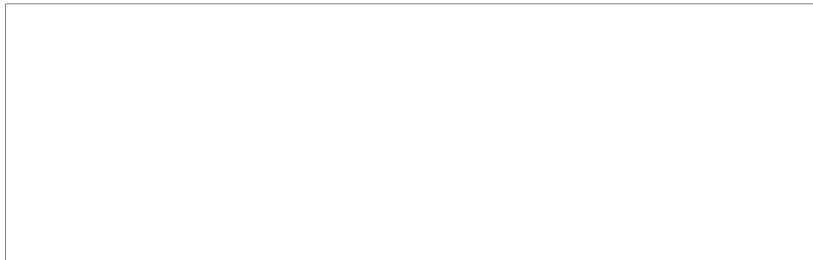
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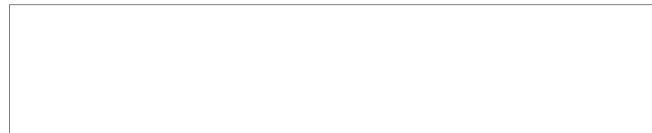
WEST GERMANY



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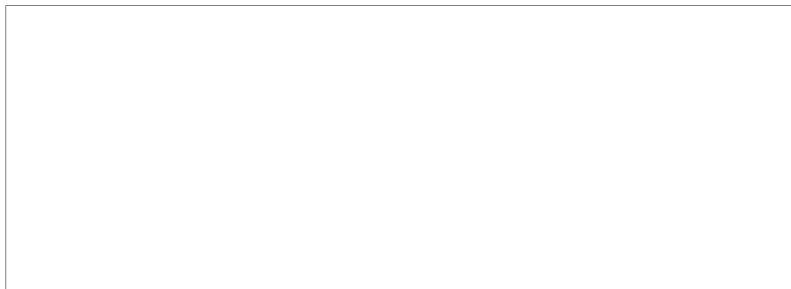


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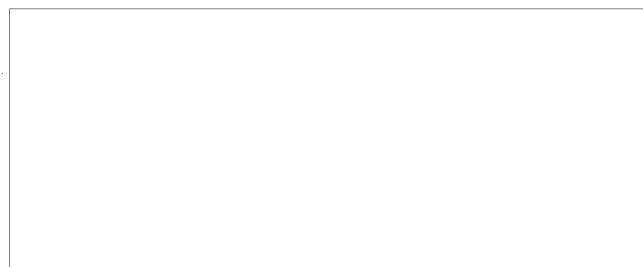
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ARGENTINA



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Soviet Naval Units Leave Caribbean



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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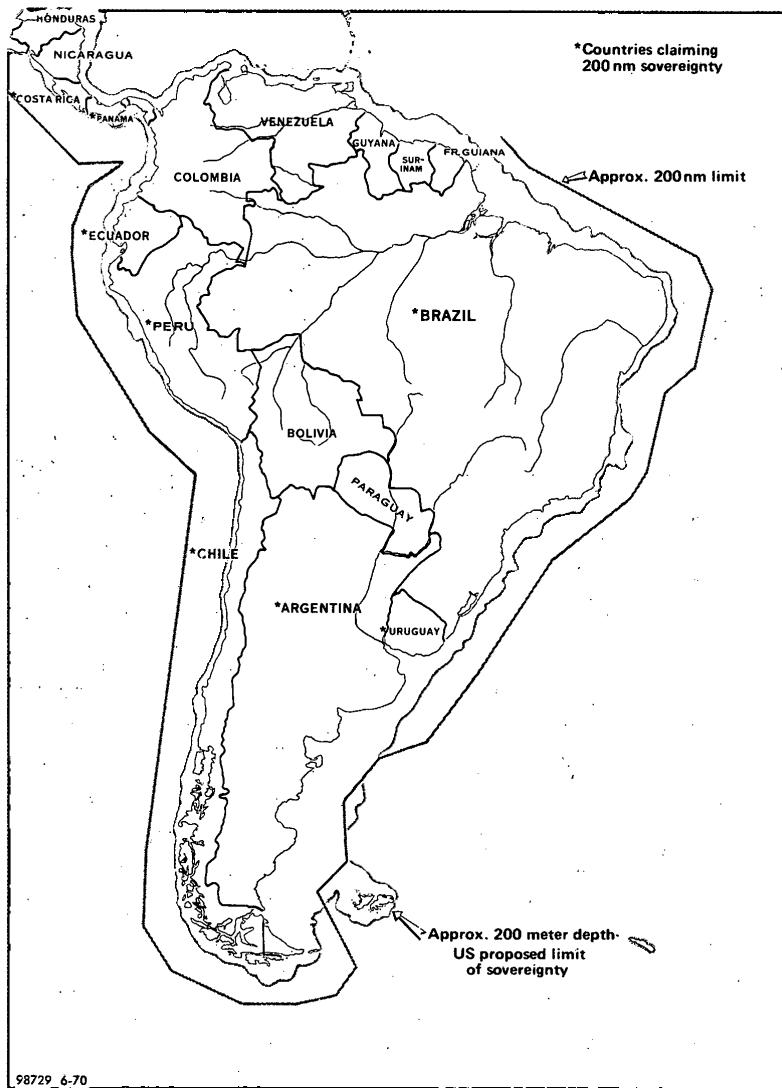
USSR - Middle East: [redacted] we took note of the hard line Soviet propagandists are currently taking on the Middle East, speculating that this was part of a bid by the Kremlin to squeeze concessions out of Israel. The Soviet performance at Tuesday's session of the four-power talks in New York seems to be another manifestation of this policy. Deputy Soviet UN representative Mendelevich claimed the USSR could no longer accept even minor changes in Israel's borders with the Arab states. He rationalized this retreat from the Soviets' explicit acceptance on 5 March of minor border alterations on the ground that the US and Israel were interpreting "rectifications" too broadly. We share Ambassador Yost's view that in the end the Soviets would be willing to accept border changes if the Arabs went along.

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USSR: The group of Soviet warships that has been operating in the Caribbean area for the past three weeks apparently is returning to home waters. During their stay, the Soviet ships visited Cienfuegos and Havana, and cruised in the Gulf of Mexico.

Arab States: The US is likely to be the object of bitter rhetoric and public demonstrations tomorrow, the third anniversary of the 1967 war. In fear that observances in Amman might get out of hand, King Husayn has successfully bid for postponement of an "emergency" meeting of heads of Arab states "confronting" Israel. It was to have opened in Cairo tomorrow.

Libya: Premier Qaddafi continues his travels. He is now in Baghdad, where it can be assumed he is again making his case for an embargo on oil sales to the US and other "pro-Israeli" countries in the event we sell more Phantoms to Israel. Damascus will be his next stop. In Libya, there has been no break in the impasse between the government and the oil companies over prices.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Latin America: Peru and Ecuador have already officially rejected the US plan to limit national jurisdictions over the continental shelf to a depth of 200 meters. Chile's foreign minister has publicly denounced it, and a Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman has complained that the time is not right to discuss it. The Mexican foreign minister has said that the South American countries are putting heavy pressure on his country to follow their lead, but added that Mexico believes the US proposal is a step forward. Peru, meanwhile, has invited those countries that attended the Territorial Limits Conference in Montevideo last month to another conference on sea rights to be held in Lima from 11 to 15 August.

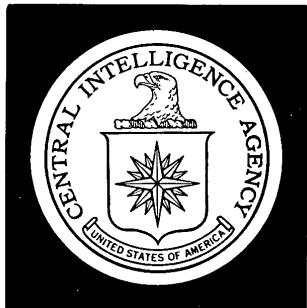
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The President's Daily Brief

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

5 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists in Laos have driven back government forces. (Page 1)

The Turkish [redacted] 50X50X1
[redacted] (Page 2)

Castro has sent Cuban medical supplies to earthquake stricken Peru. (Page 3)

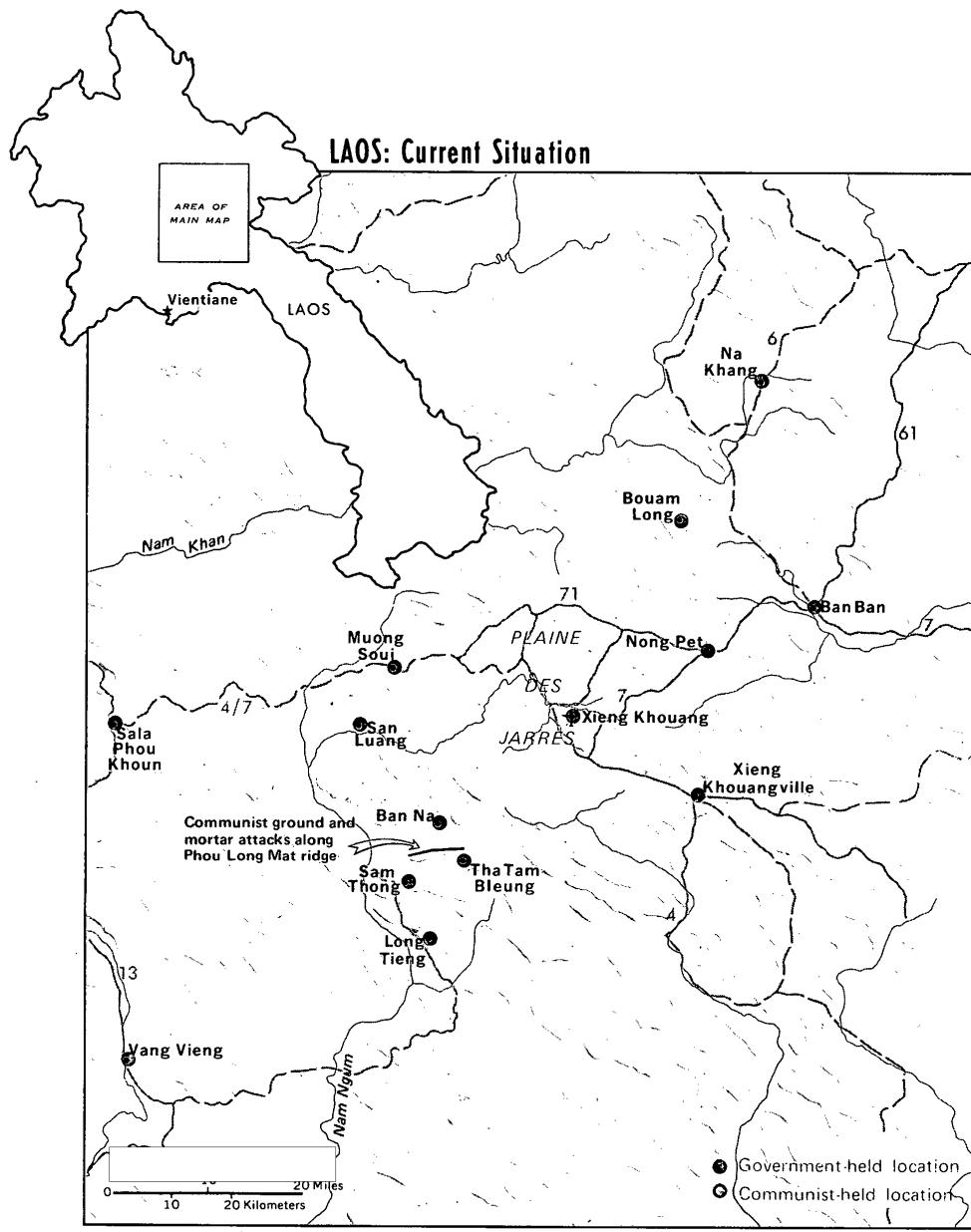
Soviet [redacted] 50X1
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[redacted] 50X1
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Egypt [redacted] 50X1
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[redacted] (Page 4)

Nasir may go to Moscow again soon. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The Communists launched a series of ground and mortar attacks yesterday along the Phou Long Mat ridge, north of Sam Thong and just south of the area where government forces have stalled in their effort to retake the base at Ban Na. Government guerrilla units were forced to retreat toward Tha Tam Bleung. Enemy ambushes along the evacuation routes apparently took a heavy toll of the more than 200 government troops involved. Of the first 109 survivors to reach Tha Tam Bleung, 55 were wounded.

Recent intercepts have provided a number of indications that enemy forces intended a new round of attacks in the Sam Thong - Tha Tam Bleung area. Elements of the North Vietnamese 174th Regiment referred on 2 June to a forthcoming "D-Day" and indicated that action would continue for at least three days.

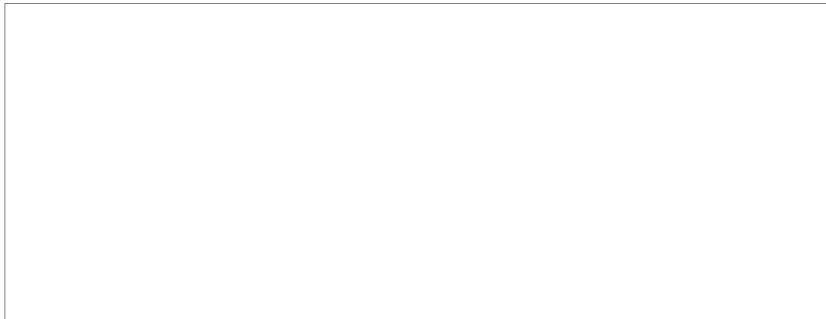
The ground the Communists have chosen for their latest attacks suggests an effort at least to disrupt Vang Pao's drive on Ban Na, his first offensive in some time. The North Vietnamese probably are anxious to demonstrate their control of the territory immediately south of the Plaine des Jarres and to discourage government hopes of repeating last year's successful rainy season campaign.

In the south, action has been confined for several days to minor skirmishing around government guerrilla bases on the southeastern edge of the Bolovens Plateau. At Saravane, the long anticipated Communist attack has not yet materialized, but Lao-tian pilots have reported attacking sizable concentrations of enemy troops on the outskirts of the town.

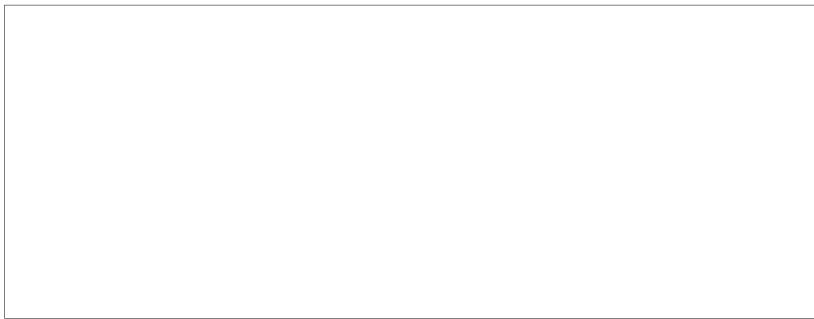
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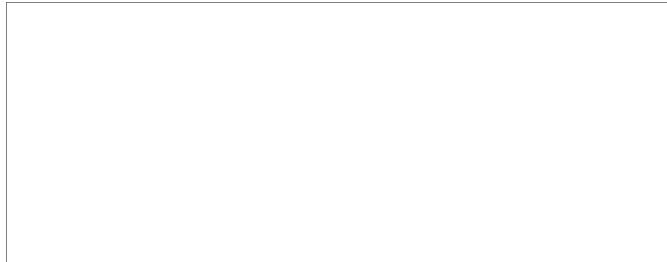
TURKEY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CUBA-PERU

Castro yesterday dispatched two planeloads of medical supplies to Peru for victims of the earthquake.

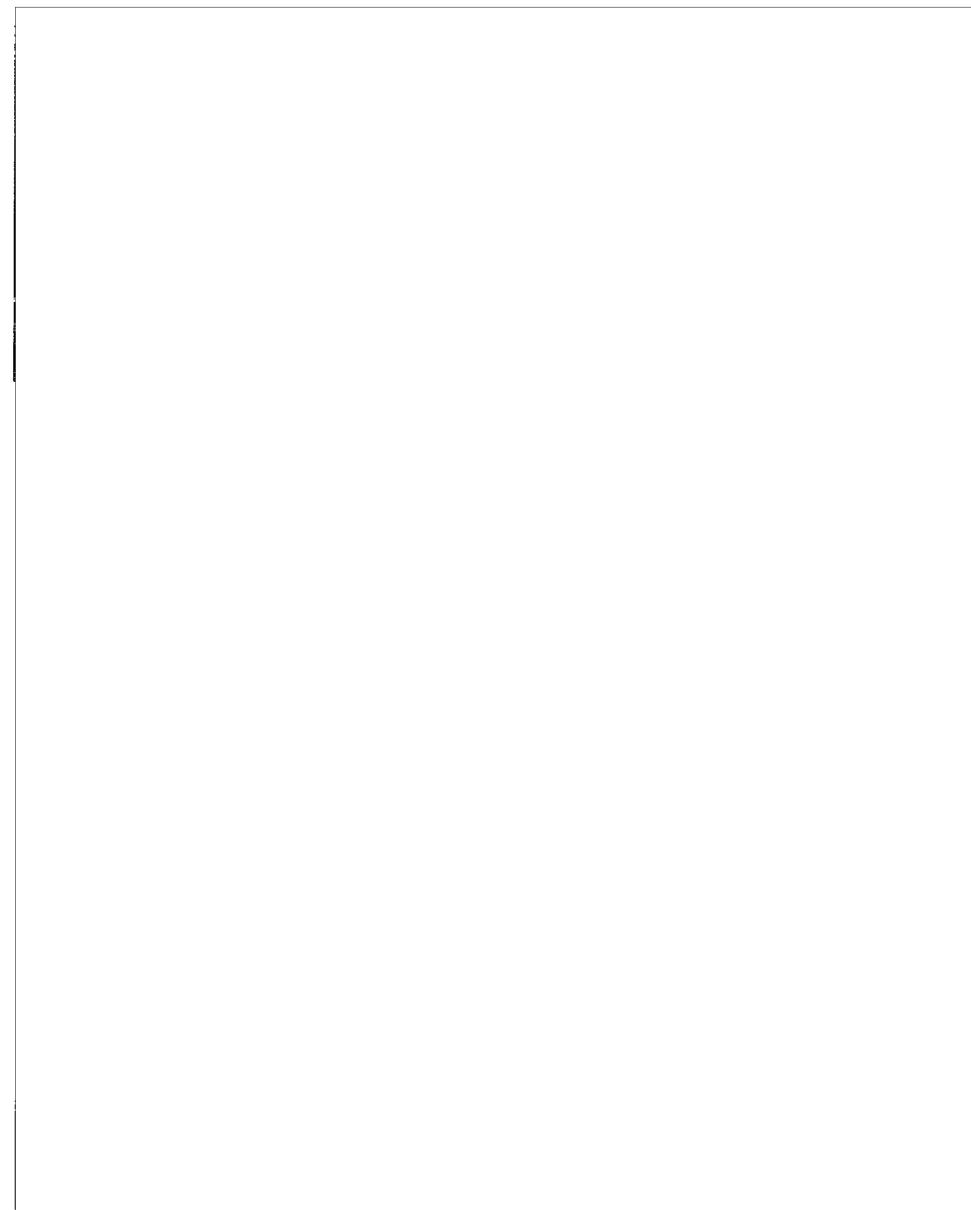
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The aid arrangements thus far have had to be worked out through the Peruvian office of the Cuban press agency.

Although Castro has expended some of his most scurrilous propaganda on military governments in Latin America, his attitude toward the Velasco administration since last July has been one of cautious optimism regarding its "revolutionary" potential. He may hope his present gesture will lead eventually to re-establishing diplomatic relations.

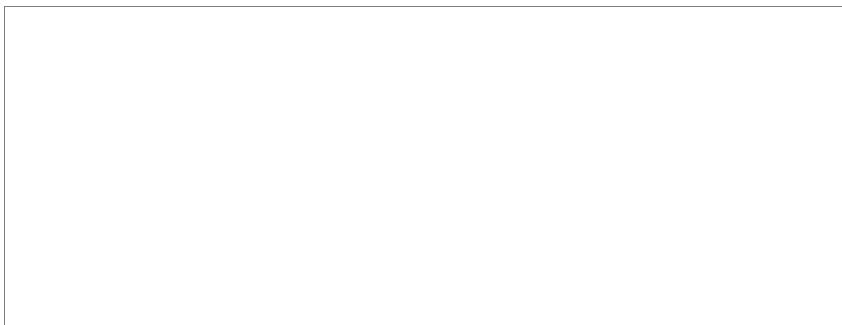
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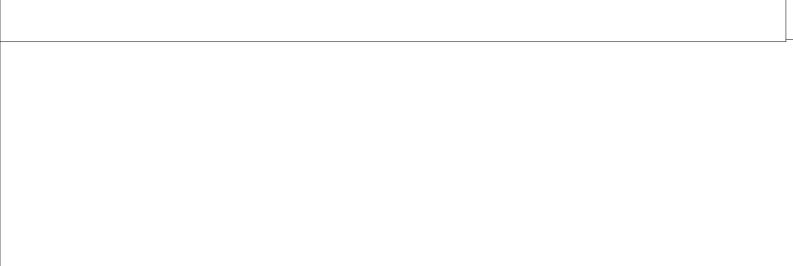
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South Vietnam: 



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Israel-Egypt: 



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Egypt-USSR: Donald Bergus, US representative in Cairo, has been told that Nasir is planning a trip to Moscow in the near future. Nasir's last visit to the USSR was late in January, when he negotiated the deployment of Soviet air defense systems to Egypt. There are any number of military and political issues he could take up with the Soviet leaders this time, but he might be going only for a medical checkup.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LATE ITEM

CAMBODIA

A Cambodian Government spokesman said this morning that Siem Reap city and its airport have come under Communist attack, according to press reports. The size of the attacking force and its composition have not yet been determined. The government is said to be trying urgently to get reinforcements to the area.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

In Laos, no major military activity was reported yesterday, but intercepts point to impending Communist actions in the south. (*Page 3*)

Recent Communist attacks in South Vietnam have been characterized mainly by shelling of military and urban targets.

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(*Page 4*)

On *Page 6* we offer some thoughts on the forthcoming visit to New York of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin.

Incidents on the Israeli-Jordanian border have raised tempers in both Tel Aviv and Amman. (*Page 8*)

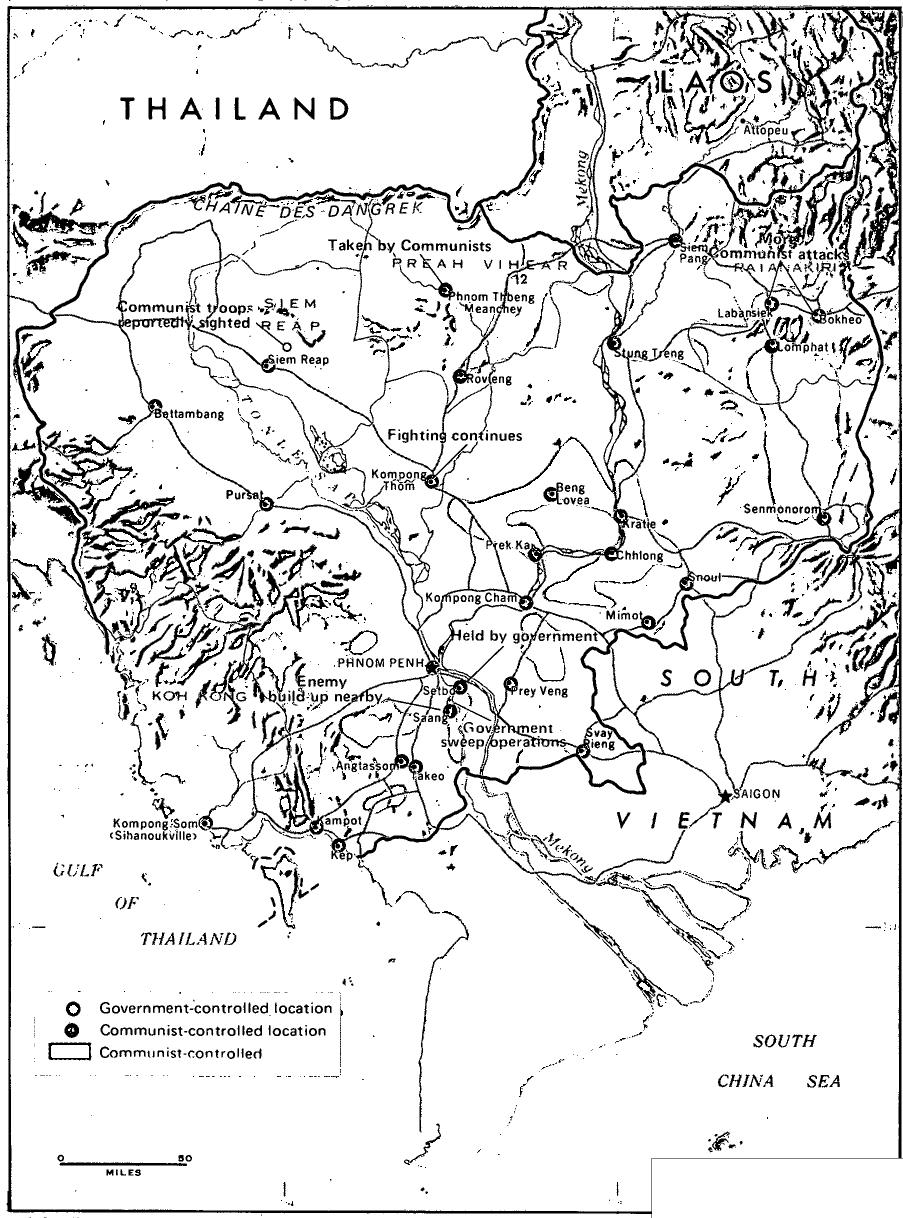
Panama expects major US concessions to follow from its extension of the Rio Hato Base Agreement. (*Page 9*)

Satellite photography has identified two new groups of SS-11 silos in the USSR. (*Page 10*)

Madame Binh's departure from Paris will leave no high-level representative in either of the Vietnamese Communist delegations there. (*Page 10*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Two government battalions, backed by air and armor support, moved into the village of Setbo, south of Phnom Penh, yesterday, meeting only token enemy resistance.

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elements of a Communist regiment are still in the area, however. A buildup of Communist forces was also reported near Saang, a river town some 18 miles south of Phnom Penh that was held briefly by the Communists in late April. Several government battalions have been ordered to sweep the Bassac River area between Setbo and Saang.

Kompong Thom town is still besieged by Communist forces, but the four Cambodian battalions there appear to be holding their own. They are receiving some tactical support from the Cambodian Air Force, and supplies are being dropped to them. The regional commander has asked for at least two Khmer Krom or paratroop battalions to launch a counterattack.

In the northeast, the Communists placed mortar fire on Bokheo town in Ratanakiri Province, but without serious effect. The nearby position at La-bansiek continues to be harassed.

Government officials in Preah Vihear Province are now reporting Communist troop movements west of Route 12; it appears that the provincial capital of Tbeng Meanchey has fallen.

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According to Cambodian intercepts, Vietnamese Communist troops are moving through a district in eastern Siem Reap Province. This would represent the Communists' deepest westward penetration, but it is possible that the troops are indigenous Cambodian insurgents. The Communists are telling villagers that Siem Reap city will be attacked soon. Such reports probably dictated Phnom Penh's decision to suspend temporarily tourist travel to nearby Angkor Wat, for "security reasons."

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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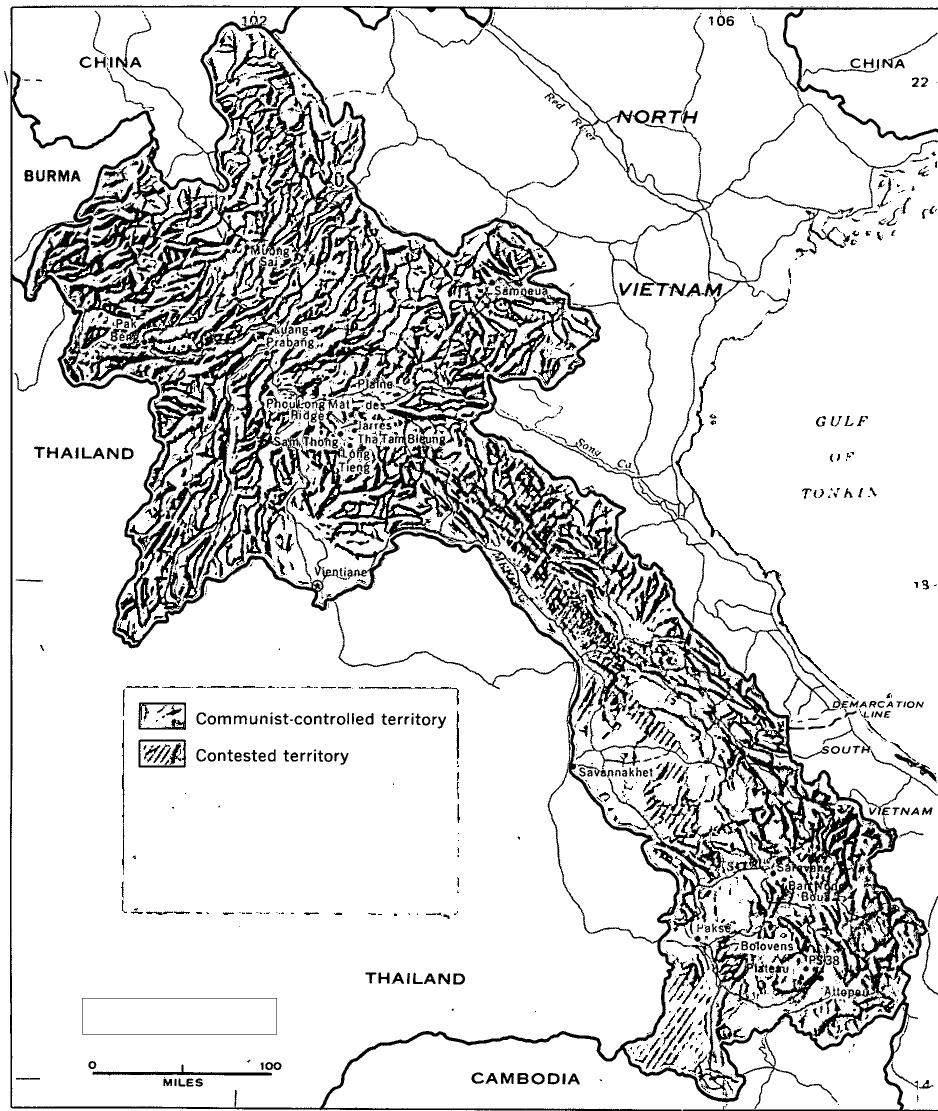
According to our embassy in Bangkok, there has been considerable debate in the Thai cabinet over the kind of military support to be given Cambodia. Prime Minister Thanom and his deputy, General Praphat, appeared to incline toward sending regular Thai troops. Under the urging of Foreign Minister Thanat, however, it was decided to send only ethnic Cambodian volunteers, who would serve as an integral part of the Cambodian Army.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Laos: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The fighting in the Sam Thong - Tha Tam Bleung sector has tapered off, and government forces are regrouping to go back on the offensive soon. A guerrilla battalion, airlifted from Long Tieng, has re-occupied the positions on Phou Long Mat ridge lost on 4 June.

In southern Laos, enemy units fired rockets at PS-38, the guerrilla base west of Attapeu, but did no damage. Laotian Army patrols encountered small enemy units around Saravane, but no major clashes developed.

Recent intercepts between Pathet Lao elements operating near Saravane provide some insight into Communist tactical planning in this area. According to these messages, an attack on the nearby guerrilla base at Ban Nong Boua will be mounted on 8 June. An assault on Saravane is to follow on 25 June. Intercepted Pathet Lao reports on future military operations have proved to be inaccurate in the past with respect to timing. It seems plausible, however, that the Communists would want to eliminate any sources of opposition in the Saravane area before seizing the provincial capital.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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SOUTH VIETNAM

The early June upsurge of the Communists' "spring" campaign so far has consisted largely of shelling military and urban targets in South Vietnam's I, II, and IV corps. This phase of enemy action may last several more days.

Enemy forces marked the opening days of April and May with similar efforts, but with each series the scope and intensity has been decreasing. This may be due not only to increased enemy difficulties, but also to allied pre-emptive measures

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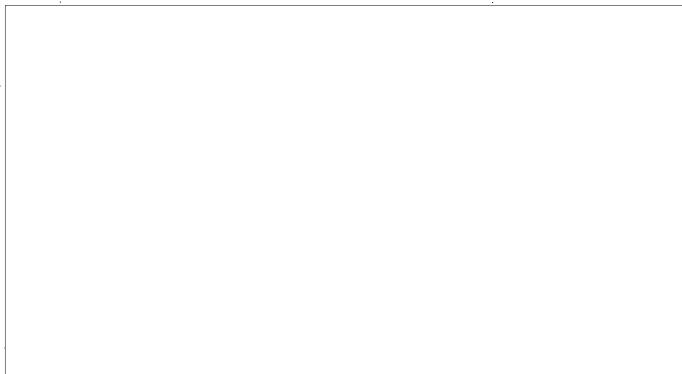
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin, who is responsible for South and Southeast Asia, is coming to New York on Sunday as a "guest" of Ambassador to the UN Malik. No reason has been given for his trip.

If the visit has political significance, Firyubin's task probably is related to the situation in Indochina, where the Soviet position has deteriorated badly in recent weeks while China has made corresponding gains. The spread of the war into Cambodia has pushed North Vietnam toward Chinese positions and delivered Sihanouk into Peking's hands. In these circumstances, Moscow's best chance of getting back into the act is via the diplomatic route.

If this is Firyubin's mission, several possibilities occur to us:

--He might be charged with taking soundings on the possibility of international action to restore Cambodian "neutrality" after 30 June. This would be intended to force ARVN to depart Cambodia with the US forces and to restore the operating conditions which the Vietnamese Communists enjoyed until last month. Firyubin might try to stimulate and build on the efforts of others, such as U Thant, to organize international efforts in this direction.

--He might have a private message for the US to the effect that the present is a propitious time for Washington to make a new diplomatic gesture, such as the dispatch of a high-level negotiator to Paris. Recent Soviet statements to third countries, alleging that great strains have been placed on North Vietnamese resources by the Cambodian action, could have been intended to prepare the ground for this pitch, which would be accompanied by warnings that, unless the deadlock were broken, Chinese influence in Indochina would continue to grow.

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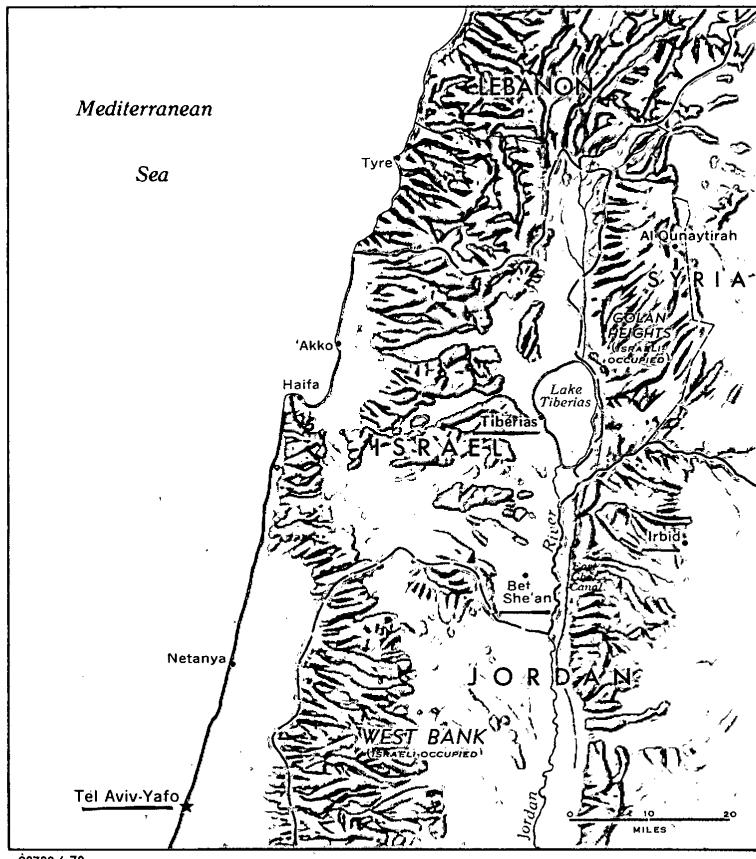
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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--His instructions might go no further than to put in an appearance, remind UN diplomats of the USSR's 1969 proposal on Asian collective security, and generally manifest continuing Soviet interest and involvement in the area.

Projects of the first two sorts would face formidable obstacles. Neither Hanoi nor Peking (nor Moscow, for that matter) has ever accepted any UN competence in Indo-chinese questions. North Vietnam's propensity to negotiate is currently at a nadir. Nor can the Soviets have much hope that the US is ready to lower its terms at the present moment.

Despite these odds, Firyubin's trip suggests that Moscow is casting about for some way to reinject itself into the game. In the face of its recent setbacks, Moscow may have decided to take a more independent line rather than clearing everything with Hanoi. The trouble is that, if Moscow is readier to play its own hand, this is only because it has hardly any leverage left over Hanoi.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-JORDAN

A series of incidents on the Israeli-Jordanian border has raised tempers in both Israel and Jordan and could spiral even further into more serious military clashes. Israel has lost a half dozen dead in Bet Shean Valley in the last few days through fedayeen and Jordanian Army shellings. Tel Aviv says it will take stronger action including "even crossing the border" if Husayn is not able to bring the fedayeen and Jordanian and Iraqi forces under control.

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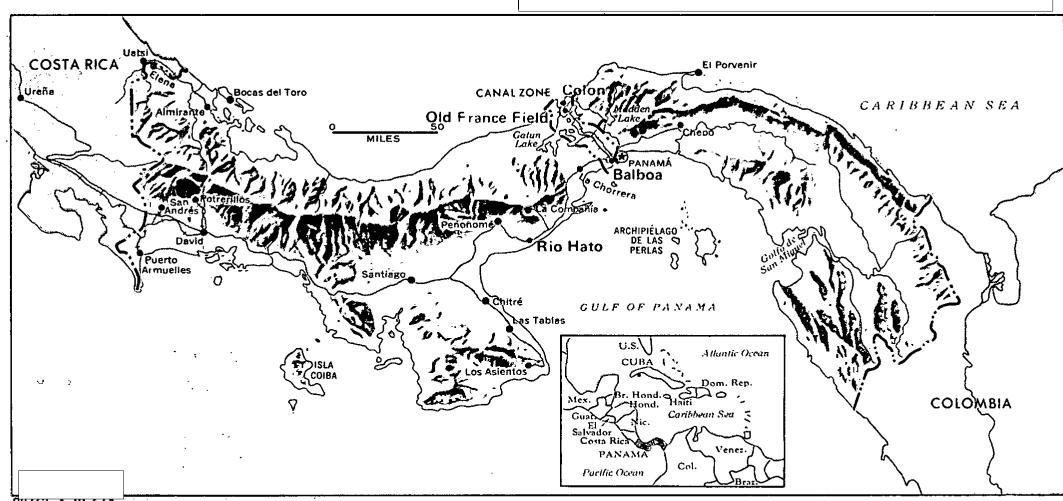
Fedayeen firing on Israeli settlements in the Bet Shean Valley has been a continuing problem for both Tel Aviv and Amman. The latter has tried hard--and with some success--to curb fedayeen action there, but lately the fedayeen have gotten out of hand. The Israelis retaliated with the indiscriminate shelling of the town of Irbid, and Jordanian forces countered by lobbing shells into Israeli Tiberias. Some Israelis are convinced that if they are to control the situation, they will have to move across the valley and clean out the high ground.

Israeli patrols have been sweeping into desolate southern Jordan from time to time, and of course most recently into southern Lebanon, with relative impunity. A move into northern Jordan could be the catalyst for far more trouble.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Panama Seeks Concessions for Rio Hato



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PANAMA

In a talk with Ambassador Sayre yesterday, President Lakas reaffirmed his government's willingness to allow the US to use Rio Hato, a major air base and training area outside the Canal Zone, after the existing agreement expires in August. Lakas made it clear, however, that he expects the US to reciprocate by granting a number of Panamanian requests.

Top Panamanian officials have recently tried to persuade the US to return certain areas within the Canal Zone, such as military airfields and the docks at Colon and Balboa. Earlier this week, the Panamanian chargé in Washington stressed his government's interest in gaining an increased sugar quota, an annual rent for Rio Hato, and the return of a disused airfield, Old France Field.

The government has not yet settled on a specific quid pro quo for Rio Hato and may even, in advance of any concessions by the US, extend the agreement for one year. Nevertheless, the government's revenue problems and its wish to increase its popular support by demonstrating its ability to deal effectively with the US make it likely that Panamanian demands eventually will become insistent.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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NOTES

USSR: Two new groups of ten SS-11 silos each have been identified in the latest satellite photography of the Derazhnya MRBM complex. Construction of the new groups probably began about the first of this year. A total of 12 SS-11 groups has now been identified at Derazhnya and at the Pervomaysk IRBM complex. Five of these groups are operational; construction is continuing at the remaining seven and they should be completed by early next year.

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Paris Talks: Madame Binh, the Viet Cong's "foreign minister," has announced that she is returning to Vietnam. Her departure will leave no high-level delegate in either of the Vietnamese Communist delegations. The Communists have been careful not to scuttle the Paris talks completely, but they clearly see no immediate prospects for meaningful negotiations in this forum.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

8 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

In Laos, General Vang Pao's drive on Ban Na has made some progress, but in the south, the Communists stepped up attacks over the weekend on a government guerrilla base. (*Page 2*)

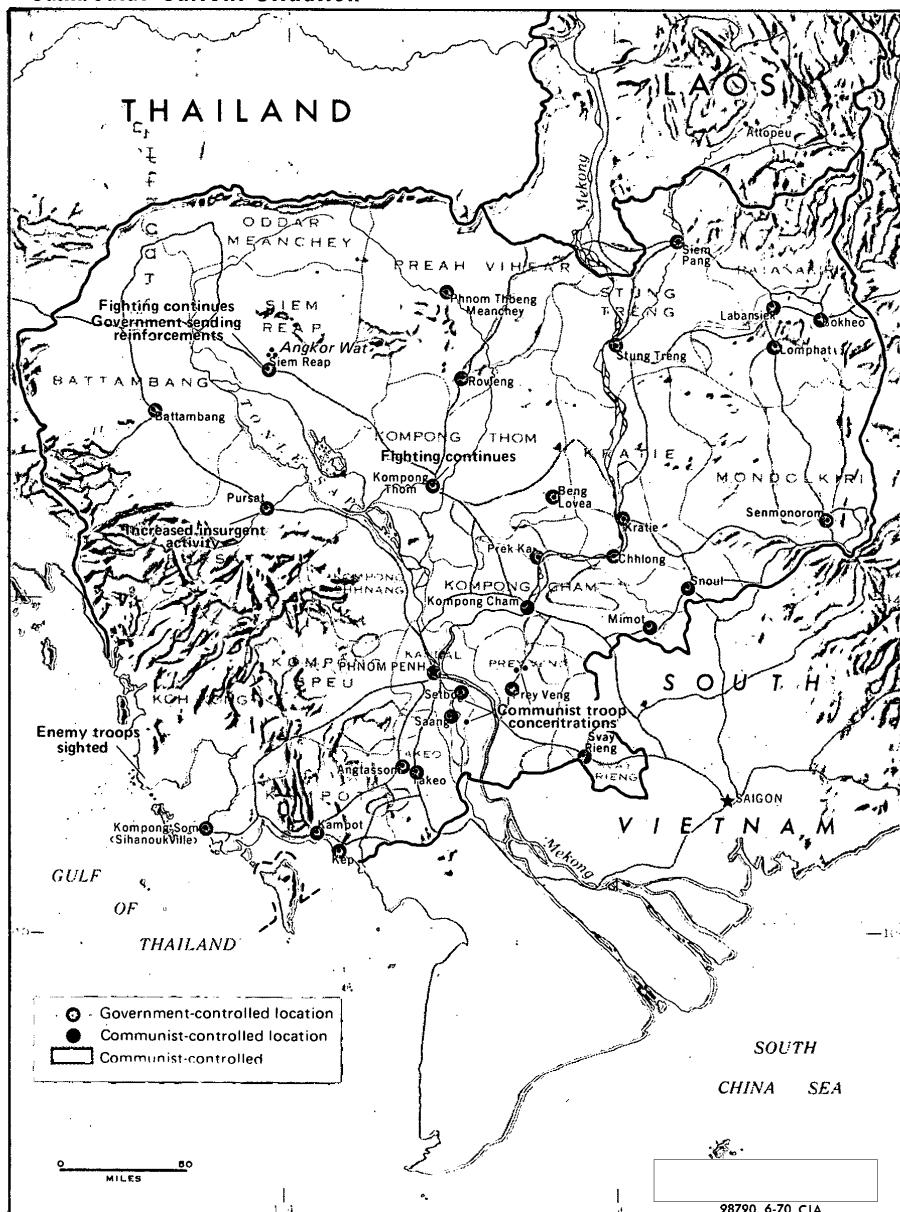
Militant Buddhist leaders in South Vietnam are planning further protests against the Saigon government and they are also considering a self-immolation or some other demonstration at the US Embassy during the current visit of US congressmen and other officials. (*Page 3*)

OAS representatives have decided to switch the late June General Assembly meeting from the Dominican Republic to Washington due to violent leftist protests in Santo Domingo. (*Page 4*)

The South Korean Government may be adjusting to the prospect of a reduction in US troop strength, but President Pak can still be expected to bargain hard with Washington for every US soldier taken out of Korea. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government reports indicate that heavy fighting is still going on in and around Siem Reap town. An estimated 500 Communist troops, armed with mortars and rockets, had controlled the town's two airfields. Late press reports indicate government forces have recaptured one airfield. According to an intercepted Cambodian Army message, the town's defenses remain intact but are weakening rapidly. Phnom Penh, which has lost radio contact with several of its battalions in the area, is sending three additional battalions to support the town's defenders.

If the Communists succeed in gaining control of the town and of nearby Angkor Wat, capital of the ancient Khmer Empire, they will score a major propaganda and psychological victory. Siem Reap could also serve as a political headquarters for Sihanouk's rump government.

Kompong Thom city remains surrounded by Communist forces and was bombarded again yesterday with rocket fire. Air strikes reportedly have killed over 100 Communists and are enabling government elements to retain control of the city. Supplies are being dropped to Kompong Thom at night by South Vietnamese aircraft.

Government messages report that there are still several large Communist troop concentrations between the Bassac and Mekong rivers, not far south of the capital, and it is possible the Communists will soon renew offensive operations in this area. Army messages also indicate there are other sizable enemy concentrations east of Phnom Penh, in northern Prey Veng Province. One group reportedly was moving munitions and heavy weapons.

The presence and activities of South Vietnamese Army troops in Cambodia continue to inspire hostile comments from important Cambodian officials. Major Lon Non, the prime minister's brother, [redacted]

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[redacted] the South Vietnamese were acting more like conquerors than allies, and added that clashes may soon occur between South Vietnamese and Cambodian troops. [redacted]

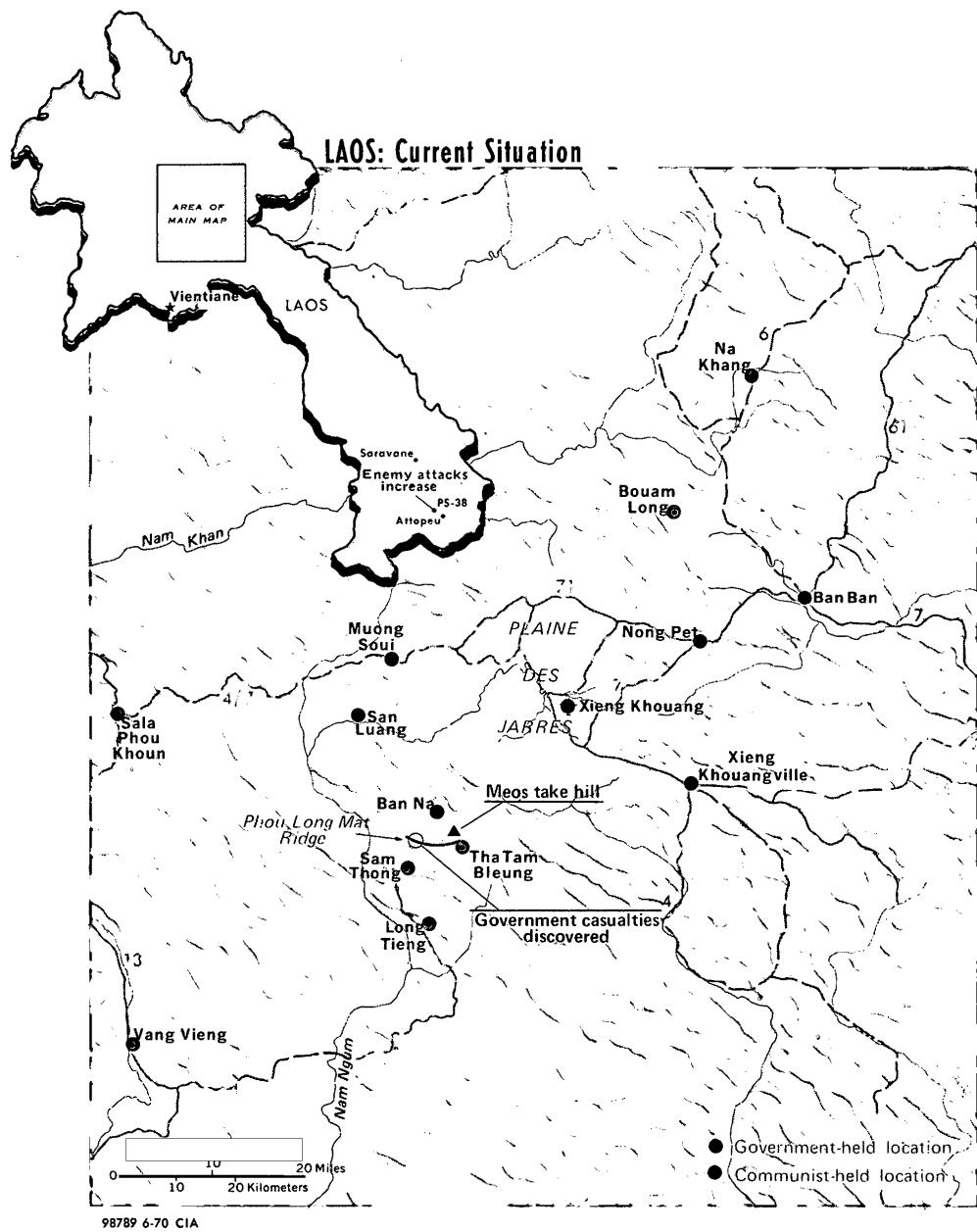
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[redacted] the South Vietnamese had not done a thorough job of cleaning Communist forces out of Cambodia, and that the Communists eventually would return in strength and make strong retaliatory attacks on the Cambodians.

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The recent visit of South Vietnamese Vice President Ky to Phnom Penh may have helped reduce such animosity, if only temporarily.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

General Vang Pao's drive on Ban Na made some progress over the weekend, but countermoves by the enemy are expected. A North Vietnamese message intercepted in this area on 5 June reported that "the first step in expanding our offensive out of the Ban Na zone has begun."

The enemy's continuing capacity to strike hard in this sector was substantiated on 7 June when a government unit came upon 63 dead defenders at one of the outposts on Phou Long Mat ridge overrun by the Communists last week. This level of casualties is unusually high for Laos.

* * *

In southern Laos, enemy forces have stepped up their attacks on PS-38, the government guerrilla base about ten miles west of Attapeu. Over the weekend, the defenders withstood two prolonged rocket attacks and a substantial ground assault. The extended rocket and mortar firings at the base suggest that the Communists are receiving ample quantities of ammunition. At Saravane, the situation remained relatively quiet.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

The militant An Quang Buddhists are preparing
for further protests against the Saigon government.

[redacted] plans
had been made for a protracted, low-key campaign
which, at least for the next two months, will be
nonviolent. During this time, Buddhist clergy will
circulate throughout the country and attempt to
gain popular support for their cause by explaining
their antigovernment position. At the same time,
they will try to persuade candidates for forthcoming
elections not to run with government support and
will attempt to discredit those who do.

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[redacted] An Quang leaders
also are considering a self-immolation or some other
protest demonstration at the US Embassy during the
current visit of a group of US congressmen and other
officials. They are concerned, however, that rash
actions by younger and more activist monks and nuns
will cause the situation to get out of hand. The
most prominent An Quang leader, Tri Quang, has dis-
sociated himself from the protest campaign, appar-
ently out of concern that the current campaign runs
the risk of inviting repressive measures by the gov-
ernment.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

OAS - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Plans to hold the OAS General Assembly in Santo Domingo on 22 June have been canceled as a result of violent leftist protests. A formal announcement rescheduling the conclave for 25 June in Washington will be made early this week. This will give the Dominicans time to fashion a face-saving explanation.

No cosmetic announcement, however, will conceal the fact that the Dominican Government is bowing to leftist pressure. The left, buoyed by what it will regard as an unqualified victory, will be encouraged to use civil disorder to exert further pressure on the administration.

The OAS question, however, was a rare nationalistic issue that, owing to the still bitter memory of the OAS-sponsored intervention of 1965, allowed the left to gain support across the political spectrum. With the international spotlight now removed from Santo Domingo, the Balaguer government will be less reluctant to deal firmly with any further attempts to promote disturbances.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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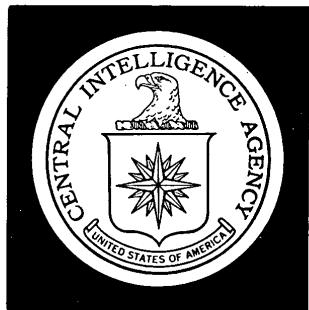
SOUTH KOREA

South Koreans generally are worried by the prospect of reduced US involvement in Asia and what this could mean for Korea. In the past, the government has attempted to soften concern by taking a position of unyielding opposition to any reduction of US troops in Korea. Recently, however, government-inspired press commentary suggests that the regime may be adopting a more flexible line. An editorial in the government-owned Seoul Sinmun linked US troop withdrawal to assurances of "automatic" US intervention in the event of an armed attack from the Communist North. Withdrawal was also linked to modernization of South Korean forces, and to US financing for the construction of a Korean small-arms factory. Other leading newspapers subsequently adopted a similar line. On 4 June, the English language Korean Times carried a long feature article emphasizing the need to build up South Korea's forces to compensate for any reduction of US forces.

Despite the new signs of flexibility on the part of the government, President Pak can be expected to bargain hard for every soldier taken out of Korea. He also probably hopes to delay the cutback in US troops as long as possible. Pak, who faces re-election next year, is anxious to avoid laying himself open to opposition charges of neglecting the nation's security interests.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

9 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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(Page 1)

50X1

A rare meeting of the North Vietnamese National Assembly may signal a more militant line on the war.
(Page 3)

In Laos, the Communists have occupied Saravane.
(Page 5)

Argentine generals have replaced President Ongania, but short-run changes in policy probably will be minimal. (Page 6)

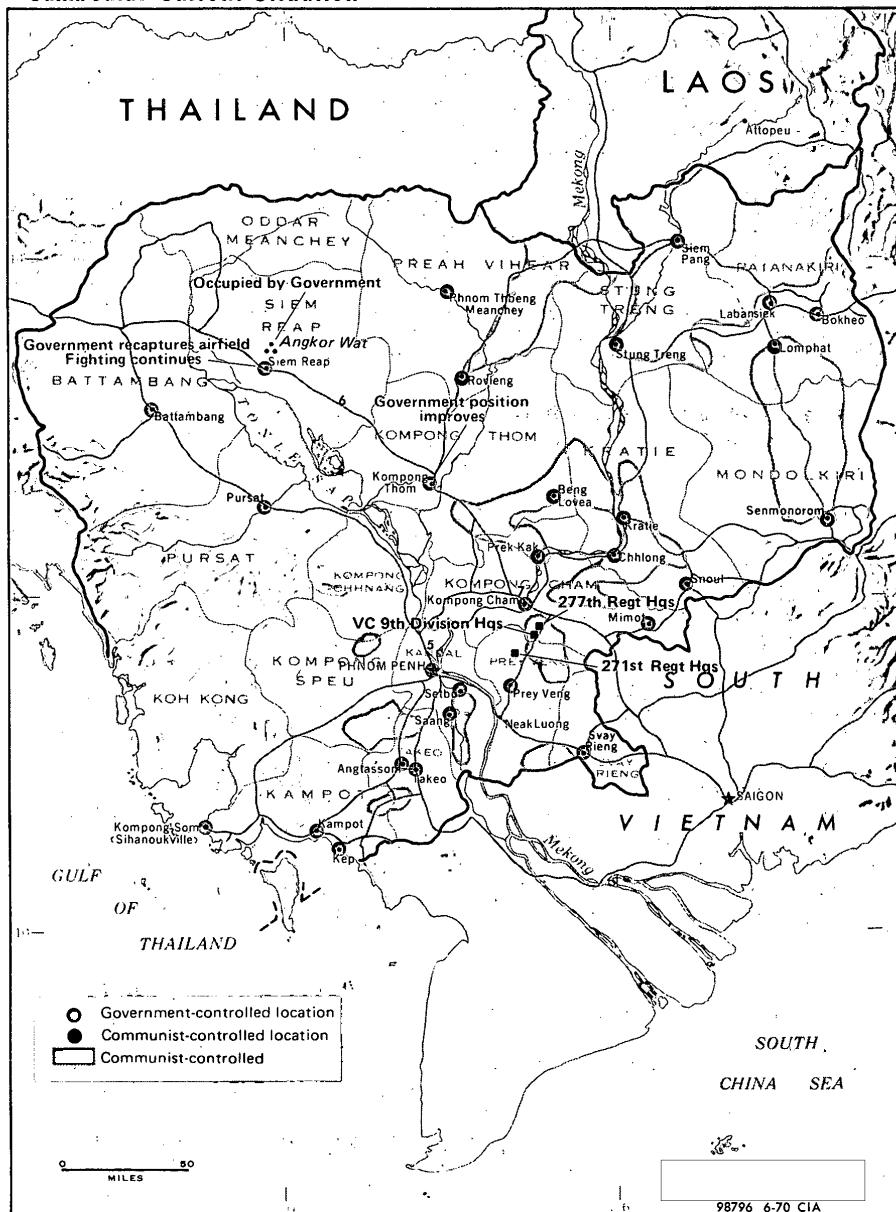
Panamanian-US relations are seriously threatened.
(Page 7)

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Egypt. (Page 8)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

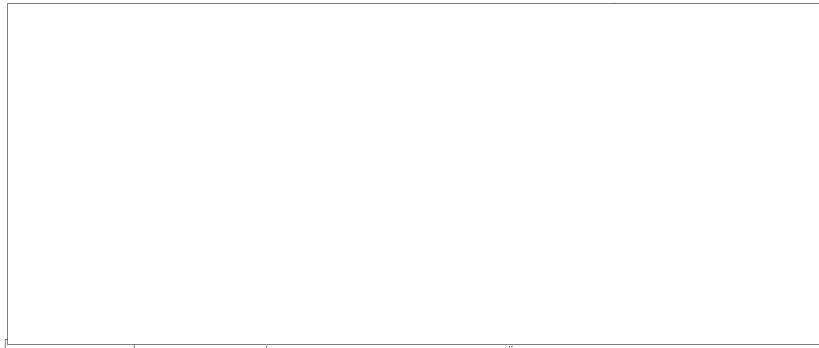
Cambodia: Current Situation

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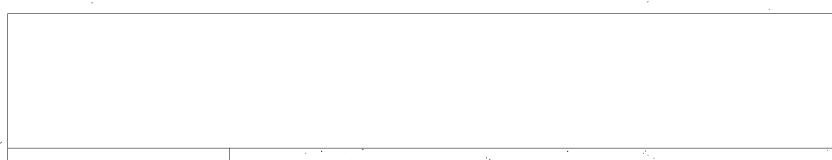
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

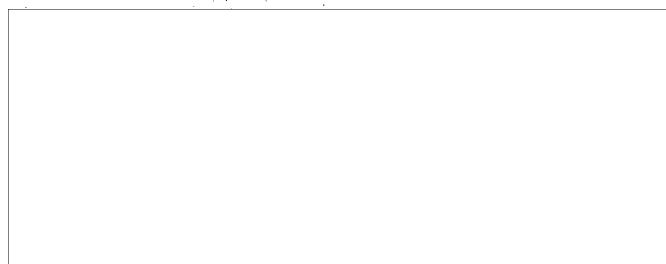


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* * *

The government has recaptured the Siem Reap airfield, but fighting continues in the area. An army spokesman in Phnom Penh stated yesterday that government troops are occupying the ruins at Angkor Wat, and that no enemy elements are in that area. [redacted]

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To the east, pressure has eased on the city of Kompong Thom where there has been heavy fighting since last week. Government forces apparently have also driven away enemy troops that were blocking Route 6 between Kompong Thom and Siem Reap.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The threat to Kompong Cham appears to be growing again.

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* * *

In an intercept of 4 June, a Communist unit in northern Prey Veng Province asked a COSVN element to furnish transportation for three US prisoners. Two days later the unit sent another message stating that the prisoners, one of whom was a woman, had been captured several miles west of the town of Svay Rieng.

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three correspondents disappeared in this area early last month.

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* * *

Sihanouk returned to Peking yesterday, after a two-week stay in Hanoi. His sojourn in North Vietnam was not marked by any significant new statements on the Cambodian situation, although his references to the long, tough fighting ahead suggests that Hanoi made no promises that he would be restored in the near future.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM

The North Vietnamese National Assembly met in Hanoi "recently," according to the Vietnamese news service. Convening of the assembly is an unusual event, and the latest session could have important implications for the course of the war.

The assembly is supposed to meet twice a year, but it has never done so. It rarely comes together, in fact, unless the leadership is seeking a legislative rubber-stamp for a new policy decision. It met briefly last September to commemorate Ho Chi Minh's death, but its most recent substantive session was in May 1968, just after the Paris talks opened. Before then, it met in April 1966, after the leadership had engaged in a lengthy review of the problems posed by increased US participation in the war; and in April 1965, when the bombing of North Vietnam began.

We do not yet have all the public statements from the most recent session, and most of the texts that are available seem to be pretty standard fare--certainly nothing that would justify calling the assembly together. There are a few hints, however, that the meeting was called to endorse a more militant line on the war. This comes through most clearly in some passages of the report delivered by Pham Van Dong. The recent period of relative ease for the North Vietnamese people, Dong seems to be saying, is now over, and they must once again expect to make heavy sacrifices in support of an even larger effort in the south. This would, of course, be in line with signs that infiltration activity is resuming and supply movements are continuing into the wet season, and with what the Communists seem to be doing on the ground in Cambodia.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

* * *

A major infiltration station in North Vietnam's southern panhandle radioed on 4 June that "many" southbound groups would be moving through this month. It instructed a transportation unit in the area to be ready to move battalion-size groups. Another recent intercept indicated that a 570-man group, including headquarters, infantry, and combat support elements was to be trucked south from the Vinh area on the night of 8 June.

These intercepts suggest that a fairly heavy southbound flow of manpower will be resumed in June. The final May total entering the pipeline was only about 1,200.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Early this morning [redacted] at least 400 Communist troops occupied the provincial capital of Saravane after a prolonged rocket and mortar barrage. All but 1,000 of the town's 5,000 civilians had been evacuated before the final assault. Saravane was defended by about 500 dispirited army, police, and local defense personnel.

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For the Communists, capturing the town is more a political than a military victory. It has some military merit, however, for it will help to extend Communist control over additional potential supply routes to the south.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARGENTINA

General Onganía has been removed from the presidency by the commanders of the three services, who have proclaimed themselves the governing junta. Their leader-spokesman, General Alejandro Lanusse, has announced that a civilian will be appointed as provisional president within ten days, but he named no individual. Onganía's cabinet has been asked to continue to serve, with the exception of the minister of the interior. He and the chief of the federal police have been dismissed--presumably because they mishandled the Aramburu kidnaping case.

The new junta, as well as the provisional government which is scheduled to succeed it, will represent Onganía's departure as nothing more than a new phase of the revolution of 1966. It will maintain that the continuity of government has not been interrupted.

In many respects, that is true. The major change that we now can foresee is the junta's probable willingness to set long-term goals for political and economic reform.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

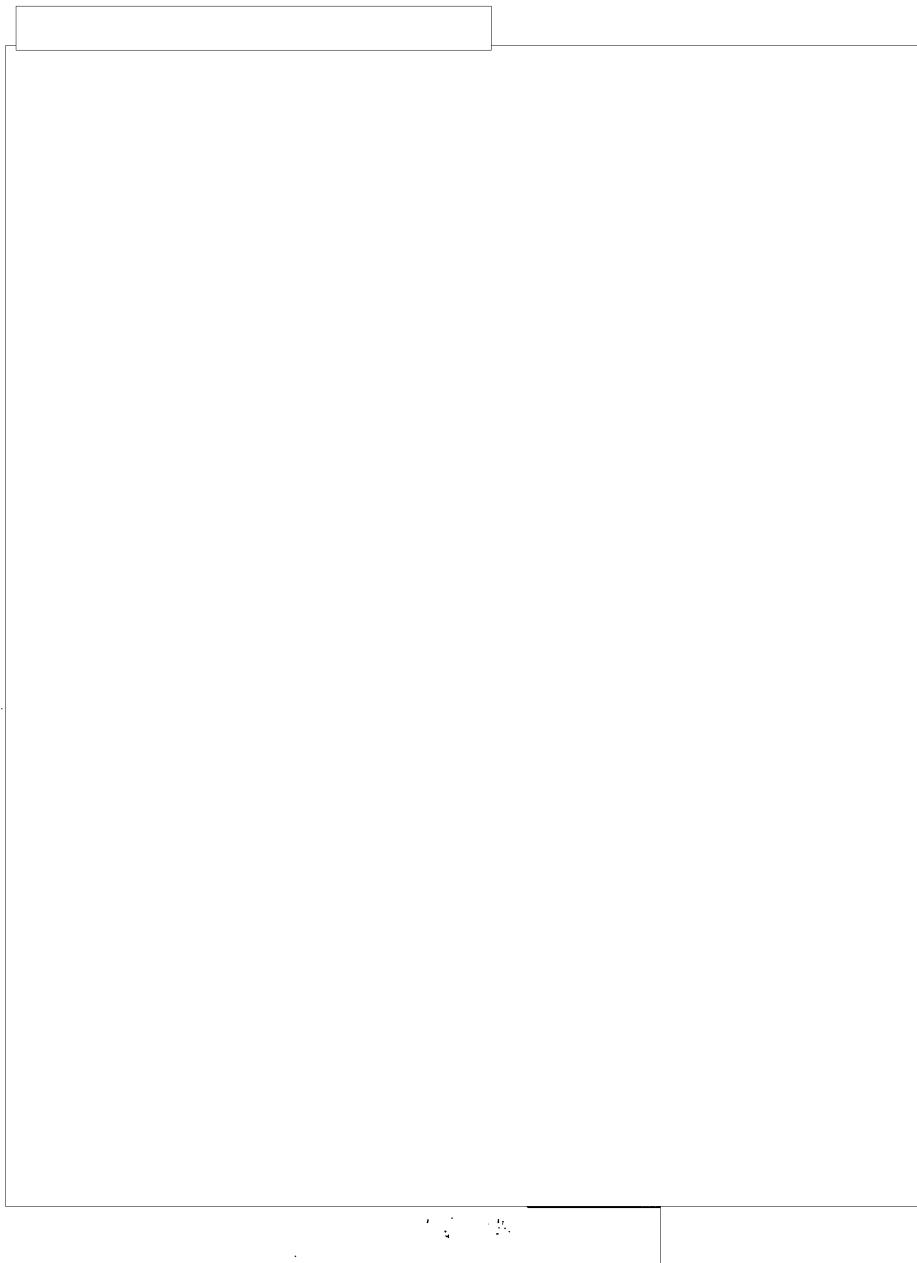
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA

President Lakas made a strong appeal to Ambassador Sayre for the return of three National Guard colonels who escaped from jail yesterday and sought asylum in the Canal Zone. The escapees, leaders of the abortive coup against General Torrijos last December, had been taken out of maximum security at Lakas' insistence, and the President said that Torrijos would "remove" him if they were not returned to Panama.

Last March, Torrijos accused the US of allowing the Zone to be used as a safehaven for individuals plotting against him. Torrijos calmed down after a time, but this latest incident will hit a raw nerve. Panamanian insistence on immediate extradition is likely to be even more intense this time.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



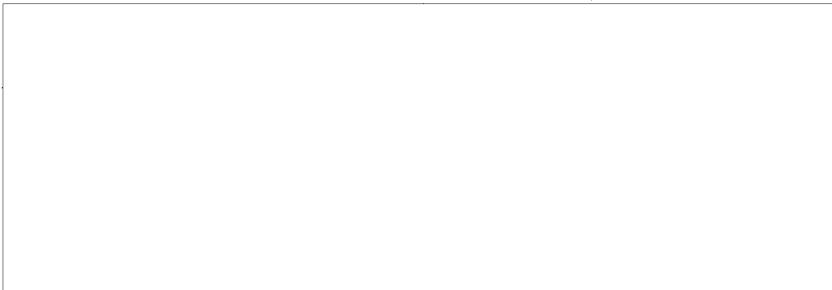
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-EGYPT



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Japan: Leftist groups are continuing to protest the mutual security treaty with the US. Japanese police expect their activity to intensify between now and 23 June, the date of its automatic extension. The police are sure they can handle whatever the leftists serve up in the line of mass demonstrations--the general public tends to be indifferent to the treaty issue anyway. A more worrisome problem is presented by reports that a student group may attempt to kidnap foreign diplomats as a means of embarrassing the government.

Jordan: Heavy fighting broke out throughout Amman this morning between Jordanian troops and guerrilla forces. This is the fourth and apparently the worst day of armed clashes between the government and the fedayeen. The fact that neither side has managed to stop the fighting is ominous. In Jordan's charged atmosphere a full-scale showdown is not in the interests of either side.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

Cambodia	(Page 2)
Bangkok	

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On *Page 3* we discuss the implications of the loss of the Laotian town of Saravane.

The Communists may be preparing new offensive operations in South Vietnam's northernmost province.
(*Page 4*)

Fighting continues in Jordan as the government and the fedayeen attempt to negotiate their differences.
(*Page 5*)

Italy's center-left coalition has been strengthened by the recent regional elections. (*Page 6*)

The military junta that assumed power in Argentina on Monday is settling in. (*Page 7*)

The USSR may be planning to keep Soyuz-9 in orbit for about ten more days. (*Page 8*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Although government forces have secured the airfield at Siem Reap, enemy fire is preventing resupply aircraft from landing. A Cambodian message indicates that there has been a buildup of Communist forces in the area, and refers to possible fresh attacks. At Kompong Thom city, the situation is not as improved as Cambodian Government spokesmen would have it. Yesterday the regional commander reported that the city's defenders were demoralized. He asked for two more battalions to help relieve enemy pressure.

Communist documents captured by government forces indicate that elements of the Viet Cong 5th Division are involved in the attacks on Kompong Thom. These troops are presumably from the 275th Regiment, whose headquarters is located some 57 miles east of the city.

The government also is concerned about the movement of Communist forces south of Kompong Thom into the Tonle Sap region. Government forces have begun a sweep operation south of the lake, and other units have been alerted for action. Troops have been instructed to disperse the houseboats of the many Vietnamese residents on the lake.

In the southern border regions, there is also increasing Communist activity. Enemy forces resumed harassing attacks against the capital of Prey Veng Province on 8 June.

The presence of sizable concentrations of Communist troops in the northern part of the province, probably including elements of the Viet Cong 9th Division, indicates a major attack against Prey Veng town or Kompong Cham town, or both, may be launched soon.

Several large enemy concentrations have been identified in Svay Rieng Province. A Cambodian intercept reports the Communists are recruiting and arming villagers along the border and may soon attack the provincial capital. According to another report, Communist forces reinfilitrated the university buildings in Kampot and Takeo towns after allied and Khmer Krom forces withdrew. They have also reoccupied nearby villages.

Communist forces again harassed the town of Labansiek in Ratanakiri Province on the night of 6-7 June. Intercepts also show that elements of the North Vietnamese B3 Front headquarters continue to move deeper into Ratanakiri.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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THAILAND-CAMBODIA



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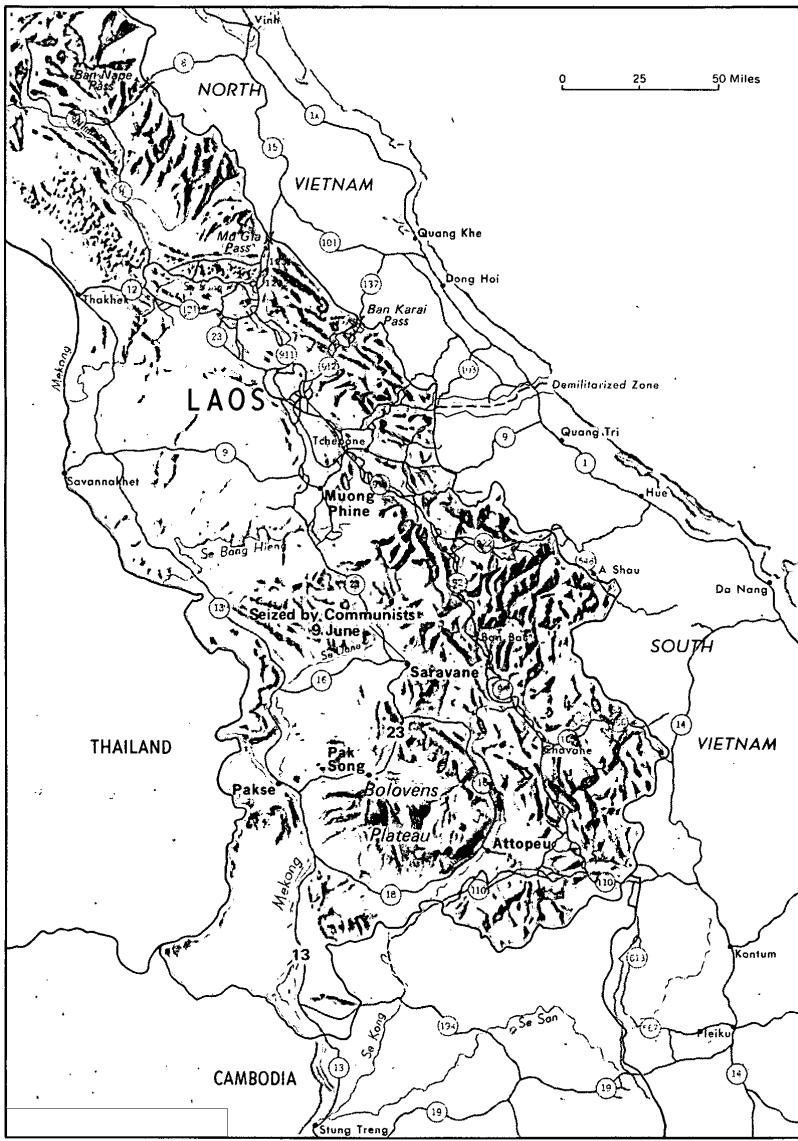
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Current Situation



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LAOS

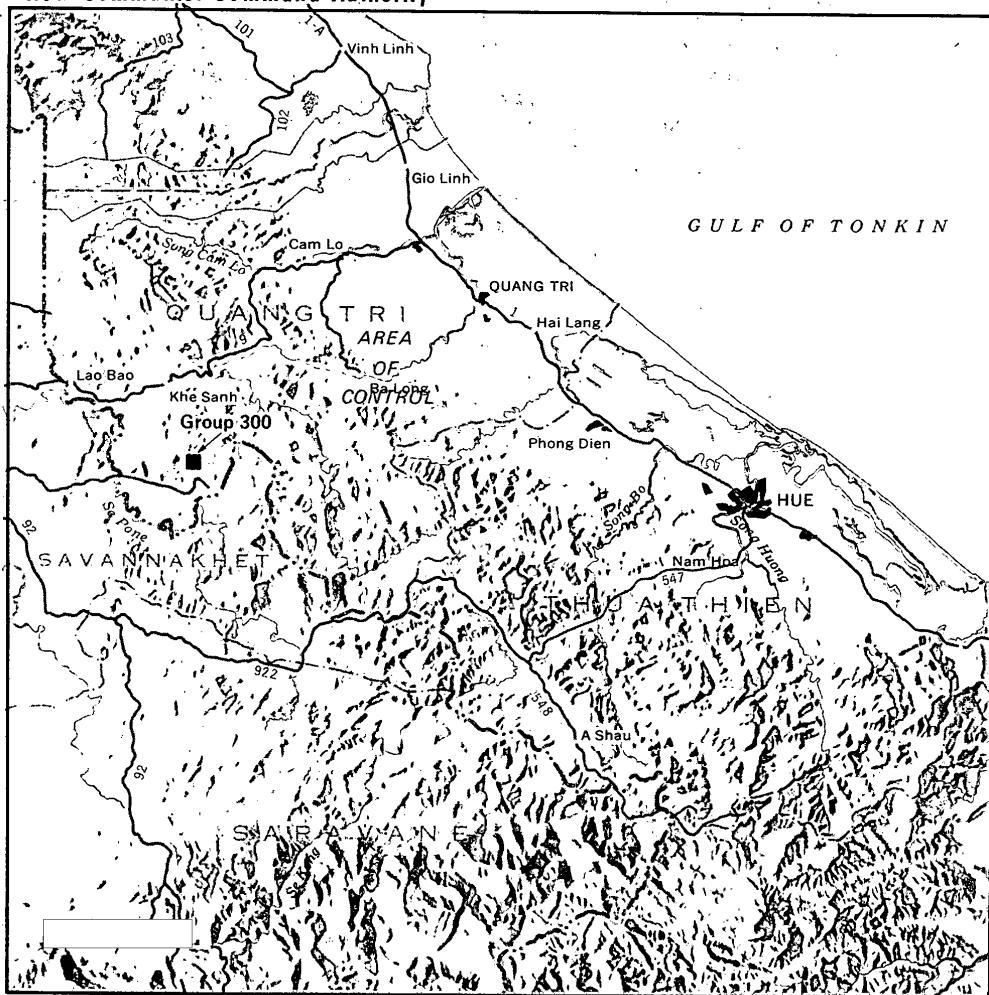
The loss of Saravane is of relatively limited military importance. The town has been isolated, except by air, since November 1968, and nearly all of the populace had been evacuated prior to the attack. Possession of Saravane is more convenient than critical to the Communists, as they already had effective control of the road network between Muong Phine and Attopeu.

Some Laotian leaders believe the fall of Saravane may presage a new wave of attacks, with the Communists attempting to extend their control of Route 23 through Pak Song and Pakse in order to open the Route 13 supply line to Cambodia. Such a campaign would seem unnecessary, however. The Communists already have adequate logistic routes to the south, and Pak Song and Pakse are centers for the illicit supply operations run by prominent southern military and political leaders that provide enemy units with rice and other supplies.

There could, however, be important political repercussions in Vientiane from the fall of Saravane. The town was in government hands when the Geneva Accords were signed in 1962, and its capture may be interpreted by Souvanna's rightist critics as demonstrating the futility of maintaining Laotian neutrality. Souvanna has been under increasing pressure, especially since the fall of Attopeu in late April, to fill cabinet positions reserved for the Communists with rightist politicians. Some conservative political leaders, apparently abetted by the South Vietnamese ambassador, have been discussing the possibility of Laos joining an anti-Communist alliance with other Southeast Asian governments.

The fall of Saravane will also give impetus to attempts by southern politicians and some military leaders to push a resolution through the assembly calling for a declaration of national emergency. The rightists may also make a greater effort now to compose their bitter rivalries, but those are of long standing and will not be easy to resolve. The rightist pressure on Souvanna, for example, has been as much to further individual factional interests as to change policies.

New Communist Command Authority



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

There are signs that new Communist offensive operations may be in prospect in the northernmost province of Quang Tri. The most telling indicator is the establishment of a new command and control authority--called Group 300--in southern Quang Tri. Its communications have greatly expanded in recent weeks. The group now is in contact with many senior headquarters, including the high command in Hanoi. It also seems to exercise tactical command over one regiment each from the North Vietnamese 304th and 324B divisions. Both regiments are currently in southern Quang Tri Province.

There are further tenuous indications that the 304th's other two regiments may be moving southward to join the regiment already in South Vietnam. (See The President's Daily Brief of 4 June.) The two other regiments of the 324B Division are deployed to the south of Group 300, in northern Thua Thien Province. These too could be brought under the group's authority.

It is too early to be certain, but it seems likely that Group 300 is to be a senior tactical command for North Vietnamese combat units in southern Quang Tri Province. Its communications resemble in many respects those of the Khe Sanh Area Front, which was directly subordinate to Hanoi and controlled Communist forces during the fighting around Khe Sanh in late 1967 and early 1968. Like the Khe Sanh Area Front, the new group might turn out to be a temporary command set up to carry out a specific task or campaign.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

Heavy fighting between government forces and fedayeen groups in Amman and other cities continued yesterday, despite reports during the morning of a cease-fire agreement. Reports suggest that the fighting diminished last night but resumed in some sections of Amman this morning.

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The fedayeen are beginning to show signs of eagerness to end the fighting. In Cairo, a spokesman for the Central Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) stated yesterday evening that all Arab governments have been asked to intervene to end the fighting. He also set out several demands for the ending of hostilities, including the formation of joint fedayeen-army patrols to control the situation and the return of Jordanian troops from the towns to their positions on the Israeli border. The spokesman added that Fatah leader Yasir Arafat returned to Amman early Tuesday and held a series of meetings with PLO central committee members, Jordanian officials, and the Jordanian Army staff command, in an attempt to prevent further deterioration of the situation.

Government handling of the crisis may be complicated by yesterday's seizure of 32 foreigners, including 14 Americans, by the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the more radical fedayeen groups. These persons apparently are being held as hostages against the possibility that the Jordanian Army might attack refugee camps; Jordan's foreign minister is negotiating with the fedayeen in an effort to secure their release.

If yesterday's failure to arrange a cease-fire was the result of a decision on King Husayn's part to clamp down on the fedayeen, the fighting can be expected to grow worse rather than taper off. [] the holding of the 32 hostages may influence the King's plans []

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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ITALY

The returns from Italy's first elections for regional councils show that the position of the center-left coalition has improved since the national elections in 1968. The four coalition parties won 58.2 percent of the regional vote on 7 and 8 June, a considerable improvement by Italian election standards over the 55.4 percent of 1968.

The newfound strength of the center-left should help the government avoid a crisis in the near future. Now that the government is on stronger legs, however, one of Prime Minister Rumor's rivals within the Christian Democratic party may attempt to replace him in the government leadership.

We still believe that the three regions in the middle of the country--Emilia-Romagna, Tuscany, and Umbria--are likely to have Communist-dominated governments. The Communists and their Proletarian Socialist allies won an absolute majority in the first and with Socialist support would have a majority in the other two.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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ARGENTINA

Amid general public apathy, the three-man military junta that ousted President Onganía on Monday is settling in. A new head of government is to be named by the middle of next week. Speculation centers on army commander General Alejandro Lanusse, spokesman for the junta. Several retired military officers and civilians also seem to be in the running.

Although the junta has made a vague commitment to start Argentina on the road to representative government over the next several years, there is still no word on what means the military will employ to meet this goal. There is unlikely to be any early move for elections: the country is unprepared for them, and there is no popular demand.

US Embassy sources believe that the junta will loosen controls on individual freedoms in the near future.

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Opposition political groups, as well as volatile elements in the Peronist-dominated labor movement, apparently are biding their time to see what is coming from the junta in the way of reform.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

USSR: Soyuz-9 may remain in orbit for a record-breaking 18 days.

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Soyuz-9 has already broken the five-day Soviet record for manned space flight; if its descent coincides with the Komarov's departure, it will surpass the 14-day US record set by Gemini-7 in 1965. The spacecraft has performed well so far.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

In Jordan, cease-fire agreements intermixed with ultimatums have led to an uneasy truce between the government and the fedayeen. (*Page 3*)

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Page 5.

So far, no Soviet aircraft have challenged the intensive Israeli bombing raids along the Suez Canal.
(*Page 6*)

President Pak is looking for ways to stall the reduction of US troops in South Korea. (*Page 7*)

[redacted]

(Page 8)

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(Page 9)

The Makarios government is alarmed over unfavorable trends in Greek policy toward Cyprus. (*Page 10*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

An estimated 1,000 Vietnamese Communist troops supported by artillery and mortars are maintaining heavy pressure against Kompong Thom city and its airport, and only South Vietnamese air strikes have prevented its capture. The government has four battalions at Kompong Thom, but one is composed of young, inexperienced recruits who reportedly are exhausted. Ammunition supplies at Kompong Thom are running low and air resupply efforts are being complicated by bad weather.

Cambodian Army officers in Phnom Penh are planning to move two Khmer Krom battalions immediately from Phnom Penh to Kompong Chhnang on Route 5, southwest of Kompong Thom. They then hope to be able to shuttle these troops in South Vietnamese helicopters to Kompong Thom.

The military situation at Siem Reap has stabilized. The airfield is open, but only to military flights. Communist troops continue to harass the town with sniper fire, and some enemy elements are now said to be hiding out in the ruins at Angkor Wat. A Cambodian military spokesman claimed yesterday that some Lao Communist forces are involved in the fighting at Siem Reap. Although the government has not offered any evidence to support this charge, it is possible such forces are in the area. In mid-May villagers in Sithandone Province in south Laos claimed that a substantial Vietnamese and Lao Communist force crossed into Preah Vihear Province in northern Cambodia. The troops reportedly told the villagers that they previously had been involved in the attacks on Attopeu.

In the northeast, the town of Labansiek in Ratanakiri Province was hit by another mortar attack yesterday. Government counterfire reportedly caused some enemy losses, however. In the south, the Communists attacked a military outpost near Route 4, the vital main road between Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) and Phnom Penh. Government elements there apparently were holding on despite continuing enemy pressure.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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[redacted]
that senior Cambodian Army officers are hopeful that arrangements can be made to train new Cambodian troops in South Vietnam. This subject was discussed initially with Vice President Ky and South Vietnamese Army officers in Phnom Penh during Ky's recent visit.

The Cambodians want any such training to be conducted by the South Vietnamese, but are particularly insistent that it be carried out with over-all US supervision. They emphasized that the trainees must remain under the close control of their own officers and non-commissioned officers.

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[redacted] that eight weeks would be the optimum training period, and that their troops should be fully clothed and equipped in South Vietnam before they return to Cambodia.

* * *

According to a Radio Hanoi broadcast yesterday, Sihanouk's "defense minister" claims he has established a temporary command post in a "liberated area" for the organization, training, equipping, and political education of Sihanouk's "army." He also reported that information centers had been set up in various "liberated areas," and said preparations are under way to install a "liberation radio" in Cambodia.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN-FEDAYEEN

Yesterday's second cease-fire agreement apparently succeeded in establishing an uneasy truce in Amman, but the situation remains tense. The new agreement seems to have superseded a short-lived ten-point settlement arrived at between King Husayn and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chief Yasir Arafat early yesterday. The latest cease-fire commits each side to return to their bases and to release all those detained since the beginning of the crisis. Although gunfire generally subsided--at least for a time--following the announcement,

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shells could still be heard in scattered places, and at least one police post in the southern part of the city was under rocket attack.

The earlier Husayn-Arafat agreement collapsed within hours, possibly as a result of a government ultimatum that the fedayeen meet certain unspecified conditions. A spokesman for Fatah in Beirut stated that at least two refugee camps in Amman were being shelled by government artillery yesterday afternoon, and that army troops had blocked the main roads leading into the capital. He added that a Fatah supply base and two other fedayeen posts were under artillery, mortar, and tank attack at Suwaylih, a village about ten miles northwest of Amman.

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Even before the breakdown of the ten-point settlement, however, one of the more radical fedayeen organizations, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), had refused to recognize it and announced stiff conditions for the acceptance of any cease-fire: the withdrawal of all Jordanian Army forces to positions occupied before the outbreak of hostilities; liquidation of all anticommando organizations such as the Bedouin special forces; dismissal from positions of authority of all "anticommando" elements; and the release of all fedayeen under detention. The PFLP is holding over 30 foreigners hostage in two of Amman's hotels and has threatened reprisals if the government does not stop its attacks on fedayeen camps.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The latest cease-fire arrangement may not prove to be any more viable than its predecessors. Earlier Wednesday afternoon, the central committee of the PLO was still insisting on the dismissal of three high-ranking army officers, including the King's uncle--terms that Husayn would find difficult to swallow. Even if the King succeeds in arriving at an acceptable compromise with the more moderate fedayeen organizations, the radical groups--particularly the PFLP--will be difficult for either side to control.

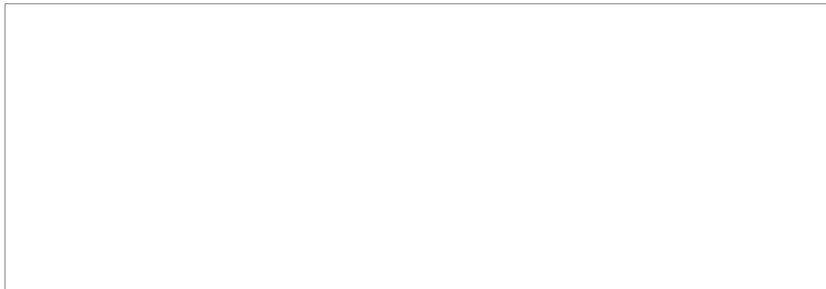
Meanwhile, Husayn is coming under increasing pressure from Arab leaders to stop the shedding of Arab blood. Iraq has requested an urgent meeting of the "frontline" states--Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq--to find a settlement.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

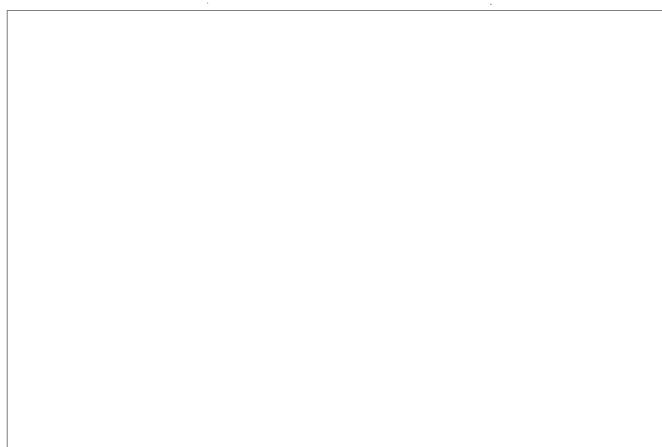
USSR



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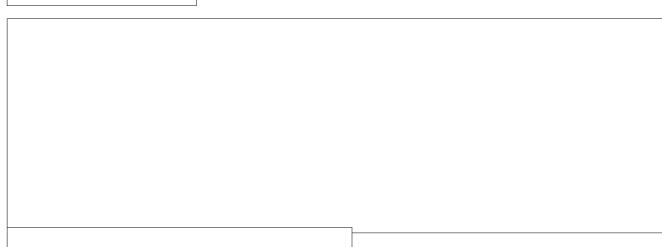


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-EGYPT

Despite daily Israeli Air Force saturation raids along the Suez Canal, no Soviet aircraft have been reported active in the Canal area. The occasional Egyptian aircraft that have risen to meet the Israeli attacks have been driven off or shot down. Tel Aviv is intent on suppressing the construction of antiaircraft emplacements--both gun and missile--along the canal. The secondary purpose of the raids--"eliminating Egyptian military pressure"--has been virtually achieved in the northern canal sector, according to the Israeli press.

By "military pressure" the Israelis probably mean the small-scale UAR raids that have raised the Israeli casualty rate in recent weeks. Egyptian troops are not likely to cross the canal in strength. Even General Bar Lev, the Israeli chief of staff, has said publicly that he did not believe the UAR would attempt a major assault across the canal.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH KOREA

Evidence continues to accumulate that President Pak, however haltingly, is beginning to face up to the prospect of a reduction of US forces in Korea (see The President's Daily Brief of 8 June). While making clear his strong opposition to any cutback prior to 1975, Pak has emphasized to Ambassador Porter that the key to South Korean concurrence is what the US is prepared to give in return. Pak flatly stated that until he knows the nature and extent of US plans for modernizing South Korean forces he cannot agree to any withdrawal.

Meanwhile Pak apparently has not entirely given up the idea that if he can persuade the US to underwrite the use of Korean troops in Cambodia he will obtain a lever to forestall the cutback in US troops in South Korea. Prime Minister Chong Il-kwon has on several occasions informally indicated to the embassy that Seoul wants to enter the Cambodian conflict.

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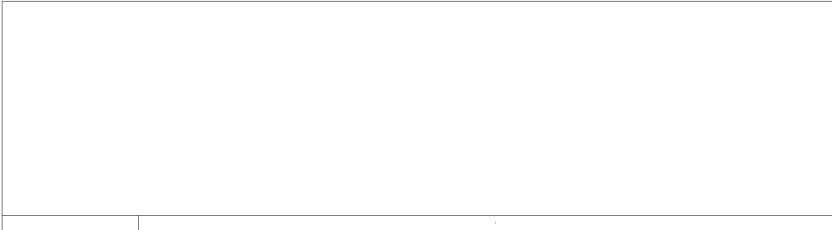
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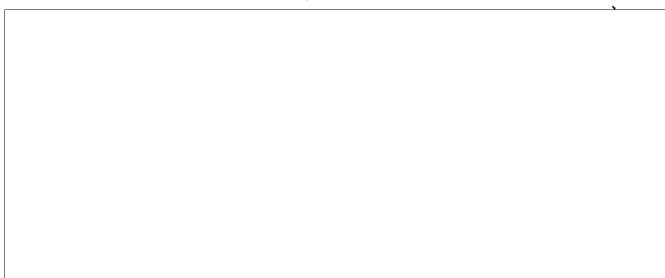
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SAUDI ARABIA

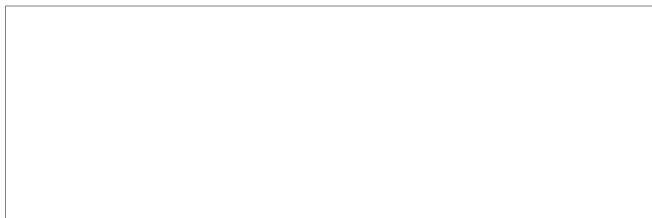


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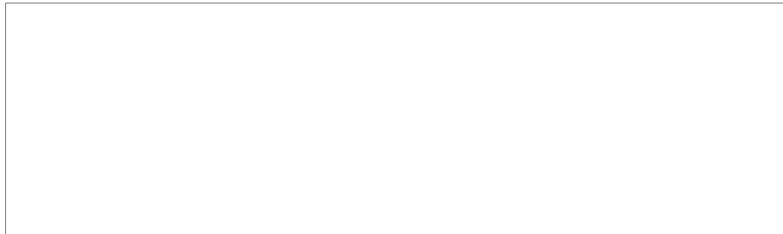


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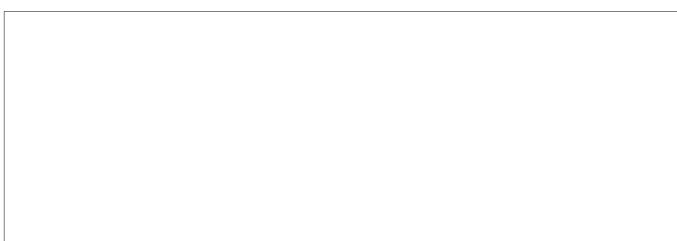
PAKISTAN-USSR



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CYPRUS-GREECE

The Makarios government is becoming alarmed over what it sees as threatening aspects of Greek policy toward Cyprus. One such item is Athens' failure to muzzle General George Grivas, a fiery proponent of Cyprus' union with Greece (enosis). Another is Athens' continued retention on Cyprus of similarly minded "activist" Greek officers serving with the Cyprus National Guard. A further ominous sign, in the eyes of the Makarios government, was the resumption of publication in Athens of a pro-Grivas, pro-enosis newspaper, which in the past had been subsidized by the Greek Government.

Despite public protestations of solidarity, relations between Nicosia and Athens have shown signs of strain ever since the attempt on Makarios' life last March.

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At the time of the March events the Cypriots grew suspicious that a secret deal had been reached between Greece and Turkey, aimed at deposing Makarios and dividing up the island. These fears have been revived by recent consultations in Rome between the Greek and Turkish foreign ministers. A joint move of this nature is unlikely in the foreseeable future, but some other Greek-sponsored action against Makarios remains a possibility.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

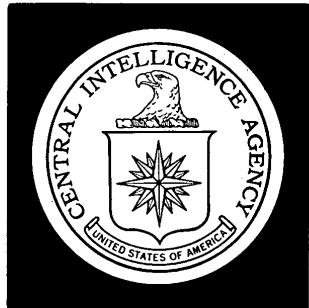
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

USSR-Berlin: At the Four Power meeting on Tuesday, Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov again insisted that West Germany cease all political activity in West Berlin and attacked West German representation of West Berlin's interests abroad. His remarks are pertinent to the negotiating package which Bonn secretly proposed to the US last week. That proposal, which was not tabled at the meeting, would have the Three Powers insist on Soviet acceptance of the legality of their position in West Berlin, but would concede some limitation on Bonn's right to represent West Berlin abroad. Abrasimov's comments suggest that Moscow remains determined to sever Bonn's legal ties with West Berlin.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

12 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

12 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

King Husayn's acquiescence to fedayeen demands for the dismissal of top Jordanian military commanders may encourage fedayeen militants to press for further concessions. (Page 1)

Developments in Cambodia are discussed on Page 3.

[redacted]	Lao	50X1
[redacted]		50X1
(Page 4)		
[redacted]		50X1
North Vietnam		50X1
		50X1
Page 5.		
[redacted]	South Vietnam	50X1
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	(Page 7)	
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The European Communities Council has completed preparations for the formal opening of membership negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway. (Page 8)

Peking	[redacted]	50X1
	[redacted]	
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	[redacted]	50X1
German	[redacted]	50X1
	at Annex.	50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN-FEDAYEEN

In a message broadcast yesterday evening, King Husayn announced the resignations of the commander in chief of the army--his uncle--and the head of the 3rd Armored Division, both particularly detested by the fedayeen.

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[redacted] Husayn declared that the dismissals would secure the implementation of the cease-fire agreement, and that this was the "last chance" for peace between the army and the fedayeen.

Husayn's concessions will almost certainly be popularly interpreted as a defeat for the King, and may well encourage the fedayeen--particularly the more radical elements--to hold out for additional demands. The fedayeen central committee seems to be prepared to go ahead with the implementation of the cease-fire at this stage, however; a central committee bulletin sent early Friday morning indicated that all barricades were to be removed from the streets and those detained by both sides were to be released, including the hostages being held at two of Amman's hotels.

Evacuation of US and other foreign nationals from Jordan remains a problem, however. The Jordanian Army is in control of Amman airport, but difficulties remain in getting US personnel safely to the airport. Five or six planes from Middle East Airlines are available in Beirut, and Jordanian permission has been granted to land, but safe conduct to the airport has not yet been arranged. The Red Cross representative in Amman has been requested to secure the agreement and assistance of the Jordanian Government, and, if necessary, the agreement of the fedayeen to permit evacuation. Evacuation could begin by 1200 Amman time when sufficient Red Cross representatives arrive on the scene to escort US citizens to the airport.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Prior to the latest attempt to implement a cease-fire, [redacted] high-level officials in both Syria and Iraq had assured the commandos that both countries were ready to intervene militarily and to supply arms and equipment. [redacted]

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[redacted], some 4,000 fedayeen have already arrived in Jordan from Syria. Jordanian police have been alerted to the possibility that "numerous" Syrian fedayeen forces will attempt to enter the country.

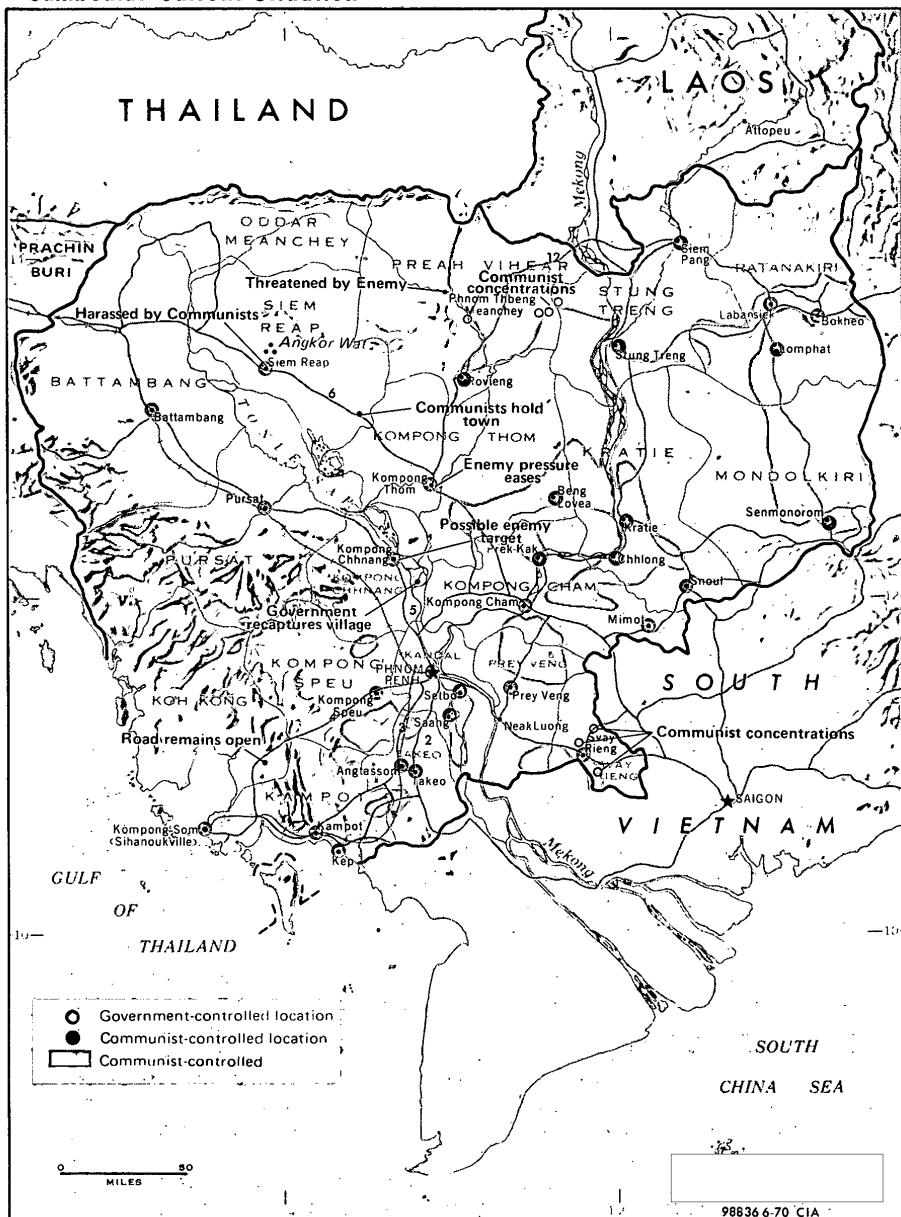
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Meanwhile, representatives of a number of commando and leftist organizations in Lebanon are said to have agreed to hold demonstrations in support of the commandos in Jordan, although the groups apparently intend to avoid provoking the Lebanese authorities into an armed confrontation.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government forces remain on the defensive west of the Mekong. The Communists harassed government positions near the Siem Reap airfield with intense artillery and mortar fire yesterday, and may still occupy a portion of the Angkor Wat complex. [redacted]

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[redacted]
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The pressure against Kompong Thom has eased, but the Communists' tactic evidently is to keep government forces holed up in the city while they infiltrate troops southward into Kompong Chhnang Province. The Communists seem to be extending their influence throughout Preah Vihear Province and are driving to secure the entire area along the province's border with Laos and Thailand.

Large Communist troop concentrations are still being sighted in Svay Rieng Province. [redacted]

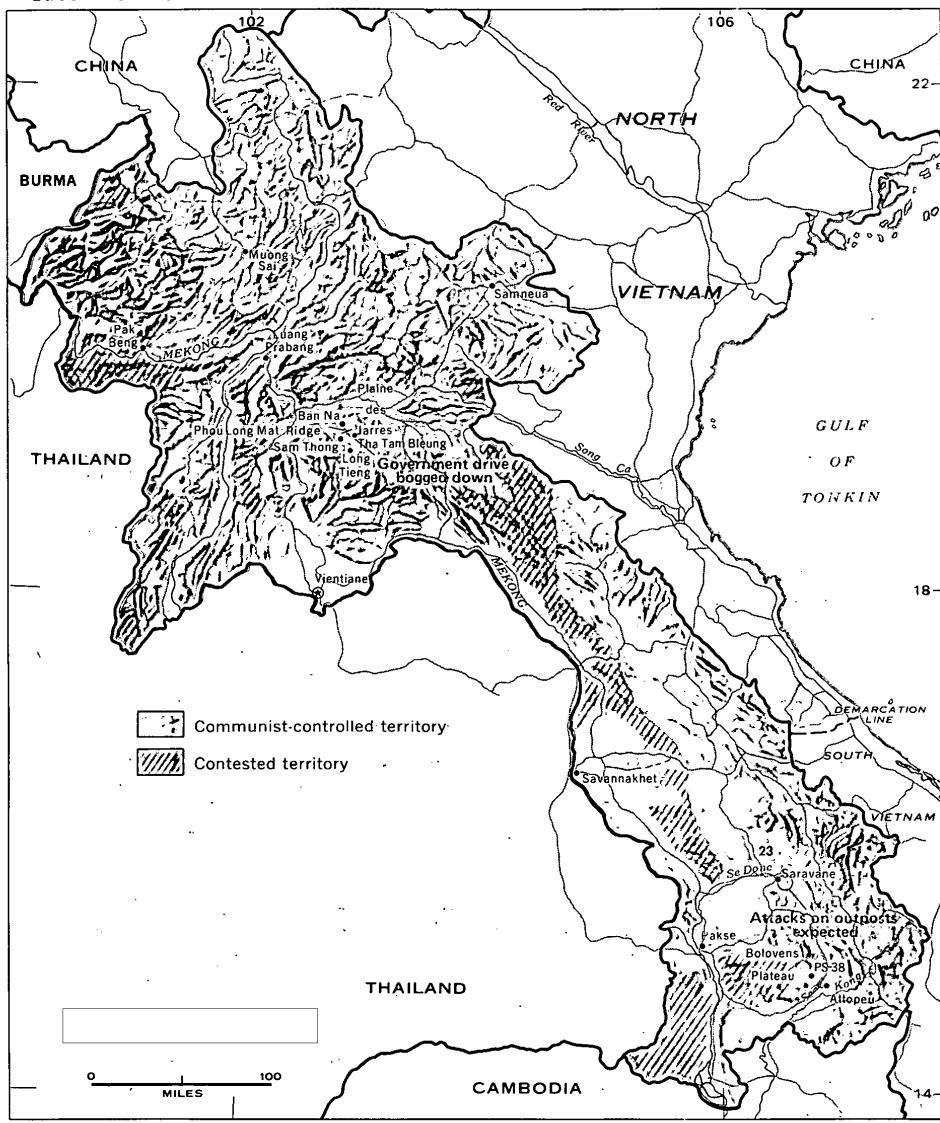
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[redacted] Phnom Penh has no plans for the defense of Svay Rieng after allied forces withdraw from Cambodia. The government is convinced allied troops will not pull out, [redacted]
[redacted] most of the six battalions now defending Svay Rieng town are ineffective.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Laos: Current Situation

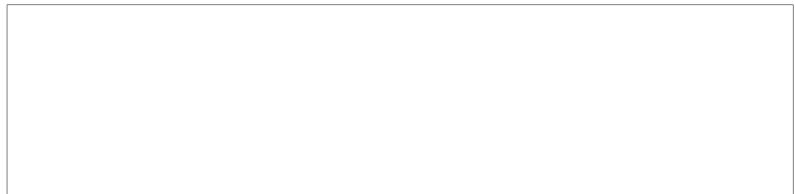


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS



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In northern Laos, the government drive on Ban Na continues to meet stiff opposition from the Communists. Vang Pao's forces have made no significant progress in the last few days and on 10 June were again engaged in sharp fighting on the Phou Long Mat ridge.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM

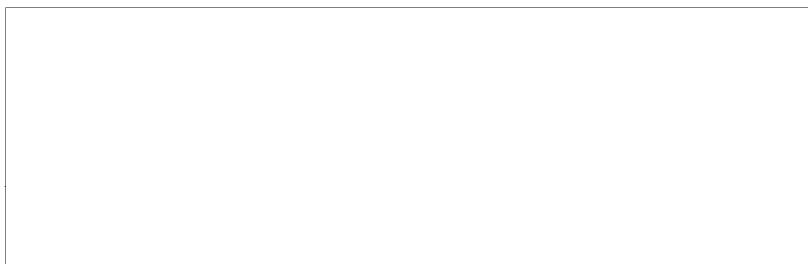


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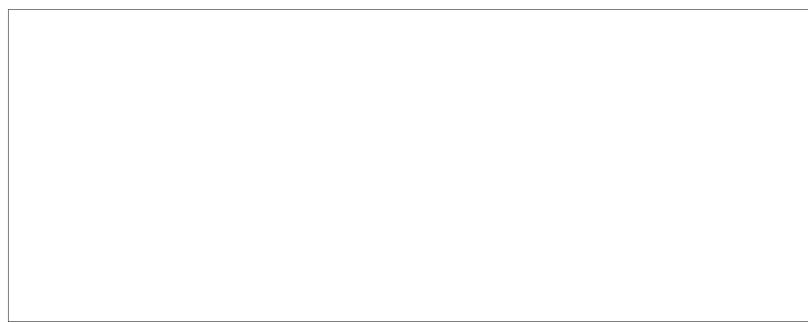


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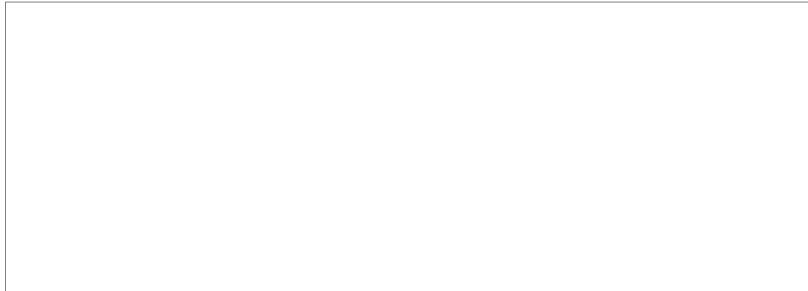


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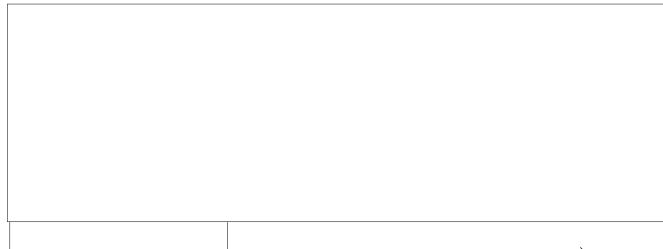
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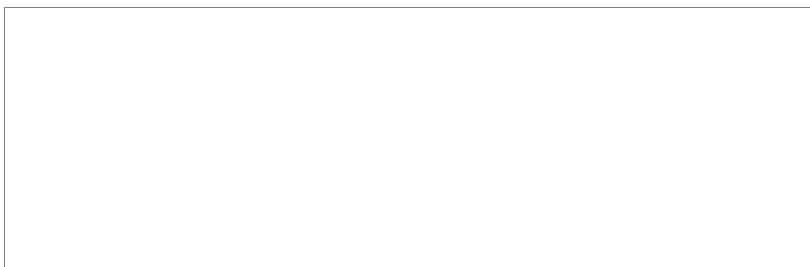
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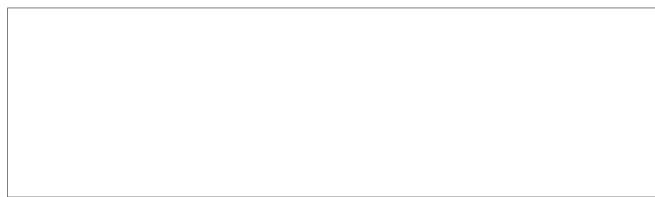
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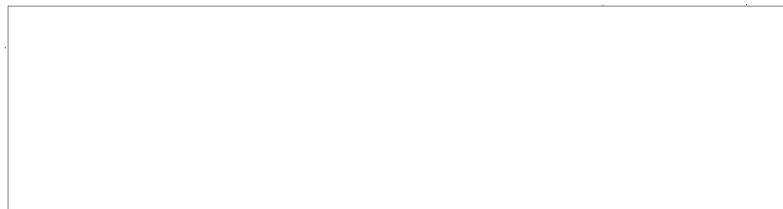
SOUTH VIETNAM



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

European Communities - UK: The EC Council has now completed preparations for the formal opening on 30 June of membership negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway. The Council has agreed on the economic and financial questions to be raised with the British, on negotiating procedure, and on relations with the non-candidate European Free Trade Association members. The latter will be invited to a ministerial-level meeting in the fall. According to press reports, serious negotiations with the British will begin on 21 July; the other candidates will have their first negotiating session in September.

Communist China: 

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

GERMAN

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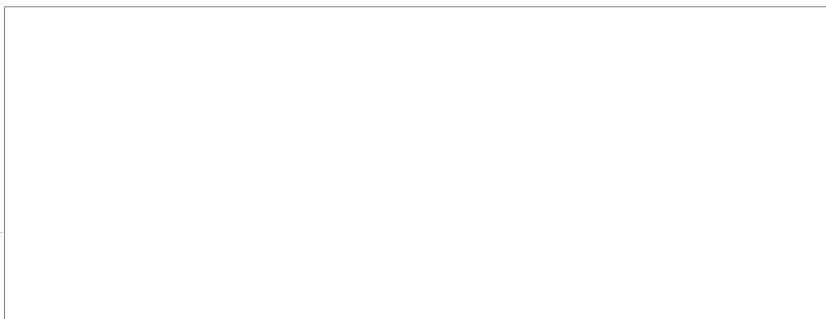
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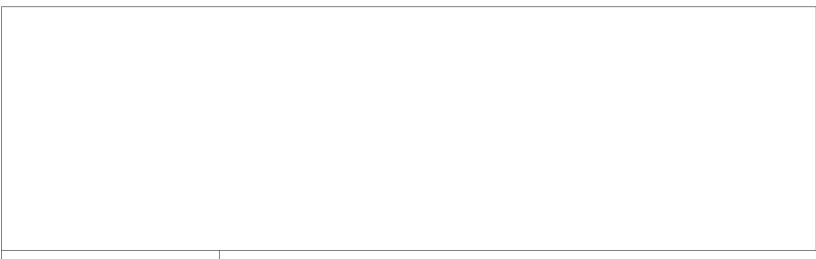
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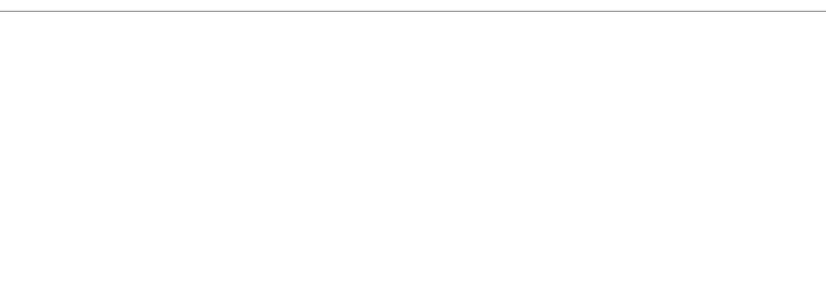
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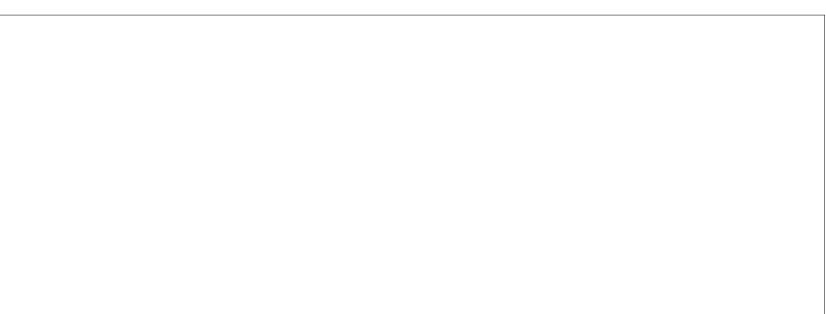


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

King Husayn, his army, and the fedayeen are reassessing the situation in Jordan. (Page 1)

Hostility toward the US is growing in other Arab states. (Page 3)

North Vietnamese infiltration continues. (Page 5)

Some changes in the Cambodian Government may be pending. The Communists continue to harass the Cambodian Army. (Page 6)

Brezhnev is going to Bucharest to sign the Soviet-Romanian friendship treaty. (Page 8)

South Vietnamese dockworkers have scheduled a strike for Monday. (Page 9)

UN observers are forced to abandon two more of their posts along the Suez Canal. (Page 9)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

An uneasy calm has settled over Amman and most of Jordan, punctuated from time to time by sporadic incidents triggered off usually by small, undisciplined groups of fedayeen bent on looting. Both sides seem to be conscious of the fragility of the present truce.

We present in the following paragraphs our preliminary assessment of the situation in Jordan.

Whatever authority rises from the shambles in Amman in the next few days and weeks, it is not likely to be one on which either the Arab world or the West can rely.

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Husayn will miss the support and the stiffening of the military commanders he was forced to dismiss, and the army may find itself divided among those still determined to crush the fedayeen and those either sympathetic to Palestinian aspirations or unwilling to stand between the fedayeen and the Israelis. The army in general and the elite units in particular have probably incurred popular resentment because of their indiscriminate shelling of the refugee camps.

A small but militant fedayeen group--George Habbash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP)--has succeeded in defying the vastly larger forces of both the King and the "moderate" fedayeen organizations, bringing on exactly the kind of bloodbath both sides had been anxious to avoid in previous government-fedayeen confrontations. The PFLP has gained considerable short-run prestige and political power as a result; whether it can command the foreign subsidies and support that Yasir Arafat's more respectable politicking has produced is something else. The shadowy Habbash and his fanatical followers will certainly be emboldened, and more than ever will be a force to be reckoned with in Amman, in the other Arab capitals, and abroad.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The debacle has been a major setback for Yasir Arafat, who has sought tirelessly to establish a single fedayeen authority under his command. His willingness to settle for terms less stringent than the PFLP's, and his cooperation with the Jordanian Army in trying to enforce the terms, have badly tarnished his image and made a mockery of his claim to speak for a united Palestinian movement. Arafat will try to catch up with the militants who have run away with his movement, but he cannot run too far without losing his more conservative--and wealthier--supporters.

None of Jordan's Arab neighbors has appeared anxious to take advantage of the situation, and most have tried to moderate it. Whether this restraint will continue depends, as does so much else, on what kind of regime the Jordanians and the Palestinians patch together in Amman. The 20,000-odd Iraqi troops in northern Jordan provide a ready-made intervention force, but many of its officers are there because they are distrusted by the Baghdad regime.

Israel, of course, is watching events closely. Tel Aviv has relied on Husayn and his army to restrict fedayeen cross-border activity to tolerable limits. If this restraint disappears, as seems likely, the Israelis will do their own policing of the frontier, even if they have to occupy parts of the East Bank.

Intervention by either Syria or Iraq would be opposed by Israel, and the Israeli Air Force would go into action against any sizable body of foreign troops moving into Jordan.

The events of the past week have turned one of the last islands of relative stability in the Middle East into quicksand. The United States may have lost anyone in Jordan with whom to negotiate an Arab-Israeli cease-fire, and the Israelis may have to turn more of their military attention to their eastern front.

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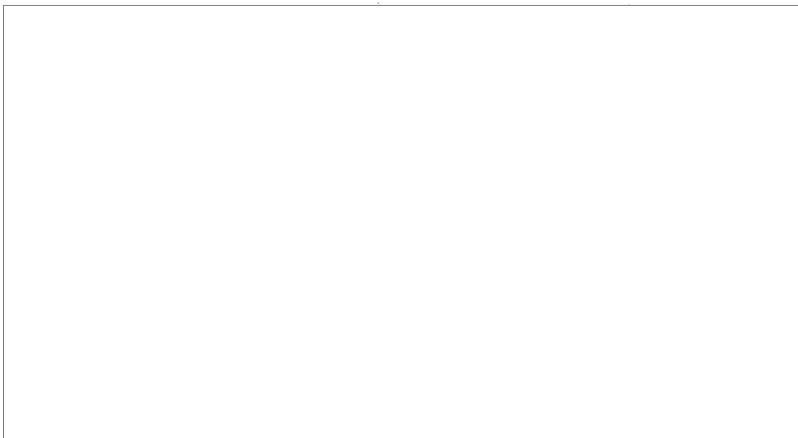
ARAB STATES

Broadcasts from Cairo and Damascus accuse the US of instigating the Jordanian Army to smash the Palestine liberation movement and the fedayeen organizations. The chief source has been the Voice of Fatah in Cairo, which has also accused the government of Jordan of coordinating its repression of the fedayeen with "the Zionist forces" and of seeking "the help of the US Sixth Fleet." These accusations feed on the atmosphere in the Arab world brought about by controversy over the Phantom aircraft.

Cairo and Damascus broadcasts are widely heard in the Middle East, and the known close relationship between the US and King Husayn will make the present propaganda more credible to Arab listeners. Growing sympathy for the fedayeen cause and the general tension raised by the hardening Israeli military posture are additional factors that build popular hostility to Americans and to US-owned interests in the Arab states. Any serious incident involving Americans might therefore be the catalyst for releasing a violent outburst of anti-American acts.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Pro-fedayeen demonstrations in Beirut could lead to a situation similar to that in Jordan. A group of fedayeen sympathizers, said to have been led by the PFLP, forced their way into the Jordanian Embassy yesterday and set it afire. Earlier in the day slogan-shouting demonstrators marched through the streets of the Lebanese capital demanding the overthrow of King Husayn and the establishment of a Jordanian republic. Other fedayeen groups, meanwhile, were said to have begun digging trenches around the refugee camps in Lebanon and emplacing weapons.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM

More southward movement in the infiltration pipeline has been detected. On 11 June, a major station in the northern end of the system radioed that five groups amounting to at least 1,800 men would be passing through during the next week. Only part of the message was intercepted; additional groups could have been listed in the missing section.

Two of the groups, about 650 men, are headed for the provinces of Quang Tri and Thua Thien in northern South Vietnam. Two others, 670 men, probably are en route either to the DMZ area or to southern Laos. Details on the fifth group are incomplete, although it appears to be part of the regiment previously reported to be moving south (see The President's Daily Brief of 10 and 4 June).

About 3,300 North Vietnamese troops have entered the pipeline so far this month--a relatively large number for the rainy season.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Some younger politicians in the National Assembly and elsewhere may be given more prominent roles in the government, according to the Phnom Penh rumor mill. Such a move presumably would be designed to strengthen government support among younger people, who have been somewhat disappointed because fundamental reforms have not resulted from Sihanouk's ouster almost three months ago.

There is also a possibility that Foreign Minister Sambaur may be asked to give up his additional posts of minister of justice and minister of public health. Such a step presumably would be taken in the name of greater efficiency, but another reason may lurk behind Sambaur's recent statement that his effort to combat corruption in the judiciary was running into strong opposition. Sambaur's position in the government is becoming increasingly anomalous. Although he ranks number three behind Lon Nol and Matak, he has been increasingly critical of the performance and the policies of both leaders.

* * *

Yesterday, Communist forces attacked the provincial capital of Kompong Speu for the first time. Although there is no information on the number of enemy troops involved, they may include elements of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment, whose headquarters was located some ten miles south of the city on 9 June. A government spokesman in Phnom Penh claims that an armored unit will reinforce the defenders of Kompong Speu.

In Siem Reap, fighting has subsided, but Communist forces apparently are still entrenched in the Angkor Wat complex. Cambodian Army troops refuse to attack for fear of damaging the ruins. An army message indicates the government has taken relatively heavy losses in the fighting at Siem Reap.

Enemy action against the city of Kompong Thom yesterday was confined to harassing artillery fire. Communist forces near the key Mekong River town of Kompong Cham are increasingly active, however. Fighting has also flared again on the east bank of the Mekong near Tonle Bet, where Khmer Krom troops are maintaining a foothold.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

A potential threat to Phnom Penh has developed in an area some 20 miles east of the city. Communist forces supported by heavy rocket and mortar fire captured a government administration post in northeast Kandal Province on 11 June. Cambodian commanders report large numbers of enemy forces in the area. Elements of the Viet Cong's 271st Regiment may be involved in the fighting, and there is tenuous evidence that the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 88th Regiment has moved into an area some 12 miles south of Phnom Penh.

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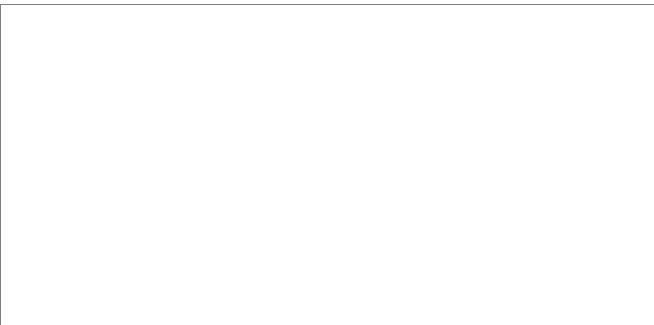
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-ROMANIA

After long delay, the Soviet-Romanian friendship treaty will be renewed early next month. TASS has announced that Brezhnev will head a party-government delegation to Bucharest to sign the treaty.

The new accord will replace the 20-year mutual assistance pact which expired in 1968, but which nonetheless remains in effect under an automatic five-year renewal clause. Though the new treaty was initiated in 1968, its formal signing was twice postponed--first as a result of the Czechoslovak crisis, then as a consequence of Soviet irritation over President Nixon's visit to Bucharest last year. Final agreement to sign the treaty was probably reached during the visit of Romanian party leader Ceausescu to Moscow on 18-19 May.

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This represents a victory of sorts for Bucharest. The Romanians have almost certainly resisted Soviet pressures for closer ties and obligations to Moscow. The true measure of the Romanian "victory," however, depends on the concessions that Bucharest has made. For instance, the Soviets probably demanded and received Romanian agreement to closer economic and military cooperation. The Soviets may have insisted on holding Warsaw Pact maneuvers on Romanian territory, something Bucharest has resisted since 1962. Nevertheless, the Romanians can be counted on to pursue their own independent course.

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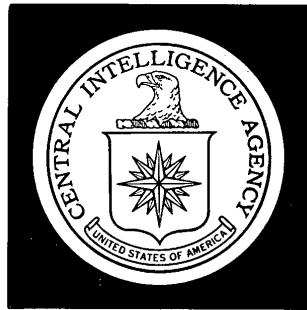
NOTES

South Vietnam: Local leaders of the Vietnamese Confederation of Labor (CVT)--the country's largest union--have called for a 24-hour general strike on Monday in support of striking dockworkers. The CVT leaders also announced that the strike might be extended "if the situation demands it." Some militant CVT leaders are pressing for a protracted work stoppage to dramatize their opposition to the government. CVT national chairman Tran Quoc Buu, a political supporter of President Thieu, probably will intervene to limit the strike. Last January, Buu succeeded in persuading local labor leaders to end a similar walkout after one day.

UN-Suez: In The President's Daily Brief of 26 May, we reported Secretary General Thant's efforts to provide security for UN observers along the Suez Canal. Thant's efforts have not been successful. Two more observation posts shut down this week, and Thant has warned the seven nations supplying observers that their representatives are in greater danger than at any previous time. He stated he could no longer guarantee their safety. Egypt's indifference toward the observers is not likely to be altered by any UN action.

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15 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LATE ITEM

At press time, Associated Press reports that South Vietnamese forces have recaptured Kompong Speu. A late report from Military Assistance Command Vietnam (MACV) indicates that ARVN forces did indeed make a sweep through Kompong Speu late yesterday. Actual control of the city, however, remains in doubt.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Fedayeen leader Yasir Arafat is making a bid for more influence in Jordanian and Palestinian affairs.
(Page 1)

The West German state elections did not provide a verdict on Ostpolitik. (Page 2)

In Cambodia, Kompong Speu has become the 14th provincial capital to come under Communist attack since late March. (Page 3)

Prime Minister Souvanna seems determined to recapture Saravane. Meanwhile, a new threat may be developing in south Laos. (Page 4)

Moscow is disturbed by the increasing influence of fanatical fedayeen groups. (Page 5)

The new Argentine president appears to be a figure-head, and real power probably will remain with the military junta. (Page 6)

The Communists are brewing a summer offensive in South Vietnam with particular attention to the northern portion of the country. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

Fedayeen leader Yasir Arafat is seeking to achieve a paramount position in Jordanian and Palestinian affairs. In a press conference yesterday, Arafat claimed to speak in the name of the Jordanian soldiers and people as well as the fedayeen when he accused the US of fomenting trouble in Jordan and warned against US intervention. By retroactively approving the seizure of foreign hostages by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), Arafat took the credit and responsibility for the action, which has been generally viewed as the crucial factor in the commandos' successful confrontation with the Jordanian Army.

Arafat seems anxious to repair his leadership image which was slightly eclipsed by the more radical leader of the PFLP, George Habbash, during the Jordan crisis.

[redacted] Arafat forced the PFLP to modify its terms for the release of the hostages under the threat of combined fedayeen action. Arafat probably will have to deal with further challenges from the PFLP, however, whose prestige among the more radical Palestinian elements has been enhanced by its militant actions.

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The interim settlement arranged between King Husayn and the Palestine Armed Struggle Command--which Arafat heads--seems to be holding, under the guard of joint fedayeen-police patrols. Amman's uneasy quiet was threatened Sunday, however, when an armored element of the Jordanian Army attempted to move into the city. The unit was reportedly turned back by the persuasion of chief of staff Haditha, who appears to be playing the principal government role in enforcing the settlement.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY

The results of Sunday's state elections are disappointing for the Brandt government. Brandt's Social Democratic Party (SPD) fell one seat behind the Christian Democrats (CDU) in the North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) legislature, winning 94 seats compared to 99 in 1966. In the Saar, the CDU increased its lead over the SPD from two to four seats. The SPD did manage to retain its one-seat edge over the CDU in Lower Saxony, however.

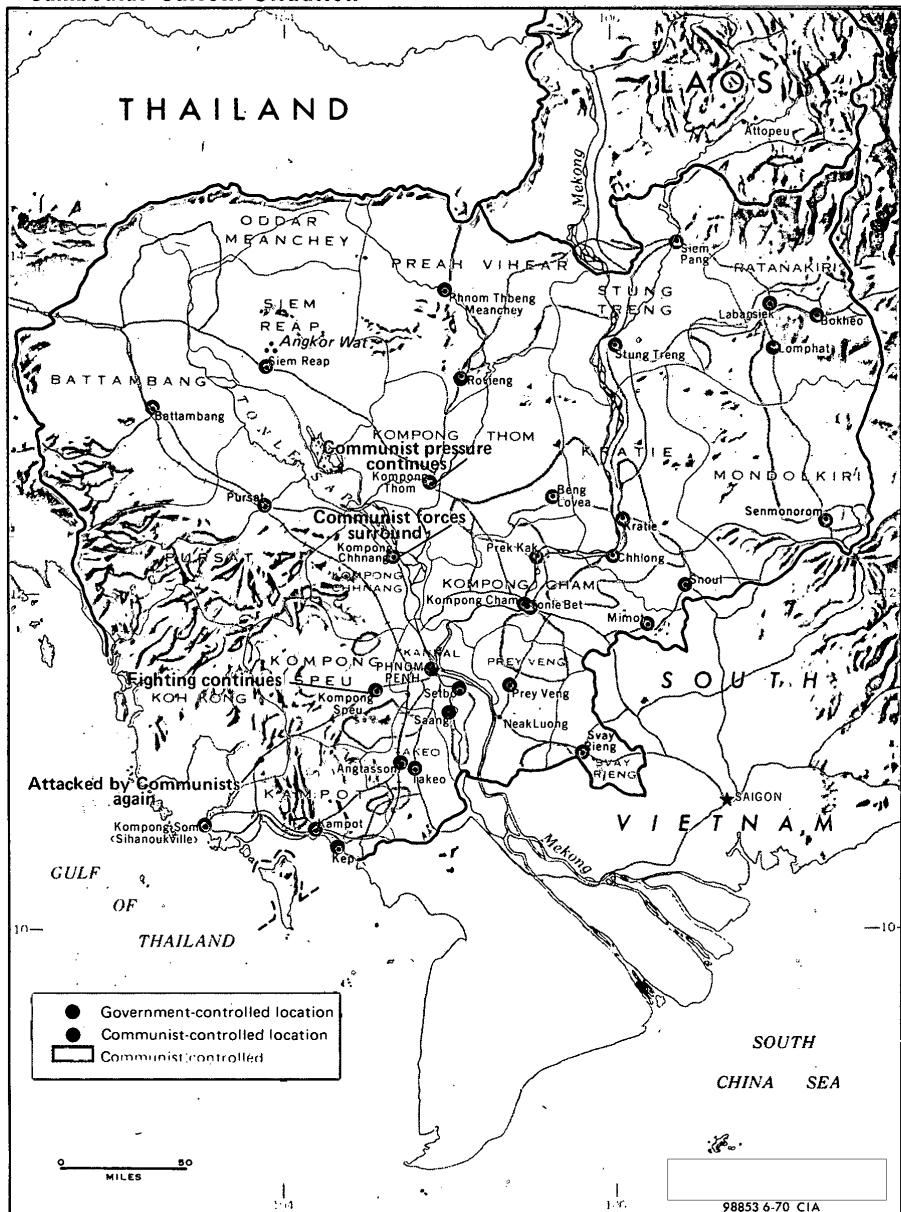
Brandt's coalition partners, the Free Democrats (FDP) squeaked into the NRW legislature, but failed to win seats in Lower Saxony and the Saar. The head of the NRW government plans to continue the SPD/FDP coalition, which will have a total of 105 seats.

The elections neither endorsed nor censured Ostpolitik. The results will encourage the CDU to attack the government's foreign policies, however, and Brandt can be expected to proceed with Ostpolitik cautiously.

The FDP's hesitations over Ostpolitik in recent weeks probably cost it both liberal and conservative support. Some FDP deputies in Bonn, however, may attribute their party's poor showing to its partnership with the SPD, which could lead to a split in the federal coalition.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

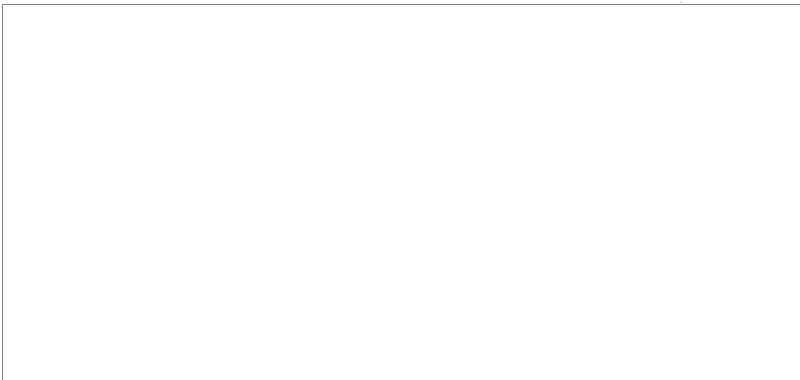
Communist troops are still holding the center of Kompong Speu. Three battalions of Cambodian reinforcements supported by tanks and air strikes are maintaining blocking positions to the north and the east of the town along Route 4, while South Vietnamese troops moved into the area from the south. Casualties have been relatively light, but damage to the town, which is under South Vietnamese artillery fire, has been heavy. Elsewhere the military situation has been relatively quiet.

The tenacity of the Communists' attacks in the Kompong Speu area suggests that the enemy is placing considerable importance on interdicting Route 4 leading to Kompong Som seaport. Although the Mekong waterway or overland routes from Thailand could be used by the government to bring in vital supplies, the interdiction of Route 4 would increase Phnom Penh's sense of isolation.

Kompong Speu is the 14th provincial capital attacked by the Communists since late March. Four are still in Communist hands-- Kratie, Stung Treng, Lomphat, and Senmonorom; only five have gone unscathed so far. One of these, Kompong Chhnang, is now surrounded by large numbers of Communist troops.

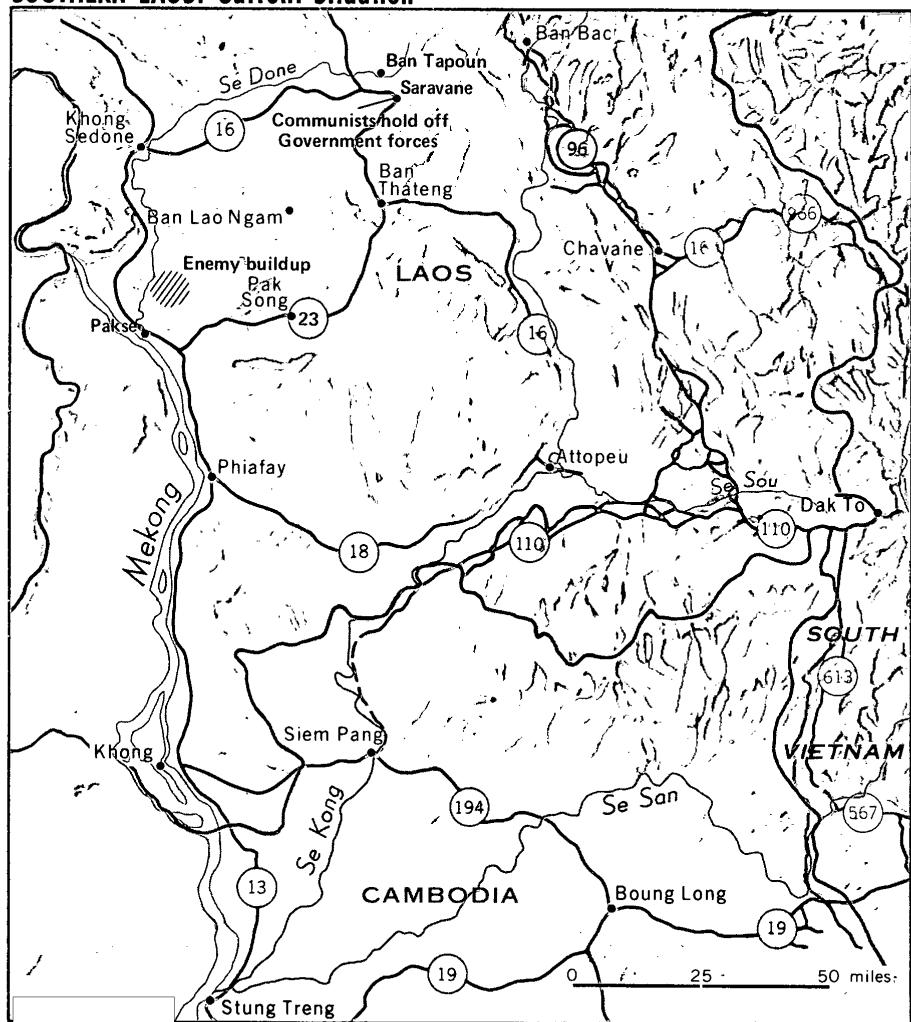
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTHERN LAOS: Current Situation



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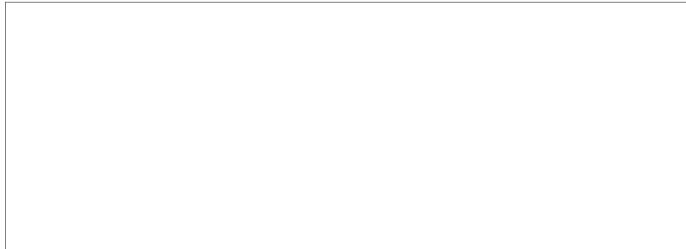
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Government efforts to retake Saravane continue to be repulsed. Irregular patrols occupied portions of the town over the weekend but were driven out by an estimated two companies of North Vietnamese troops. Government forces located across the Se Done River at Ban Tapoun have been reinforced for fresh attempts against Saravane, and 150 troops have been airlifted into the area north of the town to block enemy reinforcements via Route 23.

Prime Minister Souvanna probably has ordered the recapture of Saravane to recoup some of the political loss he has suffered since the Communists opened the south Laos offensive in late April. Souvanna's unusually acerb and negative remarks to Ambassador Godley regarding the possibility of a South Vietnamese ground operation into the Laotian panhandle are good evidence that the welter of rumors regarding a rightist coup are beginning to get under his skin.



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A new Communist threat may be developing in south Laos. Villagers report the arrival of North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao troops in an area only ten miles from the Mekong river town of Pakse. The Communists reportedly are setting up positions from which they can rocket the town. The airstrip outside of Pakse was hit by rockets earlier this year, but the Communists have so far refrained from hitting the town itself. A new program of terrorism against civilians or a direct move toward the city would have severe repercussions in Vientiane.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - MIDDLE EAST

In The President's Daily Brief of 13 June we reported that George Habbash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) was likely to emerge from the turmoil in Jordan as the biggest winner, to the chagrin of almost every other element in the Middle East conflict. We have now received two good indications that the Soviets are dismayed by the apparent rise in prestige of the more radical fedayeen organizations.

Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin openly expressed Moscow's qualms in his talks with Assistant Secretary Sisco last Friday. Dobrynin said that two years ago Moscow had discounted fedayeen strength, but that now it felt the fedayeen had grown so strong that there was some doubt that either Nasir or Husayn could make a peace settlement stick. Dobrynin said that unlike the USSR, most of the fedayeen are intent on destroying the state of Israel, and he characterized the PFLP as "Maoist oriented."

On the same day a Soviet Foreign Ministry official, Konstantin Fedoseyev, repeated this same theme in a conversation with a US Embassy official. Fedoseyev blamed the fighting in Jordan on "pro-Chinese" elements in the fedayeen. He claimed that the Soviets were using their influence to keep Husayn in power but admitted that if the fedayeen want to overthrow Husayn, they will succeed. Fedoseyev also said that Nasir is tentatively scheduled to visit Moscow in June.

Soviet criticism of the fedayeen probably is sincere. It is supported by other indications that Moscow regards them as a thoroughly unreliable and unpredictable element. Moscow obviously would prefer to deal with the established Arab governments but, in view of the increasing influence of Palestine guerrilla groups, will continue to maintain semiofficial contact with the fedayeen.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARGENTINA

The ruling three-man military junta has picked Brigadier General Roberto Marcelo Levingston as the new president of Argentina. Levingston, the Argentine military attaché in Washington since January 1969, will officially take over on 18 June. He is 50 years old and is a close friend of coup leader General Lanusse. Levingston is reported to have helped plan the military coup that overthrew President Illia in 1966.

His selection is further evidence that the junta will exert a dominant influence over the formulation and execution of the new administration's policies.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM: Communists Plan 'Summer' Campaign



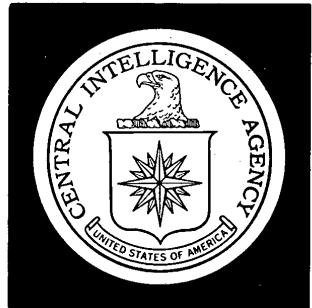
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

South Vietnam: Intelligence gathered in South Vietnam indicates that the Communists plan to get their annual "summer" campaign under way in some areas of South Vietnam in the next week or so. This year's effort will probably be similar in overall intensity to the recently concluded "spring" offensive but with a greater emphasis on the northern half of the country. In addition to the usual rounds of harassing shellings and limited sapper and guerrilla actions, however, larger battles could develop as the result of growing enemy pressure against South Vietnamese units in situations where quick support is not available.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

16 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

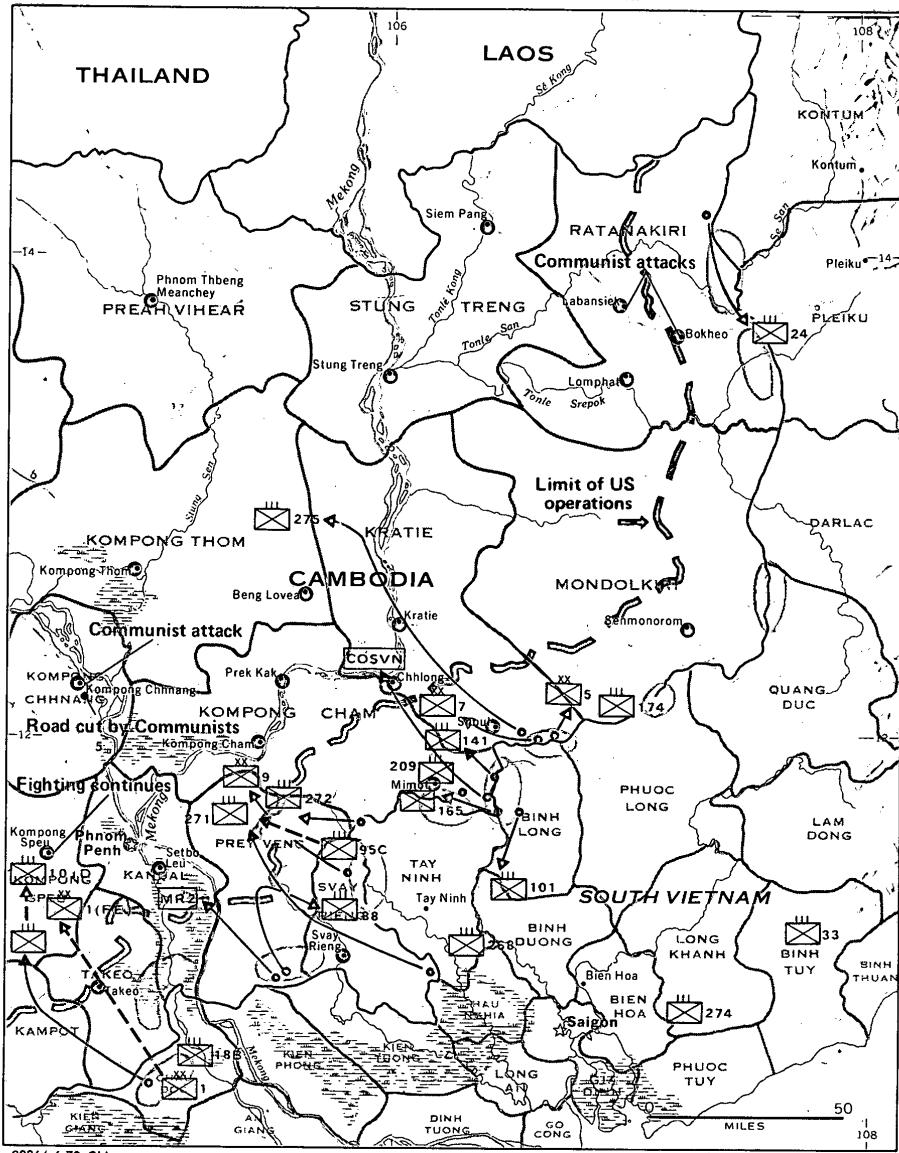
Jordan remains relatively quiet except for sporadic shooting in settlements near Amman. (*Page 2*)

The European Allied defense ministers are looking into ways increased financial support could be provided for US forces in Europe. (*Page 3*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Movement of Enemy Units

← Movement (30 April - 3 June)
 ←— Movement (4 - 15 June)
 ○ Communist base area



98864 6-70 CIA

○ Government-controlled location
 ○ Communist-controlled location

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Yesterday, for the first time, an enemy force attacked the capital of Kompong Chhnang Province. Communist activity in Kompong Chhnang has increased substantially recently, and an assault on the capital has been expected by local government forces. On 14 June, the Communists cut Route 5, the main road in the province, which was also the only remaining road linking Phnom Penh with the Thai border.

The situation in Kompong Speu remains unclear. About 4,000 South Vietnamese troops, backed by heavy artillery support, are still trying to drive tenacious enemy forces out of the center of the city.

No new fighting was reported in Siem Reap, but a government spokesman claimed that the Communists have mined the approaches to the main temple at Angkor Wat, and have dug in and established command and observation posts in the ruins.

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The Communists are continuing their steady pressure on the government's garrisons in Labansiek and Bokheo in Ratanakiri Province. Phnom Penh remains optimistic, however, that its forces in Ratanakiri can hold out as long as South Vietnamese air support continues.

Most Communist main force infantry regiments in the Cambodia - South Vietnam border region continue to evade allied sweep operations; few major moves have been noted since early in June. The most significant was the recent northwestward shift of the North Vietnamese 95C Regiment from its border base camp to join up with the rest of the 9th Division, concentrated to the south of Kompong Cham. In addition, an element of the North Vietnamese 1st Division Headquarters moved some 25 miles to the northwest where it is probably controlling the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment around Kompong Speu.

The task force set up by the Djakarta conference to develop support for reactivating the International Control Commission and convening a broadly based conference on Indochina visited the United Nations last week. The next stop is Moscow, where the delegation is scheduled to talk with Gromyko on 17 June.

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JORDAN

The country remains relatively quiet except for a few exchanges of firing in settlements near Amman last night. There were no reports of gunfire in the capital itself for the first day in a week and activity is returning to normal with repair and cleaning up under way. Scattered incidents took place over the weekend, and they are now being investigated by joint government-fedayeen committees set up for the purpose.

Some of the local employees of the US Embassy have reported that fedayeen representatives are questioning them about their fellow workers. The employees are understandably nervous about such incidents, although only one instance of mistreatment has been reported.

Negotiations are said to be still going on between the regime and the fedayeen, but there is no indication whether any settlement will emerge that deals with the major issues.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

NATO: The European Allied defense ministers--the so-called Eurogroup--have agreed to look for new ways to ease the cost of US forces in Europe in order to forestall or limit possible US troop cutbacks. They decided to examine how, through better allocation of defense expenditures, increased financial support for the US presence could be provided. On the initiative of West German Defense Minister Schmidt, the group agreed to explore the possibility of taking over part or all of the US portion of NATO's infrastructure expenditures. British Defense Minister Healey suggested that the Europeans could be more helpful with the local costs of US forces.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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(Page 1)

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Yasir Arafat is facing a challenge to his leadership of the fedayeen. (Page 2)

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Egypt.

(Page 3)

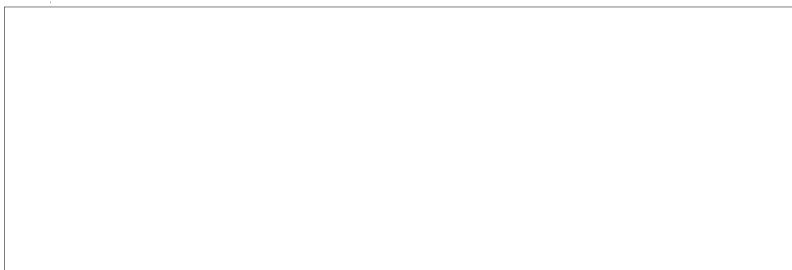
In Laos, the rain has practically halted military operations, although government and Communist troops are still keeping up what pressure they can.
(Page 4)

The Communists continue to gain ground west of the Mekong River in Cambodia. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

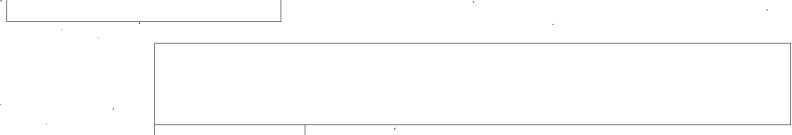
JORDAN



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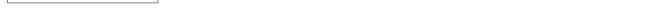
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FEDAYEEN

George Habbash and his radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine appear set to challenge Yasir Arafat and Fatah for leadership of the entire fedayeen movement. Habbash played a key role in the recent difficulties in Jordan. During the crisis, Arafat cooperated with Husayn who sought to arrange a cease-fire that would re-establish the status quo ante bellum. Habbash, however, held out until his group's demand for the removal of certain army leaders was met.

The incident has served to sharpen differences between the two groups. The future of fedayeen relations with other Arab governments and, by extension, the relative position of fedayeen leaders, will depend on the nature of the arrangement yet to be worked out between Husayn and the guerrillas.

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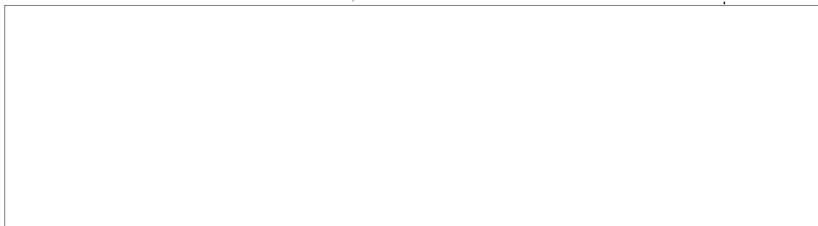


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - MIDDLE EAST



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Laos: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Two North Vietnamese companies yesterday drove a joint Laotian Army and irregular force out of Ban Kok My, a small outpost that was to be the jumping-off point for the recapture of Saravane. In taking the base the Communists also captured several heavy weapons [redacted]

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The government still has a number of units in the Saravane area, including a 150-man force which is moving north of the town to interdict Route 23. The seizure of Ban Kok My, however, will set back the Laotian military effort in this area for several days.

In the north, adverse weather has brought military activity to a virtual standstill. With the advent of the rainy season the civilian population of the Long Tieng area apparently has convinced itself that the Communist threat has receded. As of mid-June, more than half of the inhabitants of the Long Tieng Valley had returned to their homes and resumed normal commercial activity.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Rumors are building that some sort of enemy attack will be made against Phnom Penh on 18 June, three months from the date of Sihanouk's ouster. Refugees from Kompong Speu claim that Communist forces there said they would strike Phnom Penh on that date. There is no hard evidence to support this.

Senior Cambodian Army officers are increasingly concerned over the military situation around Phnom Penh, but they lack firm intelligence on the strength and identification of the Communist units. Hasty steps are being taken in and around the city to improve its defenses. Government officials view the airfield, the radio station, and the electric power plant--all of which are outside the city proper--as likely Communist targets.

This sudden attack of war nerves probably has been brought on by recent enemy attacks against Siem Reap, Kompong Speu, and Kompong Chhnang, and by the government's dawning recognition of its now almost complete isolation from the countryside. Some Communist forces are close enough to Phnom Penh to stage sudden harassing attacks. The increasing boldness of the enemy west of the Mekong suggests that the Communists may make some move against the capital, but they do not appear prepared for a major infantry assault.

* * *

South Vietnamese troops reoccupied Kompong Speu city yesterday in the face of another Communist disappearing act. Enemy forces reportedly retreated to the south and west, leaving only pockets of resistance in the city. The South Vietnamese probably sullied their support considerably in Cambodian eyes when they engaged in extensive looting in Kompong Speu. Despite the city's recapture, Route 4 apparently is still closed.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

In the adjacent province of Kompong Chhnang, government defenders of the capital claim they drove three enemy columns out of the city yesterday. Western journalists returning from Kompong Chhnang city indicate that its defenders may have exaggerated the severity of the Communist attack there. Additional Communist attacks probably can be expected in this province, however; on 15 June, 400 Cambodian Communist insurgents reportedly were moving toward the government's main military supply depot at Lovek.

Government forces defending Kompong Thom city, aided by air support, withstood heavy Communist artillery and infantry attacks yesterday [redacted]

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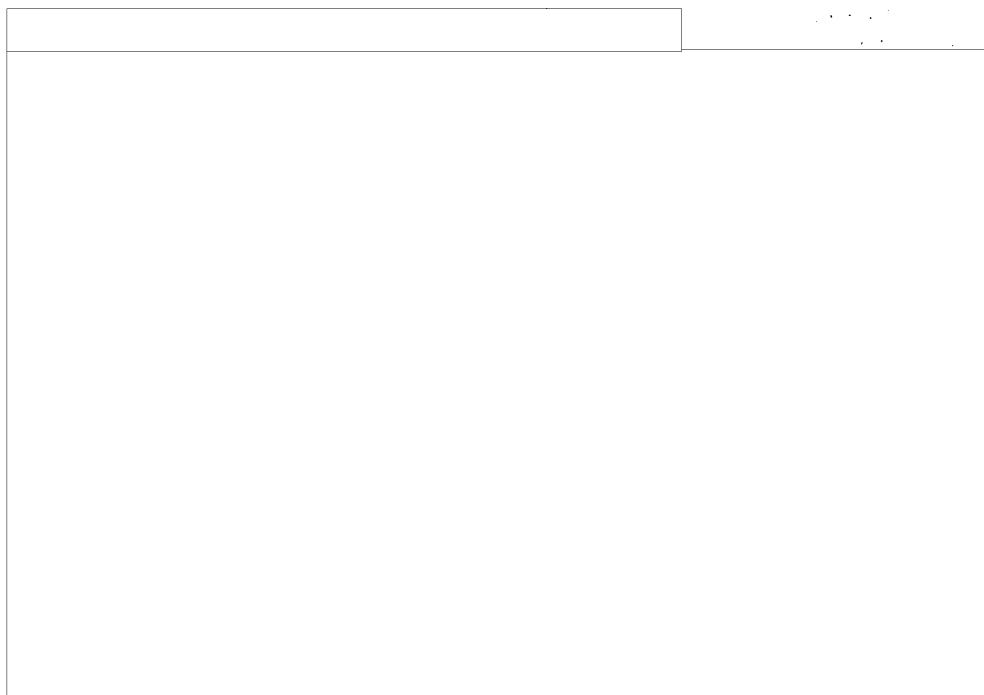
Kompong Cham town is also still in trouble. Fighting was reported yesterday around the university, and the Communists apparently attempted to seize bridges in the town. The government, anticipating additional attacks against Kompong Cham, claims the Communists have received important reinforcements from Kratie and Chhlong towns in Kratie Province. Substantial elements of the Viet Cong 9th Division are still near Kompong Cham.

* * *

Subordinate elements of the Communists' B-3 Front--the enemy's over-all command authority in South Vietnam's central highlands--have been moving deeper into Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces in northeastern Cambodia, as well as shifting positions along the border.

While some of these relocations are due to allied operations into long-time enemy sanctuaries, some of the combat units may have been used for attacks against Cambodian targets in Ratanakiri Province. Some of these units are probably now setting up a new and less vulnerable system of base areas and supply routes deeper in Cambodia.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR: The latest satellite photography mission provided at least partial coverage of 14 of the 25 ICBM complexes. No new launch groups were identified, but six new SS-11 silos and one new SS-13 silo were detected in existing groups.

USSR-China: The latest satellite photography shows that the Soviets are continuing to augment their forces opposite Sinkiang. 

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South Vietnam: The police have learned of student plans for new and more violent agitation in Saigon within the next few days. Having extracted some concessions from the government in response to earlier demands, militant leaders are now shifting their sights to the peace issue and the American presence. The US Embassy is mentioned in the police reports as one possible target of new demonstrations.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

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(*Page 4*)

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East German party chief Ulbricht is encouraging another round of talks with West Germany. (*Page 5*)

In Bonn

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Israel

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Egypt

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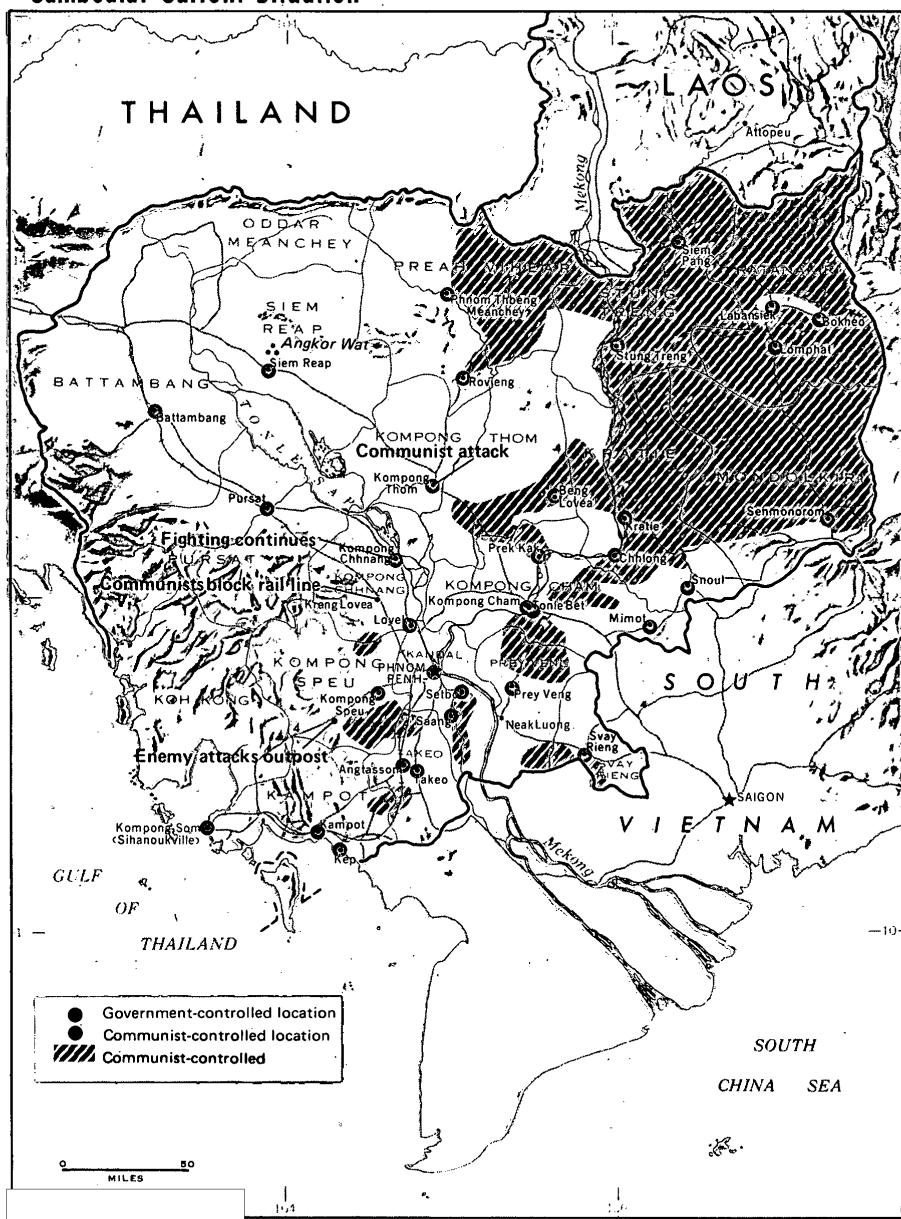
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The Communists made a second attack against Kompong Chhnang city yesterday, occupying some buildings on the outskirts of the city and the central market place.

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Elsewhere in the province, a Communist attack on the railroad station at Krang Lovea, 40 miles northwest of Phnom Penh, blocked the Bangkok - Phnom Penh rail line. Two trains were destroyed.

Kompong Speu city is back under government control, but according to late reports the Communists have attacked a military outpost on Route 4 some 45 miles southwest of Phnom Penh.

There was no significant fighting around Siem Reap yesterday, but the Communists made another mortar attack on Kompong Thom city.

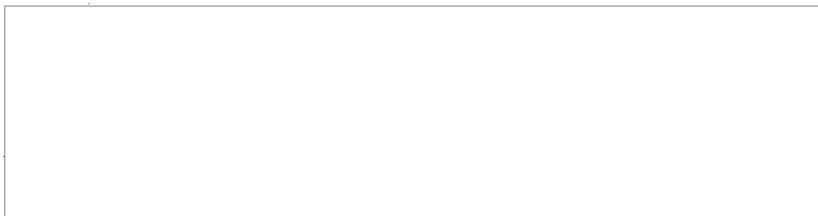
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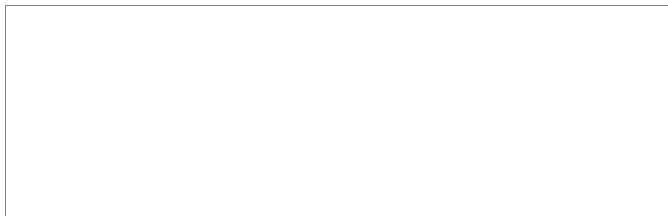
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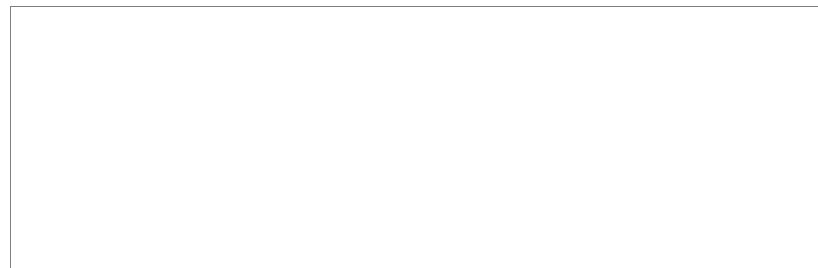


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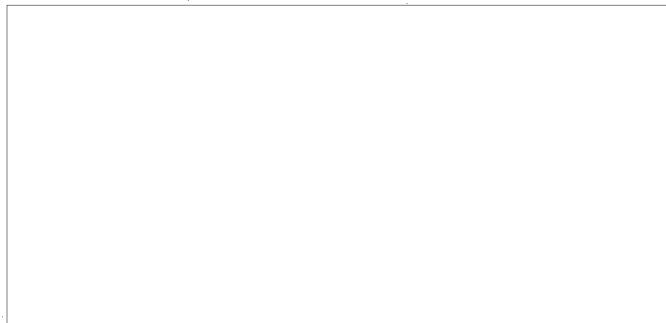
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

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Thieu intends to announce a cabinet reshuffle in a major speech today, and may also call for a reorganization of the military corps areas. Nha said Thieu would retain General Khiem as prime minister but would divest Khiem of his job as interior minister. Other changes anticipated by Thieu's secretary included replacement of the ministers of finance and economy.

Khiem has come in for a lot of criticism for alleged inaction on major problems. The economy and finance ministers have borne the brunt of the National Assembly's dissatisfaction with the government's handling of the country's serious economic problems. Thieu doubtless hopes that the infusion of new blood into these critical posts may speed Assembly passage of his request for special powers in the economic sector.

Also slated for removal, according to Nha, are the ministers of education and veterans affairs. But Thieu will balance this apparent concession to "reasonable" student and veteran leaders with an announcement of a crackdown on militant agitators in both groups.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY

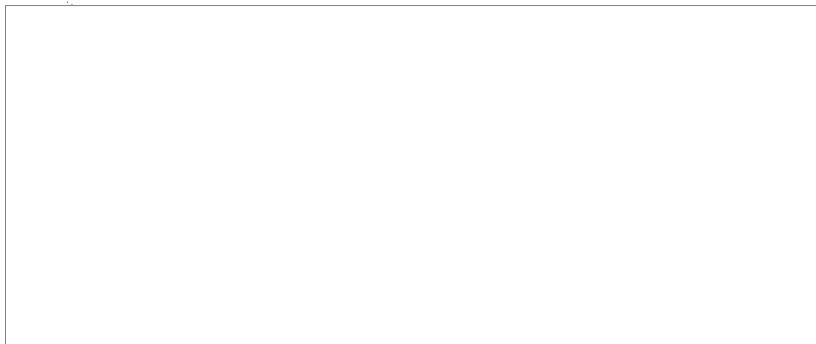
East German party leader Ulbricht has given a green light to another round of negotiations with West Germany. Ulbricht's forthcoming attitude was expressed in a speech before his central committee that met on 9-10 June. Although Ulbricht reiterated all of Pankow's timeworn demands, he did not set any preconditions for further negotiations with Bonn. Indeed, Ulbricht for the first time specifically stated that he hoped a third meeting between the heads of government would be held. Ulbricht also characterized the West German - Soviet talks as a "positive step" that could be beneficial to Bonn-Pankow relations.

Perhaps progress in the Moscow-Bonn dialogue has persuaded Ulbricht to adopt a more flexible position. Curiously enough, however, Ulbricht's speech was kept in cold storage for a week and not released to the press until 16 June. Apparently the East Germans did not want to be accused of interfering with the West German state elections or appear too anxious to pursue Ostpolitik. Since the election results were disappointing to the Brandt government, however, the East Germans may now reason that Bonn will need some encouragement. This fits with the tack taken by East German media, which have been lamenting Brandt's setback in the elections and attacking the concentration of "rightist forces" who oppose Brandt's foreign policies.

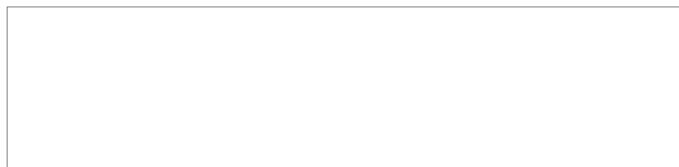
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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WEST GERMANY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

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Israel:	

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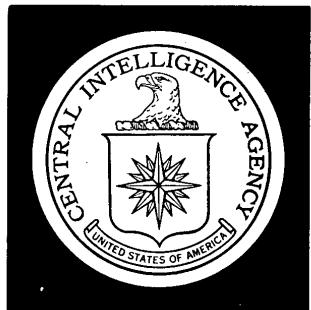
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

19 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Early returns from the British elections point toward a stunning upset victory for the Conservative Party. (Page 1)

Cambodian developments are discussed on Page 2.

Souvanna wants to keep the possibility of a future meeting with the Pathet Lao alive even though he cannot accept the Communists' preconditions for the talks. (Page 4)

The enemy supply flow through the Laotian panhandle continues despite heavy rains. (Page 5)

In Libya [redacted] (Page 6) 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
(Page 7)

Panama will soon present its official position on the Canal treaty negotiations, and in the interim General Torrijos has made it clear that he is not satisfied with the draft treaties. (Page 8)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UK

The Conservative Party may win a majority of 30-40 seats if the trend reflected in the early returns of the British elections continues. Labor has already lost over 40 seats it won in 1966 and the returns from the Conservative strongholds have not been announced. Vote-counting is scheduled to resume today at 0500 (EDT).

Heath stressed economic issues, principally rising living costs, throughout the campaign. His 11th-hour charge that Labor policies would only lead to a further devaluation of the pound may have been effective.

Foreign policy issues were not a major factor in the campaign. Heath and the Conservative Party are on record for restoring a British presence "East of Suez." The costs would be prohibitive, however, and the Tories may soften on this issue. Both parties are on record for British entry into the European Communities, but on favorable terms.

Wilson has not yet conceded but his remarks before retiring last night were not optimistic. A break in Labor's rule after six years could lead to a search for new faces and new policies. Although Wilson had no outstanding rival in the party prior to the election, challengers may arise if Labor becomes the opposition party.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The Communists yesterday mined and shelled Route 1, which connects Phnom Penh with the South Vietnamese border. According to an intercepted army message, the mining occurred near the Neak Luong ferry, 30 miles southeast of Phnom Penh. Another message claimed the Communists intend to destroy bridges in the same area. If the enemy maintains pressure on Route 4, between Phnom Penh and Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) then all main roads out of the capital will be blocked.

The government continues to brace itself for a possible Communist attack on Phnom Penh, although there are still no firm indications that any such action is brewing. Some propaganda leaflets were circulated yesterday in Phnom Penh, however, claiming that an attack on the capital by massive North Vietnamese forces surrounding the city was being planned.

* * *

Communist forces in Kompong Chhnang city seem to have withdrawn to its outskirts, where skirmishes continue to be reported. Southeast of the city, an estimated enemy battalion armed with heavy weapons still holds the town of Krang Lovea, and the railway westward to the Thai border remains blocked. The Communists captured about 1,000 tons of rice from a supply train in the town on 17 June. Two trainloads of government reinforcements are en route to Krang Lovea.

Elsewhere in the west, the government still describes its position at Siem Reap and Kompong Thom cities as "critical." Military action near Siem Reap yesterday was light, but reinforced Communist elements are now reported to occupy almost all of the temples in the Angkor Wat complex. The enemy made another heavy night mortar attack on Kompong Thom; the government commander there reports the morale of his men is declining fast.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The Communists again made brief mortar attacks yesterday on the towns of Labansiek and Bokheo in Ratanakiri Province. US Embassy officials and senior Cambodian Army officers in Phnom Penh believe these last two government garrisons in Ratanakiri should be evacuated and they are trying to persuade Lon Nol to do so. The government has been unable to resupply the estimated 8,000 military and civilians in the two posts.

* * *

The National Assembly has established an executive committee to advise the government on various aspects of national policy. [redacted]

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[redacted] the executive committee was slated to meet earlier this week with government representatives. It planned to recommend that political counselors be assigned to all military units and that an "international police force" be created to prevent further misconduct by South Vietnamese troops operating in Cambodia.

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The impetus for this step came from a number of ambitious deputies who have criticized the government's performance and are seeking a greater voice in its management. The government probably has no intention of relinquishing any real power to the new committee, but has accepted it in order to mollify these critics.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The Laos Government will counter the latest Communist demand for an end to US "aggression" (referred to in yesterday's Brief) with a call for a corresponding withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops, [redacted] Vientiane is under no illusion that the Communists will accept this procedure, but the government believes it must take a firm stand.

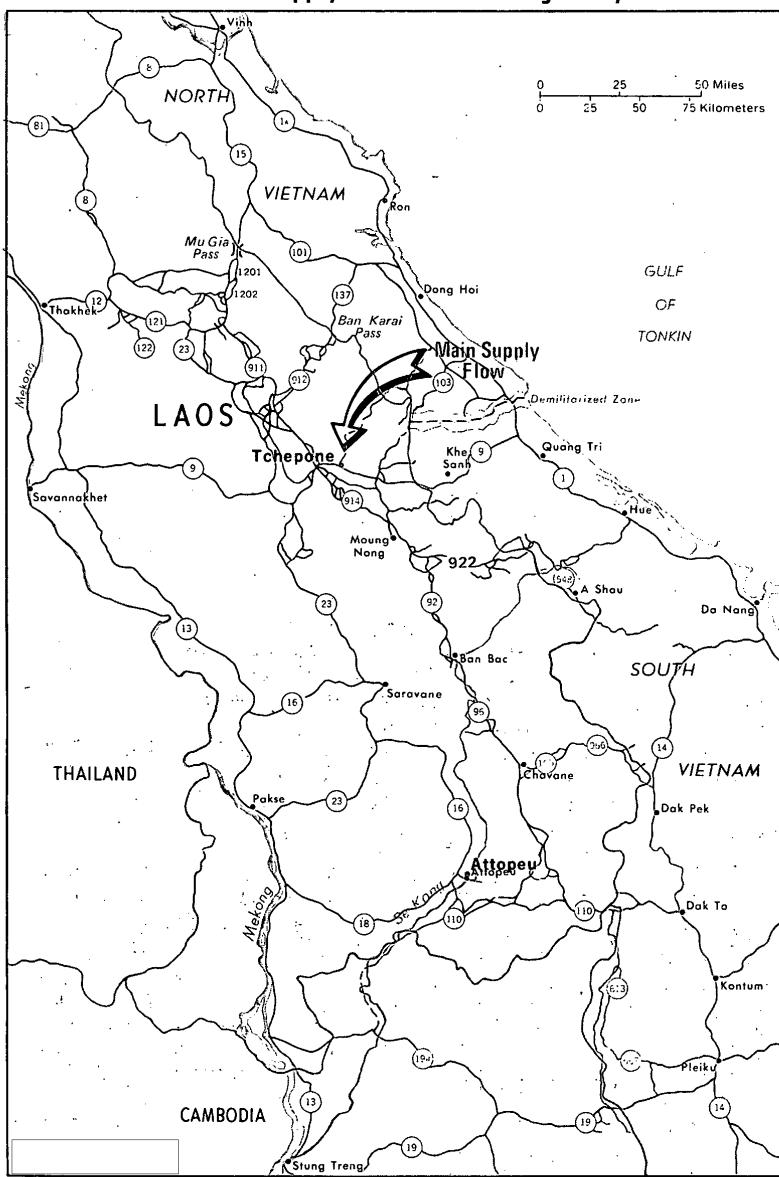
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Nonetheless, Souvanna Phouma wants to maintain contact with the Pathet Lao. To that end he told a cabinet meeting on 17 June that the government's response should hold open the door to exploratory meetings with the Communists. Souvanna will insist that any such meetings be held in Laos and he has indicated that the Plaine des Jarres, under Communist control, or the royal capital of Luang Prabang would be acceptable sites.

Souvanna is trying to maintain a precarious balance between growing military pressures from the Communists and internal political pressures from rightists. Thus, he wants to keep open his options for talks with the Communists, but he cannot go very far in this direction without increasing his difficulties with the rightists.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Communists Continue Supply Movements During Rainy Season



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS - SOUTH VIETNAM

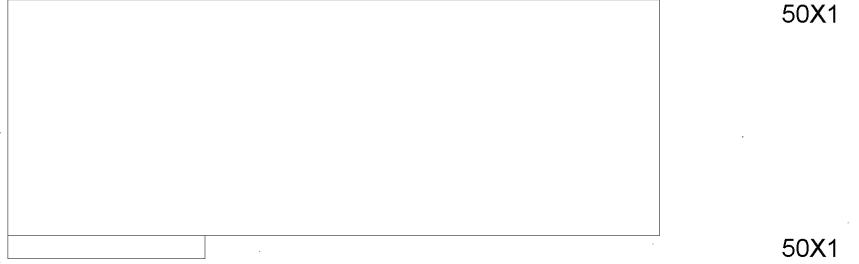
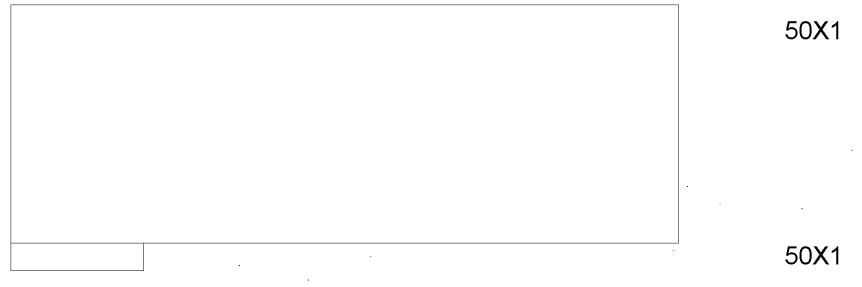
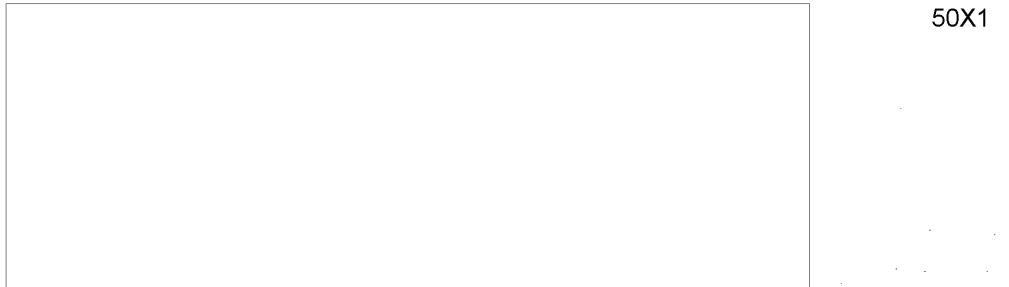
Despite heavy rains, Communist supplies are still flowing into and through the Laotian panhandle in substantial quantities. An average of 51 tons a day moved into the southern panhandle in the first week of June. This is about one-half the peak daily average during the past dry season. A roadwatch team also reported an average of 39 trucks a day during a five-day period in June on one route in Laos near the Demilitarized Zone.

Most of the supplies are moved from North Vietnam to Laos over routes west of the Demilitarized Zone and across the South Vietnamese border on routes south of Route 922. Although the Communists have recently extended their control of Laotian territory by taking Attapeu, the enemy is not making extensive use of the Se Kong River system to move supplies.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LIBYA



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

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Brezhnev's speech was more conciliatory than usual. At the same time, it depicted US actions as an obstacle to improved relations, and Gromyko appeared gratified that the US press had stressed that point.

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This is consistent with recent Soviet efforts to create an impression of orderliness in Moscow's relations with the West, a posture that has been particularly evident since last year's increased tensions on the Sino-Soviet border.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA

General Torrijos has sharply criticized the 1967 draft treaties in a conversation with Ambassador Sayre. He asserted that the drafts did not solve the sovereignty and jurisdiction problems and that they would not eliminate friction between the two countries. He wants a single, uncomplicated agreement rather than three treaties.

Torrijos specifically attacked a provision of the 1967 draft that provides for the transfer of the Canal and the Zone to a joint administration composed of five Americans and four Panamanians. He stated that under such an arrangement Panama would not be a bona fide participant in canal administration. He also complained that the defense arrangements were completely open-ended, that US forces could be deployed without Panamanian approval and that nuclear weapons could be stored in the country.

The General's remarks suggest that he will want very strict controls over defense forces. Moreover, the Panamanians may also insist on annual payments for base rights. They can also be expected to press for full and equal partnership in the administration of the Canal. They have already indicated that all commercial activities within the Zone should be under Panamanian control.

General Torrijos informed the ambassador that Panama will have an official position on Canal treaty negotiations ready within a few days.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

20 June 1970

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~~Top Secret~~^{50X1}



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Current developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 1.

In Laos, the Communists are successfully countering
government moves in the Saravane area. (*Page 3*)

Communist China has strengthened its ground forces
in northern China. (*Page 4*)

The Bolivian Government is faced with continuing
student demands and threats of demonstrations.
(*Page 5*)

The Soviets

(*Page 6*)

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Soyuz-9 experiments will aid Soviet programs to
develop permanent space stations and a manned lunar
landing. (*Page 6*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

[redacted] Kompong Thom city reports fierce fighting there yesterday. [redacted] the city was still encircled [redacted]

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[redacted] On 18 June the regional commander asked Phnom Penh for massive intervention by "allied heliported troops" in order to save Kompong Thom. Press reports claim that some enemy forces have pushed to within 200 yards of major government strong points in the city, and that allied aircraft are attacking to relieve the pressure on defenders.

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[redacted] in areas east of the Mekong River at the Laos-Cambodia border the Communists have requisitioned all bicycles, trucks, and boats for use in moving ammunition to Kompong Thom, and to Siem Reap as well.

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The situation at Kompong Chhnang city apparently has stabilized, at least for the moment.

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Phnom Penh is calm, but government spokesmen continue to talk of an impending attack on the city. There is still no evidence any enemy action is in the offing

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The US Embassy reports that Lon Nol finally has agreed to the evacuation of the government's two remaining outposts in Ratanakiri Province. No timetable for the evacuation of Labansiek and Bokheo towns has thus far been set, however.

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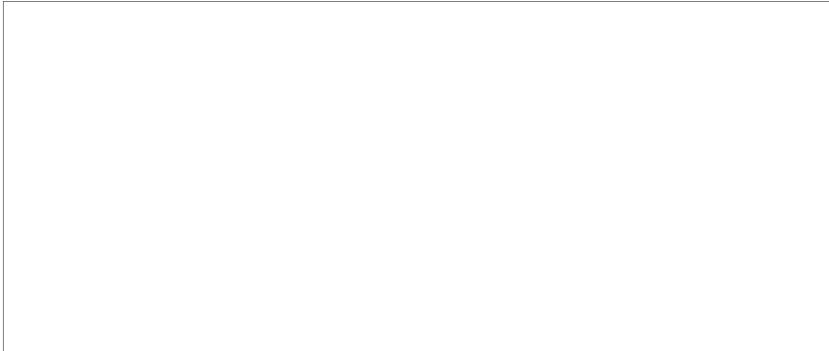
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Cambodian-Lao discussions on possible joint operations to interdict enemy supply lines have petered out. A five-man party of Cambodian Army officers visited Vientiane from 12-15 June and discussed the possibility of "joint" operations to interdict enemy supply lines running through southern Laos into Cambodia, in spite of the fact that Phnom Penh currently has no forces available for such an effort. Officials in Vientiane were generally agreeable to the use of Lao troops but were unwilling to make specific tactical commitments or to train Cambodian recruits which Phnom Penh hoped to make available to the Lao Army for use in border operations. The Cambodian delegation returned home with no firm plans for subsequent meetings. The Laotians did promise, however, to turn over any French weapons which may be left in the Lao Army inventory.

* * *

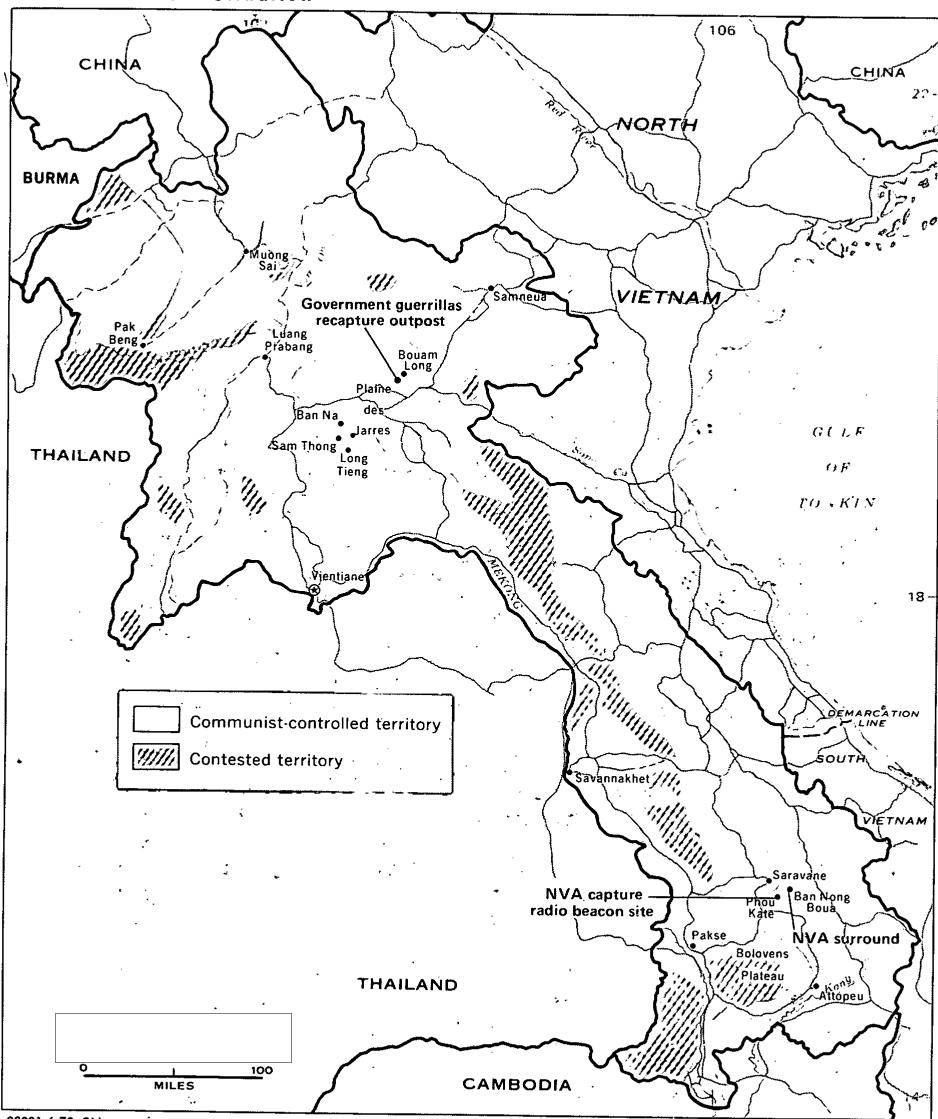


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

R

Laos: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

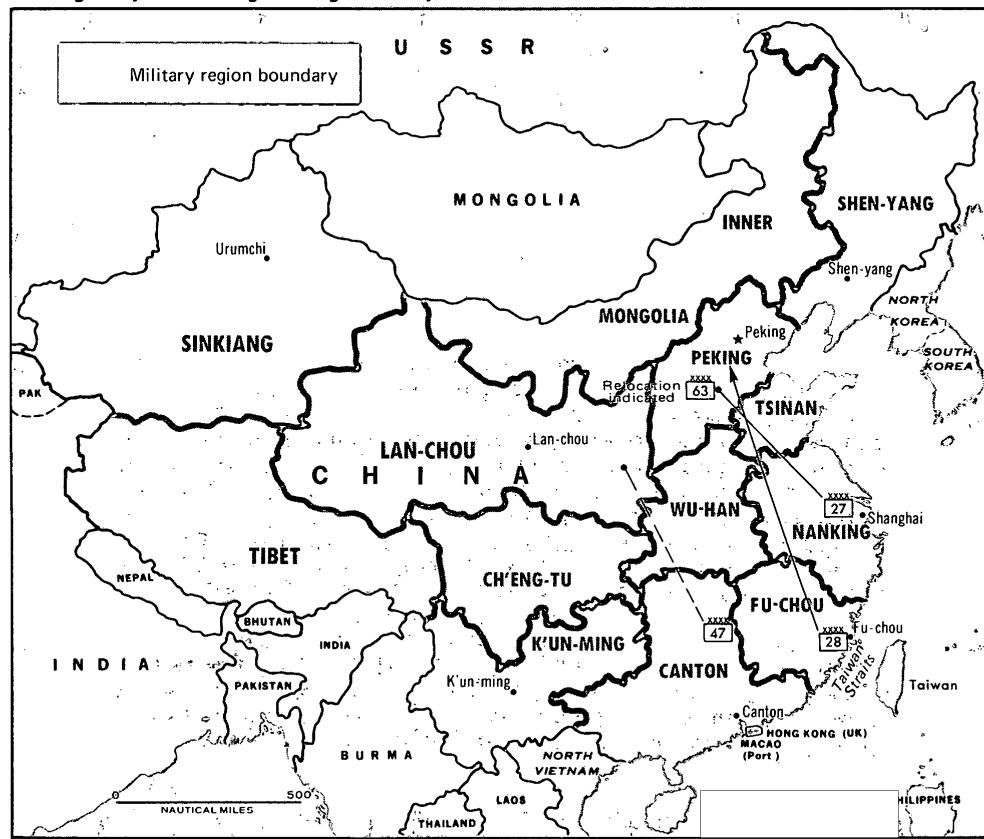
LAOS

The Communists continue to frustrate government efforts to retake Saravane. Press reports indicate that government defenders have abandoned Ban Nong Boua, a small base southeast of Saravane which was to have served as a staging area for the recapture of the town. Ban Nong Boua had been under intermittent rocket and mortar fire for the past several days.

The only radio beacon site in south Laos, located a short distance from Ban Nong Boua at Phou Kate, has also fallen to the Communists. The beacon had been a valuable navigational aid for air operations in the southern panhandle.

The military situation in northern Laos remains relatively quiet, with only minor skirmishes reported. Continuing bad weather southwest of the Plaine des Jarres has forced Vang Pao to postpone, at least temporarily, his drive to retake Ban Na. North of the Plaine, Laotian guerrillas recaptured an important outpost guarding the approaches to the government's long-besieged base at Bouam Long. Enemy forces, who had seized the outpost in early April, did not oppose this action.

Peking May Be Strengthening Military Posture in North China



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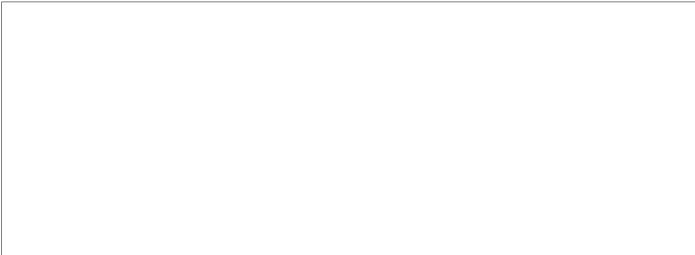
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COMMUNIST CHINA

In the past few months Peking has moved several armies to strengthen its ground forces in north China. Two armies from east and southeast China, the 27th and 28th, appear to have moved northward to the Peking area. In addition, there are tenuous suggestions that the 47th Army has moved from south China to the northwest. A few other armies are also out of communications but so far there is no indication that they have redeployed.

A typical Chinese army numbers some 40,000. Therefore the northern deployment of three armies may have resulted in an increase of 100-120,000 troops in the north. We had previously estimated ground forces strength there at 1 - 1.2 million.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BOLIVIA

Attempts by the Ovando government to link the deaths of two Cochabamba university students to alleged US "agents" have backfired. Leftist student and labor groups are using statements by government leaders to substantiate their charges that foreign elements were responsible for the students' deaths and to drum up support for further demonstrations against the government. The students are demanding that the government expel Ambassador Siracusa and the US military mission there. Further demonstrations are planned for La Paz and other cities and US installations could be targets.

The Ovando government has given no evidence that it knows what to do about the growing student unrest and the students are interpreting the government's inaction as weakness. Members of the military are becoming increasingly uneasy over the handling of the student disorders

[redacted]
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR:

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USSR:	

USSR: Soyuz-9 was recovered yesterday in the Soviet Union after setting a new duration record for manned spaceflight of 18 days.

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The results obtained will be useful to the Soviets in programs leading to development of permanent space stations and a manned lunar landing.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

22 June 1970

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~~*Top Secret*~~^{50X1}



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LATE ITEM
ECUADOR

A late report from the Associated Press states
that President Velasco of Ecuador has assumed dicta-
torial power. [redacted]
It is also reported that the army has begun a roundup
of leftist leaders and that paratroopers have occu-
pied university campuses.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

Communist forces have captured another government
guerrilla base in southern Laos. (*Page 3*)

Ecuador

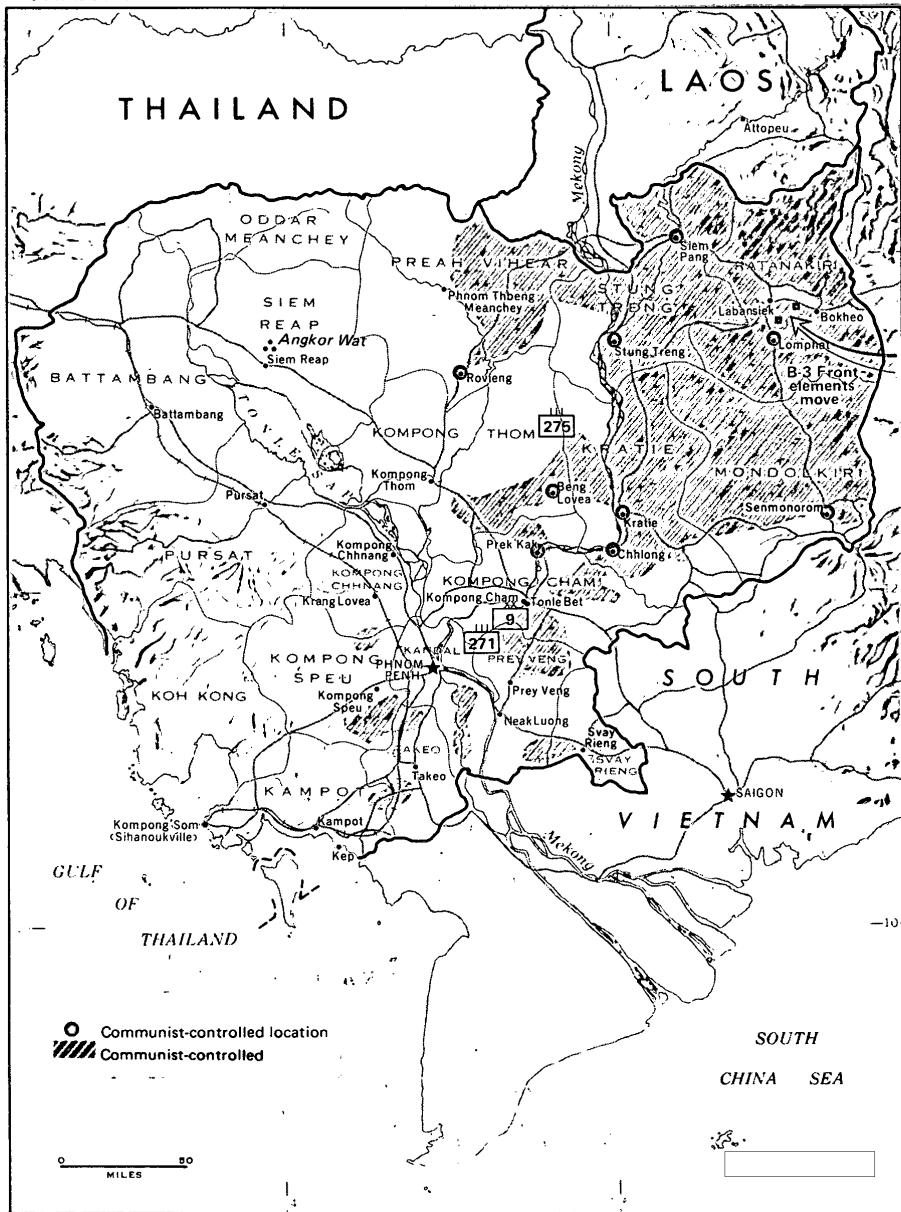
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(*Page 4*)

Arab leaders are meeting in Libya. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh dispatched five army battalions by road yesterday to reinforce battered government defenders at Kompong Thom. Although there was no major attack on the city on the night of 20-21 June, the Communists continue to control areas east and south of the city. An intercepted Cambodian Army message claims that all light, water, and power facilities in the city are now inoperative. Communist prisoners captured at Kompong Cham say they were assigned to a North Vietnamese Army regiment, which is now located east of Kompong Thom. The prisoners probably are members of the Viet Cong 275th Regiment. They also said the regiment is a unit that specializes in attacking heavily populated areas.

Captured enemy documents indicate that the Viet Cong 275th Regiment was reorganized and split into two regimental-sized units on 15 June. Personnel for one battalion of the 275th were recruited from Cambodian Communist insurgents and local Vietnamese. The documents also state the 275th is now carrying out the "first phase" of guerrilla warfare in Cambodia, and coordinating closely with psychological and propaganda activities in accordance with COSVN plans against the Lon Nol regime.

Another major Communist push against the provincial capital of Kompong Cham is under way, with the enemy making ground and artillery attacks on the city. Two battalions of Khmer Krom troops at Tonle Bet town, on the east bank of the Mekong opposite Kompong Cham, are also under attack by sizable Communist forces supported by artillery fire. Elements of the Viet Cong 9th Division apparently are involved in these attacks. Press reports indicate the ferry at Kompong Cham is not operating, and all roads surrounding the city have been cut by the Communists. South Vietnamese Army units are no longer operating near Kompong Cham.

In Prey Veng Province, 100 enemy troops attacked a South Vietnamese Army battalion just north of the provincial capital on 20 June. Elements of the Viet Cong 271st Regiment are believed to be operating in that area.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

* * *

Intercepts show that several important elements of the Communist B-3 Front have recently moved from the central highlands area in South Vietnam to positions that threaten the government's two remaining posts in the northeast, Labansiek and Bokheo. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 24th Regiment was located a few miles east of Labansiek on 20 June, and a battalion from the Communists' 95B Regiment was several miles south of the town. Previously, a battalion of the North Vietnamese 24th Regiment and two battalions under B-3 Front control had been spotted moving into this general region.

* * *

The US Embassy in Taipei reports that the Chinese Nationalists are prepared to send immediately to Cambodia those military items for which US concurrence is not required; in addition, Taipei has requested US approval to provide Cambodia with M-14 rifles, M-60 machine guns, and backpack radios.

The deputy chief of staff of the [redacted]

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[redacted] that on 16 June the Chinese Nationalist ambassador there informed Prime Minister Thanom that Cambodia had tentatively accepted Taiwan's offer to provide it with sufficient light and medium equipment for two divisions, but that thus far Phnom Penh had not made the necessary arrangements to receive them. Thanom told the ambassador that he would urge Lon Nol to send representatives to Taiwan to work out the details.

The second problem broached by the ambassador was transportation of the equipment, including weapons, from Taiwan to Cambodia. Thanom suggested shipping the material either through Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) and then overland to Phnom Penh, or through Bangkok and then by rail or truck to the Cambodian capital. He also said he would ask for US help to transport the material.

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[redacted] moving the material to Phnom Penh via Bangkok because this route was more secure and less likely to be detected by Western journalists in Cambodia. [redacted]

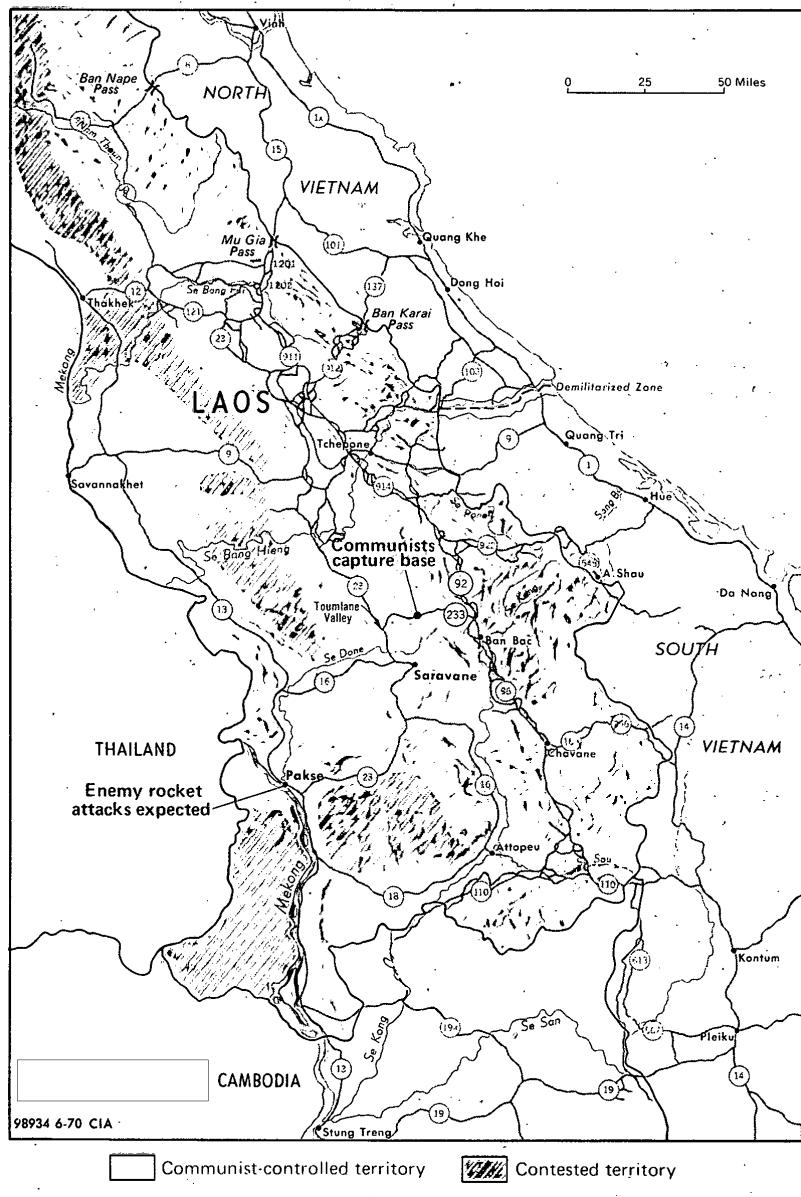
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[redacted] would be amenable to any US transportation plan. He also indicated that Bangkok wanted to take possession of the Chinese Nationalist arms, equip Cambodians to be trained in Thailand with some of them, and "hold" the rest until Phnom Penh needed them. Thailand, he said, would also be "glad" to furnish a ship to move them to Bangkok, provided the Thai Government was reimbursed in full by the US.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Communists Continue Pressure in Southern Laos



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

[redacted] a government guerrilla base some 15 miles north of the Communist-occupied provincial town of Saravane fell to enemy forces on 18 June. The base stands astride Route 233, which runs from Route 92 to the Toumlane Valley; if improved, Route 233 would offer the enemy another alternate infiltration route to the south. At least three other government bases in the Saravane area have been overrun by the Communists within the past week.

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The Communists may soon expand their operations further in this region. [redacted]

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[redacted], enemy patrols have been selecting firing sites for rocket attacks against the Mekong River town of Pakse, the most important government stronghold in southern Laos. [redacted]

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Southern leaders are becoming increasingly unhappy over what they consider to be Vientiane's inadequate response to the deteriorating military situation in their region.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ECUADOR

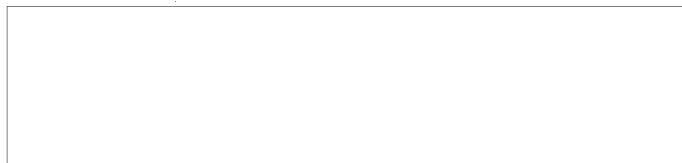


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Arab States: Some leaders attending the current Arab conference in Libya are taking advantage of the gathering to promote their own interests. Nasir probably is trying to sell his ideas for a unified command structure, and undoubtedly will again make a pitch for more effective military coordination on Israel's eastern front to ease the pressure in the Suez Canal area.

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The President's Daily Brief

23 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

23 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

North Korea [redacted]

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(*Page 3*)

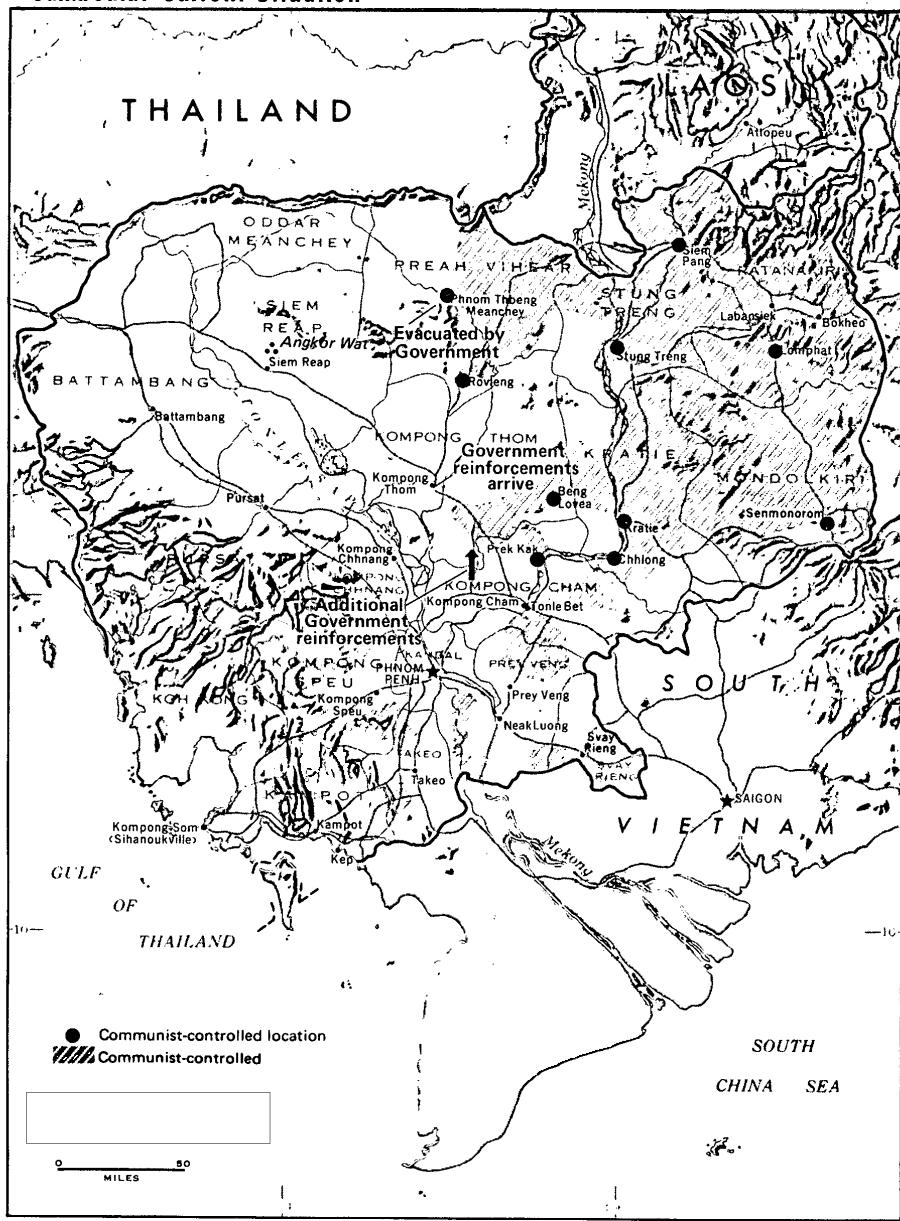
In Italy, the four parties of the national coalition are divided over whether the Socialist Party has the right to form two regional governments with the Communists. (*Page 4*)

Opposition elements are taking advantage of charges that Turkish Prime Minister Demirel used his high office to influence personal financial gains.
(*Page 5*)

The Soviets are testing the short-range capabilities of the modified SS-11 ICBM. (*Page 6*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham continue to receive Communist harassing fire. Allied air support and the arrival of a battalion of Cambodian Army reinforcements have improved the government's military situation at Kompong Thom. Additional government reinforcements are still en route to Kompong Thom from the south. Large Communist troop concentrations remain in position near Kompong Cham, however, and more fighting is likely. Tonle Bet town is still in the hands of Khmer Krom troops, and fighting there apparently has ebbed.

Communist military activity in several southern provinces appears to be intensifying again. There are reports of large enemy troop concentrations in Takeo, Kandal, and Prey Veng. An intercepted police message indicates the Communists are still planning to interdict Route 1, on the west side of the Mekong, near the Neak Luong ferry. In Prey Veng Province, the Communists reportedly are establishing arms caches and training sites near the capital.

Lon Nol and some of his senior military officers remain concerned over the enemy threat to Phnom Penh. [redacted] some army officers believe Communist troops west of the capital are now working their way toward Phnom Penh to link up with other enemy forces converging on the city from the north. Lon Nol recently decided to strengthen the capital's defenses by recalling two battalions stationed in Kampot Province.

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The government lost more ground and another provincial capital to the Communists on 20 June, when Cambodian troops evacuated Phnom Thbeng Mean-chey in Preah Vihear Province.

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[redacted] The Communists can be expected to occupy the capital, raising the number of provincial capitals under their control to five.

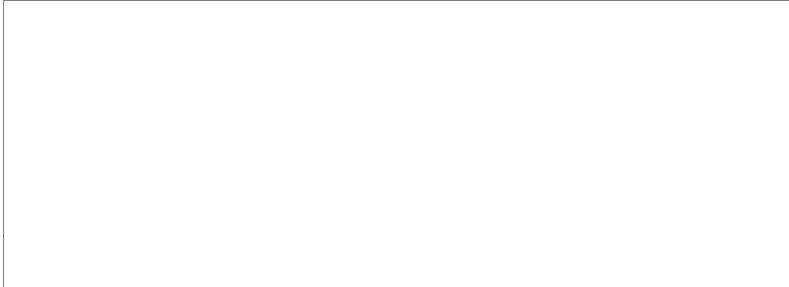
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

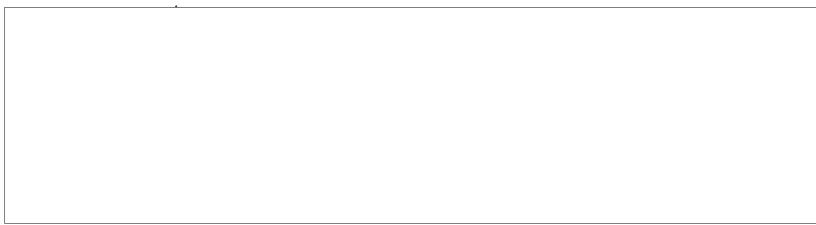
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The government has apparently decided to open an information office in Paris to counter pro-Sihanouk activity there. Sihanouk's "minister of special missions," Chau Seng, is already well established in Paris. He is a capable and effective spokesman, and Phnom Penh will be hard pressed to match him.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH KOREA



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An explosion at South Korea's National Cemetery outside Seoul yesterday may [redacted] be related to the Korean War anniversary. Each year on 25 June either President Pak Chong-hui or the prime minister leads a ceremony to mark the anniversary of the Korean War in front of the main gate of the cemetery where the explosion occurred. A body, tentatively identified as that of a North Korean agent, was found at the scene, and South Korean authorities believe he was killed by the premature detonation of a time bomb being rigged to go off during Thursday's ceremony. An attempt on Pak's life was made during the January 1968 "Blue House" raid.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ITALY

The four ruling center-left parties are bickering over the composition of the regional governments of Tuscany and Umbria. Last week the Socialist Party directorate unanimously re-endorsed the four-party agreement reached earlier this year permitting a Socialist-Communist coalition in regional and local governments when the center-left lacks a majority. This agreement purposely was left vague during the formation of the present national coalition government and has been loosely interpreted by each party.

The Christian Democrats, for example, are deeply divided over the issue. Two of the party's left-wing factions, as well as the followers of moderate Foreign Minister Moro, support the Socialist position, but a large number of Christian Democrats, including those allied with Senate President Fanfani, object. In addition, the anti-Communist Unitary Socialist Party is threatening to cause a national government crisis over the issue.

This issue will be the topic of considerable heated discussions before the installation of the regional governments in early July. Despite the threats, none of the ruling parties wants to force another national government crisis. One possible compromise would allow the Socialists to support, but not join, the Communists in governing these two regions. The Communists can dominate the government of a third region, Emilia-Romagna, without Socialist support.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

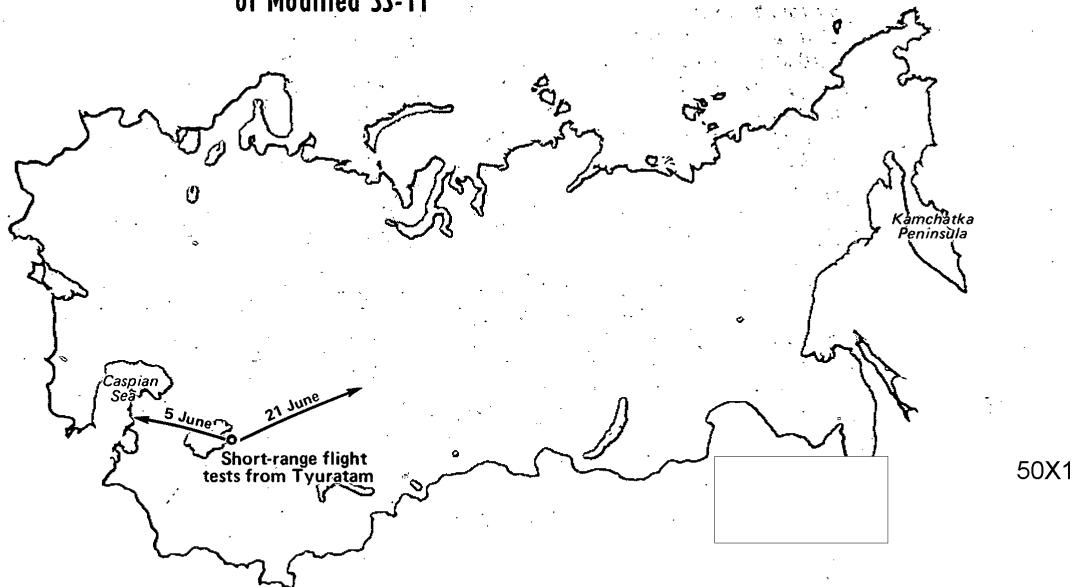
TURKEY

Prime Minister Demirel, his government already rocked by labor unrest that brought martial law to two provinces, now may have to face a parliamentary investigation of his personal financial manipulations. A new investigating committee is expected to be formed tomorrow at a joint session of Parliament to look into allegations that Demirel has used executive influence for personal gain. It will have 30 days to report back to Parliament, which must then decide whether to recommend a court trial.

Earlier Demirel appeared to be out of the woods on this problem when Parliament acted to dissolve another committee that was looking into his financial dealings, but the Constitutional Court nullified the action. In the wake of that decision, opposition elements have stepped up their campaign for Demirel's immediate resignation. If the question of whether or not to press for court action against Demirel comes to a vote, the 38 dissident members of his own Justice Party would hold the balance, and the tally could be very close.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

**Soviets Test Short-range Capabilities
of Modified SS-11**



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

USSR: The Soviets have made two short-range flight tests of the modified SS-11 ICBM on 5 and 21 June. The firing on 5 June was an unprecedented westerly launch from the Tyuratam test center. The latest firing was to a range of about 625 miles, but was to the east toward the normal impact area at Kamchatka. The modified SS-11 has a maximum range of about 6,500 miles.

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[redacted] There have now been 17 tests of this system, which probably will be ready for deployment late this year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

24 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Israelis appear to be probing the limit to which attacks into the UAR can be carried without provoking direct Soviet reaction. (Page 1)

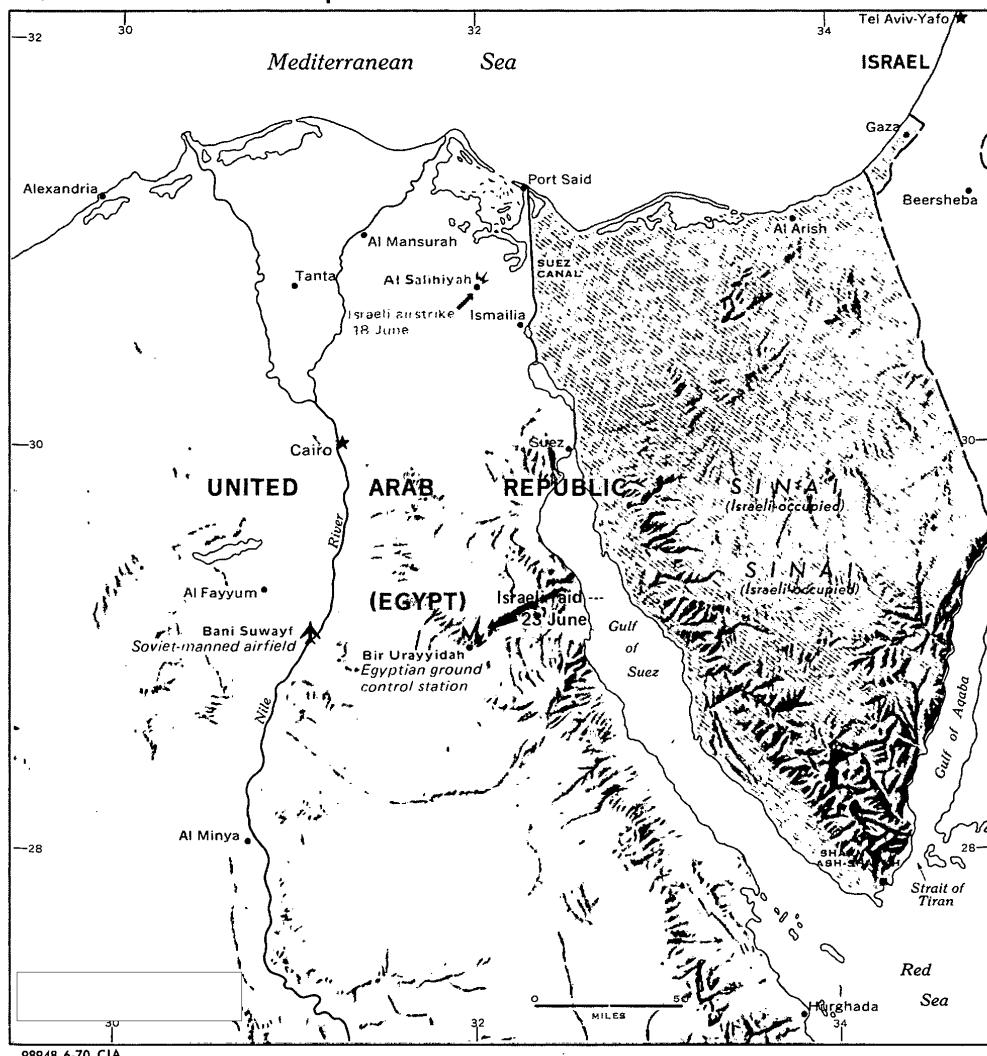
The latest events in Cambodia are discussed on Page 2.

North Vietnam is sending additional regular combat units to the battle zone. (Page 4)

France is resuming nuclear testing in the Pacific. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Israelis Raid Forward Intercept Station for Soviet-manned Airfield



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-EGYPT

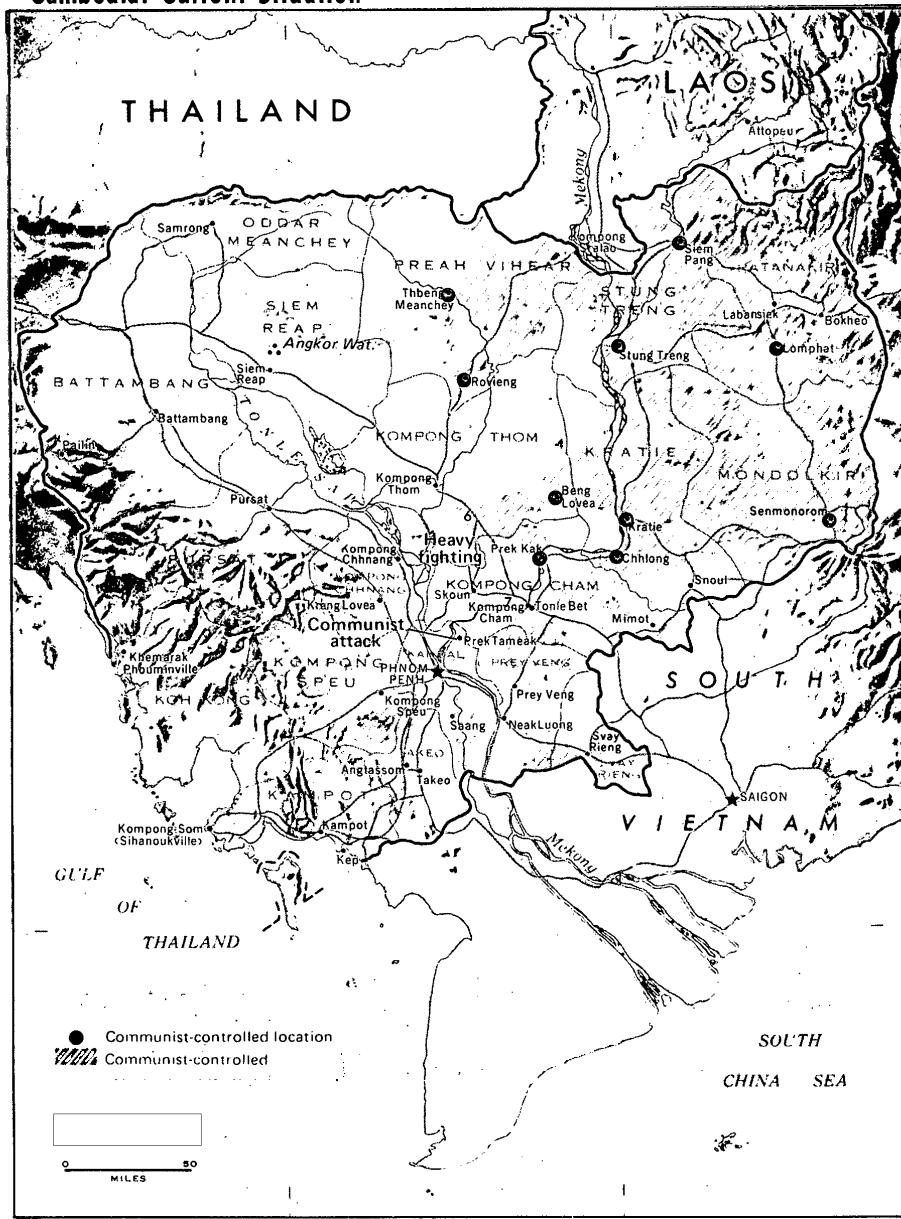
Israel's night commando raid at Bir Urayyidah yesterday came within 55 miles of one of the Soviet-manned airfields. Bir Urayyidah is an important forward ground control intercept station serving the Bani Suwayf airfield, where Soviet-manned aircraft are based. A month ago Soviet experts were at the Bir Urayyidah ground control station, but we do not know if they were there yesterday

(b)(3)

The Israelis, in addition to maintaining military pressure on Egypt, are probably testing Soviet reaction to attacks in various areas. Last week their aircraft struck at Al Salihiyah, some 20 miles west of the Suez Canal. It lies on the western edge of the zone where the Israelis insist they must have freedom to bomb.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

An estimated 500 enemy troops attacked the town of Prek Tameak, 15 miles northeast of Phnom Penh, on 21 June. Late press reports claim the town has fallen to the Communists, but South Vietnamese marines and river craft apparently are ready to intervene to prevent Communist forces from crossing to the west bank of the Mekong.

The military situation at Kompong Thom appears to have stabilized, as more Cambodian reinforcements are reaching the city. South Vietnamese helicopters brought in 250 troops yesterday and more are scheduled to arrive tomorrow. US Air Force planes have provided air cover for reinforcements en route to the city by truck convoy.

[redacted] the security situation in Preah Vihear Province is deteriorating, particularly in an area near the Thai border which Cambodian forces have abandoned. Villagers in the province are increasingly concerned over the government's inability to protect them.

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Senior Cambodian Government officials say that Samrong, the capital of Oddar Meancheay Province was surrounded by the Communists on 17 June but there is no other information that the Communists are threatening the town. The same officials reported that in Battambang the Cambodian Communists control areas in the countryside stretching from north of Pailin town, on the Thai border, southwards to Koh Kong Province.

Despite heavy air strikes and the arrival of friendly reinforcements, the Communists are still attacking government forces near Skoun. Yesterday, Cambodian troops moving to reinforce Kompong Cham city were ambushed in the Skoun area. More enemy forces reportedly are arriving at Skoun from the northeast.

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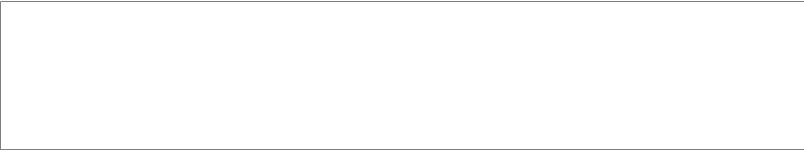
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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A fresh compilation by the US Embassy in Phnom Penh indicates that there are now some 240,000 men carried on the rolls of the Cambodian security forces, but barely half of them have weapons. The army of 115,300 lacks weapons for almost half of its members. Many of its units also lack training and have a serious shortage of qualified officers and noncommissioned officers. Cambodian reserve and paramilitary forces are even weaker: 16,000 out of the 19,900 reservists have no weapons, while almost 60 percent of the paramilitary forces also lack arms. Cambodian naval, air, support, and territorial troops, numbering about 23,000, are all said to be armed.

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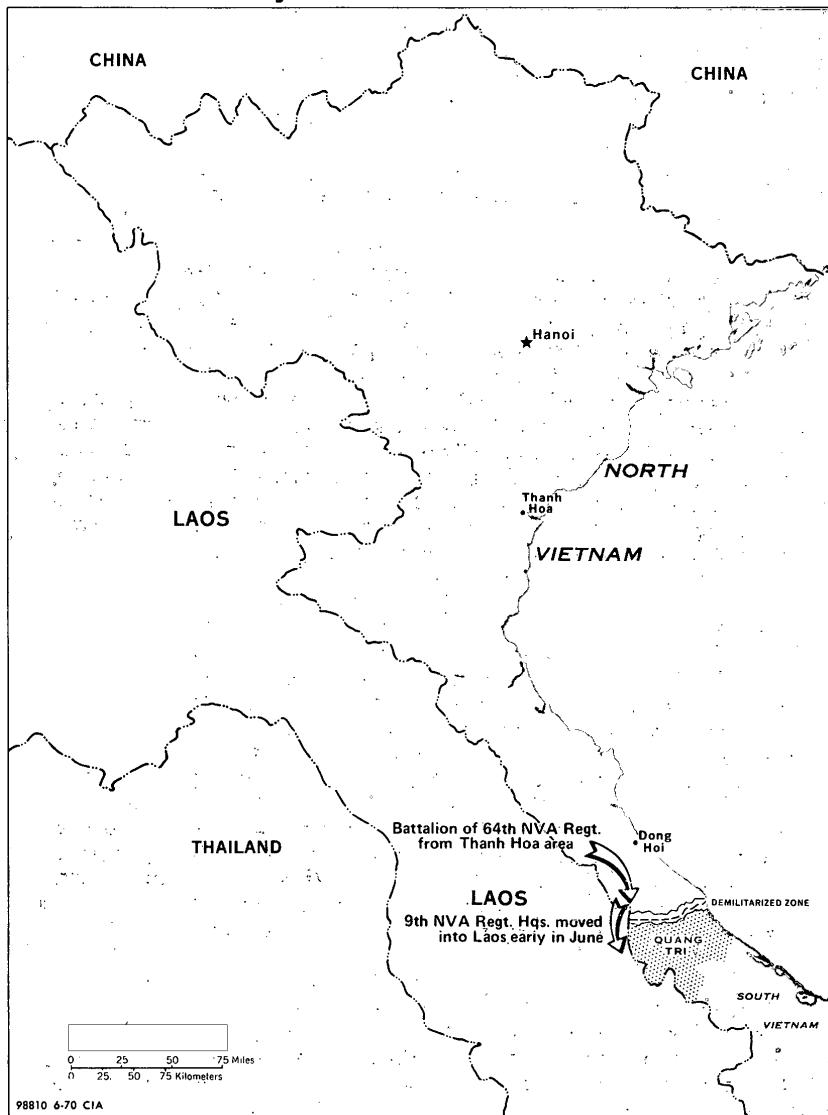
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In the countryside, the peasants are selling pork and rice at a loss rather than lose it to Communist troops. There is also growing fear that the peasants will not plant a full rice crop this season for fear of confiscation.

Prospects for economic improvement appear dim. Eighty percent of the government's income results from rice and rubber exports, from the sales tax on imports--which have been greatly reduced because of transportation shortages and insecure roads--and from tourism, which is at a standstill.

More North Vietnamese Regulars Move South



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

A battalion of the North Vietnamese 64th Regiment, 320th Division, has recently moved into the area just northwest of the DMZ in Laos. The bulk of the 320th Division is still in the Thanh Hoa area of North Vietnam, but the movement of this battalion--numbering about 500 men--suggests that the entire 64th Regiment may be moving south. Several battalion-sized units detected moving southward through the infiltration system earlier this month may have been from the 64th.

The headquarters of the 9th Regiment, 304th NVA Division, also moved into Laos opposite the DMZ early in June. The appearance of a new North Vietnamese command authority in southern Quang Tri Province since mid-April has suggested that a higher level of operations may be in the offing.

Movements of the 304th and 320th are consistent with such a plan. Hanoi's concern for the security of Communist supply lines and base areas in the Lao panhandle, however, could also have prompted these moves. For weeks now, logistics stations in the panhandle have been preparing to guard against "raiders" and possible allied incursions. The Communists are probably worried by their awareness that some South Vietnamese senior officers are eager to attack Communist base areas in southern Laos. They may well have wind of such thinking in I Corps, for example, where the commander of South Vietnam's 2nd Division recently said he has been planning to conduct an operation into Laos, although he admitted he does not have the required approval from Saigon.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

France: Nuclear testing in the Pacific is scheduled to resume today, following a pause of almost a month since the conclusion of the first group of three tests.

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The President's Daily Brief

25 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The familiar pattern of activity continues in Cambodia; Lon Nol may pull his troops out of the northwest. (Page 1)

Israel

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(Page 4)

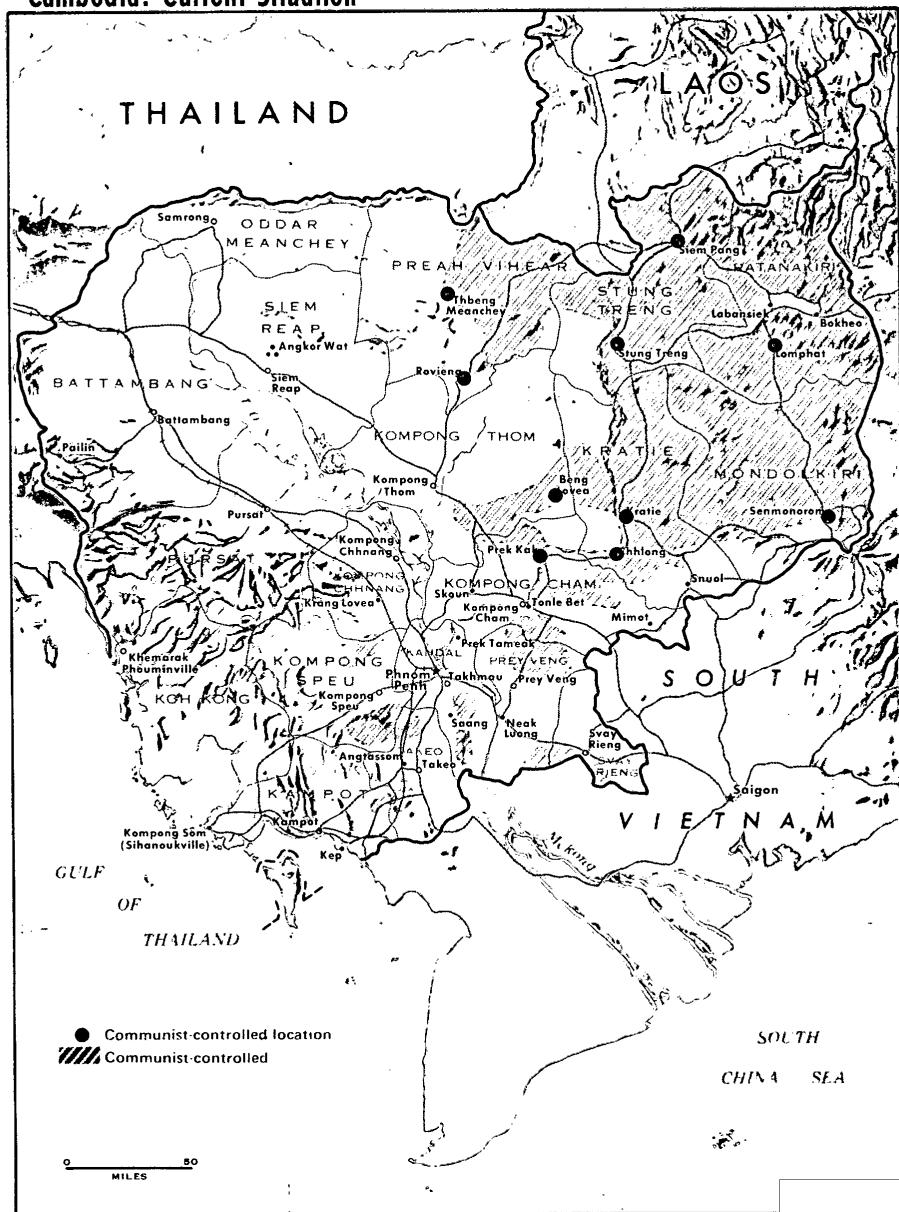
In Jordan, the King and the commandos have made no real progress toward an agreement. (Page 5)

North Korea is joined by Communist China in this year's "celebration" of the anniversary of the Korean War. (Page 6)

Communist China may launch another satellite. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The Communists attacked Kompong Speu city again yesterday and were driven off by a Cambodian Army counterattack. A government spokesman in Phnom Penh reports that friendly casualties were light. The Communists attacked Kompong Speu initially on 12 June and held the city for several days before being driven out by South Vietnamese troops. Elements of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment, which are still located near Kompong Speu, probably participated in the renewed fighting.

Kompong Thom is quiet after days of continual fighting. Cambodian Army messages indicate Communist troops are withdrawing from some of their positions around the city to take up new positions to the south and southeast. A large Communist force from the Kompong Thom area was said to be heading south toward Kompong Chhnang on 21 June, indicating that more enemy activity may be in prospect in that province. The Communists apparently still control the railroad town of Krang Lovea.

The government says it has suffered 400 casualties at Kompong Thom. Enemy losses to air strikes probably were also heavy. Aerial reconnaissance on 22 June indicates that the city's waterfront is completely destroyed, and that almost half of the city is in ruins.

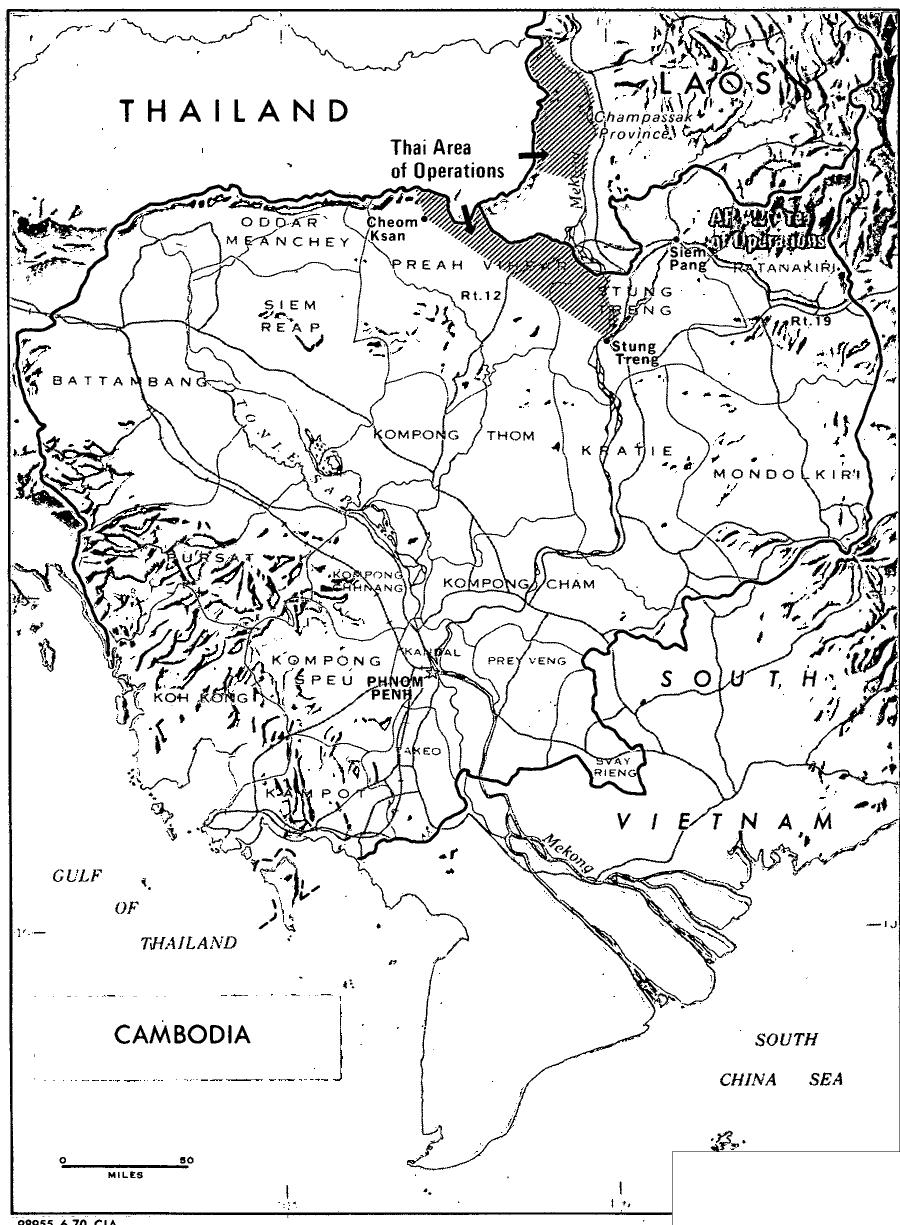
In the south, substantial Communist forces apparently are now in and around the town of Prek Tameak, on the east side of the Mekong River northeast of Phnom Penh. Government troops withdrew toward Phnom Penh yesterday to await reinforcements.

Considerable enemy movement continues to be reported near Prey Veng city. Cambodian Army messages state that sizable numbers of Communist troops are in the area and that an attack on Prey Veng could come at any time. According to one intercept, enemy elements are moving into ambush positions along Route 15 between Neak Luong and Prey Veng city.

In the east, there was little action around Kompong Cham city, but the enemy harassed Tonle Bet town with artillery fire last night. Large concentrations of Communist forces are still sufficiently close to Kompong Cham to make new attacks on the city at short notice.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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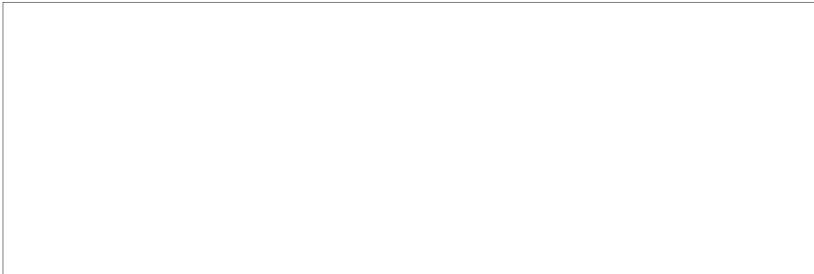
US Chargee Rives met with Lon Nol on Tuesday evening and learned that the prime minister had ordered his troops to withdraw from "the northwest provinces." Lon Nol said he would welcome US assistance

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[redacted] Lon Nol's army would be responsible for holding a line extending from the Thai border through Siem Reap, Chhlong, and Snoul to the Vietnamese border.

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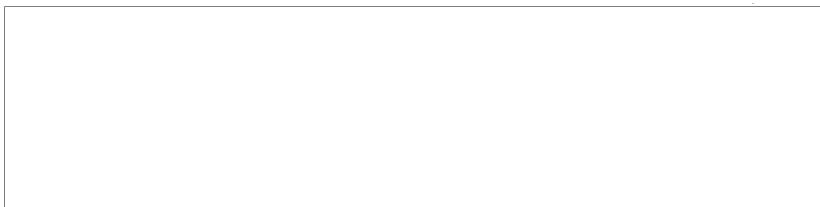
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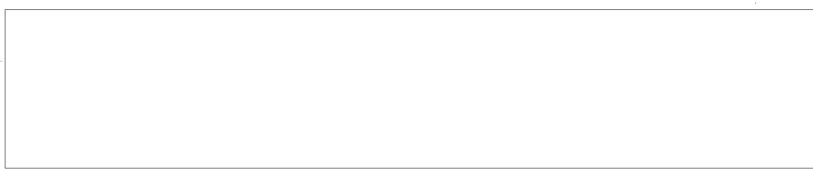
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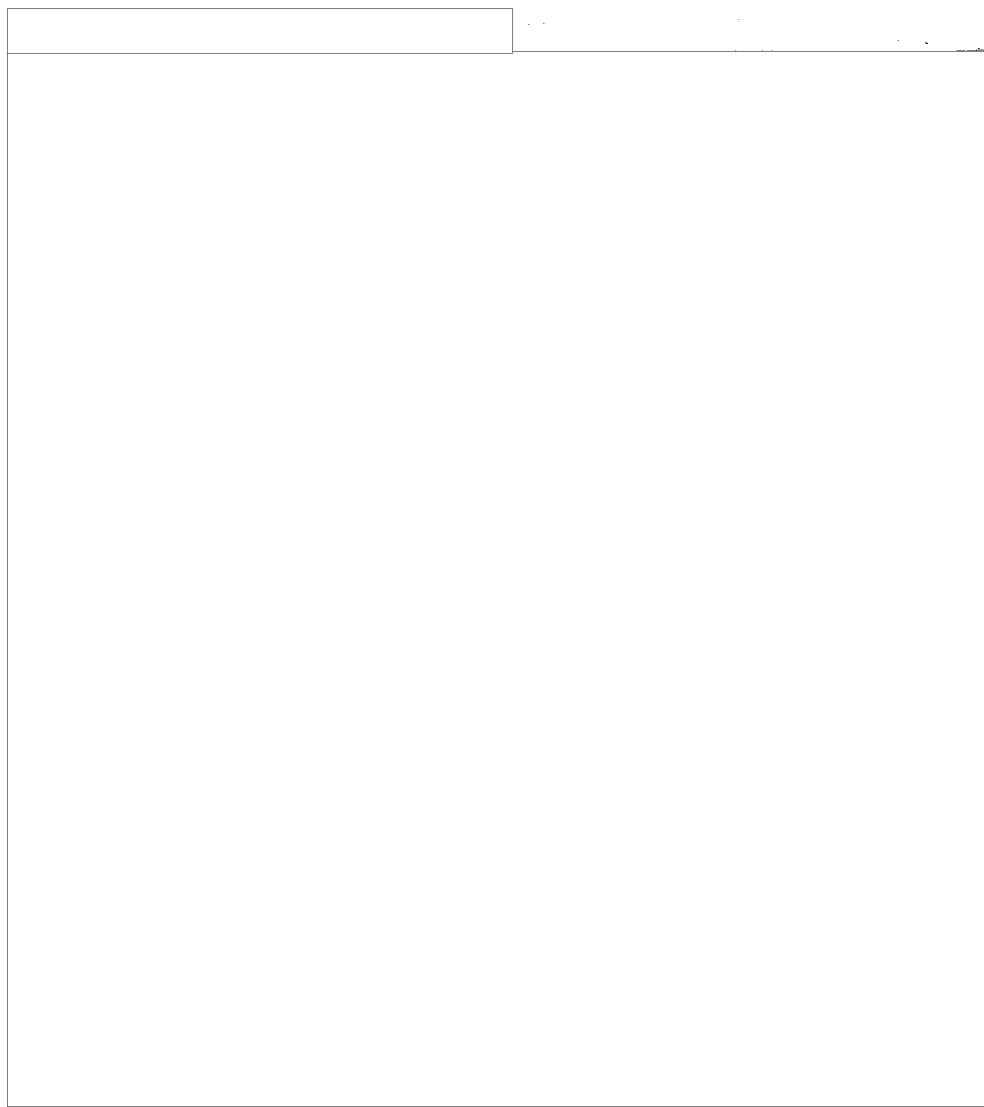
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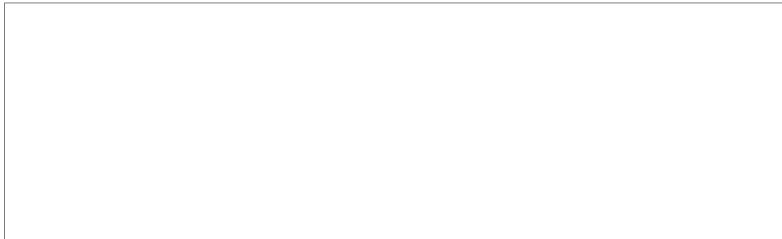


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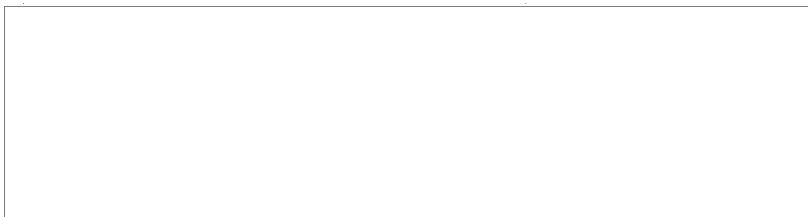
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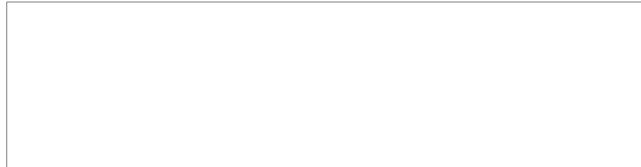
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

Negotiations aimed at hammering out a working agreement between the government and the fedayeen are virtually stalled after two weeks. The talks may be given a lift when the committee formed at the Tripoli summit conference last weekend arrives in Amman. The committee, composed of representatives from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, and the Sudan, is supposed to work out a solution which will guarantee both Jordanian sovereignty and freedom of commando action.

Most Jordanians are still in a state of shock, and they believe that the crisis is not yet over. Their uneasiness has been fed by warnings from fedayeen leaders that the country is still threatened by CIA-instigated plots and that the fragile truce may be deteriorating. Although Arafat claims to speak for all the guerrillas, George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine is still marching out of step.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH KOREA

On 22 June--the eve of the 20th anniversary of the Korean War--North Korea again proposed a step-by-step program leading eventually to the creation of a single government. This formula had been publicized widely a few weeks before; it is similar to propaganda overtures Pyongyang has made in the past. A precondition to all these proposals is the withdrawal of US forces from South Korea.

Pyongyang's ostensibly flexible approach to peaceful unification is intended to contrast with Seoul's insistence on the retention of US forces. North Korea's renewed emphasis on peaceful unification also is in line with its switch last year to less militant tactics toward South Korea.

This line does not preclude dramatic terrorist acts in the South, like the bomb, apparently intended for South Korean leaders, which exploded prematurely on Monday. Plans for such incidents could explain the increased state of readiness of the North Korean military.

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An editorial published in Peking sets improved relations between Communist China and North Korea within the framework of an Asian "anti-US united front." The editorial echoes many of the standard shibboleths against the US and Japanese "aggressors" in Asia, and takes an oblique swipe at the Soviets who are accused of "collaborating" with the US and "maintaining dirty relations" with the Lon Nol government.

The editorial breaks no new ground but is further evidence of Peking's effort to use the "united front" theme as a means of improving its position throughout Asia at the expense of the US, Japan, and the USSR.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Communist China: There are tenuous indications that Peking may soon launch another satellite.

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Czechoslovakia: Alexander Dubcek has lost his job as ambassador to Turkey, and former premier Cernik lost his one remaining government post. Party conservatives presumably will now turn their attention more to the rank and file. Local party leaders had been reluctant to conduct a wholesale purge so long as the largely moderate national leadership under Husak had managed to shield Dubcek and Cernik. A party central committee plenum is tentatively scheduled for later this week and will give a better reading on how much the conservatives have strengthened their hand. Some government spokesmen predict Dubcek's party membership will be lifted on that occasion.

Turkey: Initial popular relief over the government's speedy action to restore law and order in western Turkey is giving way to fear that recent events may lead to a repression of legitimate opposition to the Demirel government. Authorities have arrested as many as 400 "leftist troublemakers," including many of those responsible for student unrest during the past year. The government has indicated it intends to ban the Marxist Turkish Labor Party for its part in the recent riots.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

26 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

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(*Page 3*)

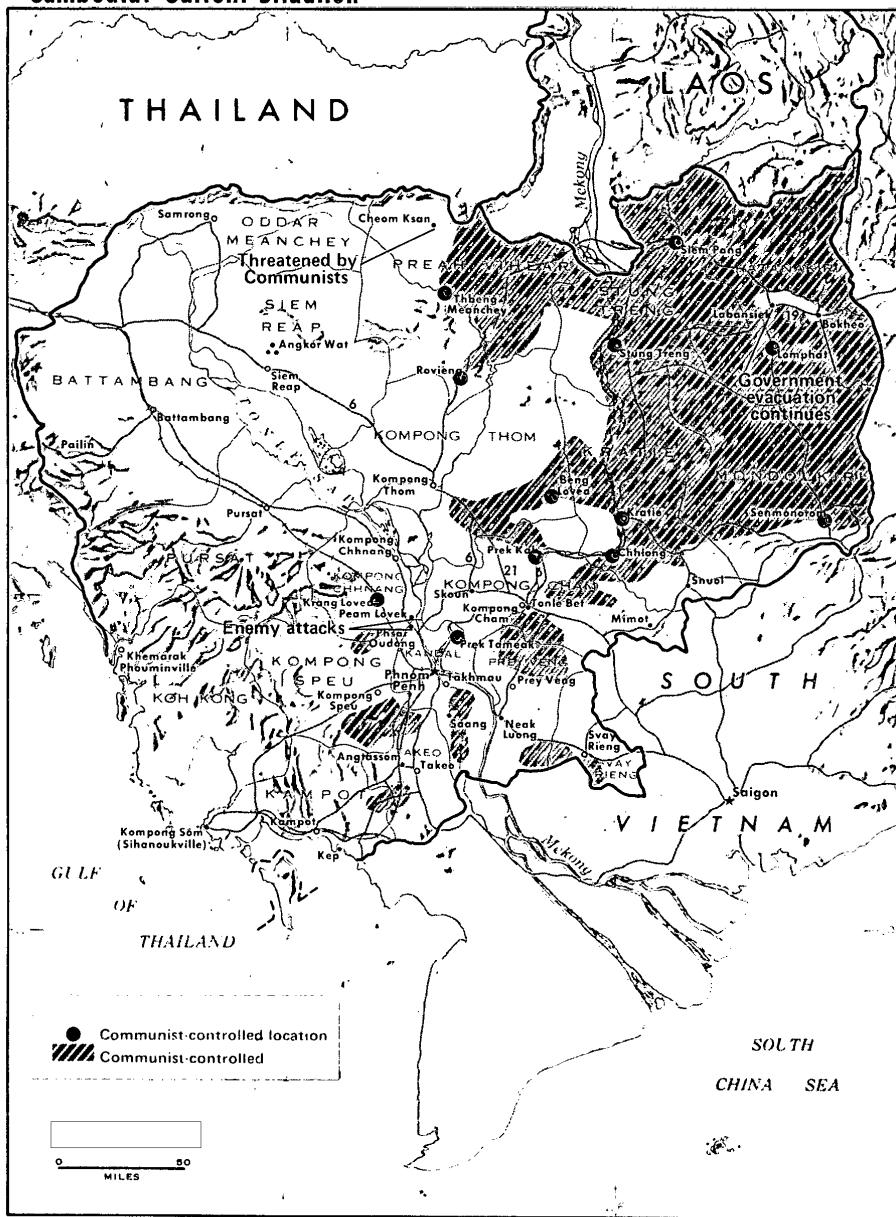
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Ecuadoran President Velasco has taken a number of stern measures since assuming dictatorial powers last Monday; thus far, there has been no meaningful opposition. (*Page 5*)

Yesterday's Syrian-Israeli clash is noted on *Page 6*.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

An important government munitions depot at Peam Lovek, in Kompong Chhnang Province, came under enemy attack yesterday. Late press reports indicate the attack was repulsed. A Communist battalion-sized force also attacked the town of Phsar Oudong, south of Peam Lovek, Wednesday night; a government battalion moving to reinforce Phsar Oudong was ambushed by the enemy five miles northwest of the town. A second battalion was en route to Phsar Oudong from Phnom Penh yesterday.

Enemy activity around the capital of Kompong Chhnang appears to be increasing again. A government message reports that the Communists have taken over several villages near the town and are bringing in "antiaircraft weapons."

The Communists continue to harass government reinforcements en route overland to Kompong Thom city. An army intercept asserts that several hundred enemy troops are in ambush positions at the junction of Routes 6 and 21, southeast of Kompong Thom, and are trying to attack a government column from the rear. No significant enemy attacks were made on the city, but Communist forces are still nearby.

Siem Reap has been quiet. On 24 June, however, a police message claimed that 3,000 enemy troops were located just north of the city, and that villagers in that area were fleeing. The local commander at Siem Reap is asking for air strikes along the entire length of Route 6, between Siem Reap and Kompong Thom.

The evacuation of government troops from Preah Vihear Province toward Thailand is continuing, and an intercepted army message stated that Communist forces were converging on another government position at Cheom Ksan town on 23 June.

The Communists apparently still hold Prek Tameak village, northeast of Phnom Penh. A local Cambodian unit reports that there are now 2,000 enemy troops in the area preparing to attack a government battalion near Prek Tameak.

In the northeast, the South Vietnamese air evacuation of the inhabitants of Bokheo and Labansiek towns in Ratanakiri Province is continuing. The

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Labansiek airfield was harassed briefly by enemy mortar fire on 24 June. South Vietnamese troops are moving toward the town along Route 19; there has been only light contact with the enemy.

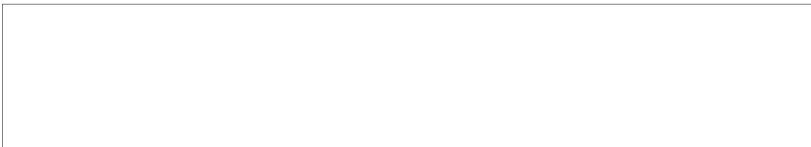
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A government decree issued on 25 June calls for the mobilization of all Cambodian citizens of both sexes between the ages of 18 and 60. They must either enter military service or join auxiliary organizations. The decree also makes persons in "defense capacities"--presumably including anyone affected by the mobilization decree--subject to military law and tribunals. Furthermore, all economic resources considered necessary for national defense will be "relinquished" to the state. The decree does not spell out which resources are in this category.

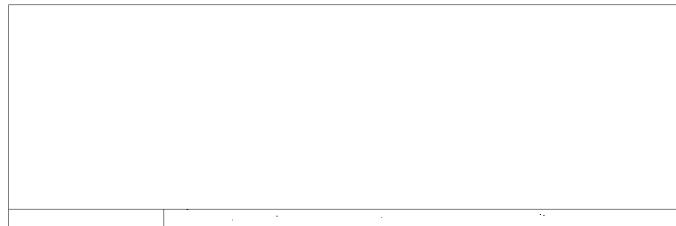
These draconian measures, if indeed they are carried out with any vigor, would tend to mute carping in the National Assembly over the government's conduct of the war.

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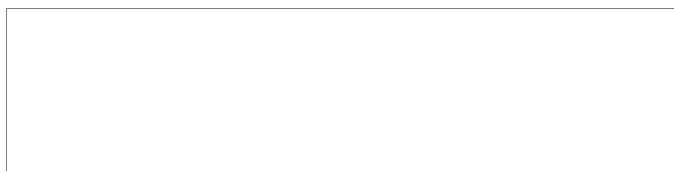


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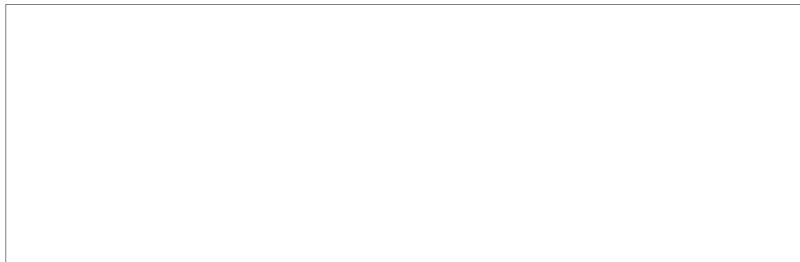
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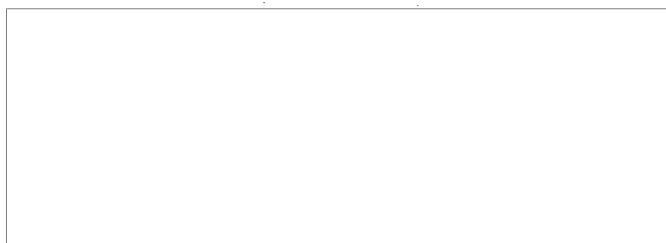
ARAB STATES



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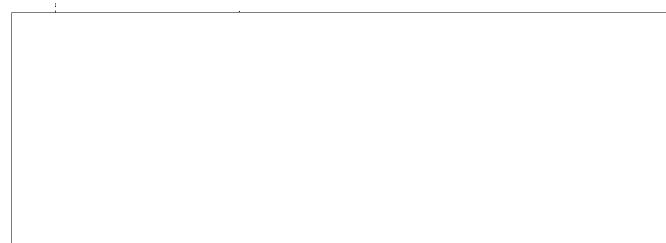


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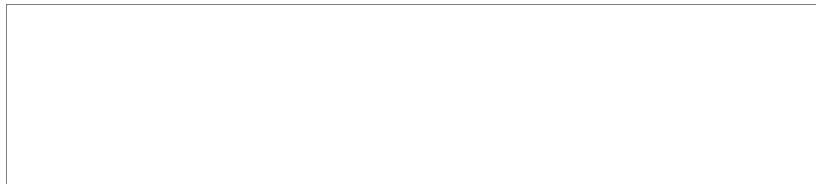


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ECUADOR

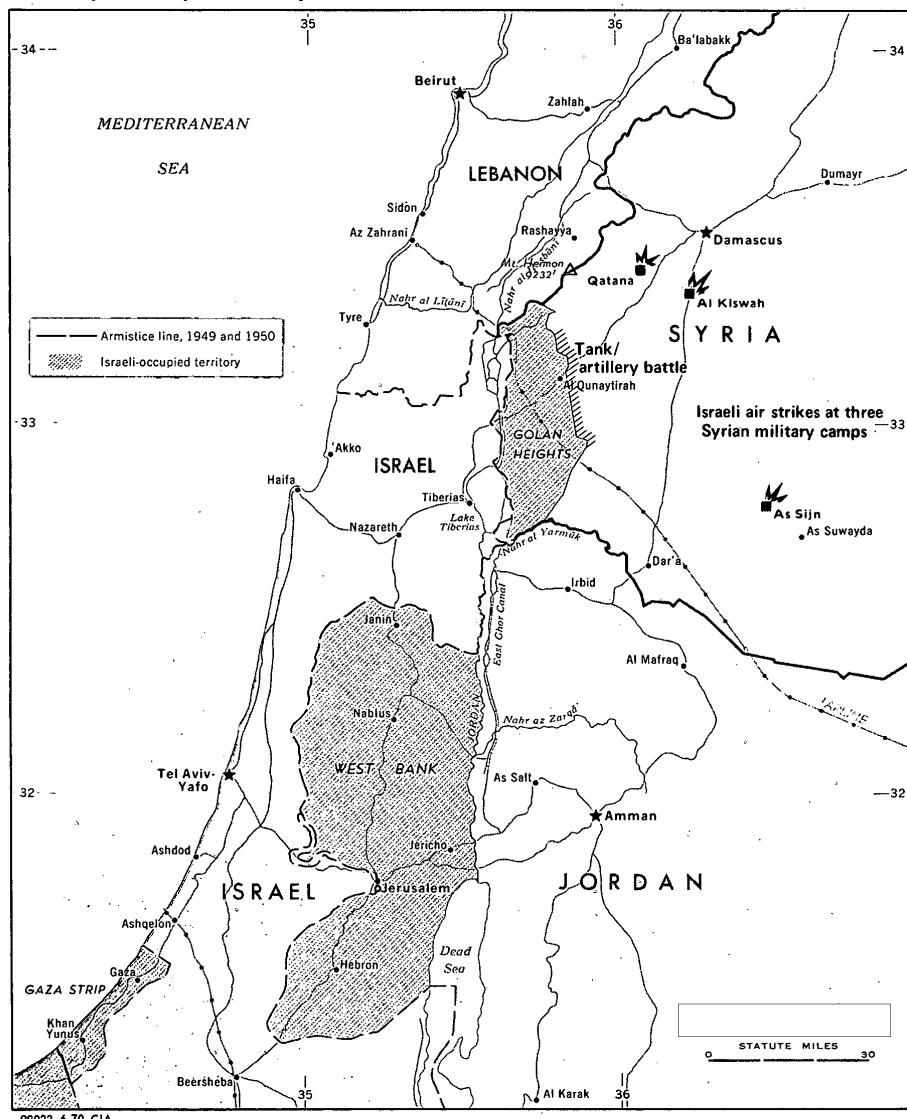
President Velasco has moved quickly to secure the dictatorial powers he assumed last Monday. With little prompting needed from the military, he has carried out a roundup of leftists and student agitators. Velasco has nullified the 1967 Constitution and says he intends to rule by decree until he hands over the reins to his elected successor in September 1972. The Supreme Court has been closed, at least temporarily, and Congress appears to have been made a permanent casualty by the reallocation of funds intended for it.

Leaders of the traditional Liberal and Conservative parties have made largely pro forma protests over the take-over. Public response has bordered on indifference.

By breaking the constitutionality of his regime, Velasco has knowingly thrown away whatever independence of the military he may have enjoyed. When opposition elements regroup, as they are certain to do, the military will be the sole arbiters of Velasco's tenure.

Velasco has been elected president five times, but has been ousted during three of his four previous terms. Although he now has the backing of the military, this will become more uncertain as he becomes the target of opposition elements.

Military Activity on the Syrian Front



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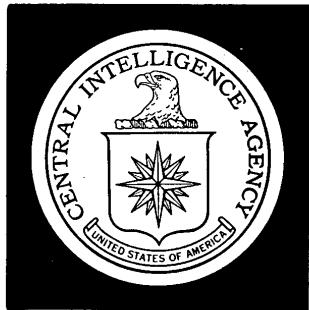
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Syria-Israel: The Syrians carried out an unusually aggressive artillery and tank attack yesterday against the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, and Israeli planes lashed back at military camps near Damascus. Further Israeli air attacks against similar targets were made this morning. This has been the least active of the four Arab-Israeli fronts, although clashes have occurred at the rate of at least one a month. Damascus' exaggerated claims of casualties and damage inflicted by its forces serve to prove its radical Arab credentials. They underscore Syria's refusal to accept the continued Israeli occupation and settlement of this area.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

A roundup of events in Cambodia begins on *Page 1*.

A Soviet party plenum [redacted] probably will review the agenda for the first session of the legislature on 14 July. (*Page 4*)

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An increase in enemy boat construction in south Laos suggests that the Communists plan to take advantage of the Se Kong River system to transport supplies. (*Page 5*)

In West Germany, the Free Democratic Party convention reaffirmed its support for the Brandt coalition. (*Page 6*)

Libya is threatening to nationalize the holdings of Occidental Petroleum Company. (*Page 7*)

Student militants and Buddhists may launch new demonstrations this weekend in Saigon. (*Page 8*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

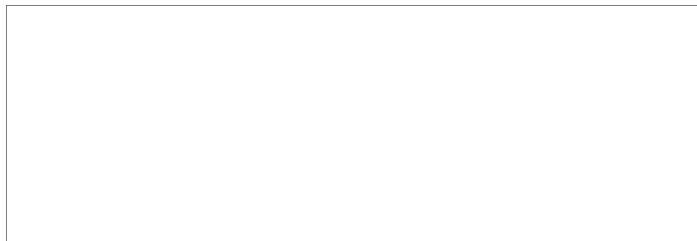
The Communists are continuing to attack in areas north and west of Phnom Penh. Enemy forces in Kompong Chhnang Province resumed ground and mortar attacks on the town of Lovek and the nearby munitions depot yesterday.

There is evidence that more Communist forces are moving into the province. The enemy destroyed another train station and a bridge on the railway to Bangkok in the southern part of the province on 24 June. Government forces are now running a clearing operation in that area.

The Communists yesterday also made a five-hour night-time mortar and ground attack on a provincial office and a military barracks in the town of Kompong Speu, but government casualties apparently were light. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment was located in a mountainous area some 25 miles west of Kompong Speu on 25 June, and the headquarters of its subordinate 7th Battalion was about 12 miles southwest of the city.

The Communists may be planning new attacks closer to Phnom Penh. A Cambodian Army message claimed on 25 June that a "large" enemy force was moving into positions just northeast of the capital. Sizable enemy forces are also reported in other areas around Phnom Penh, including the force which apparently still holds the river village of Prek Tameak.

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More reinforcements have arrived in Kompong Thom, and others are moving in by road. Their progress has been slowed by frequent enemy harassment. The city itself remains firmly in government hands.

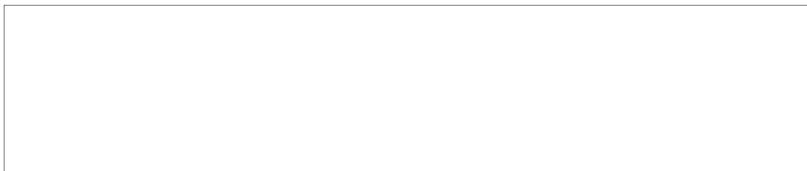
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

In northern Svay Rieng Province, an army message indicates that the Communists have been stockpiling substantial quantities of munitions, rice, and other supplies near the South Vietnamese border. A Cambodian military spokesman announced early today that the government's garrisons in Labansiek and Bokheo in Ratanakiri Province have been safely evacuated.

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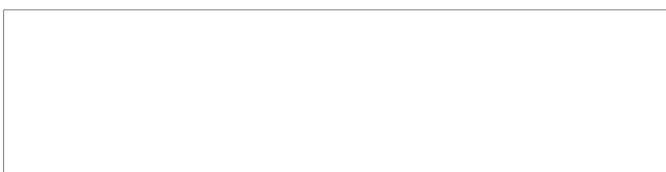
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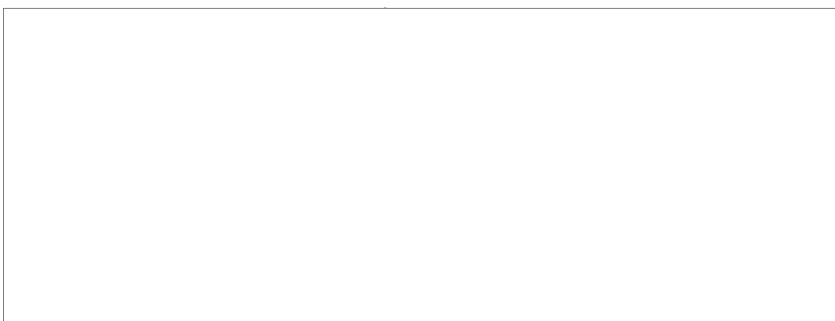


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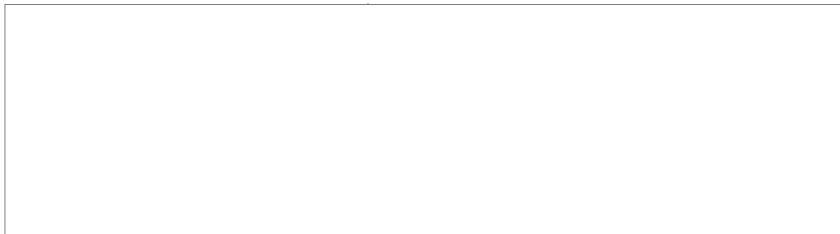


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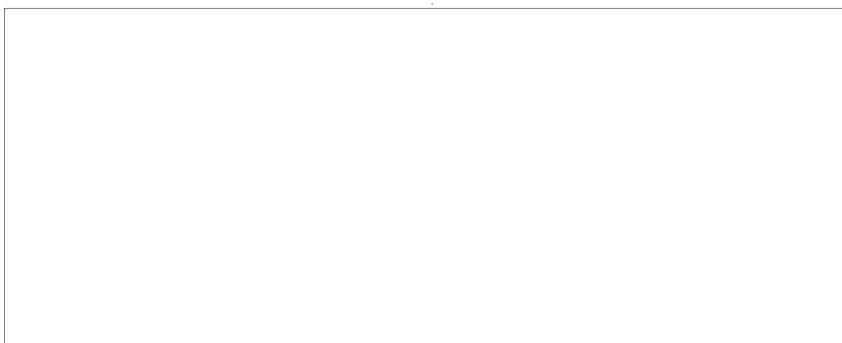
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USSR

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[redacted] the Soviet press announced that the first session of the newly elected Supreme Soviet would be held on 14 July.

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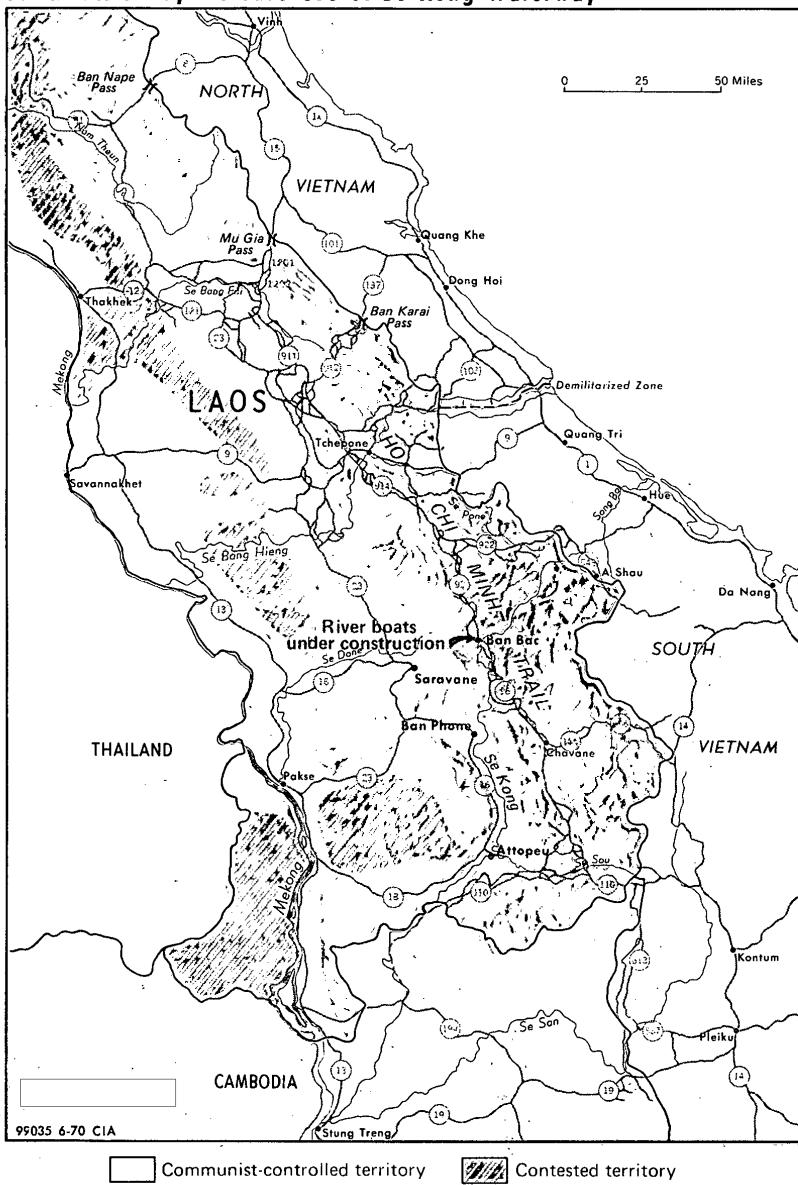
The first session of the Supreme Soviet, as the nominally highest governing body, formally approves the composition of the council of ministers. A party plenum always precedes this session to approve its agenda and any personnel changes which are contemplated.

The plenum should also announce the date of the already overdue 24th Party Congress. The Soviet leadership is publicly committed to holding the congress this year; the date is usually announced six months in advance to allow adequate time for preparations. Difficulties in working out preliminary guidelines for the next five-year plan (1971-1975) have accounted in part for the delay in scheduling the congress. The plenum may also discuss agricultural matters or science and technology, subjects which have been cited [redacted] as topics for discussion at the next central committee plenum.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Communists May Increase Use of Se Kong Waterway



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS



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[redacted] the Communists now have [redacted]
boats operating between Ban Phone and Attopeu and [redacted]
[redacted] river craft shuttling supplies to the Cam-
bodian border along the lower portion of the Se Kong.
Intercepted messages indicate the Communist logistic
units in the panhandle were constructing river craft
as early as mid-May.

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*The Communists have been free floating
supplies down the Se Kong for some time.
Now that they have improved their control
of south Laos by seizing Attopeu and Sara-
vane, they apparently are planning more
ambitious logistic operations to include
the Se Kong and possibly the Mekong River
to transport supplies south.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY

The Free Democratic Party (FDP) and its chairman, Foreign Minister Scheel, received a temporary reprieve at the FDP convention early this week. Prior to the convention, former FDP chairman Erich Mende tried to organize a return to conservative policies. The moderates and the left wing reacted by endorsing the coalition and Ostpolitik, while censuring Mende by a vote of 233 to 102.

State elections in Bavaria and Hesse next November will provide another hurdle for the FDP and the coalition.

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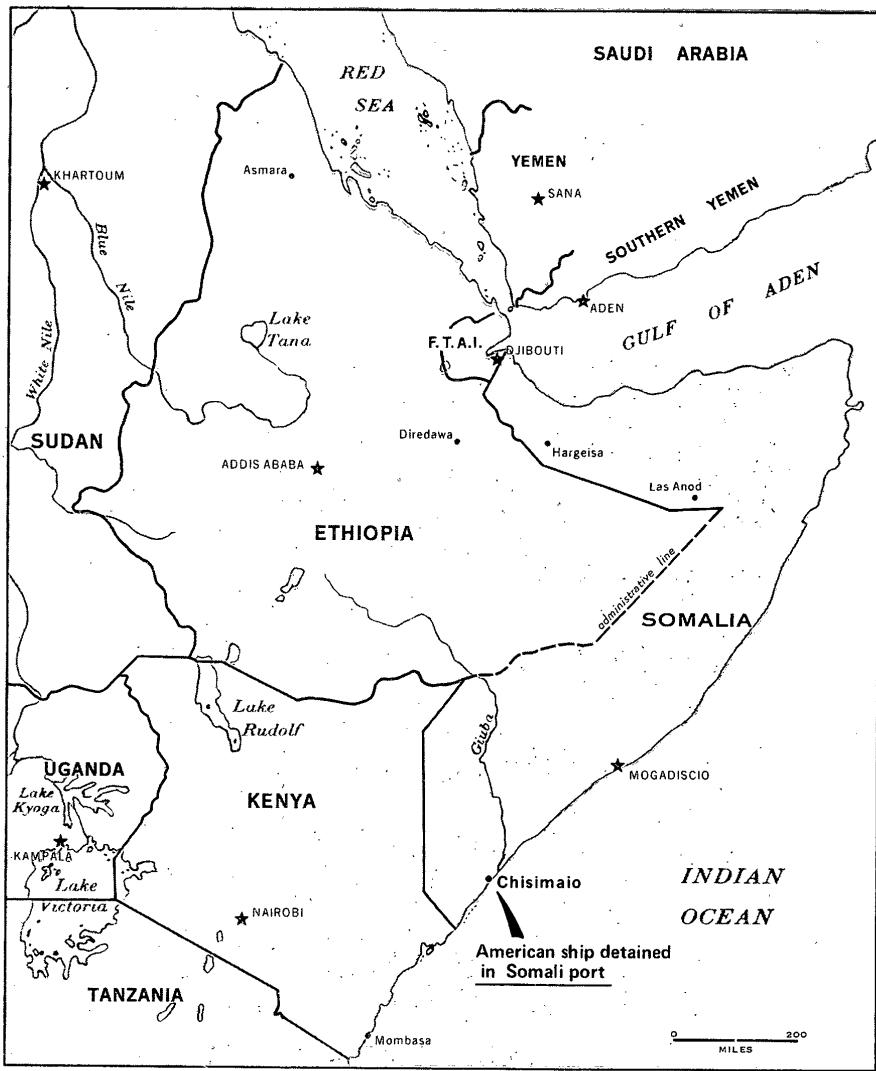
LIBYA

Yesterday an Algerian official told the US chargé that President Boumediene has been informed that Libya has decided to nationalize Occidental holdings in Libya in the next few days.

It has been difficult to determine who has been calling the shots in Libya's price negotiations with American firms. While President Qaddafi and the chairman of the negotiating team, Maghribi, were on a Middle Eastern tour, Deputy Premier Jallud made some conciliatory offers that were considerably below previous government demands. At the same time, however, he stressed that a prompt settlement was desired and that the companies should not force the government to "do something it does not want to do." The companies made counteroffers and, as of last weekend, had hopes of a mutually satisfactory settlement.

Qaddafi and Maghribi--a bitter adversary of Occidental--are now back. They will not be as accommodating as Jallud, and it is possible that the government has chosen to sacrifice Occidental in order to bring the other companies to heel. On the other hand, the government may be using nationalization threats as a device to hasten a settlement.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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NOTES

South Vietnam: Two funeral processions this weekend may provide the occasion for new demonstrations in Saigon. One is for a Buddhist monk alleged to have died of injuries during a factional clash early last month, the other for a disabled veteran said to have died after being shot by a policeman recently. Student militants are trying to persuade various groups to join the Buddhist procession, and some are reported planning to fire bomb American installations. The militants have not had much success assembling demonstrators lately, and the police will no doubt act forcefully to keep large crowds from coming together.

Somalia: The government has not officially commented on its detention yesterday of a US geological survey ship, but in view of the current strains in US-Somali relations Mogadiscio may exploit the incident for propaganda purposes. The ship was en route to Durban, South Africa to conduct seismic recordings for oil deposits when a patrol boat forced it into the port of Chisimaio. Intercepted messages indicate that police and security personnel have been instructed by the Mogadiscio naval command to make a detailed report on the ship's violation of territorial waters and its failure to observe the international maritime code. The crew has been interrogated and is being kept in a hotel under surveillance.

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28 June
1970

Sunday
28 JUN 1970

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PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

28 JUNE 1970

Cambodia: The military situation is unusually quiet in many parts of the country. In the northeast, the withdrawal of government forces and the evacuation of some 5,000 civilian refugees from the towns of Labansiek and Bokheo in ^{RATANAKIRI} [redacted] Province has been completed.

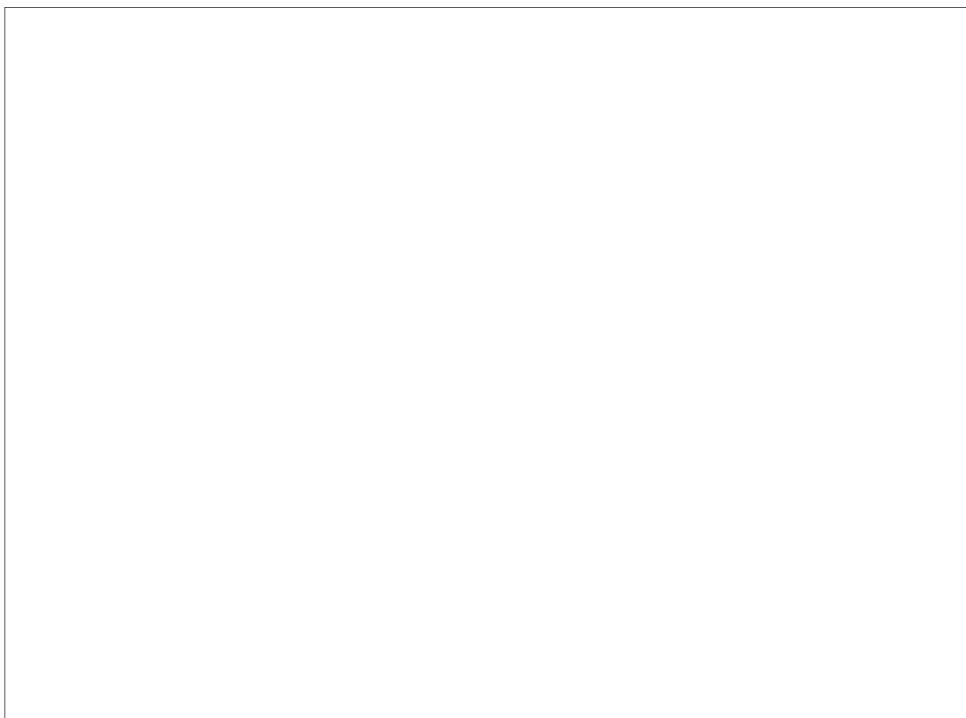
South Vietnamese troops supporting this operation have returned to South Vietnam. The withdrawal has erased the last vestiges of the government's presence in ^{RATANAKIRI} [redacted]

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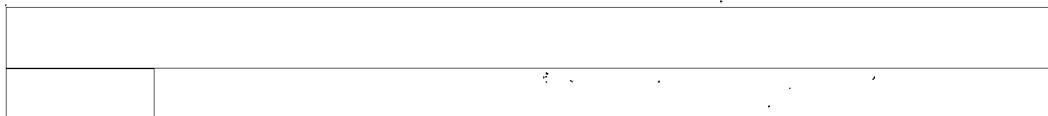
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South Vietnam: President Thieu's speech to the nation on 27 June contained no surprises. For the most part, it was a delineation of the cautious military policy toward Cambodia that he has been developing over the past few weeks.

His statements were

indicating he had decided against extensive operations deep in Cambodia. He ruled out any blanket commitments, preferring to study each Cambodian request for help on its own merits.

He also referred to an impending reorganization of the armed forces, as he has before, and he mentioned a need to reorganize the government "from the district to the central level," also not a new theme. In neither case did he give any specifics.

Middle East: The new US political initiative has received some predictable criticism by the public media of the more radical Arab states, such as Syria and Libya, but the radio and press of the countries most directly concerned have been more restrained. No public comment has come from Jordan yet, but in Israel commentaries have shown some degree of suspicion and concern. In Egypt, although the proposals received some public

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criticism, the most authoritative newspaper said only that the foreign ministry is studying the initiative carefully.

Israel-Syria: There were no reports of fighting on Saturday in the Golan Heights area. After Friday's heavy action, Israel admitted to ten killed and thirty wounded. Damascus said 45 Syrians were killed, and 75 wounded.

There was some military action along other cease fire lines on Saturday, however, as Israeli planes struck alleged fedayeen bases in Jordan and shot up Egyptian military positions along the canal.

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The President's Daily Brief

29 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Cambodia: Military activity continues to ebb and flow; Taipei plans to send a delegation to Phnom Penh soon; Sihanouk's "foreign minister" has set up temporary headquarters in Cairo. (Page 1)

South Vietnam: Thieu's speech on 27 June described his cautious military policy. (Page 3)

Jordan: The new, more militant cabinet should work well with the moderate leaders of the fedayeen. (Page 5)

India: Mrs. Gandhi has shuffled her cabinet ministers into new slots, primarily to ensure that she makes most of the important decisions herself. (Page 6)

Latin America: [redacted]

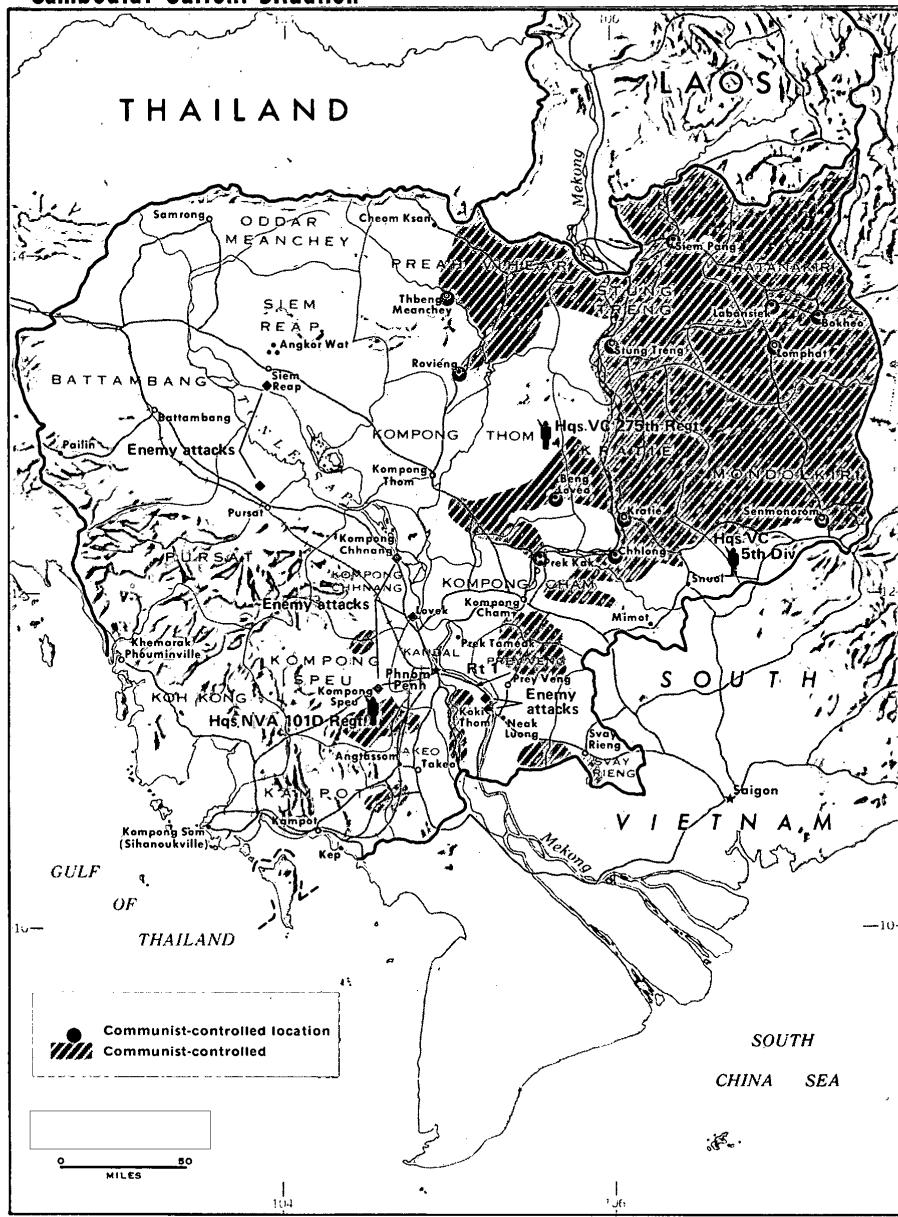
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Egypt-USSR: Nasir may be on his way to Moscow. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The Communists continue to press their attacks on the Lovek munitions depot in Kompong Chhnang Province. South Vietnamese air strikes have helped prevent the enemy from penetrating the government's defense perimeter. The depot's commander requested reinforcements on 27 June, claiming that his troops were exhausted and running low on ammunition following four days of fighting; Phnom Penh replied it will send a battalion.

The Cambodian Army command post in Kompong Speu city was attacked briefly by an enemy force of unknown size on 28 June. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment apparently is still located 15 miles southwest of Kompong Speu; [redacted] [redacted], only a subordinate battalion relocated to a position 27 miles west of the city.

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Northeast of Phnom Penh, a combined Cambodian - South Vietnamese force, with Cambodian artillery support, has retaken the Mekong River village of Prek Tameak. Government forces have begun sweeping areas on the east bank of the river. In addition, press reports say two battalions of South Vietnamese Marines have moved westward from the Prey Veng area to new positions just east of the Mekong, and as close as six miles to Phnom Penh.

A Cambodian intercept states that 100 enemy troops harassed an army unit at Koki Thom, on Route 1 near the Neak Luong ferry, on the night of 27-28 June. The Communists also seized a village on Route 1, some 25 miles from Phnom Penh; government troops are being dispatched to retake it.

Some 300 enemy troops attacked a government unit on the west side of the Tonle Sap in Pursat Province on 28 June, according to an intercepted Cambodian Army message. This is the first substantial enemy action reported in this area. The message also reports that a government post on the east side of the Tonle Sap, just south of Siem Reap city, was attacked on 28 June. Analysis of enemy communications shows that forward elements of the Viet Cong 275th Regiment and the Viet Cong 5th Division are now in the Siem Reap area; this is the deepest westward movement of Communist main force elements detected to date.

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A Chinese Nationalist foreign office official told US Embassy officers in Taipei on 26 June that Taipei will send an official delegation to Phnom Penh in the near future. The visit is designed to pave the way for "closer relations" between the two governments, but the official cautioned that those relations would rest at an "unofficial level" for some time. He added that they probably would involve at least a limited Chinese Nationalist presence in the Cambodian capital.

* * *

Sihanouk's "foreign minister," Sarin Chhak, is making Cairo his temporary headquarters, according to a Radio Cairo report. Chhak was Cambodia's ambassador to the United Arab Republic at the time of Sihanouk's ouster. He probably will concentrate on increasing diplomatic support and recognition among Arab states for Sihanouk's government-in-exile. Cairo broke off diplomatic relations with Phnom Penh shortly after Lon Nol took over.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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SOUTH VIETNAM

In his televised speech to the nation on 27 June, President Thieu elaborated on the fairly cautious military policy toward Cambodia that he has been developing in recent weeks. He underscored his reluctance to allow the South Vietnamese Army to conduct large open-ended operations to defend Cambodia against the Communists. If the Cambodians request help when important centers come under Communist attack, Thieu promised only to "study each case."

Thieu clearly believes that the main burden of Cambodia's defense must rest with the Cambodians and that outside assistance must be provided by other free world countries as well as by South Vietnam. He seems fully conscious of the need to prevent South Vietnamese forces from becoming overextended in Cambodia, thereby reducing military strength at home as US troops continue to withdraw.

Thieu emphasized that South Vietnam's capabilities to help are modest, but he promised to help the Cambodians destroy Communist supply systems. In a similar vein, he expressed determination to prevent the enemy from re-establishing secure bases in Cambodian territory bordering on South Vietnam. Thieu also said that "minimum forces" would be stationed temporarily at certain points within Cambodia, but he claimed that this would be for the purpose of facilitating the repatriation of Vietnamese refugees.

Thieu's formulation serves a dual purpose: it helps allay domestic criticism that the government is doing too little to assist ethnic Vietnamese who have been victimized by the Cambodians; it may also help discourage Phnom Penh from interpreting the retention of these forces in Cambodia as evidence that the Saigon government is planning to undertake more extensive operations in defense of Cambodia than it is willing to admit.

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*On the other hand, Thieu did not rule out
the deployment of large South Vietnamese
forces into Cambodia in the future. He
and his military advisers would probably
give very serious consideration to sending
substantial forces if the stakes seemed
high enough.*

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JORDAN

The cabinet formed on 27 June will probably be acceptable to at least the more moderate fedayeen elements. The new premier, Abd al-Munim al-Rifai, has been the [redacted] negotiator in dealings with the Palestinian guerrillas, and it seems likely that the cabinet has the tacit approval of Fatah leader Yasir Arafat.

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The newly militant government in Jordan should work well with the leaders of the moderate fedayeen. The activities of the more radical Palestinian groups, however, probably will continue to present difficult problems.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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INDIA

On 27 June, Prime Minister Gandhi announced some cabinet changes that reflect a shift in emphasis in her priorities. She assumed the Home portfolio, thus demonstrating her increased concern with law and order. For the past year she has held the Finance portfolio, and during most of that time she chose to fight her battles over economic issues. Recently, however, Hindu-Moslem rioting and violence by Communist extremists have increased the importance of decisions in the Home Ministry.

The major casualty of the cabinet shuffle was the anti-American, opportunistic external affairs minister, Dinesh Singh, who was demoted to minister of industrial development. The new foreign minister is former defense minister Swaran Singh. He was [redacted] noncontroversial when he served as foreign minister from 1964 to 1966.

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NOTES

Latin America:

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Egypt-USSR: We noted in The President's Daily Brief of 5 June that President Nasir was planning another trip to Moscow. Sources of the US Embassy there now say he will arrive shortly, possibly today. His agenda is not known; it may involve military and political discussions on a variety of topics, including the US political initiative, as well as a medical checkup by his Soviet doctors.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

30 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Events in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

In Chile, the presidential election campaign has begun in earnest; former president Alessandri still appears to be in the lead. (*Page 4*)

A new Soviet swing-wing fighter has been seen for the first time in recent satellite photography. (*Page 5*)

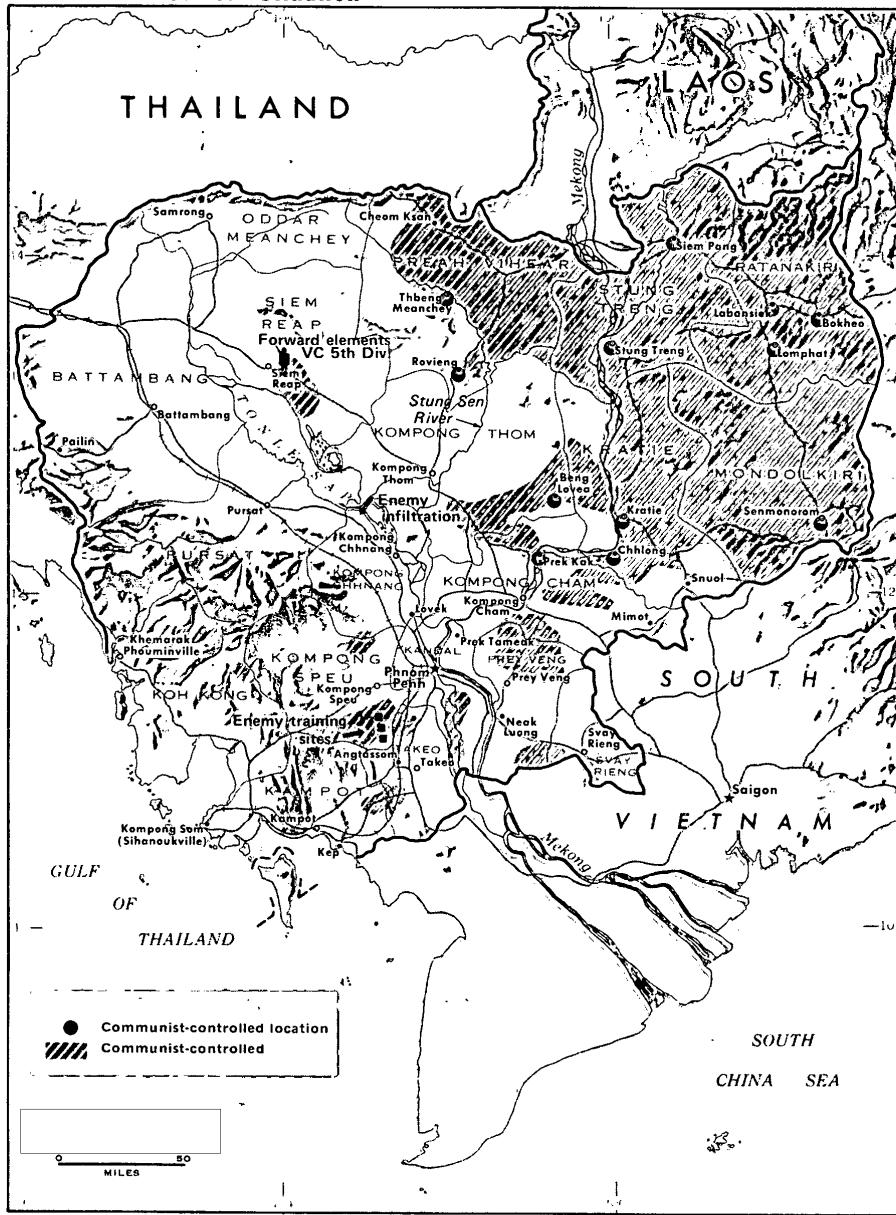
The Soviets

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Enemy probes against the Lovek munitions depot were driven back by government defenders yesterday. A South Vietnamese task force has moved north toward Lovek, as part of a joint Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation to relieve Communist pressure there. An intercepted government message reported yesterday that some trucks loaded with materiel remain at Lovek; they are to be moved to Phnom Penh when the situation improves.

Kompong Chhnang city is quiet, but Communist forces are still moving into northern Kompong Chhnang Province from Kompong Thom via the Stung Sen River. The army has asked Phnom Penh for air strikes against these infiltrating elements.

Kompong Thom city was attacked from the north on 28 June, but details are not yet in hand. Twelve government battalions are now either in or en route to the city.

There is increasing enemy activity south of Siem Reap city, along the shores of the Tonle Sap. The city continues to be hit by sporadic mortar fire. Recent identification of forward elements of the Viet Cong 5th Division some six miles east of the city suggests that heavier attacks on Siem Reap may occur soon. [redacted] the headquarters of the Viet Cong 275th Regiment, which has been located far to the east, is also now in the Siem Reap area.

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The government's evacuation of Oddar Meanchey Province is under way.

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Government positions west of Kompong Speu city received harassing fire on 28 June, but no casualties were reported.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Southeast of Phnom Penh, government forces have reoccupied a village on Route 1, 25 miles from the Cambodian capital. Just east of Phnom Penh, two battalions of South Vietnamese Marines have moved into fixed positions and set up artillery in order to block possible Communist advances from the northeast.

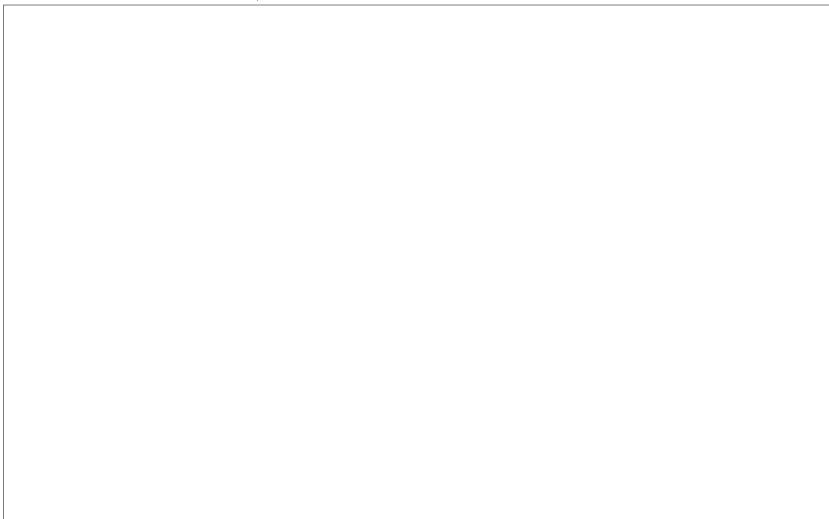
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Lon Nol told a news conference yesterday that although he would like US troops to remain in Cambodia, he did not think their presence was necessary at the present time. For now, he would be happy with continued US air support. He expressed the hope, however, that US forces would return to Cambodia if necessary.

Lon Nol said allied operations into the Communist sanctuaries had been of great assistance. He again stated that Cambodian forces were lacking in arms. He claimed that 70 regular army battalions (35,000 men) lacked weapons but said another 80 battalions were "reasonably" well-armed.

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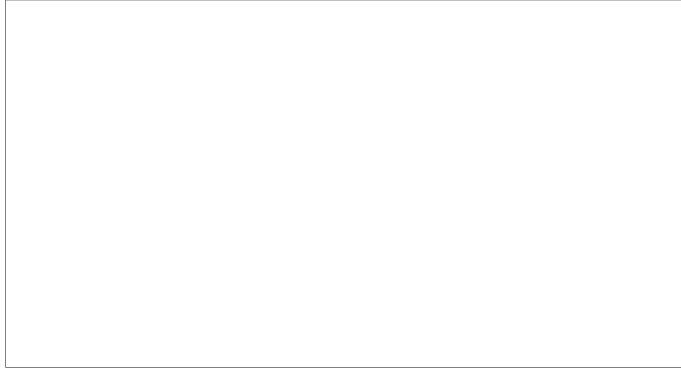


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A Cambodian military spokesman announced this morning that Prince Sihanouk will be "put on trial" by a military tribunal at Phnom Penh on 3 July. According to late press reports, Sihanouk will be tried in absentia on charges of high treason and political executions.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CHILE

With the presidential elections of 4 September approaching in Chile, the early commanding lead of former president Alessandri has slipped, although he still appears to have an edge on Socialist Allende and the governing Christian Democratic Party's candidate, Tomic.

Alessandri appeals to those worried about increasing incidents of violence and the rapid pace of the reforms being carried out by the Frei government. Nonetheless, Alessandri's standing is being eroded by the lack of clear programs, his dependence on poor advisers, and his age (74). Allende, the candidate of the far-left Popular Union coalition, must overcome his image as a three-time loser in presidential races. He has the support of the coalition's hard-working, well-organized Communist Party, which would be a dominant element in an Allende government.

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[redacted] he
is currently on an upward track as the campaign begins in earnest.

Tomic has not had much success in offsetting a reputation for being a radical. He advocates prompt and complete nationalization of the largely US-based copper industry rather than the gradual process being carried out by Frei. Alessandri has said he will abide by the Frei copper program, while Allende promises outright expropriation.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR: A new Sukhoi-designed swing-wing fighter was seen for the first time in recent satellite photography of the Ramenskoye flight test center near Moscow. The aircraft appeared to be about 65 feet long with an extended wingspan of about 50 feet. It is thus considerably larger than the Mikoyan-designed swing-wing Flogger which is undergoing weapons systems testing.

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If development continues it could enter service by about 1976.

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