



The President's Daily Brief

1 July 1972



46
25X1
~~Top Secret~~

Exempt from general
declassification schedule as E.O. 14176
exemption category 5(b)(1),(2)(B)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

1 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese Marines and paratroopers are within striking distance of Quang Tri City, but there are signs that the Communists may soon react more vigorously to the government offensive. In Saigon, several nationalist parties are making some progress in setting up an alliance that would be independent of the Thieu government. (Page 1)

In southern Laos, irregulars have driven the Communists from most of their positions west of Khong Sedone; government forces still are faring less well in the Bolovens Plateau area. (Page 3)

Thailand's General Praphat is now opposed to early contacts between Bangkok and Peking, although he remains committed eventually to explore the possibility of some ties with the Chinese. (Page 4)

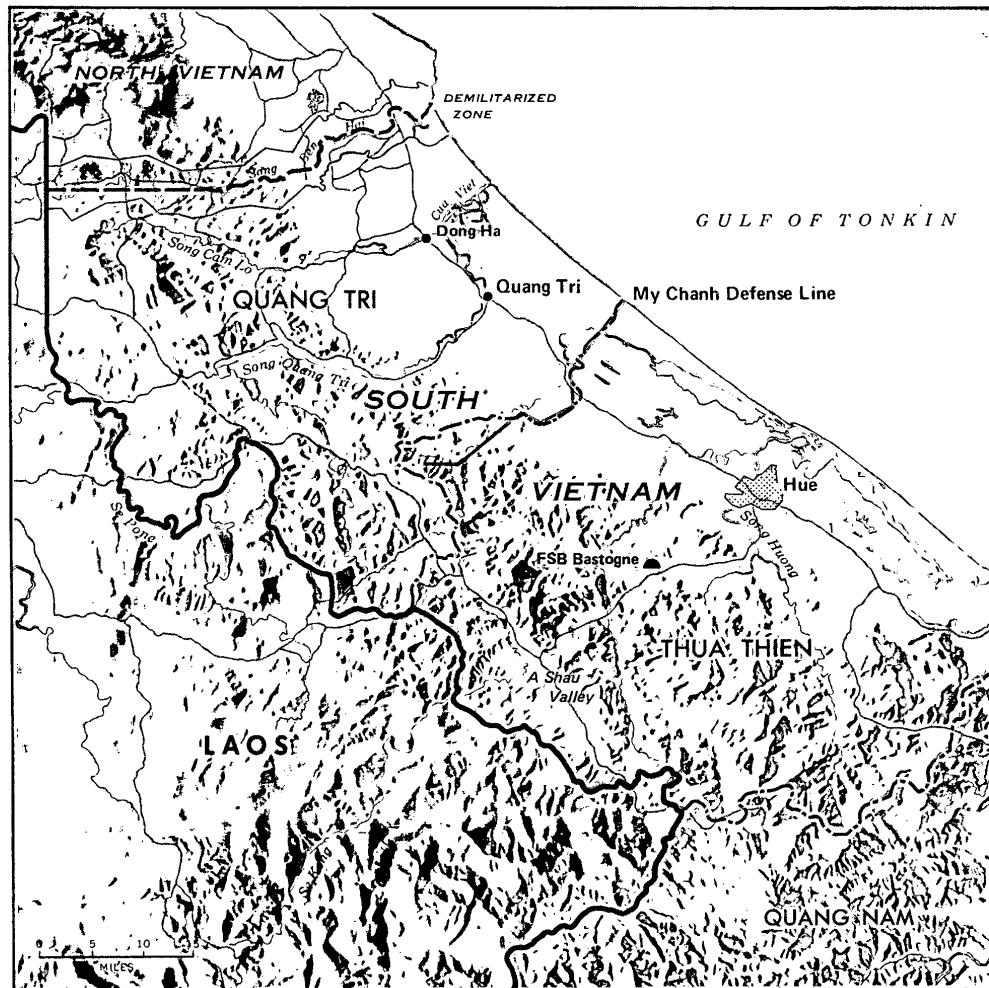
The French

25X1

25X1

(Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553304 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese forces moving toward the enemy-held capital of Quang Tri Province still are meeting only moderate resistance. South Vietnamese paratroopers airlifted yesterday into positions south of Quang Tri City are nearing the city. South Vietnamese Marines attacking from the east also have moved within striking distance of the city.

The Communists evidently have not established strong defensive positions because of heavy, sustained allied air, artillery, and naval bombardment. Intercepted enemy communications indicate that the North Vietnamese are also having difficulty moving equipment and troops to safer areas. One artillery unit, for example, was directed to destroy its weapons if it could not pull them back. At least two North Vietnamese artillery regiments have been detected pulling out of firing range of the My Chanh defense line.

There are signs, however, that the Communists may soon react more vigorously. An antiaircraft unit has been ordered to establish emplacements within Quang Tri City, along with elements from a regular enemy artillery unit, and a recently captured prisoner claims that his infantry regiment was brought up to strength by two replacement companies in late May. The Communists yesterday overran a weak government position overlooking Fire Support Base Bastogne west of Hue.

Farther south, a government convoy succeeded in moving through the pass from Pleiku to Kontum City in the first successful ground resupply effort there in more than two months.

* * *

Several of South Vietnam's largest nationalist parties appear to be making some headway in setting up a political alliance that would be independent of the Thieu government. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

[redacted] four parties have agreed on the structure of the new organization, and they are negotiating with other groups in an attempt to broaden the alliance.

The leaders of all of these parties have cooperated with President Thieu in the past, but they have been soured by his refusal to give them much power in his government. They [redacted] believe that there may be an early agreement to end the fighting and that, in such a situation, a broad-based political grouping not identified with Thieu would have an important role.

25X1

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

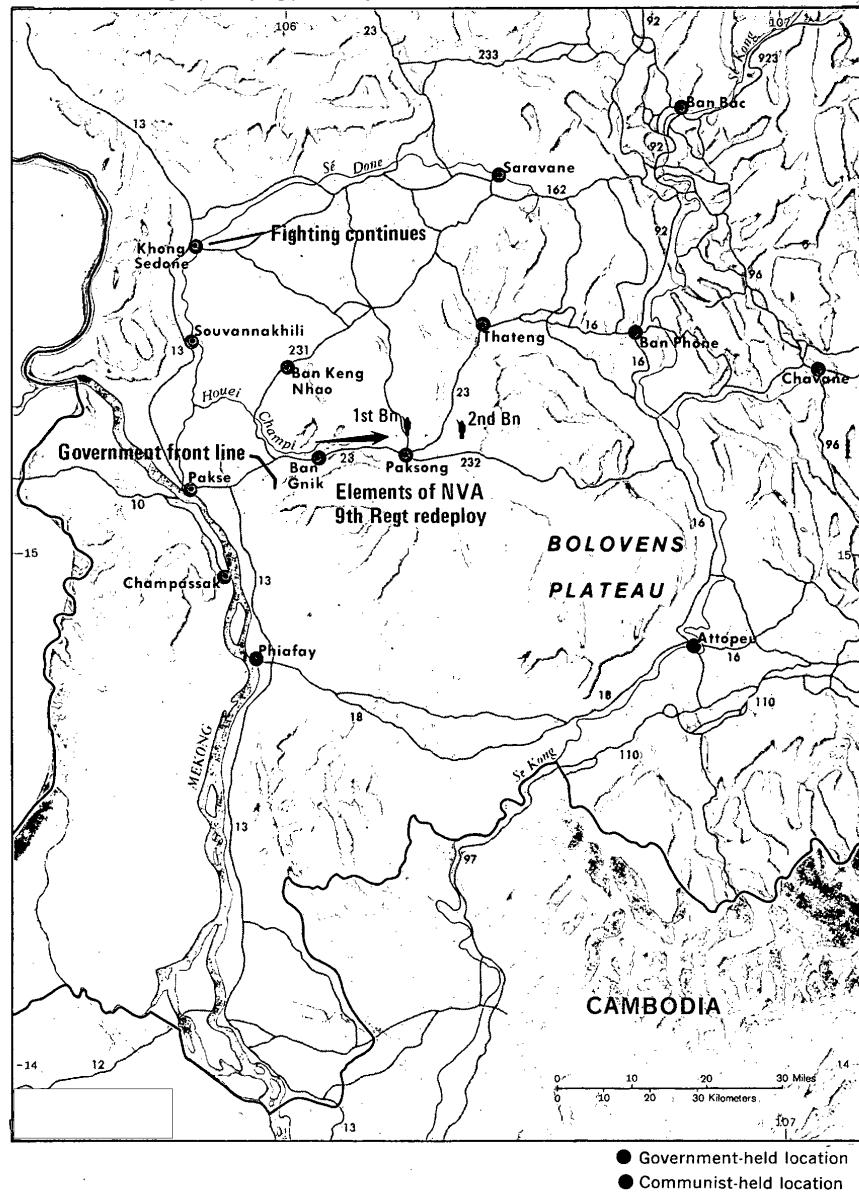
Collectively, the parties that are discussing unity would represent a significant political grouping. In the past, however, South Vietnamese political combinations of this sort have invariably broken down because the leaders refuse to subordinate their personal and party interests to a common policy. This alliance's effectiveness will also be hampered by a requirement that the leaders of the participating parties agree on all decisions.

* * *

North Vietnam's initial comments on President Nixon's announcement of the resumption of the Paris peace talks provide no hint of a change in its negotiating line. The North Vietnamese delegation in Paris yesterday claimed that US and world opinion had forced the US to return to the talks. The Viet Cong delegation in Paris repeated the main elements of the North Vietnamese pronouncement and added that the US was trying "to force the South Vietnamese people to accept the dictatorial and corrupt regime" of President Thieu.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Bolovens Plateau Area



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

After more than two weeks of hard fighting in the Khong Sedone area, irregular troops have managed to drive the Communists from most of their positions west of the town. The North Vietnamese, however, are strongly resisting government efforts to move to the north and are continuing to shell government units in the town itself.

The government continues to fare less well at the edge of the Bolovens Plateau, where three irregular battalions were dispersed last week. On Thursday a North Vietnamese attack forced a Lao Army battalion from its position at the Route 23/231 junction.

The junction has been the front line on the Bolovens since early in the dry season, but the latest evidence suggests that the Communists may not intend to hold it through the current rainy season. At least two of the three battalions of the 9th Regiment, which have been on the western Bolovens since early this year, recently moved some 20 miles eastward to the Paksong area.

In northern Laos, irregulars are still trying to push Communist forces from the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres. Sporadic Communist shellings and probes, as well as bad weather, which is limiting air support, have prevented the irregulars from securing the high ground at Phou Pha Sai and Tha Tam Bleung.

The Communists have reduced their forces in northern Laos to the same five-regiment level that existed prior to the buildup for the dry season offensive late last year. All regiments of the 312th Division have been withdrawn to the Vinh area of North Vietnam.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THAILAND-CHINA

General Praphat, the de facto policy maker of the ruling military body, said recently that he was opposed to any contacts between Thailand and China at the present time. Praphat stated that there would be no change in Thailand's cordial relations with Nationalist China and that he had issued orders prohibiting Thai sports teams from visiting China.

The latter decision reverses Bangkok's public statement two months ago that it would accept an invitation to send a Thai badminton team to Peking.

Although Praphat has long been wary of China, he is committed to explore the possibility of some ties with Peking eventually. His reasons for going slow at the present juncture may be related to domestic politics. Improved relations with the Chinese would tend to undermine Praphat's argument that the security threat to Thailand necessitates the continuation of rule by the military without a new constitution or a parliament. This tougher line also reflects the absence from high-level government councils of former foreign minister Thanat, whose persistent advocacy of discussions with the Chinese had prodded the military authorities to accept a more open-minded view.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

France: [redacted]

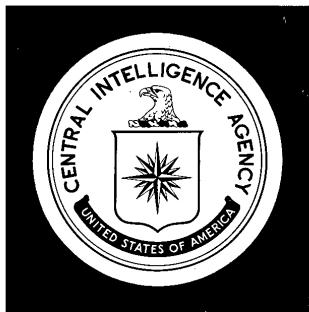
25X1

25X1

China-Ceylon: Peking has underscored its desire for close ties with Ceylon by giving visiting Prime Minister Bandaranaike red carpet treatment this week. A mammoth public turnout greeted her on her arrival Sunday, and Mao Tse-tung met with her-- his first visit with any foreigner since his talk with President Nixon in February. The Chinese also provided a new \$52-million loan in an effort to keep Mrs. Bandaranaike's government afloat as a counter to Soviet and Indian influence in southern Asia.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

Sunday Cable - 2 Dec 72
45
25X1

Top Secret



Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

TOP SECRET

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

2 July 1972

VIETNAM

Heavy rains evidently are hampering the government's campaign in Quang Tri Province. South Vietnamese paratroopers are bogged down some seven miles south of the provincial capital although they have encountered only minor enemy opposition. East of Quang Tri City, South Vietnamese Marines and territorial forces consolidating their positions are also meeting little resistance.

Intercepts indicate, however, that the Communists may be preparing to counterattack in several areas. Early today Hue was shelled for the first time in this year's enemy offensive. North of the city, a regiment of the North Vietnamese 304th Division was ordered yesterday to mount an attack on positions east of Route 1. Several North Vietnamese units have moved into the foothills west of the road, where they could hit South Vietnamese supply and rear guard elements. Communist artillery units have also been ordered to keep firing on the Camp Evans area, the focal point for logistics and artillery support of the Quang Tri operation.

25X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

USSR

The TASS account of President Nixon's press conference carried by the Soviet press yesterday reported the following aspects of his statements on Vietnam: that the US has informed Hanoi that it will return to the Paris talks on 13 July; that the US is prepared to conduct talks without any conditions; that it would not have returned to Paris unless it considered there was a chance to begin serious and constructive proposals; that the US will take constructive positions and be prepared to meet the other side half-way; that reports of US attacks on North Vietnamese dams and dikes are not accurate; that the US has ordered that dams not be bombed in view of the very serious consequences for the civilian population; and that this order will remain in force in the future.

TASS used editing and commentary to call into question certain of the President's statements. It described the President's conditions for ending the bombing as contrary to his assurances that the US is not setting any preconditions. It also observed that the President again left the Viet Cong proposals unanswered, and characterized US bombing and mining operations as "aggressive acts" condemned by the world. In addition, it reported the lengthy question noting the high level of US military activities in Indochina and asking whether

TOP SECRET

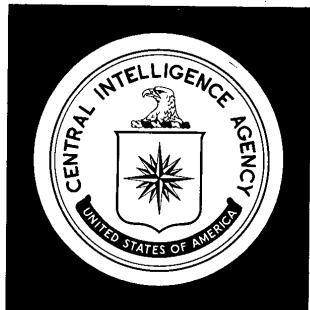
the President could end the war by next January, in accordance with his campaign promises. In adjacent columns, Pravda carried reports of the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong reactions in Paris

25X1

TASS' handling of the Vietnam aspects of the press conference is in keeping with a recent increase in the volume of Soviet propaganda support for Hanoi which has also entailed a slightly more critical attitude toward the US. Soviet commentaries have resumed the use of pejorative language reminiscent of various pre-summit periods of heightened invective. Aside from an escalation in language, however, these commentaries do not indicate any shift in the fundamental Soviet position supporting a negotiated settlement on Hanoi's terms. They suggest, rather, Soviet defensiveness concerning the USSR's public record of support for North Vietnam.

TOP SECRET

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

3 July 1972

47



Top Secret

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification under E.O. 13526
exemption category 5B(1), (2)(D)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

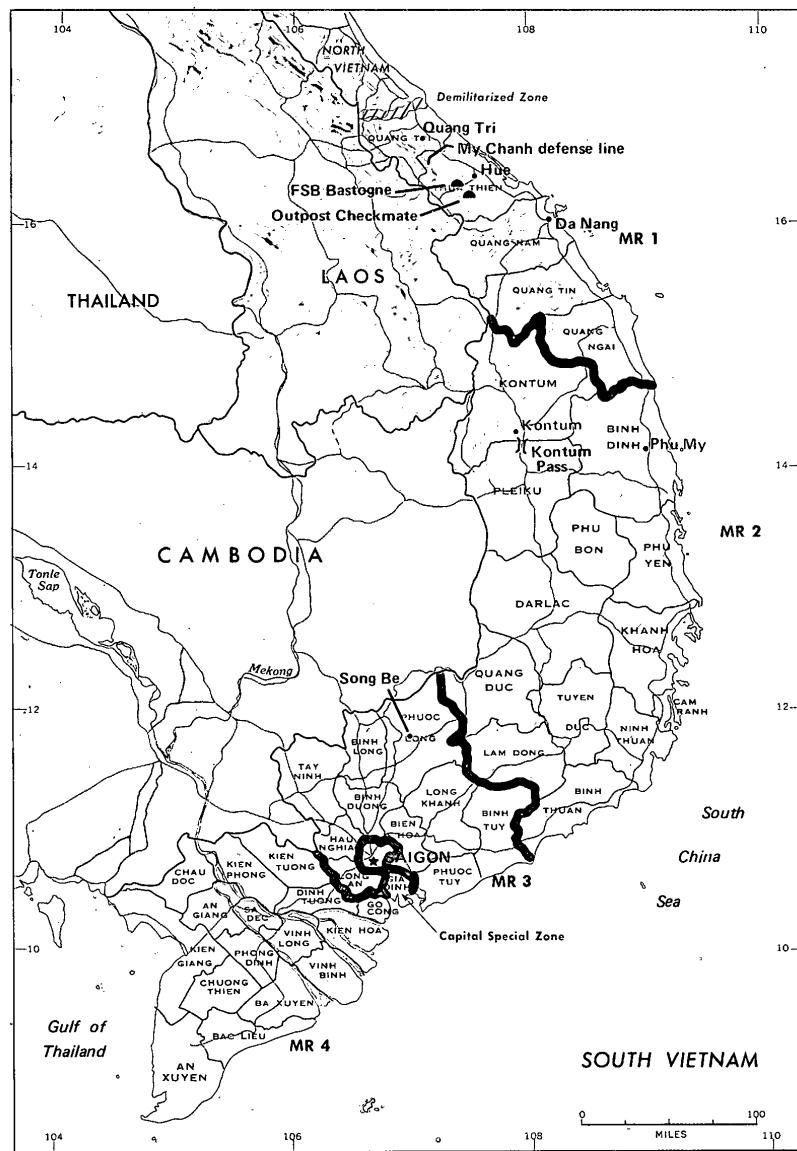
South Vietnamese troops remain stalled below Quang Tri City as the Communists have increased their pressure in the northern provinces. (Page 1)

The TASS account of President Nixon's press conference reported all the major points the President made on Vietnam but questioned some of his statements. (Page 2)

The five-day meeting between Prime Minister Gandhi and President Bhutto made some gains on the lesser issues and seems to have cleared the way for further progress. (Page 3)

German negotiators Kohl and Bahr appear to have moved ahead in their talks last week, but the major obstacle to formal negotiations on normalizing relations remains Bonn's demand that a treaty allude to the single nation concept. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553305 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists are increasing their pressure against government positions in the northern provinces. South Vietnamese paratroopers remain stalled south of Quang Tri City as heavy rains as well as stiff enemy resistance hamper the government's campaign. Heavy artillery attacks along with some ground probes hit government paratroop units spread out west of Route 1 over the weekend, with the bulk of fighting reported just above the My Chanh defense line.

To the south, the Communists yesterday shelled Hue for the first time since the enemy offensive began this spring, and renewed the attacks this morning. Most of the 122-mm. artillery rounds hit near South Vietnamese Army positions in the Citadel and at Camp Eagle to the south. Heavy mortar barrages also hit government positions in the area of Fire Support Base Bastogne southwest of Hue. There are signs that this westernmost strongpoint may soon come under attack from enemy-held Outpost Checkmate, which overlooks the base. Intercepts also indicate that the Communists may soon resume rocket attacks against major government installations in the Da Nang area farther south.

The Communists evidently are continuing to withdraw main force units in the central provinces. The North Vietnamese 3rd Division headquarters and two of its regiments have been detected moving away from the battered district capital of Phu My in coastal Binh Dinh Province, returning to an area the division held at the start of the current offensive. In Kontum Province, the senior enemy military authority for the central highlands has returned to its pre-offensive base area along the South Vietnamese - Cambodian border. Communist forces in the Kontum Pass area south of Kontum City may also have pulled back; military convoys again moved through the pass unimpeded over the weekend.

Sporadic shelling attacks and some ground action continued elsewhere in the country but little hard fighting developed. In Phuoc Long Province in northern MR-3, however, the Communists mounted their first significant actions to date, destroying a government ammunition depot and also a communications facility near the provincial capital of Song Be.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

The TASS account of President Nixon's press conference carried by the Soviet press on Saturday reported the following aspects of his statements on Vietnam: that the US has informed Hanoi that it will return to the Paris talks on 13 July; that the US is prepared to conduct talks without any conditions; that it would not have returned to Paris unless it considered there was a chance to begin serious and constructive discussions; that the US will take constructive positions and be prepared to meet the other side halfway; that reports of US attacks on North Vietnamese dams and dikes are not accurate; that the US has ordered that dams not be bombed in view of the very serious consequences for the civilian population; and that this order will remain in force in the future.

TASS called into question certain of the President's statements. It described the President's conditions for ending the bombing as contrary to his assurances that the US is not setting any pre-conditions. It also observed that the President again left the Viet Cong proposals unanswered, and characterized US bombing and mining operations as "aggressive acts" condemned by the world. In addition, it reported the lengthy question noting the high level of US military activities in Indochina and asking whether the President could end the war by next January, in accordance with his campaign promises. Along with the TASS account, Pravda carried reports of the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong reactions in Paris

25X1

25X1

TASS' criticism of the President's statements is in keeping with a recent increase in the volume of Soviet propaganda support for Hanoi which has also entailed a slightly more critical attitude toward the US. Soviet commentaries on 30 June, for example, resumed the use of pejorative language reminiscent of various pre-summit periods of heightened invective. Despite this, however, these commentaries do not indicate any shift in the fundamental Soviet position in support of a negotiated settlement on Hanoi's terms. They suggest, rather, that Moscow feels some need to strengthen at least its public record of support for North Vietnam.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

INDIA-PAKISTAN

Prime Minister Gandhi and President Bhutto concluded their five-day meeting at Simla, India, yesterday by agreeing to withdraw troops from the border south of Kashmir and to take steps to restore trade, communications, and travel between the two countries. The troop withdrawal will not take place until after ratification of the pact. The Kashmir dispute and such other issues as the restoration of diplomatic relations and the repatriation of POWs were deferred, although the two leaders agreed in the interim to respect the Kashmir cease-fire line of last December.

Despite the lack of progress on the most contentious issues, the meeting appears to have eased tensions between the two countries and set the stage for restoring normal relations in the course of further negotiations. India, by agreeing to the troop withdrawal and the specific measures to restore bilateral ties, backed off from its view that a settlement should come through a comprehensive package agreement, including Pakistan's acceptance of a final Kashmir partition. In gaining endorsement of his step-by-step approach Bhutto seems to have made only a slight concession: he agreed to bilateral negotiations, rather than third party mediation, as the principal means of securing further progress. He still is unlikely to achieve the most urgent of his goals, the repatriation of 93,000 Pakistani POWs in India, however, until he recognizes Bangladesh.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY

In their talks last week, negotiators Kohl and Bahr again discussed how to proceed toward formal negotiations on normalizing relations. Claiming that the two sides had "converged" on several important points, Kohl proposed that the talks should now be upgraded to formal treaty negotiations. He dropped an earlier demand that Bonn first agree to an exchange of ambassadors and agreed that two of Bonn's basic concerns--self-determination for the German peoples and "human rights"--would be proper topics for negotiations. As a further incentive, Kohl added that Pankow would implement "extensive" inter-German travel improvements following Bonn's ratification of the recently concluded general traffic treaty.

Despite these gestures Bahr responded negatively. He insisted that Bonn would not begin formal negotiations until there were indications that agreement could be reached on the "special relationship" issue.

The major obstacle to formal negotiations remains this demand of Bonn's that a treaty on political relations must allude to Chancellor Brandt's single German nation concept. It was apparently to underscore Pankow's rejection of this idea that East German Foreign Minister Winzer took the unprecedented step of following up the Kohl-Bahr talks with a meeting with Bahr in which he expounded Pankow's position in dogmatic terms. Winzer stated that the two sides obviously would not be able to agree on this question and that it was not necessary to do so. Kohl later told Bahr, however, that the foreign minister's willingness to discuss the issue in the future kept alive the possibility of compromise.

Pankow seems to have adopted the tactic of offering to negotiate on topics where agreement appears likely, while side-stepping more contentious ones. Bahr also favors dealing with the less difficult issues first, and both sides appear eager to maintain the current momentum in their next series of talks scheduled to begin on 2 August.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

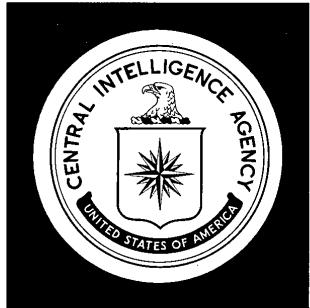
NOTE

USSR: The Soviets yesterday deorbited Cosmos 496, an unmanned Soyuz spacecraft. We believe that the satellite, launched on 26 June, was intended to test design changes made after last year's Soyuz 11 tragedy in which three Cosmonauts were killed. Soviet scientists would wish to examine closely the results of the mission before proceeding with a pending manned space event. We expect that the coming event will involve the rendezvous, docking and extended stay in orbit of a manned Soyuz spacecraft and Salyut space station.

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

4 July 1972

46

~~Top Secret~~

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification guidance of D.O. 11652
exemption category 5b(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

4 July 1972

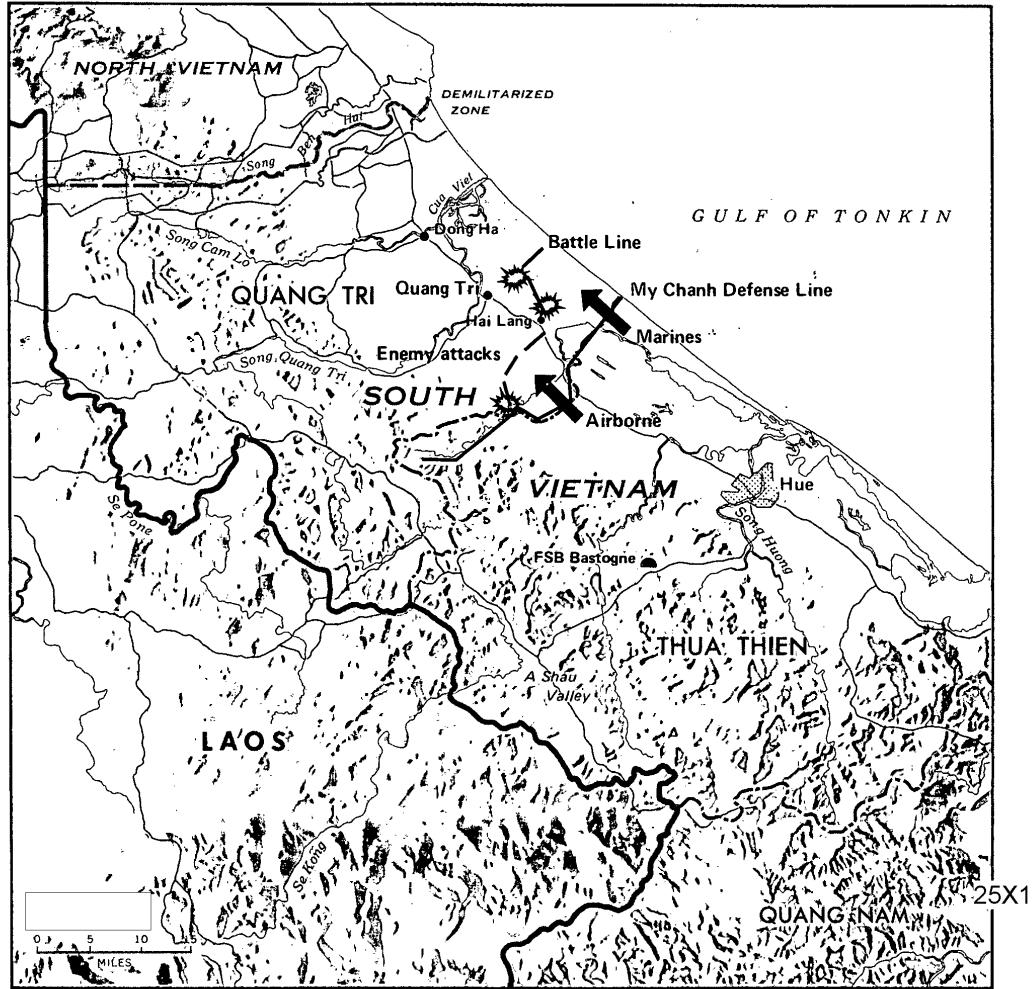
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The South Vietnamese drive in Quang Tri Province is meeting stiffer enemy resistance. Meanwhile, Communist shelling of Hue continues. (Page 1)

Sudanese President Numayri is considering normalizing relations with the US. (Page 2)

Peking's muted observance of another major holiday is further evidence of continuing political tension within the top leadership. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553307 7-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The government drive in Quang Tri Province is meeting stiffer resistance from Communist forces. The enemy directed two tank-supported infantry attacks against South Vietnamese Marines located about five miles east of Quang Tri City. This was followed by a clash near the district town of Hai Lang. The marines reported destroying seven of the tanks and capturing one, a Soviet-built T-54 medium tank.

Airborne units west of Route 1, which have had a more difficult time throughout the offensive, beat off a ground attack supported by tanks about three miles north of the My Chanh defense line. The airborne troops that were airlifted ahead of the main task force are now reported to be about two miles southwest of Quang Tri City and in contact with the enemy. The Communists also launched mortar and infantry attacks against South Vietnamese troops who have taken up defensive positions along the My Chanh line behind the airborne troops.

According to intercepted enemy communications, the Communists have been conducting extensive reconnaissance missions against the South Vietnamese forces and are continuing to make plans to counter the advance. One element of the North Vietnamese 38th Artillery Regiment reported it was preparing to attack government forces and was determined to hold the "liberated area." Other messages indicate, however, that some North Vietnamese units have been forced to withdraw in the face of advancing South Vietnamese Marine units.

Enemy shelling of Hue continues. The city has been shelled on four separate occasions during the past two days, but casualties and damage have been relatively light. Rocket and mortar fire were directed at two military positions just south of the city, while government strongpoints west of Hue were the targets of more than 1,000 rounds of artillery fire and a follow-up enemy ground probe.

We cannot rule out the possibility that these attacks are the beginning of a serious attempt to overrun Hue's western defenses, but we think it is more likely that they are designed to relieve pressure on Communist forces in Quang Tri.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SUDAN

President Numayri said last weekend that US aid to the southern provinces has persuaded him to reconsider normalization of ties with Washington. He gave no indication of timing but he will not act before his return in two weeks from a swing through East Africa.

Numayri seems to be mainly concerned with domestic reaction. Deputy Foreign Minister Muhammad told a US official in Khartoum that the question of renewed ties with the US is controversial, that it has not yet been discussed in the cabinet, and that Numayri will no doubt come under heavy criticism from some pro-Egyptian ministers. Numayri is expected to answer his critics by stressing Sudan's desperate need for US economic assistance.

In an effort to balance the move toward the US, Numayri may also propose that relations be restored with the USSR and Iraq. The Egyptians are clearly unhappy with Numayri's latest display of independence and will attempt to dissuade him as they did last December when he seemed on the verge of renewing ties with Washington. Cairo's semi-official newspaper Al Ahram has already blasted Sudan for its anticipated move, and called Yemen's (Sana) renewal of ties with the US a sell-out of the Arab cause.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

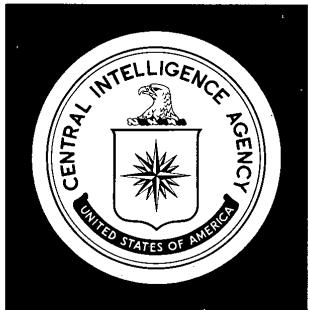
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

China: The anniversary of the party's founding on 1 July passed without publication of the joint editorial that is customary on major holidays. No special events were held, although there was a large leadership gathering at an activity not related to the holiday. This turnout evidently was intended to reassure the populace of the regime's stability despite its persistent failure to observe important events in the traditional way. The muted celebration, particularly the lack of a joint editorial, suggests that the recent month-long leadership conference in Peking failed to resolve the political tensions within the top leadership.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

5 July 1972

47

~~Top Secret~~ 25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

5 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese paratroopers are reported to be in Quang Tri City and so far have encountered only light resistance, but the Communists may be planning unusual measures to stem the offensive. The Communists are maintaining some pressure on Hue, but there is evidence they have been forced to scale down their objectives. (Page 1)

On Page 2, we analyze the announced agreement between North and South Korea.

Tanaka wins party leadership post in Japan and is scheduled to become prime minister tomorrow. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553308 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese paratroopers are reportedly in Quang Tri City and are encountering only light resistance. The Communists, however, are evidently resorting to unusual measures in an effort to stem the offensive. Intercepts state that North Vietnamese antiaircraft units are to use their weapons and personnel against South Vietnamese infantry and armored vehicles and that at least one company from each regiment is to be "sacrificed" in rear guard action in case the regiments are forced to retreat. One message specifically commanded that "all units, from the regimental commander on down," must hold their positions.

Despite such exhortations, one regiment reported to its headquarters that it had "failed" in the mission to defend Quang Tri City and that there was a possibility of "even more failures." Another regiment assigned to hold the city reported that one company "abandoned its weapons and ran away" under attack.

To the south, the Communists are maintaining some pressure on Hue. Enemy shelling attacks appear to have caused about one fourth of the city's residents, who had returned following the earlier fighting, to leave again.

Despite the recent flurry of attacks against Hue, there is some evidence that the Communists have been forced to scale down their objectives. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] Viet Cong cadre near Hue are now being told that there will be no significant assault against the city until October at the earliest and that the Communists will confine themselves to artillery and sapper attacks in the intervening months.

Although things are going badly for them in the north, the Communists have increased the pressure on government positions throughout the Mekong Delta. The heaviest action has been in Kien Phong Province, where enemy ground attacks forced government territorial forces to withdraw from several support bases yesterday. Additional bases were reported to have been isolated in nearby Dinh Tuong Province, while farther south, in the An Xuyen - Chuong Thien provincial area, several positions came under heavy mortar and rocket fire.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

KOREA

The communiqué issued with the announcement of the recent secret talks between North and South Korea indicates that Seoul successfully resisted Pyongyang's efforts to move the next round of talks to a substantive political level. It focuses instead on less controversial subjects such as humanitarian, economic, and cultural relations while mentioning political unification only in general terms. The cautious South Korean leaders will be likely to insist on tangible progress on the side issues before committing themselves to substantive political discussions.

The agreement makes no mention of a summit meeting between Premier Kim Il-sung and President Pak Chong-hui—one of the goals of the North Koreans. It also failed to specify the duties, membership, and future responsibilities of the coordinating committee that has been set up. President Pak had earlier told Ambassador Habib that he did not want the committee to function on an official political level and hoped to staff it with junior officials.

The announcement will create some political difficulties for Seoul. Opposition politicians are strongly objecting to the fact that the agreement was made without prior consultation with the legislature, and they can be expected to be highly critical of the government at the current special session of the National Assembly. After twenty years of describing Pyongyang as the epitome of evil, Seoul will need to reassure conservative elements, particularly in the military, that it is exercising caution. It must also restrain popular expectations about where the talks will lead. CIA Director Yi in his press conference after the announcement sought to scotch speculation that the agreement will mean unification in the near future by stressing the need for continued vigilance.

There will also be increased pressure on Seoul to lift some of the emergency measures and anti-Communist laws directed at protecting the nation against subversion and aggression from the North. The opposition is calling for an end to the emergency situation, and Yi's remarks indicate the government may be prepared to give some ground on this score.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The announcement will also have significant implications for the Korean question at the UN, where both sides will endeavor to use the talks to buttress their positions. In addition, Seoul's public acceptance of the principle of non-interference will be used by Pyongyang to press for accelerated US withdrawal from the peninsula.

In the tightly controlled society of North Korea, Kim will face far fewer problems in writing off two decades of hysterical propaganda directed against the South. A plenum of the party central committee, which began on 1 July, focused almost exclusively on the reunification question. In his opening report Kim almost certainly provided details on the talks and guidance on how the matter should be explained to party members and the general population and Pyongyang is giving extensive domestic coverage to the announcement.

In the international sphere, Kim hopes to derive additional prestige and diplomatic recognition from the dialogue with the South. Japanese Government officials, for example, have already indicated that the talks could have an effect on Tokyo's attitude toward North Korea.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Japan: As expected, Trade Minister Tanaka was elected leader of the Liberal Democratic Party today on the second ballot. He thereby succeeds Prime Minister Sato as majority party leader and he is scheduled to be chosen formally as prime minister in a special session of the Diet tomorrow.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

6 July 1972

45

Top Secret 25X1

Exempt from general
declassification because of E.O. 11652
exemption category 3(b)(1), (2) & (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Additional South Vietnamese forces have entered Quang Tri City. Enemy messages, however, are continuing to call for the defense of "liberated" territory and for striking the rear areas of government forces. (Page 1)

25X1

25X1

Vietnam

25X1

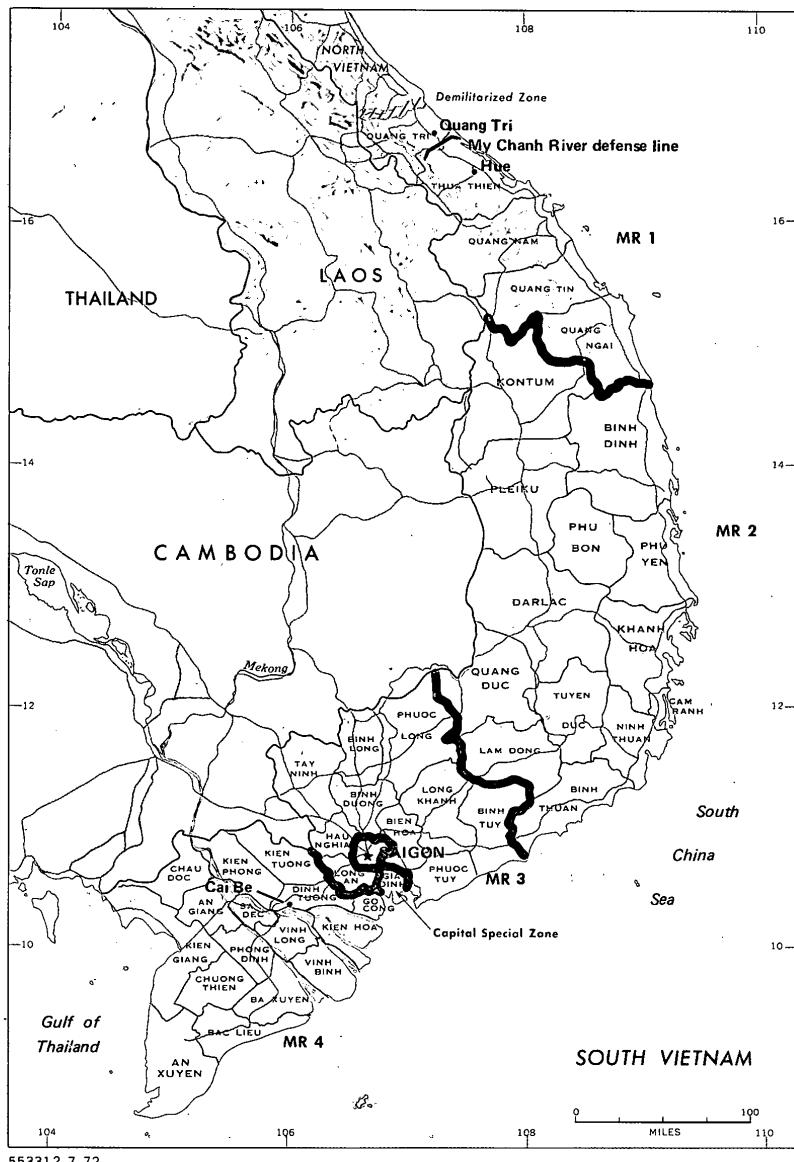
(Page 2)

25X1

Japan's new prime minister is not likely to call for any radical departures in either foreign or domestic policies. (Page 3)

The new French cabinet, under Prime Minister Pierre Messmer, will be more Gaullist in character. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553312 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Additional government forces have entered Quang Tri City and are encountering little significant enemy opposition. The advance paratroop units that were airlifted into the town against only token resistance have been joined by additional airborne and armored elements moving up from the south. Marine forces are now closing in after beating off two enemy attacks less than five miles to the south and east of the town. Some Communist forces are believed still to be within the citadel area of Quang Tri, but the majority apparently have pulled back to the northwest where they may be regrouping.

Despite the enemy's weak showing to date against the government drive, Communist messages continue to call for the defense of "liberated" territory and for striking the rear areas of government forces. The headquarters of both the North Vietnamese 304th and 308th divisions are in the foothills southwest of Quang Tri City, and elements of these divisions may strike either the advancing airborne units or South Vietnamese Army troops now manning the My Chanh defense line northwest of Hue. Yesterday government troops southwest of Hue recaptured Fire Support Base Checkmate, which had fallen on 30 June. Communist shelling of Hue and its western strongpoints has continued

25X1

The most recent significant fighting elsewhere in the country involved a series of clashes in which South Vietnamese Army troops operating along an infiltration corridor near Cai Be district town in the northern delta took fairly heavy casualties.

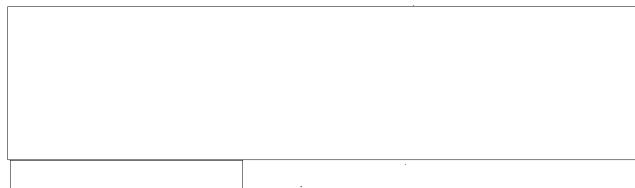
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM



25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN

Kakuei Tanaka, Japan's newly elected prime minister, is not likely to call for any radical departures in foreign or domestic policies. While Tanaka is dynamic and brings to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party a new image of youth and decisiveness, he is a moderate who is deeply rooted in the nation's postwar conservative political tradition.

His colorful and assertive style may nevertheless accelerate various changes already under way in Japan, including the move toward normalization of relations with Peking. The new prime minister clearly will maintain friendly relations with the US in the context of the US-Japan Mutual Security Treaty, and he also has expressed strong interest in promoting economic cooperation with the USSR. Tanaka's inexperience in foreign affairs may prompt him to delegate much of the responsibility in this area to the several former foreign ministers in the ruling party who were among his chief supporters.

It is in the fields of economic policy and domestic welfare programs that Tanaka is likely to be most active and decisive, having already served effectively as finance minister and as minister of international trade and industry. His long-standing expertise in domestic problems is in fact the basis for his unusually broad popularity. The new prime minister could have difficulty meeting the expectations of his youthful supporters, however, in view of the heavy reliance upon consensus in the Japanese decision-making process and the strong influence exerted by the powerful and conservative bureaucracy.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE

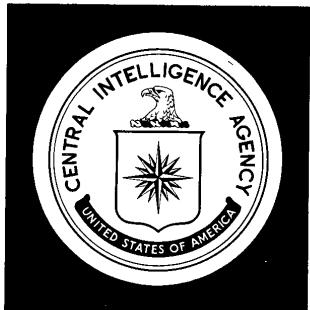
The choice of Pierre Messmer as Prime Minister Chaban-Delmas' successor is designed to placate old-line Gaullists and unite bickering factions before national parliamentary elections are held. The 56-year-old Messmer, minister of overseas territories and departments since February 1971, rallied to De Gaulle and the Free French in 1940. He served almost ten years as De Gaulle's defense minister and presided over France's withdrawal from NATO's integrated command structure and the buildup of France's nuclear force.

Messmer's attitude toward the US is highly colored by his traditional Gaullist views. He heads the "Presence of Gaullism" movement, created as a watchdog after De Gaulle's death to ensure that any successor did not stray too far from Gaullist principles. He is also prominent in the chauvinistic Movement for the Independence of Europe, which rejects the idea of a partnership between Europe and the US.

The new cabinet--which is likely to be named tomorrow--undoubtedly will be more Gaullist in character. Defense Minister Debre will remain in his present post, and Elysee sources say that Foreign Minister Schumann, who departed yesterday on an official visit to Peking, will also be retained.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

7 July 1972

47

25X1

~~*Top Secret*~~

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 3(h)(1), (2) & (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] North Vietnamese
(Page 1)

25X1
25X1

South Vietnamese main force units are consolidating their positions near Quang Tri City, but the Communists may be readying counterattacks farther south.
(Page 2)

A joint Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation aimed at reopening an important stretch of the highway between Saigon and Phnom Penh that has been held by the enemy since April is now under way.
(Page 3)

President Marcos now claims he wants no major alterations in the US-Philippine treaties, but he may have difficulty calming the public furor over the issue that he instigated. (Page 4)

The meeting this week between Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou failed to end the deadlock in preparations for the EC summit this fall. (Page 5)

Chile's opposition Christian Democrats have forced President Allende to capitulate on his proposed constitutional reforms that would have legalized further nationalization of private enterprises. (Page 6)

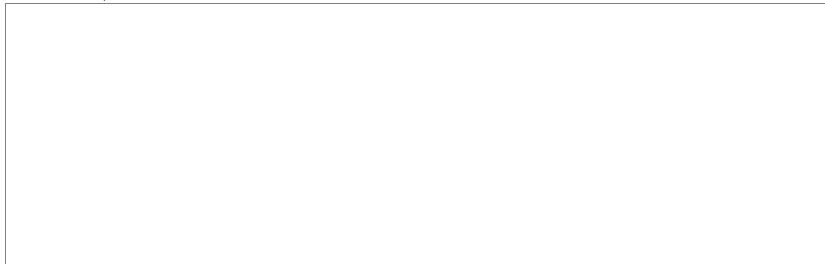
Military support for Argentine President Lanusse may be weakening. (Page 7)

Fidel Castro is home again after a two-month trip through Africa and Eastern Europe that was capped by a ten-day stay in the USSR. (Page 8)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM



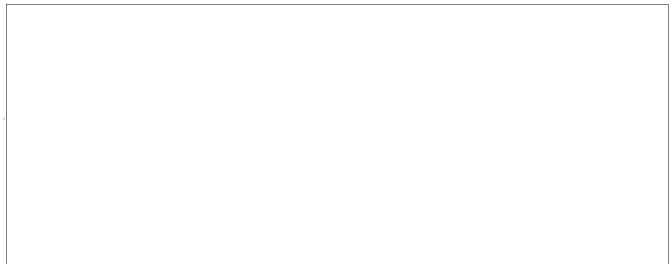
25X1



25X1

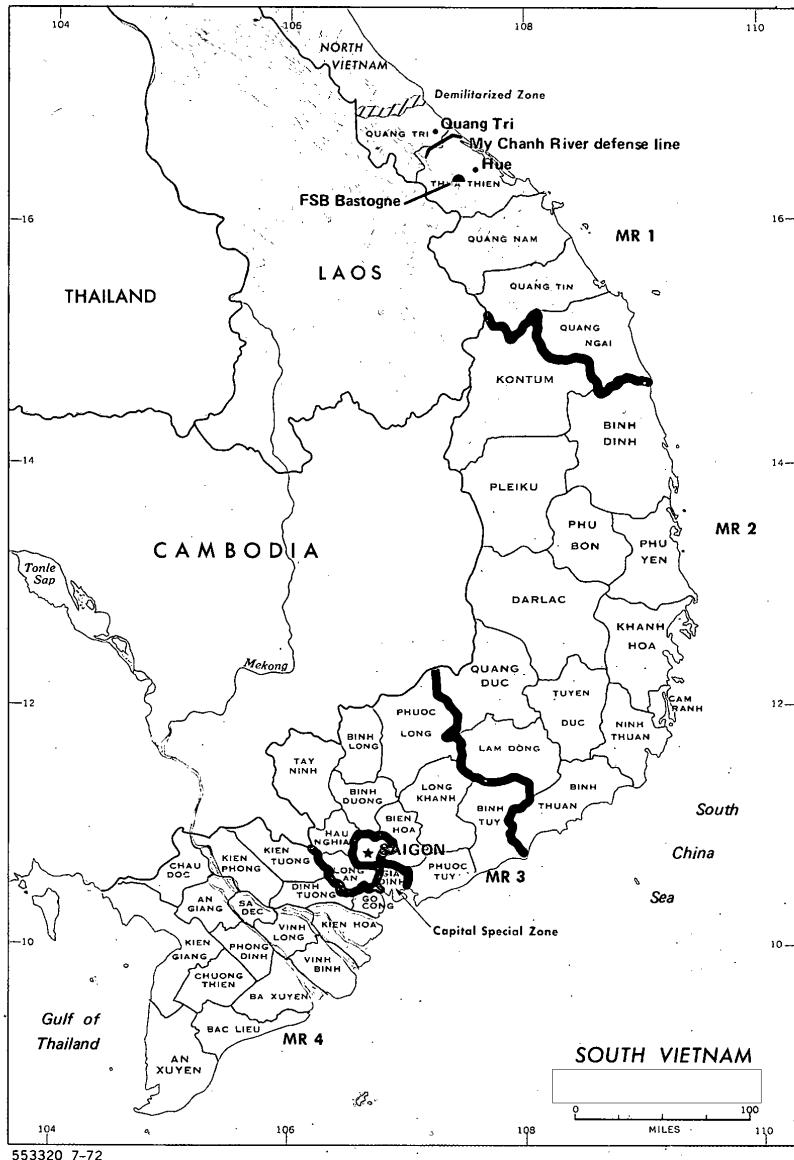


25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

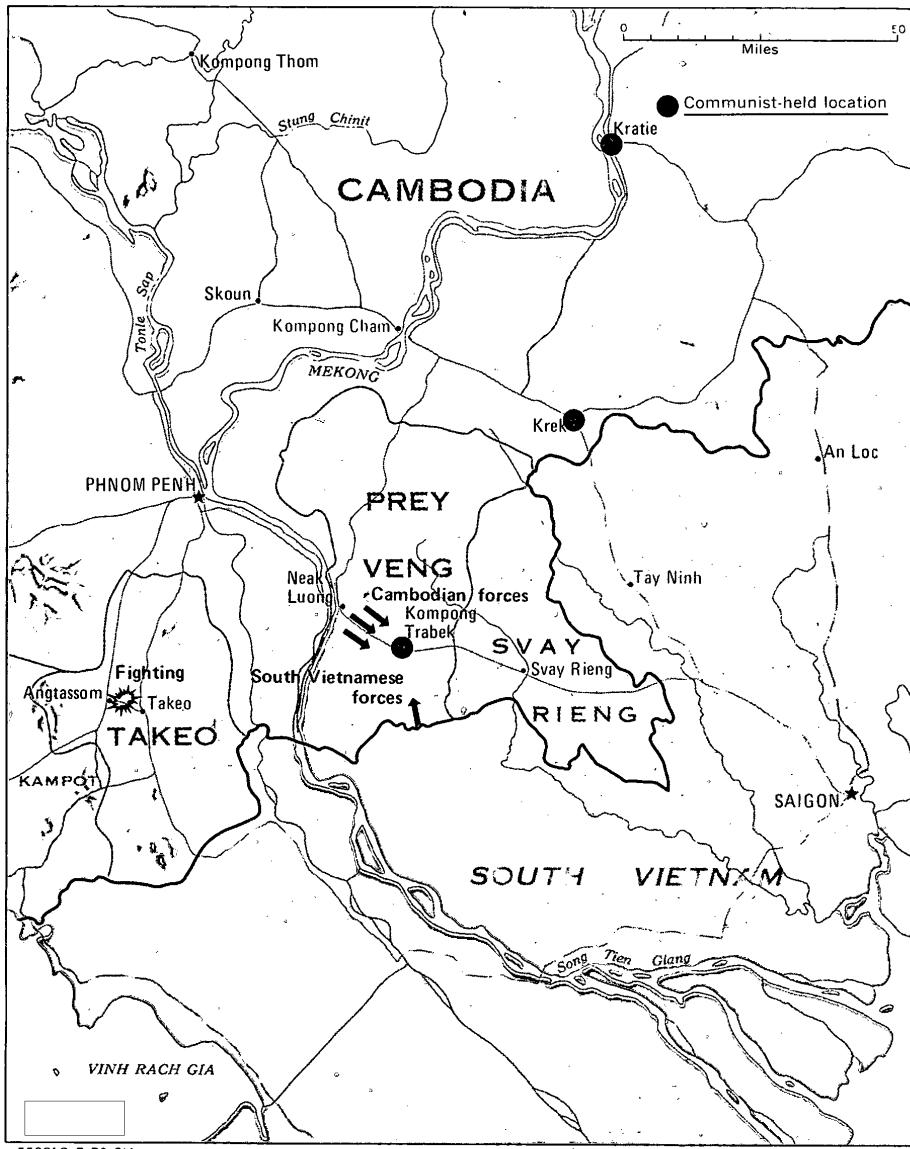
VIETNAM

Government forces have begun consolidating their positions near Quang Tri City. The main elements of the South Vietnamese Marine and Airborne brigades are a few miles south and east of the provincial capital; advance airborne elements are in the city. Fighting in the area was light during the past 24 hours, with most of the enemy action directed against the western flank of the government force.

Farther south, enemy intercepts show Communist preparations for counterattacks against government strongpoints extending from the My Chanh defense line to Hue. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 304th Division has been detected moving south into Thua Thien Province where it could direct attacks behind the line.

Elements of a North Vietnamese regiment have been ordered to attack Fire Support Base Bastogne, which guards the western access route to Hue. Other intercepts refer to the deployment of artillery and personnel to new positions west of Hue. Artillery attacks against Hue and government positions west of the city have been increasing. Yesterday, Hue was struck by over 100 rounds, and government bases south and west of town were heavily shelled.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government forces and South Vietnamese units, moving from different directions, are trying to reopen a stretch of Route 1, the main highway between Phnom Penh and Saigon. Fourteen Cambodian Army battalions and one armored squadron moved eastward on 4 July from their Mekong River base at Neak Luong in a three-pronged drive toward the Communist-controlled town of Kompong Trabek. At the same time a regiment of South Vietnamese Rangers supported by heavy artillery and another armored squadron began advancing northward from the South Vietnam border toward Kompong Trabek. At last report, lead elements of the Cambodian force had moved to within a few miles of the town without meeting any enemy opposition. Enemy intercepts show that the Communists apparently knew of the operation at least two days in advance.

The operation is Phnom Penh's most ambitious military undertaking since the beginning of the rainy season; it is also the first sizable operation conducted with the South Vietnamese in more than a year.

The Communists have held Kompong Trabek since late April, when they also took a score of other government positions along Route 1. Although no Communist main force units are known to be in the immediate vicinity of Kompong Trabek, the enemy may feel compelled to shift some units from the South Vietnam delta or from nearby Svay Rieng Province to the Kompong Trabek region in order to protect Communist supply and infiltration routes.

South of Phnom Penh in Takeo Province, the Communists are still thwarting efforts to relieve an embattled government battalion at Angtassom. Five Cambodian battalions from nearby Takeo City remain pinned down by Communist troops a few miles east of Angtassom, which was hit by heavy enemy shelling yesterday. The government has received reports that Communist reinforcements from Kampot Province may be heading for the Angtassom-Takeo area.

Communist pressure in this sector may be designed to open new supply lines as well as to tighten their political control over the surrounding countryside.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PHILIPPINES

In a private discussion with Ambassador Byroade on 5 July, President Marcos said that despite inflammatory press stories calling for drastic changes in the US-Philippine treaty relationships, he personally did not want major modifications in the treaties. Marcos suggested that both sides name top-level negotiating panels in December with the expectation that final decisions would be reached by next February or March.

The treaties first became a hot domestic issue in early June when Marcos sought to divert public attention from his shady political tactics by publicly calling into question the future of US bases in the Philippines. The ploy succeeded so well that Marcos may now find it difficult to calm the public furor he has helped to create. His task is complicated by the activities of opposition political leaders, whose sweeping criticisms of American involvement in the Philippines continue to make headlines in Manila. On Tuesday, Marcos announced that discussion of US bases in the Philippines would be eliminated from the agenda of the National Security Council meeting today. Instead, the council will discuss Philippine participation in the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, another potentially contentious issue.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY - FRANCE

The meeting between Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou in Bonn this week did nothing to advance preparations for the EC summit scheduled for this fall. Although both leaders shied away from calling off the summit, Pompidou continues to make French participation conditional on the acceptance of French demands in the monetary field, something Brandt refuses to do. Paris contends the community must work out common positions on the role of gold and special drawing rights, the problem of sterling and dollar balances, and dollar convertibility.

Although Brandt would like the summit to take place as scheduled, he appears determined not to be cast in the role of supplicant. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

Foreign ministers of the present and prospective EC members will meet on 19 July to discuss a summit agenda. We doubt that the differences between France and its partners will be resolved at this meeting, but we believe that continuation of the deadlock would lead to a postponement of the summit rather than its cancellation.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

President Allende has bowed to the opposition Christian Democrats on a major political issue. Since mid-June Allende had been negotiating with them in search of a compromise on a constitutional reform measure passed by Congress defining the government's role in the national economy. Last week the Christian Democrats walked out of the talks rather than accept Allende's proposed changes which would have legalized further nationalization of private enterprises. On Wednesday the President, faced with the certainty of an adverse vote on his proposals in the Senate, capitulated and withdrew his changes.

Whether Allende now signs the original measure or submits other objections, he has suffered a significant setback in his continuing struggle with the opposition. The Christian Democrats appear to have concluded, at least for the present, that forceful opposition will bring more political dividends than conciliation. In another recent maneuver, they have provided critical backing for impeachment charges against Interior Minister Del Canto.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARGENTINA

There are indications that military support for President Lanusse is weakening. On 4 July General Rey, air force commander in chief, publicly criticized Lanusse's handling of important issues, including the role of the air force in the government. Apparently reacting to reports that Lanusse plans to continue as president beyond 1 January 1973, Rey demanded that Lanusse stick to the agreement made at the time the present junta seized power; that agreement called for the rotation of power among the three services, and for the air force to take over on that date.

General Rey also claimed that the military high command had not authorized the recently disclosed secret talks between Lanusse's private emissary and ousted dictator Peron in April 1971. General Lopez Aufranc, the powerful III Corps commander in Cordoba, also reportedly claims to have had no knowledge of the conversation.

Lanusse had hoped to block speculation about a secret agreement with Peron by releasing a transcript of the conversations. Nevertheless, Rey's criticism could arouse the still strong anti-Peron sentiment in all three services.

Most top officers want to move away from direct military rule and are therefore reluctant to upset Lanusse's plans for an orderly transition to elected government. Their concern over continuing economic problems and the rising level of civil violence--combined with the fear of a Peronist return to power and the dissatisfaction of the air force--could, however, create pressure for a move against Lanusse.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CUBA-USSR

Premier Fidel Castro returned to Cuba yesterday following a ten-day stay in the USSR at the end of a two-month trip through Africa and Eastern Europe. In the final communiqué, Moscow endorsed the Cuban demand for "unconditional removal of the Guantanamo Naval Base"--an endorsement that represents little change from previous Soviet statements--and the Cubans praised Moscow's peaceful foreign policy line. No new aid agreements were announced

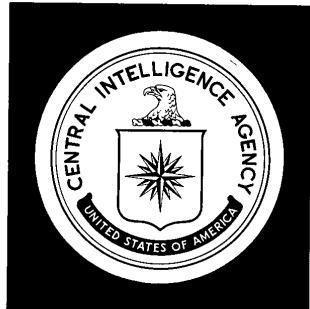
25X1

25X1

Despite Castro's effusive praise of the Soviets, we doubt that Moscow completely allayed his suspicions that Cuban interests may have been undermined in the course of President Nixon's visit to the USSR. The communiqué stated that the Soviets "reported" on the summit contacts, but carried no Cuban comment on those meetings.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

8 July 1972

27



~~Top Secret~~

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5b(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

8 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists are putting up the first strong resistance to the South Vietnamese offensive in Quang Tri Province; North Vietnamese units forced to retreat hastily may be killing American prisoners. (Page 1)

25X1

The Lao [redacted]

25X1

(Page 3)

In Japan [redacted]

25X1

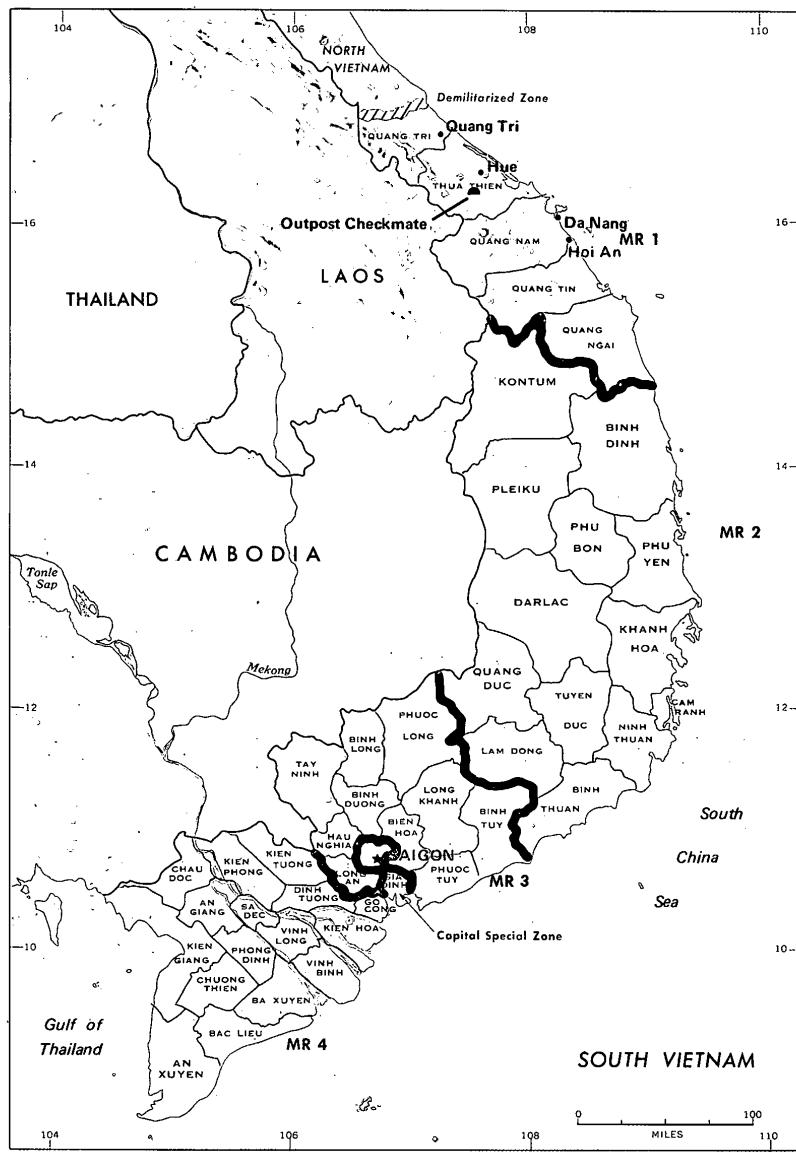
[redacted] (Page 4)

25X1

25X1

Lebanese Prime Minister Salam has provided some details of his latest agreement with the fedayeen.
(Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



.553324 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists are putting up the first strong resistance to the South Vietnamese offensive. Lead elements of the government force in Quang Tri Province are engaged in house-to-house fighting in the southeastern section of the provincial capital, and enemy tanks are battling marine units to the south of the city.

Farther south, the Communists are maintaining pressure on government defensive positions near Hue; fire support bases west of the city have again been heavily shelled, and Outpost Checkmate, abandoned to the Communists on 30 June and recaptured five days later, has again been overrun. In Quang Nam Province, increased Communist action may be in store for Da Nang and the provincial capital of Hoi An.

25X1

25X1

25X1

* * *

North Vietnamese units in Quang Tri Province forced to retreat hastily may be killing American prisoners. Two recent intercepted messages indicate that Communist units, one withdrawing from Quang Tri City, had killed or intended to kill Americans they were holding prisoner. A message of 6 July disclosed that an antiaircraft artillery unit was to leave cadre "behind to kill ten Americans."

Since Vietnamese Communist units have rarely executed American captives, this could be an isolated instance in which the necessity of quick withdrawal outweighed reasons for holding the prisoners.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

* * *

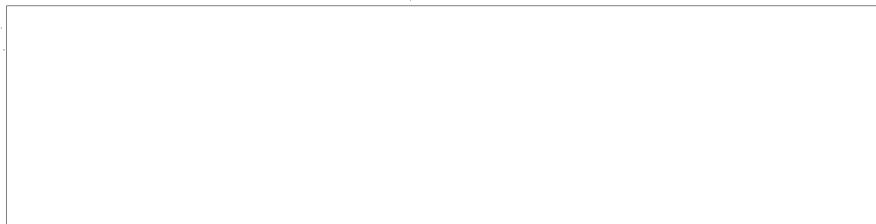
The pipeline North Vietnam has been constructing to carry petroleum products from China may be a dual one. Analysis of photography taken on 7 June of an area east of Kep in North Vietnam shows about one mile of open trench containing dual pipe, suggesting that a dual pipeline is being built from the Chinese border to Hai Duong. At Hai Duong the pipeline joins the existing dual system.

A dual pipeline would ease considerably Hanoi's POL supply problem by allowing the simultaneous movement of both motor gasoline and diesel fuel, the major fuel requirements.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

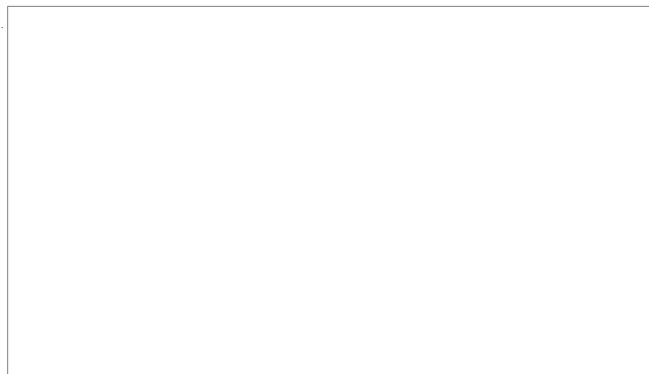
LAOS



25X1



25X1

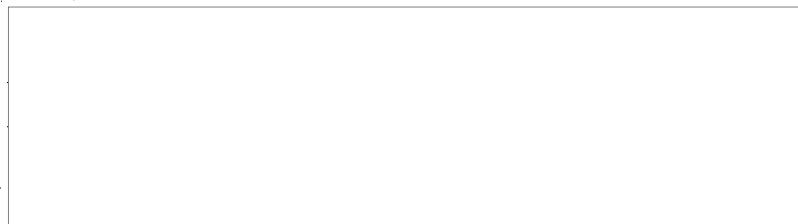


25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

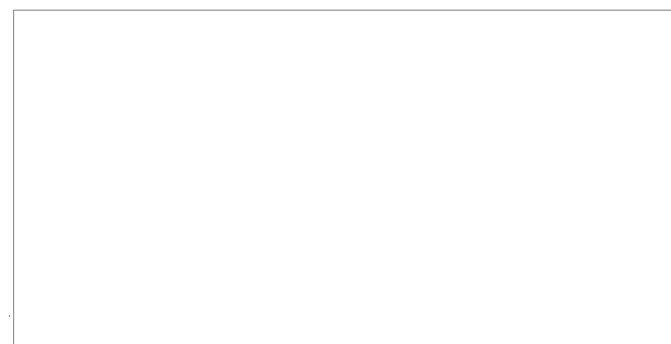
JAPAN



25X1



25X1



25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LEBANON-FEDAYEEN

Prime Minister Salam has provided Ambassador Buffum with some details of his latest agreement with the Palestinian guerrillas. Earlier this week Salam said he had a specific commitment from Yasir Arafat to discontinue cross-border operations, withdraw fedayeen forces from the Arqub area, and evacuate southern Lebanese villages. Salam also claimed that fedayeen commandos will no longer be allowed to appear in public in uniform or bearing arms. He voiced the hope that the fedayeen would hold to their agreement at least until November.

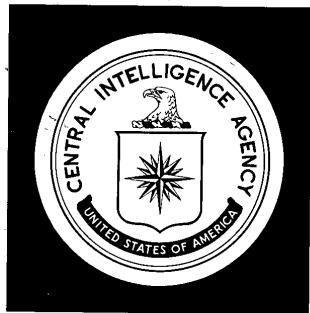


25X1

We doubt that this accommodation will hold up any better than the one concluded in March. The guerrillas have nowhere to operate except in Lebanon, and prolonged inactivity would fracture the movement. Arafat also lacks the power to force the several major competitive fedayeen organizations to accept the agreement. Even Salam appears to doubt Arafat's intention or ability to enforce compliance.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

Sunday Cable July 2

8 July 1972

45

Top Sec^{25X1}



Exempt from general
declassification pursuant to E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF
9 July 1972

VIETNAM

Communist resistance has stiffened around Quang Tri City. The South Vietnamese Airborne troops and armor units that were attacked by tank-led enemy forces just south of the city yesterday have beaten off the attack and destroyed four of the Communist tanks. Lead elements of the South Vietnamese Marines have now advanced to a point about one mile east of the city; their progress has been slowed by artillery barrages and harassing ground attacks. The latest press reports indicate that enemy forces are dug in within the city and are still holding off government units.

Intercepts indicate that enemy reconnaissance of government forces in Quang Tri has been completed. The tone of the messages suggests that the Communists are prepared for a determined defense of Quang Tri.

Fire Support Base Bastogne west of Hue has been heavily shelled, possibly as a prelude to an assault. Hue and several positions to the south were lightly shelled yesterday and an ammunition dump at Phu Bai was damaged.

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

LAOS

The government is attempting to revive its offensive to recapture the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres by moving four fresh irregular battalions into the Tha Tam Bleung valley. These troops will try to dislodge the Communist troops entrenched on Phou Pha Sai, a key highpoint overlooking the southern Plaine. The North Vietnamese have elements of three regiments south and west of the Plaine and one or two others in reserve. They have built numerous heavily fortified positions in the area and have used small probes and shelling attacks to thwart other irregular attempts to advance during the past two months.

In south Laos, government forces are still encountering stiff resistance to their efforts to clear enemy units dug in to the north and west of Khong Sedone.

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

CAMBODIA

The combined Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation to clear a section of Route 1 is being slowed by heavy rains. The troops have so far met only light opposition and have moved to within three miles of their first objective, the Communist-controlled town of Kompong Trabek. In Takeo Province, a five-battalion government relief force has advanced to the outskirts of the town of Angtassom, which has been under heavy enemy attack since 1 July.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

TOP SECRET

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

10 July 1972

A7



Top Secret^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification under E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), 5D(2)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

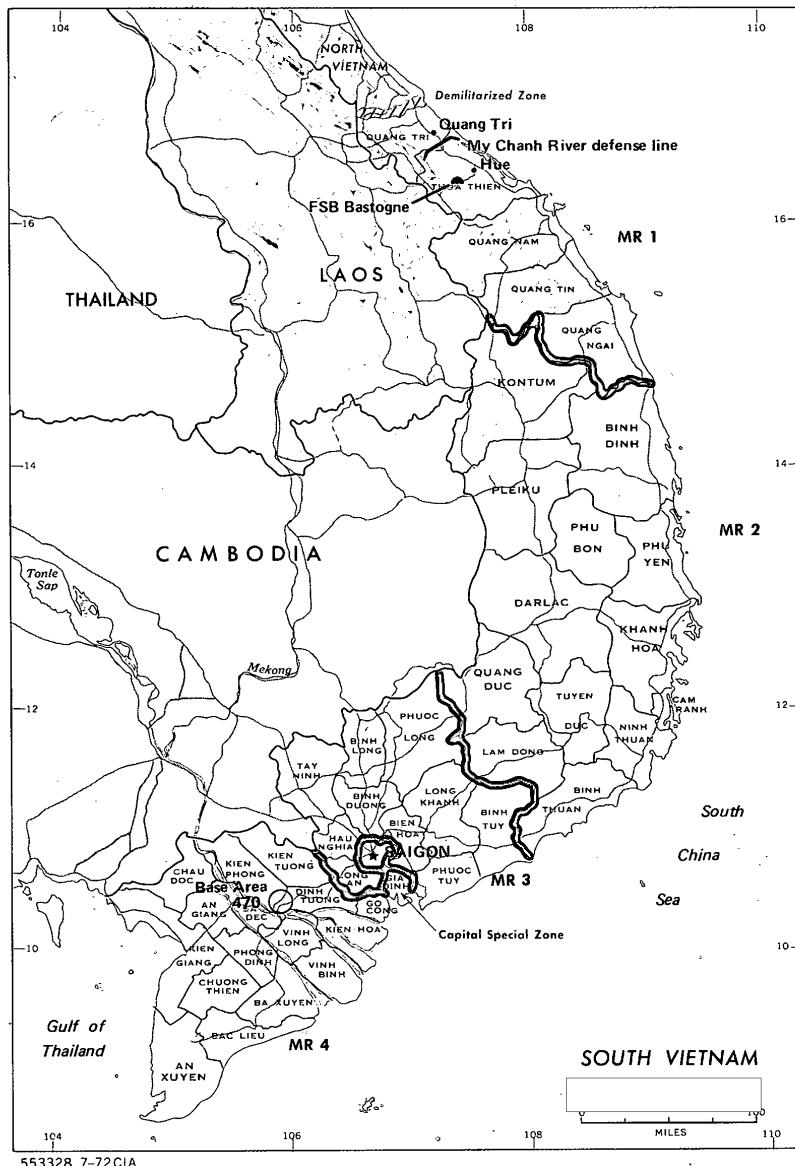
10 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In South Vietnam, fighting is continuing in and around Quang Tri City. (Page 1)

Lao Government forces are renewing their effort to recapture the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres. (Page 2)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Fighting continues in and around Quang Tri City following stiffened Communist resistance. South Vietnamese airborne troops encountered strong opposition when they attacked enemy defenses in the western section of the city on 9 July. The day before, airborne troops along the southern outskirts as well as other units farther to the south were subjected to Communist mortar and artillery fire. Lead elements of the South Vietnamese Marines have advanced to a point about one mile east of the city, but their progress has been slowed by artillery barrages and harassing ground attacks.

Intercepts indicate that most enemy reconnaissance missions have been completed. The messages, while often extravagant in claiming success, suggest that the Communists are prepared for a determined defense of Quang Tri. Other intercepts indicate that elements of the North Vietnamese 304th Division are deployed west of the government forces between Quang Tri City and the My Chanh defense line and are preparing for attacks along that line.

The Communists are also keeping up the pressure around Hue. Fire Support Base Bastogne west of the city has been shelled heavily, and several government troop concentrations in the same area have been subjected to ground attacks. Hue and several military positions to the south were shelled over the weekend, but casualties and damage were minimal.

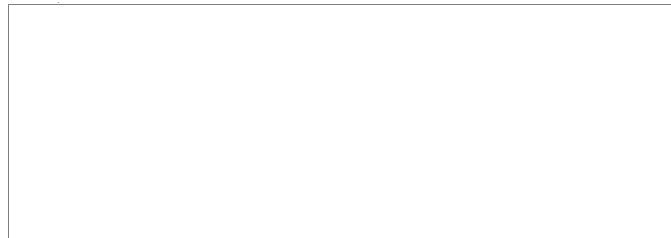
Military activity in the rest of the country was relatively light except in the northern Mekong Delta where Communist forces are pressing their attacks around Base Area 470 in western Dinh Tuong Province. Two nearby district towns have received mortar and ground attacks, and several surrounding military outposts have been overrun or abandoned. These Communist attacks appear designed to secure the base area and the nearby canal network.

* * *

25X1

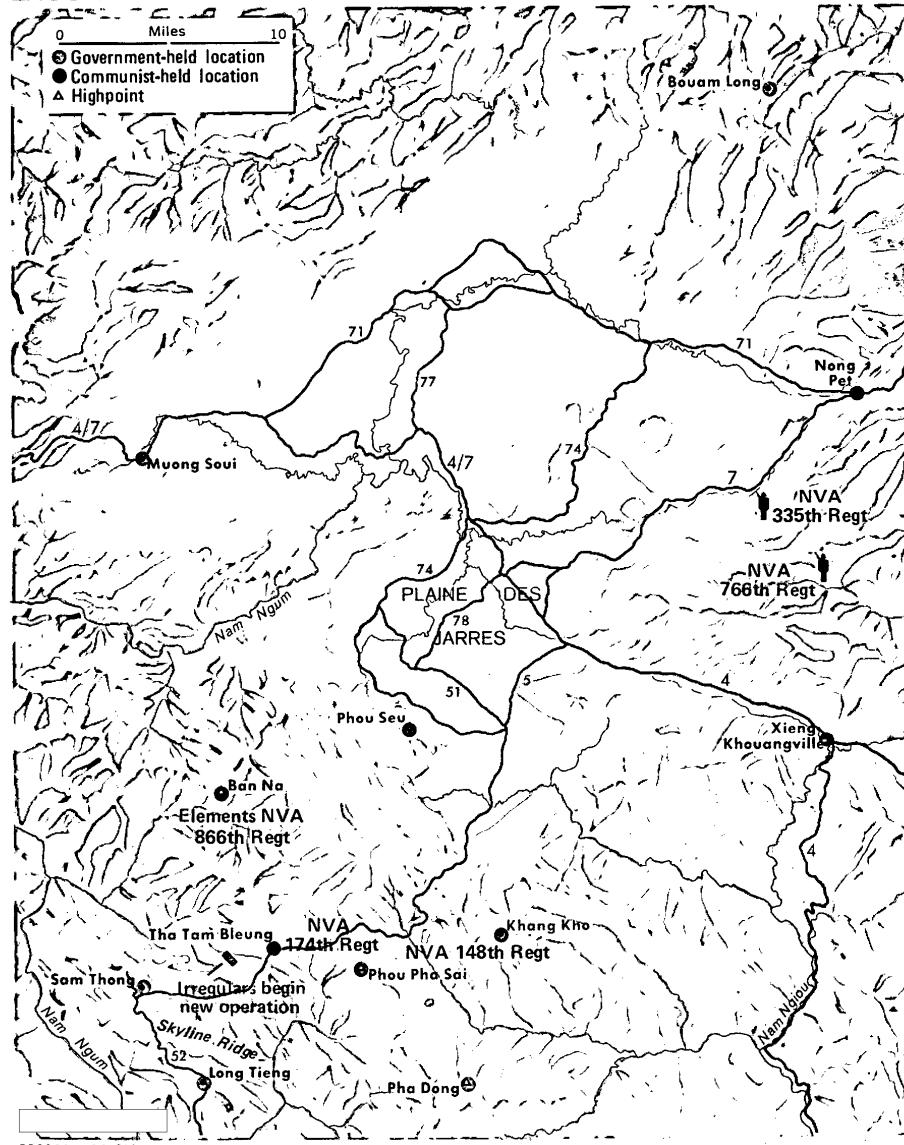


25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



553322 7-72 CIA

25X1

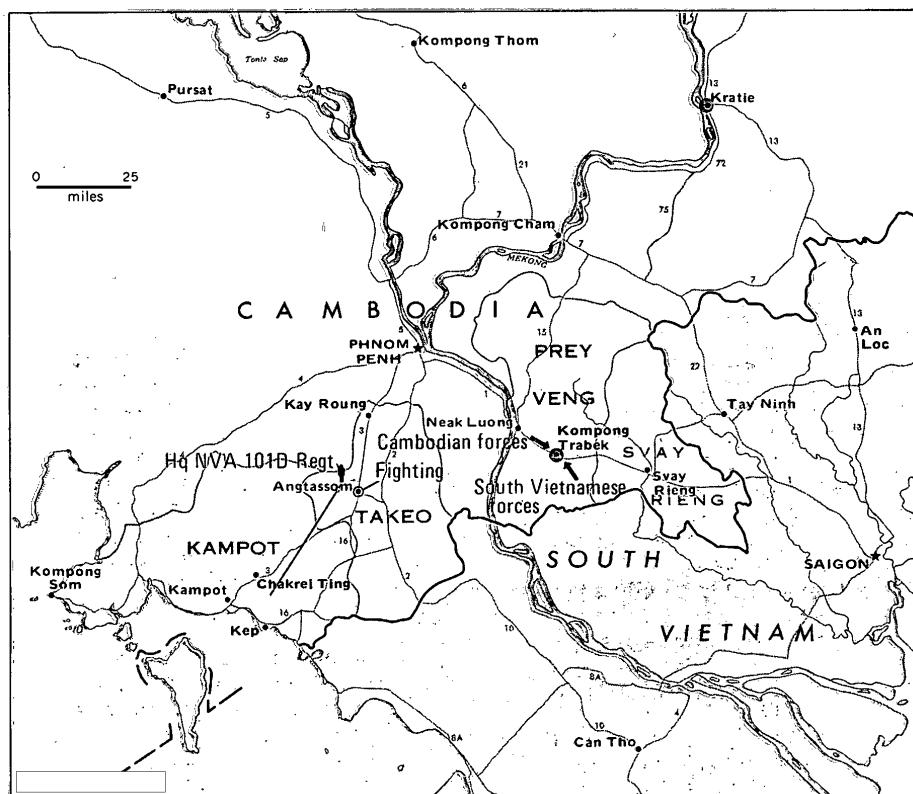
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The government is attempting to revive its offensive to recapture the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres. Four fresh irregular battalions were moved into the Tha Tam Bleung valley late last week and are now moving eastward to try to dislodge the Communist troops entrenched on Phou Pha Sai, a key highpoint overlooking the southern Plaine. So far they have met only limited resistance. The North Vietnamese have elements of three regiments south and west of the Plaine and one or two others in reserve. They have built numerous heavily fortified positions in the area and have used small probes and shelling attacks to thwart other irregular attempts to advance during the past two months.

In south Laos, government forces are still encountering stiff resistance to their efforts to clear enemy units dug in to the north and west of Khong Sedone.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

553325 7-72 CIA

● Communist-held location

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Cambodia: The combined Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation to clear a section of Route 1 is being slowed by heavy rains. The troops have so far met only light opposition and have moved to within two miles of their first objective, the Communist-controlled town of Kompong Trabek. South of Phnom Penh in Takeo Province, a five-battalion government relief force has advanced to the outskirts of the town of Angtassom, which has been under heavy enemy attack since 1 July.

25X1

25X1

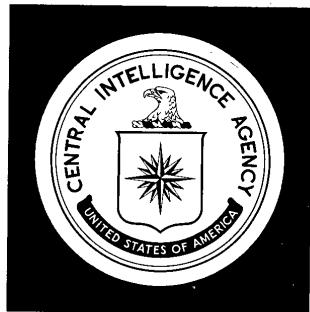
Northern Ireland:

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

11 July 1972

27

Top Secret^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5(h)(1),(2)(B)(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

11 July 1972

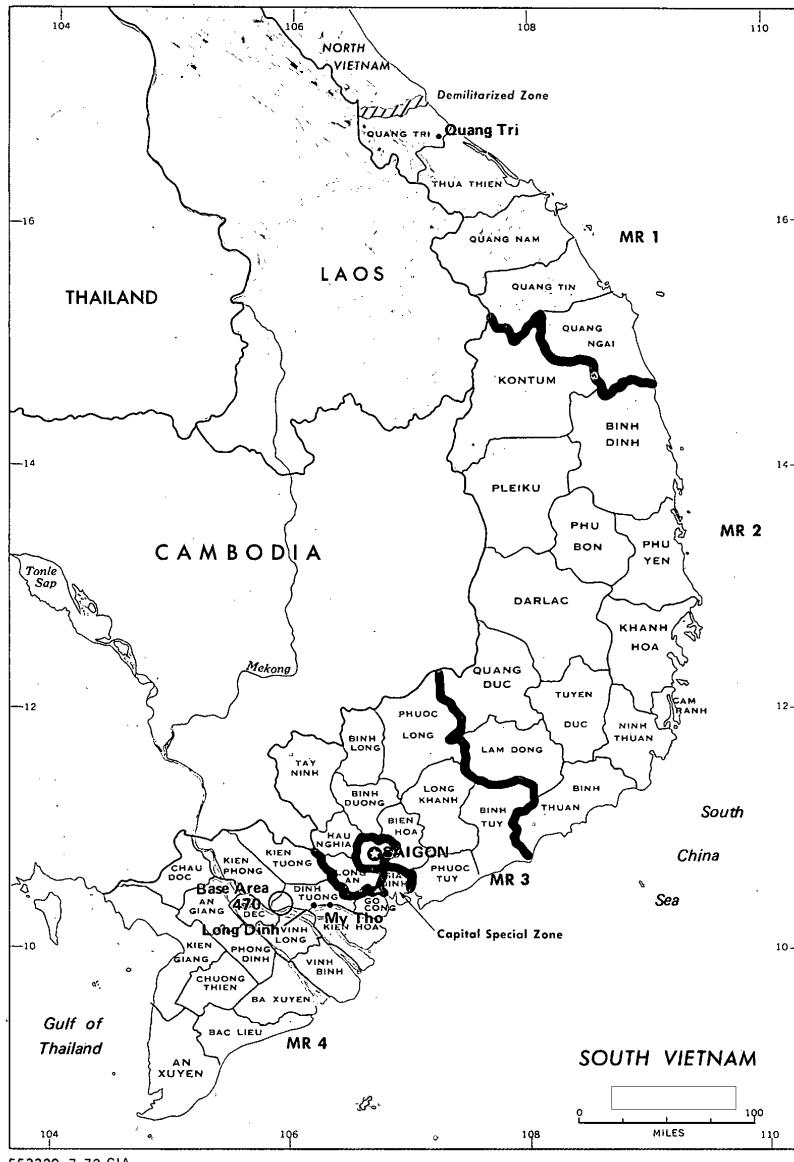
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The advance of South Vietnamese airborne elements in Quang Tri City is being delayed by enemy artillery attacks. In the northern Mekong Delta, heavy fighting continues. Meanwhile, Xuan Thuy has arrived in Paris amid indications the Communists will stick to their standard demands when the talks resume on Thursday. (Page 1)

Peking appears to be hinting that the time has come for a negotiated settlement of the war. (Page 2)

Philippine President Marcos has won an important test in his bid to retain power beyond December 1973. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

553329 7-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese airborne elements are still in the southwestern section of Quang Tri City, but their further advance is being delayed by artillery attacks by the well-entrenched Communist defenders. Airborne forces south of the city have also been subjected to shelling attacks; marine units to the east, supported by artillery and naval gunfire, reportedly destroyed six enemy tanks yesterday.

There is continuing evidence that the Communists are suffering supply and coordination problems. A recent intercept from an element of the North Vietnamese 304th Division showed that the unit had failed to prepare attack plans and indicated that it was short of rice, ammunition, and infantry weapons. Earlier intercepts show that other Communist units in the Quang Tri area have been having difficulties supplying artillery ammunition and in coordinating the use of artillery.

Heavy fighting continues in Dinh Tuong Province in the northern Mekong Delta. Enemy troops attacked the district headquarters in Long Dinh, eight miles west of the provincial capital at My Tho. The regional commander believes that this action, together with the Communists' efforts to clear the area around their nearby Base Area 470, is designed to draw government forces away from the border areas in Cambodia and to open infiltration routes to the delta.

* * *

Xuan Thuy, North Vietnam's chief negotiator, arrived in Paris yesterday amid further indications that the Communists will stick to their standard negotiating demands when talks resume on Thursday. At an airport press conference, Thuy condemned US bombing and reaffirmed Hanoi's commitment to the Viet Cong's seven points, but he did assert that the Communists would "gladly examine any new proposals from the US." In other recent statements, Communist spokesmen have been adhering to a tough position on negotiations, calling for an end of the US bombing and mining, and rejecting the possibility of a cease-fire without a political solution. Hanoi announced this morning that Le Duc Tho, chief adviser to North Vietnam's negotiating team, left Hanoi today and is en route to Paris.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA-INDOCHINA

Peking appears to be hinting that the time has come for a negotiated settlement of the war. In a speech honoring a visiting Yemen (Aden) delegation on Sunday, Premier Chou En-lai, citing recent developments in Korea, Japan, and the Indian subcontinent, claimed that the demand for reasonable settlement of mutual disputes had become "an irresistible trend" throughout the world. This emphasis on reasonableness and mutual accommodation was also apparent in a New China News Agency article on 6 July commenting on President Nixon's recent press conference. Although the article stated that it remains to be seen "whether the US Government is prepared to end the Vietnam war through negotiations," it did not specify that Washington must follow Hanoi's scenario to achieve this end.

Chinese propaganda remains critical of US actions in Indochina and continues to demand a rapid and complete US withdrawal. Peking's comment on the political issues remains ambiguous, however. The NCNA article on the President's news conference, for example, set forth Hanoi's position on political questions in reasonable and non-polemical terms, but carefully refrained from endorsing the North Vietnamese view.

Chou En-lai's speech to the visiting Yemenis hints at a possible change of Chinese thinking on the mechanics of a political settlement. Although calling on the US to end its support for President Thieu, Cambodian President Lon Nol, and the "Lao-tian rightists," Chou pointed out that the recent Korean agreement and the Indian-Pakistani accord on partial troop withdrawals had been reached without the "superpowers' control and interference." This indication that Peking sees advantages in political talks between Hanoi and Saigon without direct US participation suggests that China may be urging North Vietnam to look again at the US proposal for an immediate cease-fire followed by an eventual political settlement to be worked out directly by the two Vietnamese parties.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PHILIPPINES

President Marcos has won an important victory in his campaign to retain political power beyond December 1973 when his second term expires. Last Friday the constitutional convention voted to replace the presidential system with a parliamentary form. This will circumvent the two-term limitation the current constitution places on the presidency, and Marcos believes that he could be more easily elected prime minister by the legislature than president in a nationwide contest. The President's forces also defeated efforts to ban Marcos from holding public office in the future.

The substantial margin of victory in the crucial vote shows that Marcos remains in control of the convention despite recent scandals over the bribing of delegates by his agents. Although the convention must still give final approval to the current working draft, Marcos now should have little difficulty in getting the kind of document he wants.

The new constitution, because of its close association with Marcos, still could be rejected in the required national referendum. There is also no certainty that Marcos' Nacionalista Party will win the majority needed to make him prime minister.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Pakistan: Rioting in Karachi and other cities in Sind Province in the past few days over the declaration of Sindhi as the official provincial language has thus far taken more than 40 lives. Security forces believe the situation is worsening and martial law may be declared. Although police officials do not expect the rioting to spread to other provinces, the flare-up highlights the potential for violence inherent in Pakistan's fragmented ethnic and linguistic make-up, even since the separation of Bangladesh.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

12 July 1972

45



Top Secret

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification because of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5(b)(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

12 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Some of South Vietnam's advance airborne elements in Quang Tri City have been pulled back to the outskirts following the recent sharp fighting in the city.

25X1

(Page 1)

In a major speech, Chilean President Allende lambasted the opposition for its intransigence and hinted at strong countermeasures. (Page 2)

Finland has increased pressure on West Germany to agree to early Finnish recognition of both German states. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553331 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

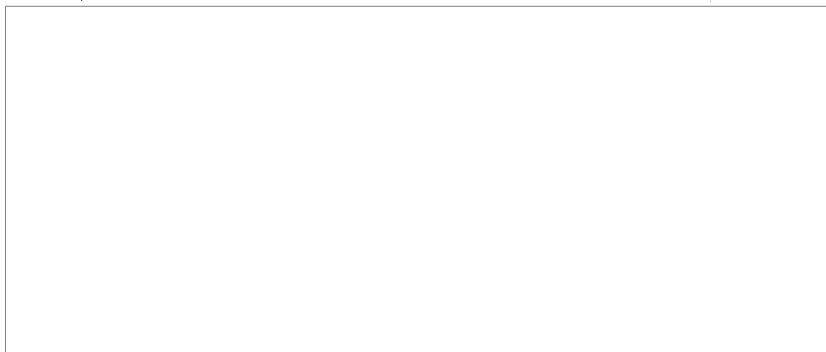
Some of South Vietnam's advance airborne elements in Quang Tri City have been withdrawn to the outskirts following the recent sharp fighting inside the city. Allied air and artillery fire is being directed at enemy forces in the town, but the Communist defenders are holding their ground. Airborne units south of the city have made some progress, however, pushing their left flank westward to a point between Fire Support Bases Nancy and Barbara. In addition, a reinforced South Vietnamese Marine battalion was airlifted yesterday to a point about two miles north of Quang Tri City.

The Communists have maintained the pressure against government positions west of Hue. There have been enemy mortar and rocket attacks and a number of brief clashes around Fire Support Bases Bastogne and Birmingham.

In Dinh Tuong Province in the Mekong Delta, Long Dinh district town, which was first attacked on 8 July, is still being harassed. Another district town less than two miles from the provincial capital of My Tho was hit by mortar attacks, and the Communists made an unsuccessful attempt to mine the My Tho waterfront on 11 July. Government positions in Chuong Thien and Kien Hoa provinces in the delta have also come under attack in recent days.

* * *

25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

t

CHILE

In a major speech Monday evening, President Allende returned to the offensive as he charged his opponents with trying to subvert the constitutional and economic rights of the Chilean people. He cited the refusal of the opposition majority in Congress to accept his revisions of its constitutional reform defining the government's economic prerogatives

25X1

Allende covered the full range of governmental concerns and hinted at plans for strong countermeasures, but did not identify the specific issues on which he would concentrate. He stressed that the partners in his coalition had agreed on these new measures.

25X1

The Communists and Socialists may have come to realize the high cost of their own continuing controversy and the effectiveness of the more forceful tactics the opposition has recently adopted.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Finland - West Germany - East Germany: By dropping its demand for German reparations from World War II, Helsinki has increased its pressure on Bonn to agree to early Finnish recognition of both German states.

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

13 July 1972

45

~~Top Secret^{25X1}~~

Exempt from general
declassification instructions of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), 5B(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

25X1

In South Vietnam, there is heavy fighting in the
Quang Tri sector and in the Mekong Delta.

25X1
25X1

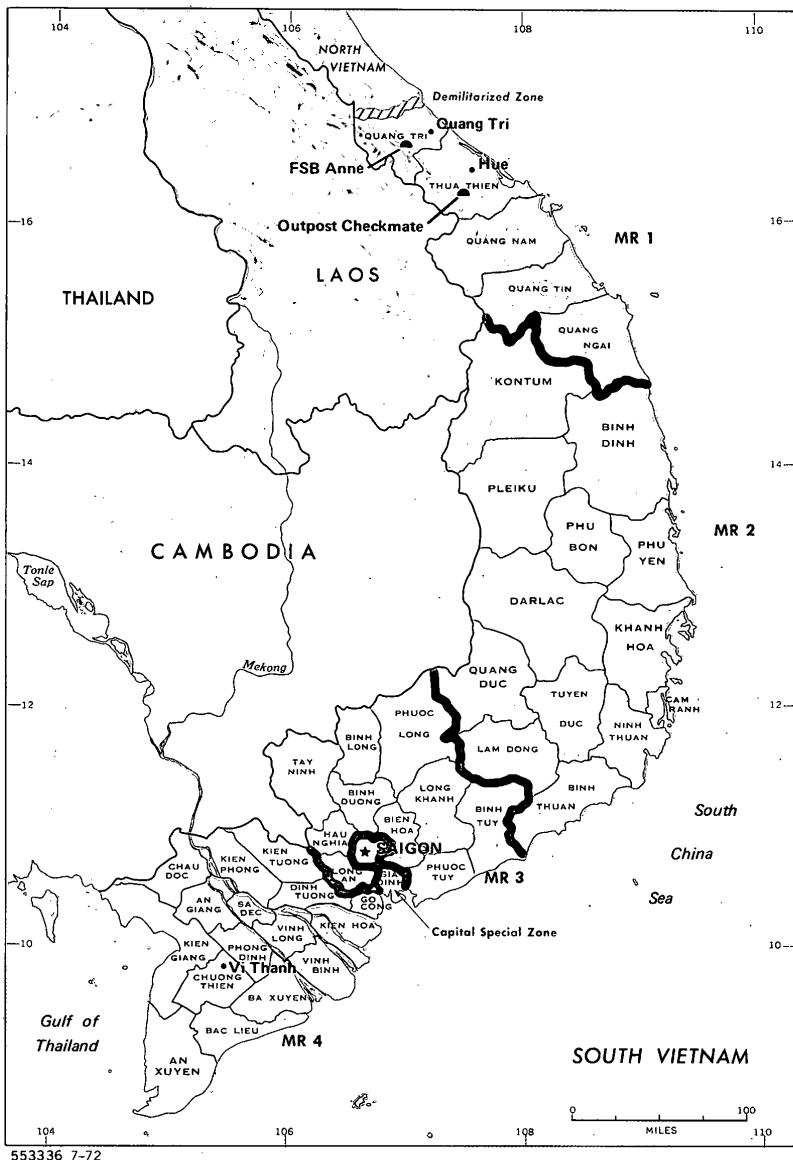
(Page 1)

There are fresh reports of unrest in Egypt.
(Page 2)

Cuba's full membership in CEMA is probably viewed
by Castro as a mixed blessing. (Page 3)

Soviet shipments of guided missile patrol boats to
Iraq will be seen in Tehran as a threat to Iran's
position in the Persian Gulf. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



.553336 7-72.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese Marines are attempting to set up new positions north of Quang Tri City, and other units on the eastern flank are consolidating their positions. South of the provincial capital, airborne units are meeting strong enemy resistance near Fire Base Anne. Heavy enemy ground and artillery attacks have been reported throughout the Quang Tri sector.

An intercept from a Communist command element in the area ordered troops inside the town to hold the citadel--the main defensive position--at all costs. The sender promised adequate artillery and infantry support. Recalling the battle for Hue during Tet 1968, however, the originator admitted that the four-battalion force defending the citadel was not sufficient to hold the position for long.

Southwest of Hue, moderately heavy fighting also is taking place, but government troops are reported to have recaptured outpost Checkmate--overlooking the western approach to Hue--which was lost to the Communists last week. This is the fourth time in the last two weeks that this strategic position has changed hands.

In the delta, in a battle less than five miles from the provincial capital of Vi Thanh in Chuong Thien Province, an enemy force inflicted heavy losses on South Vietnamese Army regulars. To the north, the continuing buildup of enemy units in Dinh Tuong Province has caused a South Vietnamese regiment to return from a cross-border operation in Cambodia. South Vietnamese relief forces, including regular army, rangers, and territorial units, are planning counterthrusts to blunt the enemy's increased activity.

* * *

25X1

25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT

25X1

Press reports from Beirut say there is dissatisfaction in the Egyptian Air Force; they cite a recent incident in which two pilots disobeyed orders not to interfere with Israeli violations of Egyptian airspace. A French paper has claimed that three senior Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials have been arrested on charges of plotting to overthrow Sadat.

The Egyptian Government yesterday announced that a number of cases of espionage will soon be revealed, but it has generally countered reports of unrest by portraying them as Israeli psychological warfare.

In fact, some measure of unrest almost certainly is accompanying the lack of progress toward solving the problem of Israeli occupation of Arab lands. This is the first summer since 1967 that the Egyptians have had neither active hostilities nor peace-seeking discussions to offer some prospect for change. All this may well be generating the kinds of reactions alleged in the various reports of unrest. At the same time, however, those who oppose Sadat no doubt realize the intractability of the problem, which may inhibit them from taking any action to depose him.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-CUBA

Admission of Cuba to full membership in the Soviet-led Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) should result in closer Soviet-Cuban economic coordination. Cuba's entry seems to have been arranged during Fidel Castro's recent visit and is the first known concrete result of the trip. Since Castro's return a week ago, Havana has not commented on the journey. While Castro may have no strong objections to membership in CEMA he will expect Moscow to try to use it to push Soviet economic development concepts that Cuba has often resisted. Nevertheless he may see full Cuban membership as helpful in the long run, particularly as a source of additional funds and banking services.

The Soviet media, in contrast with the Cuban, have praised the results of Castro's visit. The Soviets probably view Cuban membership as providing one more channel to press for closer Cuban economic coordination with Moscow and its allies, as well as for more rational economic development in Cuba.

Cuba is the second non-European member of CEMA, the other being Mongolia. Yugoslavia, North Korea, and North Vietnam have attended meetings as observers. The Soviets have attempted to persuade Pyongyang and Hanoi to become full members.

CEMA's purpose is to rationalize trade and coordinate economic planning and standards among member countries. It has frequently operated ineffectively since its founding in 1949, partially because Moscow's East European allies have resisted its use as a tool for Soviet economic domination. Last year, however, they agreed to a comprehensive long-range economic integration program, and an International Investment Bank to finance long-term projects in member countries began to function.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

IRAQ-USSR

A Soviet freighter with one Osa-class guided missile patrol boat on deck was observed entering an Iraqi port last week. Two other Soviet freighters, each carrying an Osa, are en route to the Indian Ocean.

25X1

These patrol boats, presumably purchased under the \$236-million Soviet-Iraqi arms accord of last October, will be Iraq's first ones to be armed with surface-to-surface missiles. The Shah of Iran will view them as a threat to his country's position in the Persian Gulf. Iran is scheduled to receive two British frigates equipped with the shorter range Seakiller missiles this month and two more later this year. Tehran also plans to equip its ten British hovercraft boats with Sea-killers, but now presumably will press for additional modern naval weapons.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

China: Our investigations do not support recent allegations that China is illicitly exporting opium. In fact, despite a world shortage of raw opium for licit pharmaceutical purposes, the Chinese--who no doubt produce a small quantity for their own medical uses--have refused recent requests to export any opium to Western drug firms searching for new sources of supply.

USSR: [redacted]

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

14 July 1972

45



~~Top Secret~~

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), 5D(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

14 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

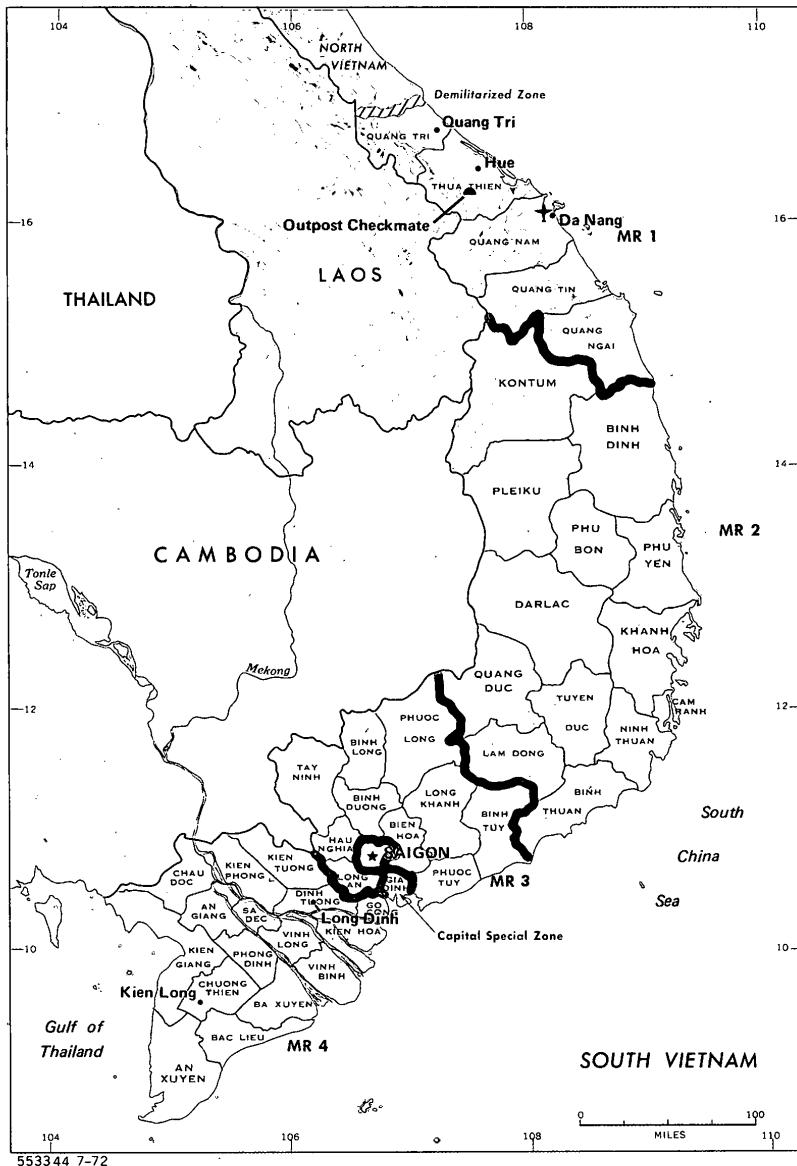
In South Vietnam, heavy fighting is continuing around Quang Tri City. (Page 1)

Mao Tse-tung's role as the ideological leader of China apparently is being modified. (Page 2)

Soviet	(Page 3)	25X1
		25X1
The Soviets	the Egyptians	25X1
	(Page 4)	25X1
		25X1

Belgium has reacted sharply to French efforts to align the European Community behind Paris' Middle East policy. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553344 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Heavy fighting is taking place on three sides of Quang Tri City as the Communists continue to stiffen their resistance to the government's drive. Tank-led infantry assaults have been directed against South Vietnamese Marines north and east of the city and against airborne troops to the south.

On 12 July, the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 325th Division established communications with the senior Communist military authority in northern South Vietnam, suggesting that it may be planning to cross the DMZ into Quang Tri Province. One of its regiments has been there for two months, and a second apparently crossed over some time during the past week. Its third regiment is still in North Vietnam, but has recently been noted moving southward.

The Communists are maintaining pressure against government positions southwest of Hue. Outpost Checkmate, recaptured by the government on 12 July, was later struck by more than 200 mortar rounds. Hue was shelled yesterday, and government bases at Da Nang were attacked by rockets.

In the delta, fighting has eased somewhat, although the Communists remain active in southern Chuong Thien Province where the capital of Kien Long District and three government outposts were attacked yesterday. Fighting around the threatened district town of Long Dinh in Dinh Tuong Province has ended following the arrival of government reinforcements.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

Mao Tse-tung's role as the ideological leader of China apparently is being modified.

In the past week or so, Chinese public media have increasingly urged party cadre to acquire a thorough knowledge of the "Marxist stand, viewpoint, and method." Since the Cultural Revolution, the focal point of political study in China has usually been expressed in terms of the "thought of Mao Tse-tung" or "Marxism - Leninism - Mao Tse-tung thought." While references to these formulations continue to appear, it is clear from the open media [redacted] the need to grasp classical Marxist theory has become the principal theme at cadre study sessions.

25X1

25X1

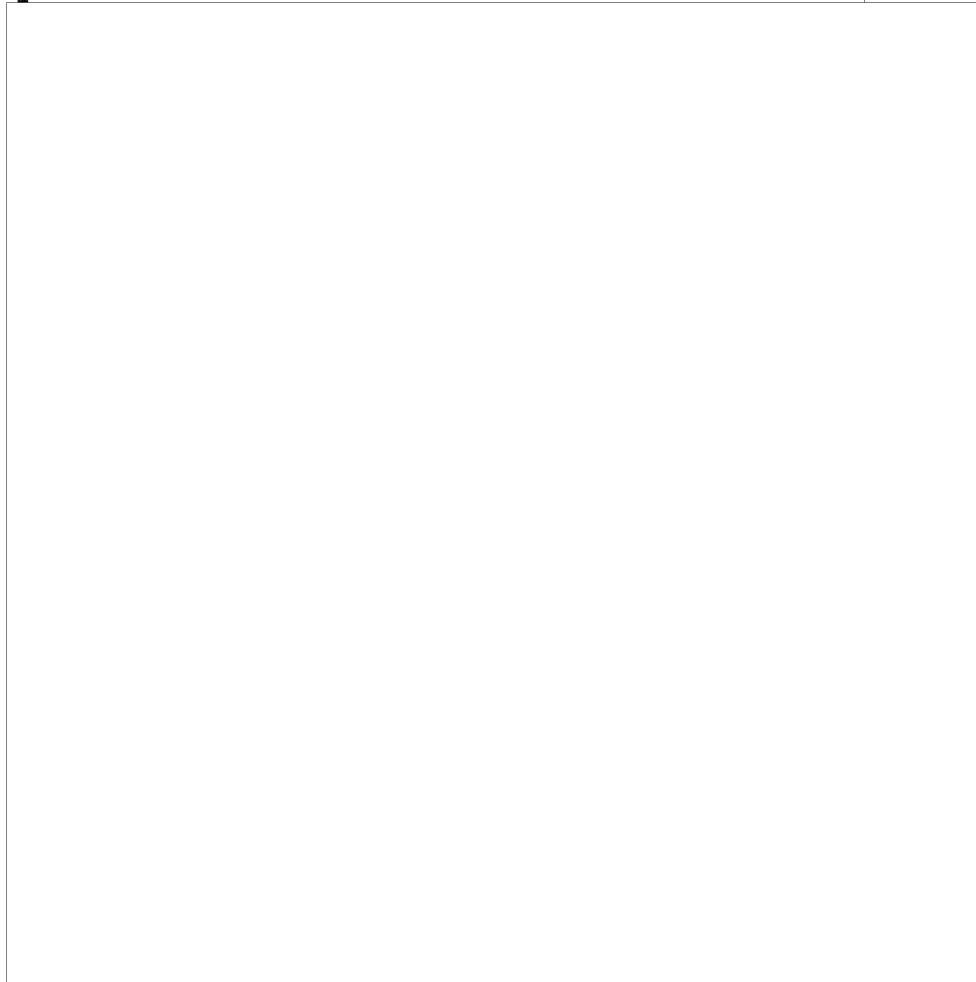
25X1

This changing emphasis is related in part to the continuing campaign against Mao's former heir, Defense Minister Lin Piao. During his period of political ascendancy, Lin sought to popularize the study of Mao's thought through the wide dissemination-- principally in the little red book--of selected quotes from Mao. For several months now, Peking has denounced this practice, and the little red book has been notably absent from public use.

The current emphasis on developing an understanding of general Marxist theory seems, however, to be more than just an effort to impugn Lin. By stressing the contribution of earlier Marxist theoreticians, the regime may be preparing the ground for a China without Mao. In this vein, a People's Daily article broadcast on 11 June, while containing nothing that would denigrate Mao's historical position, went to unusual lengths to explain that no leader is irreplaceable.



25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

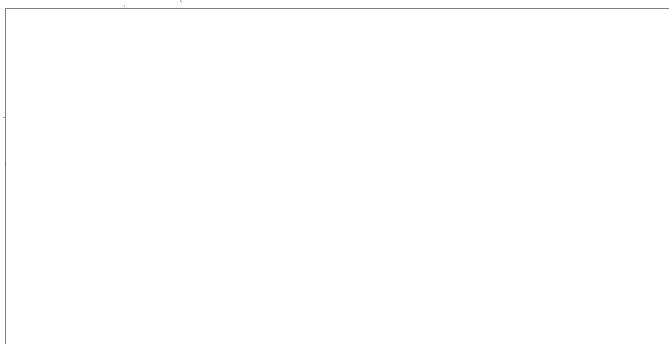


25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-EGYPT

25X1

The particular target of Soviet criticism appears to be a series of articles being written by the influential editor of the semiofficial al-Ahram, Muhammad Haykal. Haykal, who played a key role in US-Egyptian efforts to reach agreement with Israel last year, has never been popular with the Soviets, and his current articles have clearly touched a raw nerve. Among his charges are that the stalemate in the area makes the Arab states more dependent on the USSR, deepens the split between them and the US, and prevents the Arabs from debating the pros and cons of the Soviet presence in the Middle East.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BELGIUM-FRANCE

Belgium has reacted sharply to French pressures to align the European Community behind what it considers an excessively pro-Arab Middle East policy. The US Embassy in Brussels was recently shown instructions to Belgium's embassies in Community capitals and Washington to consult with Community colleagues when faced with French political initiatives on Middle East questions. If the French persist in promoting "flagrantly" pro-Arab positions, Belgian diplomats are enjoined to seek Community support to isolate Paris. The Belgians believe that Paris broke a commitment to redraft in more balanced terms its UN Security Council resolution on 26 June condemning Israeli reprisal raids into Lebanon.

Friction between France and its Community partners over their endeavor to develop common policies toward the Middle East is not new. The Dutch have outspokenly opposed France's pro-Arab stance. Last year all five of Paris' Community partners were outraged when the French told UN Secretary-General Thant about a supposedly confidential position paper developed in the Community.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

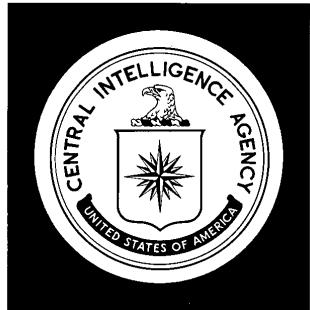
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Libya: Chief of State Qadhafi has not been seen in public since late last month when he returned from meeting with his Arab confederation partners, Presidents Sadat and Asad, deeply disillusioned by the lack of any decisions to end the stalemate in the Middle East. In venting his frustrations, Qadhafi apparently quarreled with Minister of Economics Jallud, a key member of the Revolutionary Command Council, over the formation of a new cabinet and threatened to give up his chairmanship of the RCC and his governmental posts. The temperamental Libyan leader in the past has frequently sulked in seclusion, but the absence of his signature on RCC decrees since 1 July and heavy patrols around RCC headquarters give evidence that a serious split may have developed in the council.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

25X1

[Redacted]
15 July 1972

46



~~Top Secret~~

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1),(2),(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese forces still are meeting strong enemy resistance near Quang Tri City. President Thieu is urging his commanders in the area to launch new attacks before the Communists gain enough strength to turn back the government offensive.
(Page 1)

	Vietnam	
	China	

25X1
25X1

(Page 2)

On *Page 3* we assess a shift in the North Vietnamese line at the Paris peace talks and Hanoi's intensified propaganda on alleged US bombing of dikes in North Vietnam.

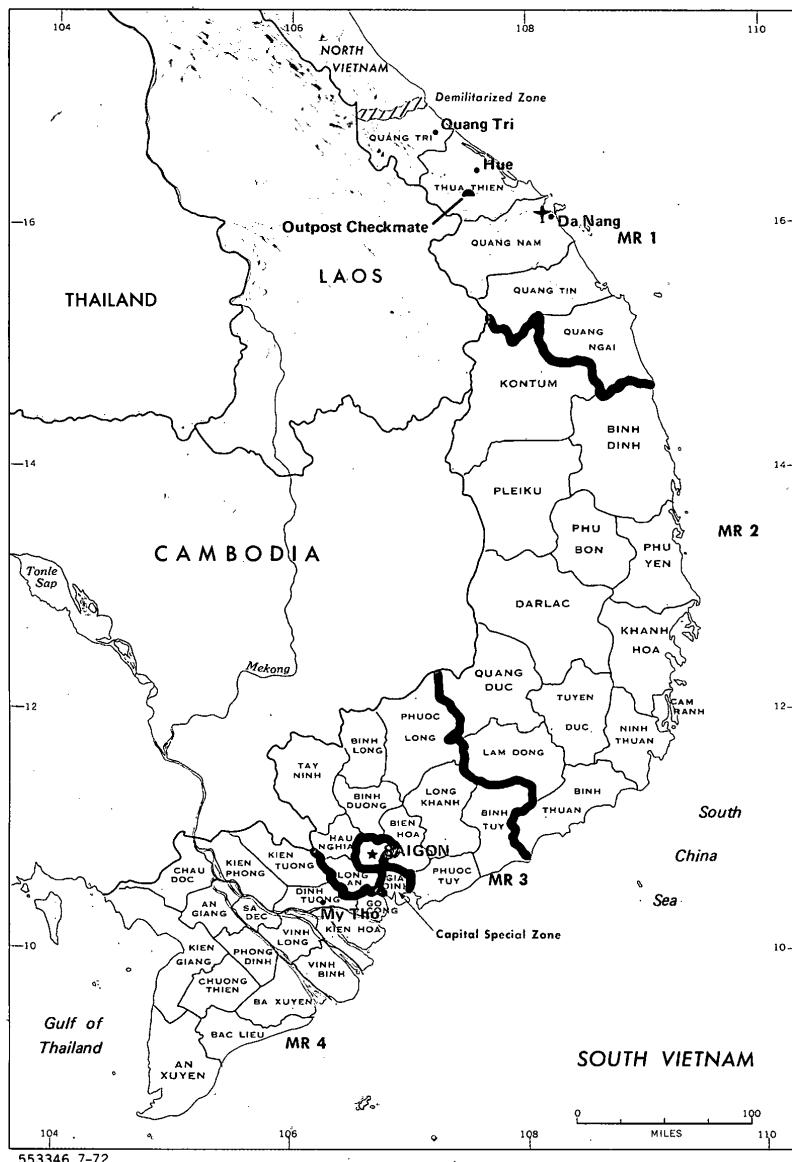
	India	

25X1
25X1

(Page 5)

At Annex, we discuss Philippine President Marcos' attempts to retain power beyond 1973 and Philippine attitudes on US interests in the islands.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553346 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Strong enemy resistance to the South Vietnamese push toward Quang Tri City continues. Airborne units have been engaged in street fighting on the southern edge of town.

[REDACTED]

Thieu believes there are signs that the enemy in Quang Tri may soon be strongly reinforced from North Vietnam, and he hopes to strike before the Communists can muster enough military strength to turn back the government offensive. Thieu stressed that his troops should not give too much attention to the reoccupation of Quang Tri City, apparently in the belief that the losses in an all-out assault on the city would be prohibitive.

25X1

Farther south in MR 1, heavy attacks against allied positions near Hue continue, and government forces have abandoned outpost Checkmate for the third time in two weeks. Armed clashes have increased in Quang Nam Province. In addition to the rocket attack of 13 July on Da Nang, a nearby refugee camp and government positions in five of Quang Nam's districts were shelled.

25X1

[REDACTED] the enemy plans widespread attacks in the province to relieve pressure on Communist forces in Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces.

25X1

In the Mekong Delta, enemy forces continue harassing actions in Dinh Tuong Province. My Tho was shelled early yesterday, and an ammunition depot less than a mile south of town was blown up. Several sharp engagements were initiated by government forces elsewhere in the delta.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA-VIETNAM



25X1

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

There was a definite shift in emphasis in the Communists' line at the Paris peace talks on 13 July and at their post-meeting press conferences. The Communists attempted to create the impression that they do not demand that the US become involved in settling the political future of South Vietnam, and that they will discuss this issue directly with the South Vietnamese following the withdrawal of US forces and the termination of US "political and military" support for the Saigon government.

The shift does not constitute a real concession on the Communists' part but seems designed essentially to outflank the US insistence that it cannot negotiate the political future in South Vietnam because this would infringe on the rights of the South Vietnamese people.

The Communists have generally maintained that the US must formally agree--at least in principle--to the imposition of a coalition government, and in fact talked at the session of 13 July about the need for a "parallel settlement" of political and military questions before a cease-fire could take place. Nevertheless, it has long been evident that the Communists would undertake to establish such a coalition themselves--with or without US agreement--if the nature of the US military withdrawal and termination of support to President Thieu allowed it. In Hanoi's view, the Saigon government would not last long without US arms and political backing.

* * *

Hanoi is intensifying its propaganda allegations that the US bombing is causing serious damage to the dikes in North Vietnam, which may lead to a catastrophic loss of life later this summer. A Foreign Ministry statement of 11 July, for example, asserted that the US had deliberately struck the dikes in order to weaken these systems so as to cause floods in North Vietnam with incalculable consequences. Other articles claim that dikes in at least five provinces have been damaged.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Hanoi has had the support of some friendly foreign newsmen. A Frenchman stationed in Hanoi has visited dikes that have been damaged and claims in his reporting that the damage was deliberate because there were no military targets nearby.

25X1

25X1

The North Vietnamese dike system is very elaborate; in some places the dikes tower as much as 50 feet above the surrounding land in order to protect the relatively flat terrain from the runoff of the heavy rains that amount to upwards of 11 inches per month in July and August. Water in the artificially constricted rivers in the Hanoi area has at times reached levels nearly 40 feet higher than the surrounding land. The depth and speed of the water creates tremendous pressure on the dike walls. A weakened dike can easily break and quickly lead to a major flood, causing serious damage to crops and loss of life, as happened last year when there was no bombing.

Hanoi is undoubtedly genuinely concerned about the effects US bombing could have on the country's dike system. North Vietnam's rainy season will reach its peak next month, and weaknesses in the dikes caused by last year's flooding have not been fully repaired. The fervor of Hanoi's propaganda concerning the dike damage, however, is certainly also designed to engender world sympathy for the North Vietnamese and to provoke an outcry against the US both at home and abroad. Hanoi seems to be trying to make the US responsible in advance for any breaks that might occur in the dike system as a result of its failure to shore up the walls.

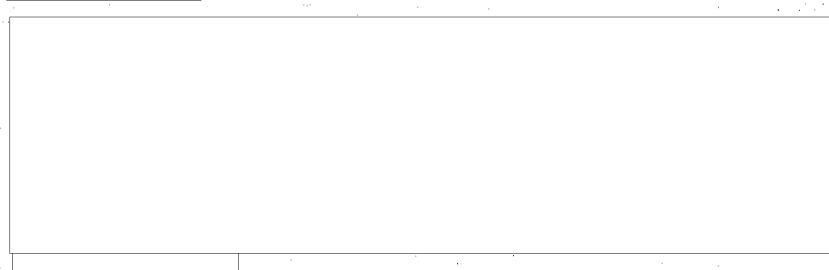
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

INDIA



25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

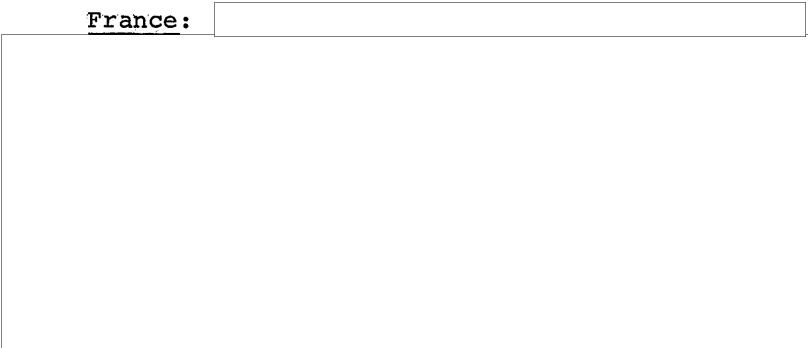


25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

France: 

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**PHILIPPINE POLITICS AND US INTERESTS**A
N
N
E
X

President Ferdinand Marcos has initiated a series of moves to try to retain political power after December 1973 when his second--and constitutionally his last--term expires. He is exploring three options: changing the constitution, ruling through a proxy, or declaring martial law. At the same time, he has tried to divert public attention from the palace's intrigues and the administration's shortcomings by making headlines in the area of foreign affairs, particularly by urging basic changes in US-Philippine relations.

Staying in Power

The main arena for Marcos' maneuvering is the Constitutional Convention, elected in 1970 to draft a "Filipino" constitution to replace the "American" document adopted in 1946. In session for a year already, the convention has had difficulty reaching substantive decisions, largely because the delegates would not commit themselves until Marcos made his own desires known. The logjam finally broke on 7 July when the convention accepted a draft resolution calling for adoption of a parliamentary form of government. Such a system would circumvent the two-term limit and enable Marcos to become prime minister without having to risk his fading popularity in a nationwide election, as he would under a presidential system.

Marcos still must hold together his delegate strength in the convention for two more ballots before the draft constitution is finally passed, however, and the final document must then pass a national referendum. If the electorate interprets a "yes" vote as a vote for continued rule by Marcos, the referendum could easily fail. Thus, if Marcos is too heavy-handed in getting the convention to pass a constitution to his taste, he increases the chances that the voters will reject it.

If his efforts to change the constitution fail, Marcos has indicated he will try to rule through a proxy--such as his wife Imelda, an ambitious woman who enjoys a small independent political base of her own. Marcos has some doubts about how much influence he could wield over his wife, but the two usually act alike politically, and they normally work effectively as a team. Another possible proxy is Vice-President Ferdinand Lopez [redacted]

25X1

25X1

(continued)

A1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Marcos has also been trying to mend fences in his own party. In order either to become prime minister or to rule by proxy, he would need strong party support, especially from the powerful political machine of the Lopez family. In May, Marcos sought reconciliation with the Lopez family after 18 months of bitter feuding. The feud had not only estranged Marcos from his vice-president, but also had subjected the President to the wrath of the family's extensive media chain.

If everything else fails, Marcos has a third option: rule by martial law. Although he does not seem to have a detailed plan in mind, Marcos apparently believes he could postpone elections scheduled for November 1973 by suspending the constitution and then continuing to rule through some quasi-legal formula. Marcos appears to be preparing the groundwork should this seem necessary. Over the past months, he has been appointing his own men to top military positions, and he apparently intends to retire the entire present high command by mid-1973, replacing them with generals considered amenable to martial law. He has been publicizing the threat posed by Communist insurgents in the countryside, in part to provide a rationale for martial law.

It seems doubtful, however, that Marcos will go this far. The Filipinos are accustomed to active participation in government and would be vocal in their dissent. And the army is neither large nor efficient enough to govern successfully in the face of a hostile populace. In addition, despite the command changes, the President may not be able to count on the army's support in a crisis.

Whatever Marcos decides to do, he needs more popular support. The setbacks he experienced in elections to the Senate last November clearly reflected widespread public disillusionment with his leadership. In recent months, domestic economic problems have further damaged the government's standing. Like other Philippine politicians before him, Marcos has found that talking tough to the Americans is good politics. Thus last month, with a bribery scandal threatening to destroy his credibility, Marcos grabbed the headlines by calling for a renegotiation of all US-Philippine military and economic agreements.

The US Issue

Marcos can exploit the "US issue" effectively because many political and business leaders believe the Philippines should get a better deal from the US.

25X1

A2

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

25X1

[Redacted]

In addition to wanting more money for the use of the bases, Filipino leaders believe that the bases are not contributing significantly to their country's security and that they are not necessarily good evidence of the US commitment to defend the islands. Many Filipinos view recent US contacts with Peking and Moscow as foreshadowing an intention to withdraw from Asia. In these circumstances, some argue that the Philippines must adopt a more independent foreign policy, while others favor a firmer US commitment to the country's defense.

Marcos is also beginning to focus public attention on US-Philippine economic relations. The underpinning for those relations, the Laurel-Langley Agreement of 1956, expires in 1974. Philippine businessmen would like to retain preferential treatment in US markets; the sugar barons in particular are loath to lose their guaranteed quota of the US market.

On the other side, an article in the Philippine constitution providing for special rights for US investors also expires in 1974. This, together with Laurel-Langley, allows US interests to invest, exploit natural resources, and operate public utilities in the Philippines. Some delegates to the constitutional convention have proposed a clause limiting foreign ownership of Philippine firms to 40 percent. Many Filipino investors believe that such a provision would enable them to buy into profitable US-owned business at cut-rate prices. A more immediate problem for US businessmen, however, is the question whether American vested rights already acquired expire in 1974, or whether the lapse of the article merely precludes future acquisitions.

The economic issues provide fewer political opportunities for Marcos because they arouse the populace less than the US military presence. At the same time, however, because they impinge on the vital interests of the Filipino elite, Marcos has somewhat less latitude than he enjoys in negotiating

A3

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

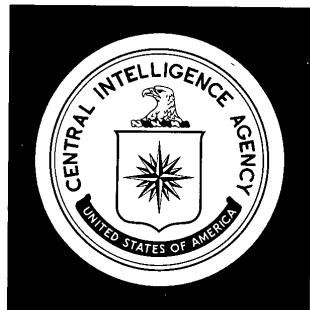
the military matters. Marcos apparently still believes that he can manipulate popular sentiment against the US bases, while in fact leaving the relationship with the US virtually unchanged. He took this line recently when he assured Ambassador Byroade that, public statements notwithstanding, he had no present intention of pressing for fundamental changes in US base and security agreements with the Philippines.

With his time running out, however, Marcos is going to find himself under increasing pressure to deliver on his public promises. He must improve his popular standing or he will find it difficult to extend his rule under any device.

A4

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

Sunday 16 July 1972

46

~~17 July 1972~~

~~Top Secret~~^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of F.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), 5D(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

25X1

[Redacted]

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

16 July 1972

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese forces pressuring Communist units near Quang Tri City are encountering stiff resistance and both sides have suffered heavy casualties. According to intercepted messages, the Communists defending the city and surrounding areas intend to continue fighting and to use all the firepower they can muster to repel the south's troops. Even antiaircraft artillery units have been ordered to use their guns against South Vietnamese tanks and infantry.

Farther south in Thua Thien Province, Fire Support Bases King, Birmingham, and Bastogne were attacked on 14 July, with only light losses to the South Vietnamese defenders. The city of Hue was also hit by artillery fire for the second day in a row.

Elsewhere in South Vietnam, there was only sporadic fighting, with most of the enemy attacks occurring in the Mekong Delta.

* * * *

According to radio direction finding, the 312th Division's 165th Regiment--noted moving south through the North Vietnamese Panhandle in recent days--has arrived in Quang Tri Province in South Vietnam. There are also signs that the rest of the 312th

(continued)

25X1

[Redacted]

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Division may be preparing to shift south. The division's headquarters and its 141st Regiment recently communicated with the military high command in Hanoi, an occurrence that frequently has meant the unit has been assigned a new mission and is preparing to move. A cessation in communications between the division and the senior military authority for southern North Vietnam has also been noted. This suggests that the 312th and its subordinate 141st Regiment may be leaving the country, possibly for northern South Vietnam.

The 312th Division returned home from northern Laos in early May, and has spent the past two months refitting in the area of Vinh. The division has had enough time to integrate replacements but insufficient time completely to rejuvenate all of its units for combat.

* * *

According to an intercepted North Vietnamese message of 13 July, at least eight infiltration groups are moving south through the North Vietnamese Panhandle. No strengths were noted in the message, but if the groups are normal in size, (about 500 men each), this movement could total several thousand men. All eight of the groups are heading for northern South Vietnam. Many of these personnel no doubt represent replacements for Communist units that have been taking heavy casualties in the fighting around Quang Tri City.

NOTES

USSR - North Vietnam: The Soviet official responsible for overseeing foreign aid programs, Deputy Premier Novikov, met with the North Vietnamese Ambassador in Moscow on 13 July. It was the first publicly announced meeting between the two since mid-May, and it could presage the announcement of a new supplemental aid accord. The Chinese and the North Vietnamese signed such an agreement on 29 June. The Soviets may have wanted to discuss with the North Vietnamese some new approaches for dealing with the Chinese about the transshipment of Soviet supplies.

(continued)

- 2

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

India - Pakistan: The Pakistani Army is reported to have begun withdrawing artillery and heavy equipment from the Wagah sector on the northeast portion of its border with India, and troops emplaced there are no longer camouflaged. The US Consulate General in Lahore believes this indicates the Pakistanis are beginning their withdrawal from Indian territory--as called for in the Simla Agreement--as well as pulling back troops within Pakistan from the border area. Wagah is on the main road from India to the important city of Lahore.

Libya: The Libyan government crisis has been resolved with Colonel Qadhafi still in control

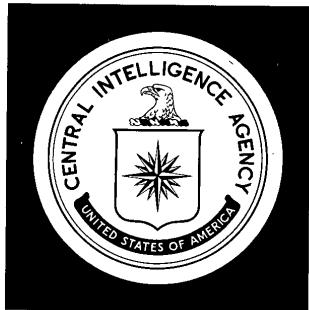
This crisis revolved around the formation of a responsible cabinet in Libya that conformed with those in Egypt and Syria, its sister confederation states. Qadhafi intended to abolish the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) in the process, thus arousing the fears of RCC members not included in the new political structure. A compromise plan was accepted, with the RCC being retained as a major policymaking body, between the new cabinet (as its executive) headed by Jallud and the new President, who will be Qadhafi. These changes may be announced by today, if the remaining minor problems are ironed out.

25X1

- 3

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

17 July 1972

25

25X1
~~Top Secret~~

Exempt from general
declassification because of P.O. 11652
exemption category 5(b)(1)/(2)(D)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

25X1

The Communists maintain heavy pressure on South Vietnamese units in Quang Tri Province [redacted]

25X1

(Page 1)

Libyan leader Qadhafi has survived another crisis, apparently with the help of Egyptian President Sadat.

(Page 3)

On Page 4, [redacted]

Cuba [redacted]

25X1 5X1
25X1

[redacted] Latin America.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

North Vietnamese 312th Division Preparing to Move



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

The Communists maintained heavy pressure over the weekend on South Vietnamese forces pushing toward Quang Tri City. According to intercepts, the Communists defending the city and the surrounding areas intend to continue fighting and are using all the firepower they can muster to repel the government troops. Communist units have been directed to concentrate heavy mortar and recoilless rifle fire on South Vietnamese helicopters as soon as they try to land. Even antiaircraft artillery batteries have been ordered to use their guns against South Vietnamese tanks and infantry.

In Thua Thien Province, the city of Hue was again shelled, but damage and casualties were light. There was only sporadic fighting in the rest of the country.

* * *

The 165th Regiment of the North Vietnamese 312th Division apparently has arrived in South Vietnam. Radio direction-finding of 15 July placed the regiment in central Quang Tri Province, approximately 50 miles south of its location on 11 July. The regiment's rapid deployment suggests that it will be committed to combat soon.

The rest of the 312th Division may also be preparing to move south. The division headquarters and its other two regiments have given indications in communications that they are about to move. The division has ceased communications with a senior military command in southern North Vietnam, which suggests that the division may be leaving the country.

The 312th Division returned to North Vietnam from northern Laos in early May and has spent the past two months refitting near Vinh. The division has had adequate time to replace its combat losses, but it is doubtful if sufficient time has elapsed for it to have restored all of its units to full combat effectiveness.

The 312th is Hanoi's last remaining uncommitted line division, (the 316th Division is still in north Laos), but there are several training divisions in North

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Vietnam that could be pressed into service if the leadership decided the need were sufficiently great. The deployment of the 312th to Quang Tri Province would bring to five the number of enemy divisions arrayed against government forces in that area. These divisions are supported by a number of independent infantry, artillery, and armor regiments. Most of these units have, however, taken heavy losses.

There are signs that replacement personnel are moving toward northern South Vietnam. According to an intercept of 13 July, at least eight infiltration groups have moved into the North Vietnamese panhandle. No strength figures were given in the intercept, but if the groups are about the same size as others that moved south this year, (about 500 men each), they could total several thousand troops.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LIBYA

A political crisis lasting two weeks has been resolved with the appointment of a cabinet composed mostly of civilians, but headed by Major Jallud, a leading member of the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC). The crisis arose because formation of the cabinet had been intended by Qadhafi as the first step toward the abolition of the RCC and the establishment of a Libyan political structure that would bring it into conformity with the governments of Egypt and Syria, its sister states of the Arab confederation.

25X1

25X1

25X1

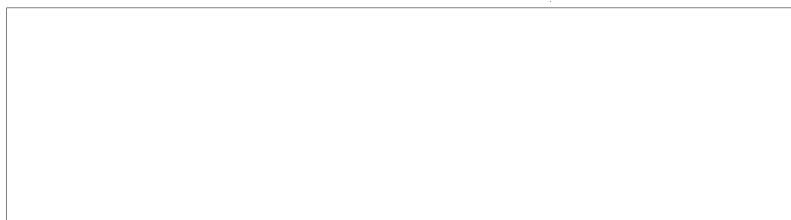
A compromise was arranged, apparently by Egyptian President Sadat, by which the RCC remains as the major policy-making body, with the cabinet as its executive. As president, Qadhafi will stay in over-all command. There were apparently other concessions to the RCC; instead of an all-civilian cabinet, this body includes Major al-Huni as Minister of Interior, and Qadhafi once again as Minister of Defense. Like Jallud, they are expected to keep their military ranks.

Seven of the 16 civilian cabinet ministers announced so far have served in a previous cabinet. Two of the new ministers--foreign affairs and planning--are seasoned professionals in their respective fields, who are taking over newly created ministries. Qadhafi formerly had personally handled foreign affairs.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

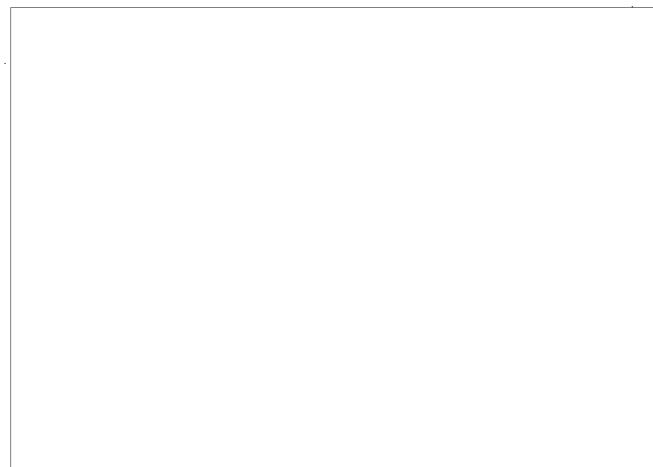
CUBA - LATIN AMERICA



25X1



25X1



25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR - North Vietnam: The Soviet official responsible for overseeing foreign aid programs, Deputy Premier Novikov, met with the North Vietnamese ambassador in Moscow on 13 July. It was the first publicly announced meeting between the two since mid-May, and it could presage the announcement of a new supplemental aid accord. The Chinese and the North Vietnamese signed such an agreement on 29 June. The Soviets may have wanted to discuss with the North Vietnamese some new approaches for dealing with the Chinese about the transshipment of Soviet supplies.

India-Pakistan: The Pakistani Army is reported to have begun withdrawing artillery and heavy equipment from the Wagah sector on the northeast portion of its border with India, and troops emplaced there are no longer camouflaged. The US Consulate General in Lahore believes this indicates the Pakistanis are beginning their withdrawal from Indian territory--as called for in the Simla Agreement--as well as pulling back troops within Pakistan from the border area. Wagah is on the main road from India to the important city of Lahore.

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

18 July 1972

45

[Redacted] *Top Secret* 25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule by E.O. 11652
exemption category 8B(1)(D)(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] Egypt.

25X1

25X1

(Page 1)

The heavy fighting around Quang Tri City has temporarily subsided. There is some evidence, however, that the North Vietnamese are bringing in new forces on the government's western flank in order to attack or block government forces in the rear. (Page 2)

The North Vietnamese may have begun minesweeping near smaller port areas south of Vinh. (Page 3)

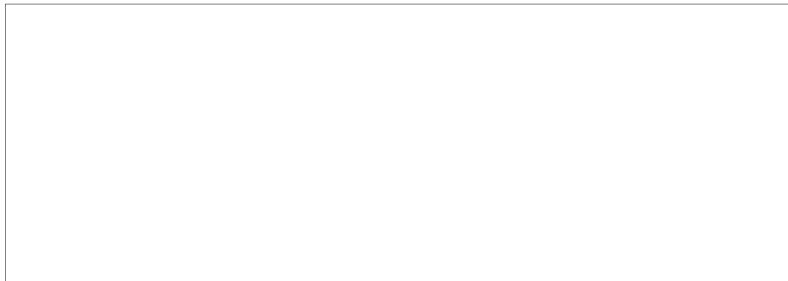
In Laos, the Communists appear to be pulling additional troops away from the Plaine des Jarres.
(Page 4)

The Soviets have given Chile \$260 million in long-term credits for the purchase of machinery and other capital equipment. (Page 5)

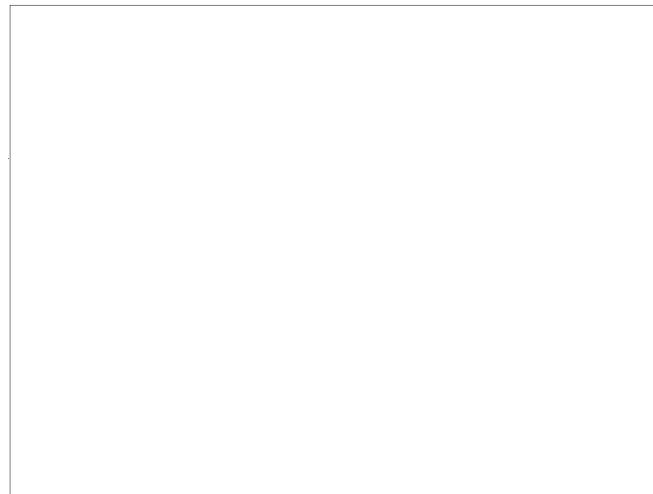
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

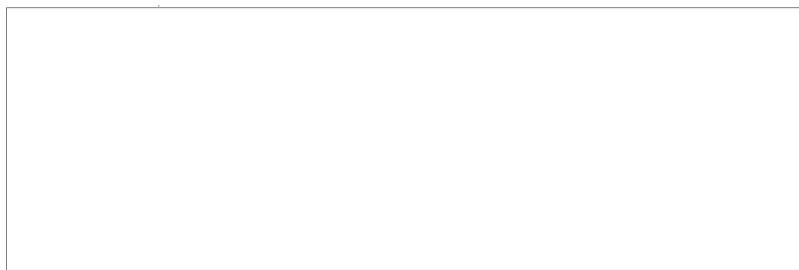
EGYPT-USSR



25X1



25X1

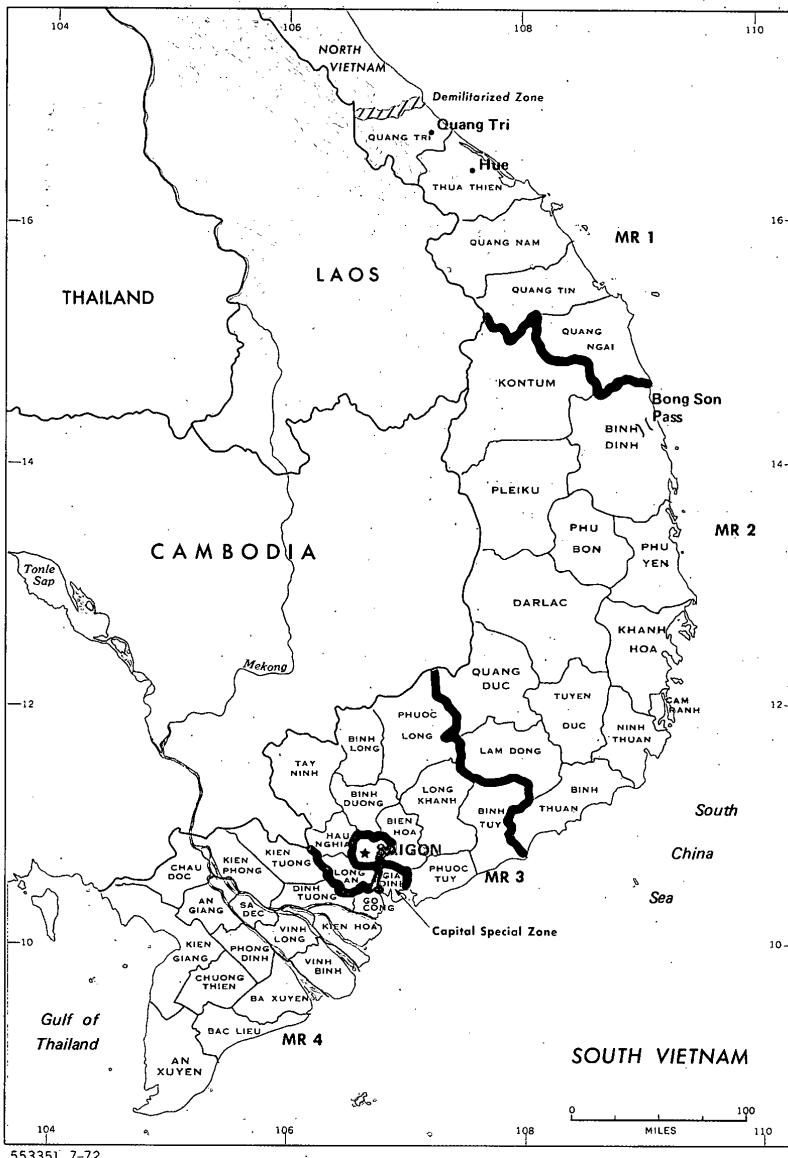


25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553351 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

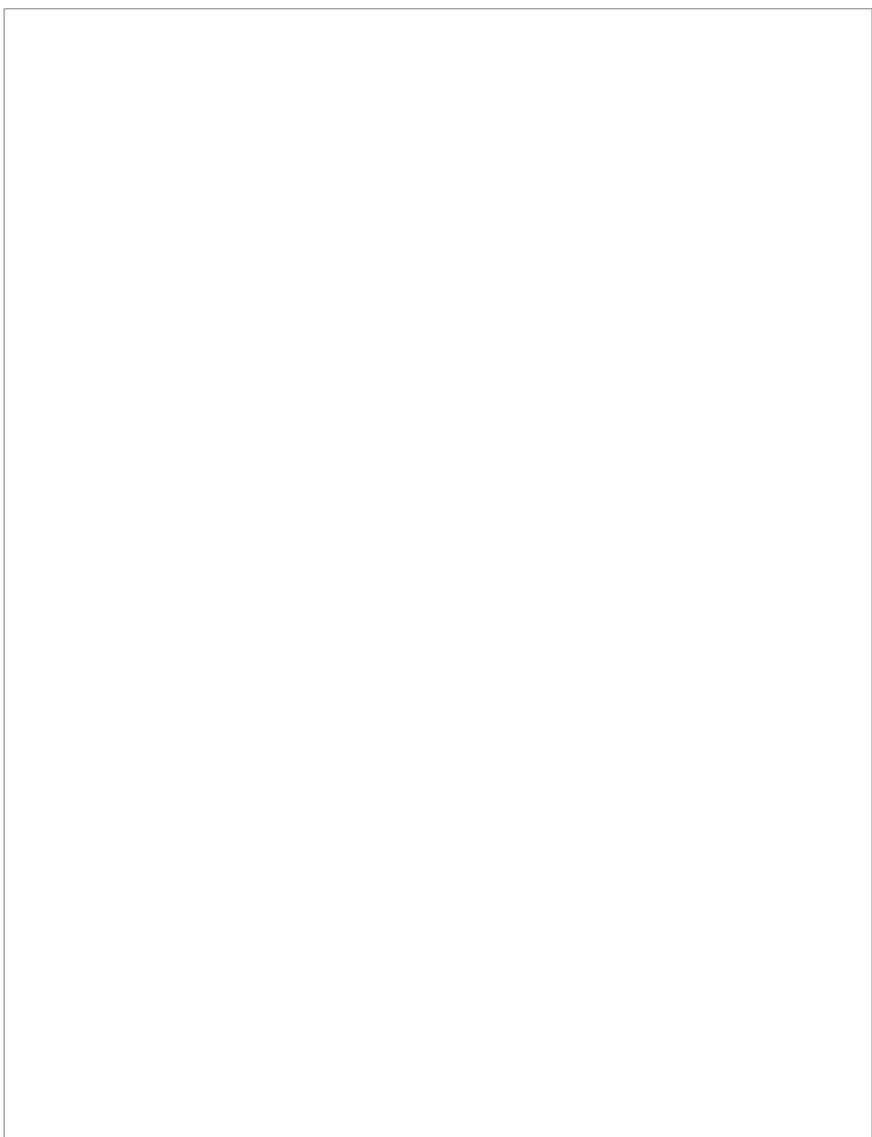
VIETNAM

The heavy fighting around Quang Tri City has temporarily subsided, but both sides appear to be preparing for a sustained contest throughout the area. Only small clashes northeast and south of the city have been reported since the weekend, presumably because government forces currently are trying to consolidate their positions and push deeper into the province rather than merely effect a rapid recapture of the city itself. The Communists are relying primarily on intensive artillery and mortar fire to slow the government drive, directing almost 1,000 rounds at government positions on Sunday.

There is some evidence that the North Vietnamese are bringing in new forces on the government's western flank in order to attack or block government forces in the rear. Following their recent infiltration, the 95th Regiment of the 325th Division and the 165th Regiment of the 312th have bypassed the city and moved to the central part of Quang Tri Province. In this same area there are also elements of two other divisions--the recently identified North Vietnamese 320B and the 308th. A number of intercepts have stated that the Communists plan to strike the South Vietnamese from the rear. One message ordering forces within Quang Tri City to hold out for at least a month implied that these troops were to tie down the South Vietnamese until forces on the outside could attack.

The Communists may also be planning actions farther south to try to disrupt the government counteroffensive. A regiment of the 324B Division has recently been detected moving closer to Hue, where it may add to the pressure on government defenses along the western approach to the city.

The preliminary phase of a new government operation into northern Binh Dinh Province--designed to recapture the three districts lost earlier in the offensive--is meeting only light resistance so far. Government troops reportedly have occupied sections of the Bong Son Pass and have freed large numbers of refugees. The bulk of the enemy action against government forces has consisted of local force attacks of limited duration. This suggests that Viet Cong units in the area currently are charged with holding off the operation until main force units farther north can be refitted and resupplied.



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

Since the activation of mines in North Vietnamese waters in early May, no minesweeping operations have been observed in the deep water ports of Haiphong, Cam Pha, and Hon Gay. Beginning ten days ago, however, US naval units on three occasions have reported underwater explosions at smaller port areas some 75 miles south of Vinh, particularly near Hon La Island, and the explosions seem likely to have resulted from minesweeping.

25X1

25X1

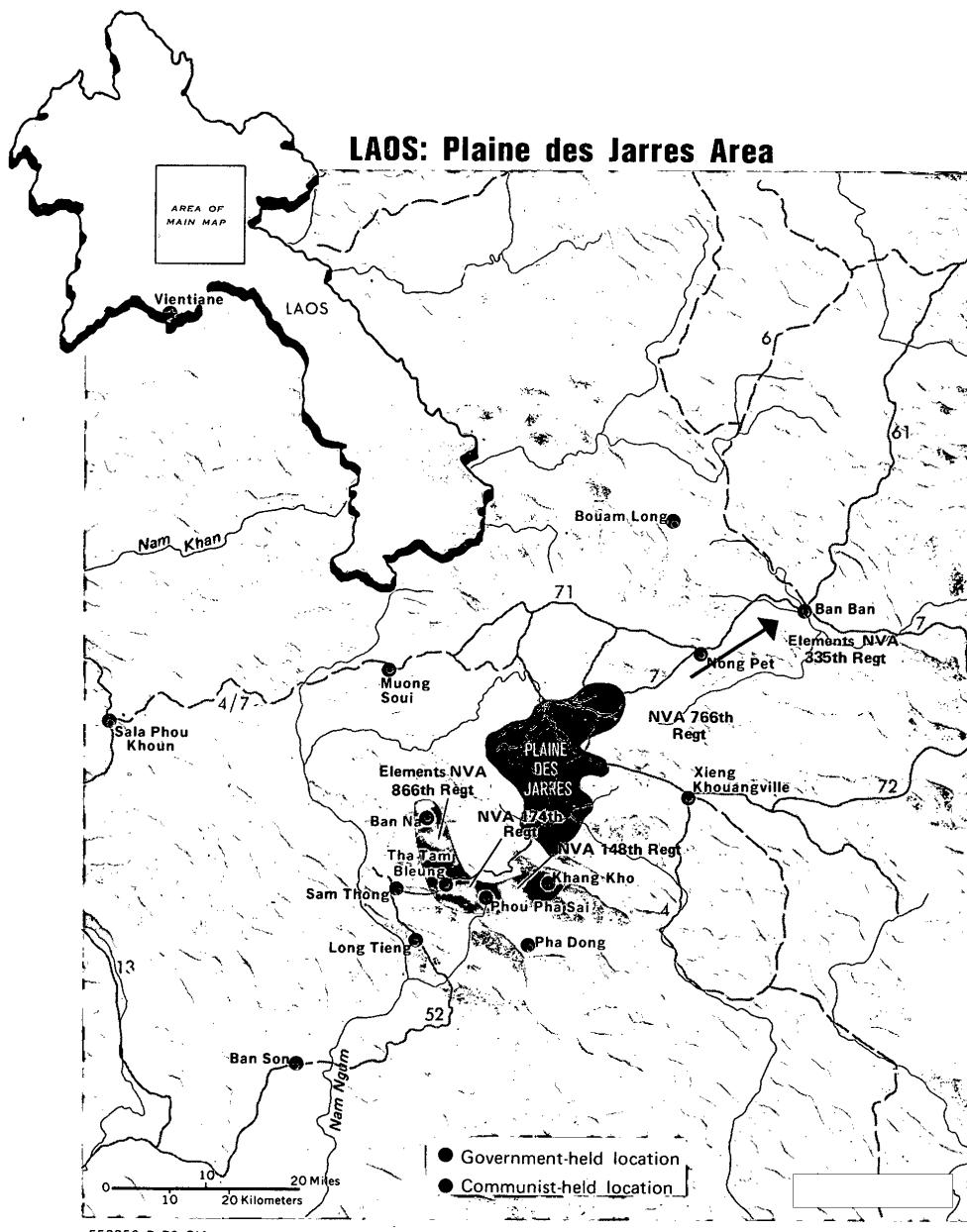
25X1

25X1

25X1

An intercept in mid-June offered the first indication that the enemy might intend to clear the mines. At that time Hanoi's General Directorate of Marine Products (responsible for administering the fishing fleet) advised subordinate units operating between Vinh and the DMZ of a meeting to be held on 27 June to discuss destruction of the mines, among other subjects.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

553352 7-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The North Vietnamese apparently are pulling additional troops away from the Plaine des Jarres. Communications intelligence indicates that major elements of the 335th Regiment have moved from the hills on the northern periphery of the Plaine to the Ban Ban area.

The Communists may be shifting their forces to afford better protection to their rear storage areas near Ban Ban from forays by Vang Pao's irregulars. The regiment could, however, be returning to North Vietnam. Its communications patterns are similar to those it used when it withdrew from the Luang Prabang area to North Vietnam a year ago. The North Vietnamese may plan to use the regiment as part of a reserve combat force to replace units currently moving toward South Vietnam.

If the 335th withdraws, the North Vietnamese will have only four infantry regiments to defend the Plaine des Jarres area, one less than they used in last year's rainy season. The Communists are now strongly resisting Vang Pao's efforts to expand government-controlled territory around Long Tieng, but the withdrawal of the 335th would indicate that they have not set a high priority on holding the Plaine throughout the rainy season.

The departure of the 335th, especially during the current rainy season when the government normally makes territorial gains, could also mean that the Communists are hoping to arrange a stand-down in military operations in the north in the coming months. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-CHILE

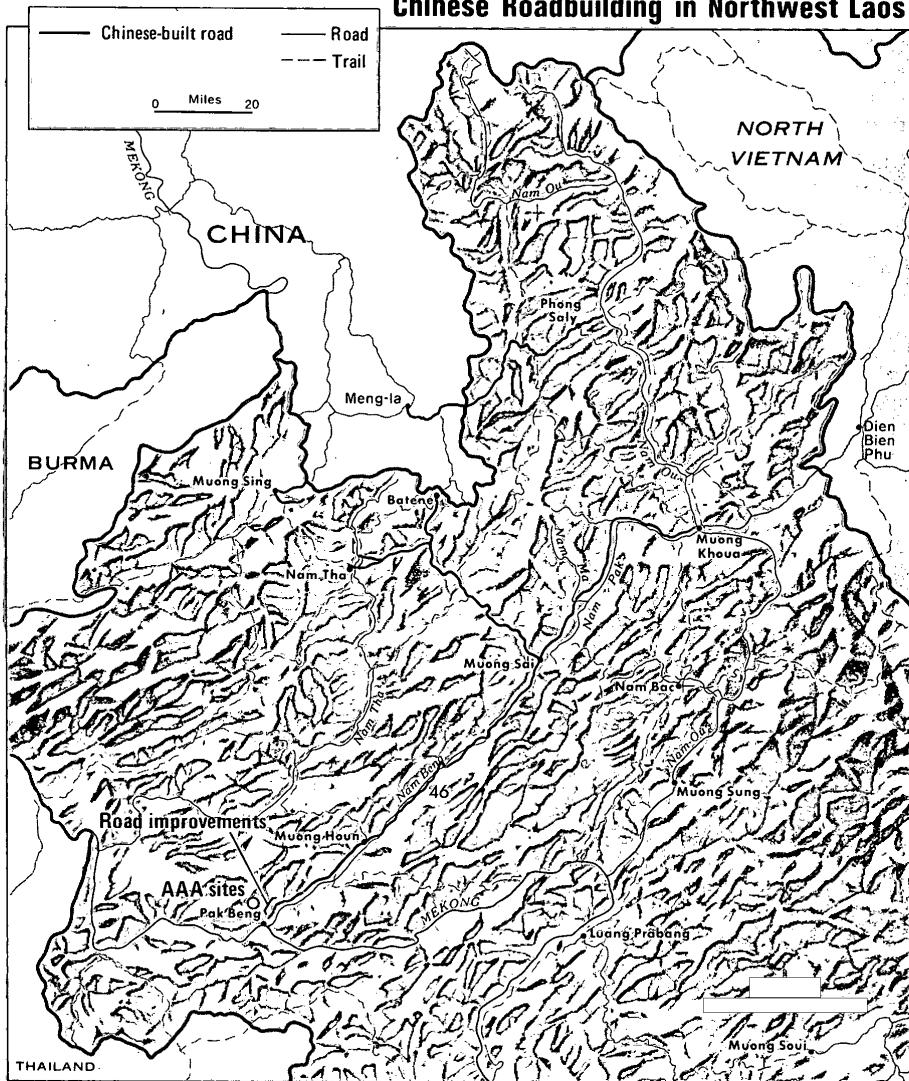
Moscow has given Santiago \$260 million in long-term credits for the purchase of machinery and other capital equipment. At the same time, the USSR and the other East European countries have provided \$40-50 million to finance current trade.

Announcement of the new credits follows by only a month the receipt of a \$65-million credit from China. The new assistance represents substantial Soviet support for the Allende government.

Moscow's previous assistance to Chile was limited to a \$50-million short-term hard currency credit and two long-term credits totaling \$97 million for project assistance and machinery exports. Although the long-term credits were provided in 1967 and 1971, the Chileans have just begun to draw on them.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Chinese Roadbuilding in Northwest Laos



25X1
25X1

553350 7-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Laos: The Chinese are making improvements to Route 46 between Muong Houn and Pak Beng. Photography of 8 July shows that they are building bridges and are widening and realigning the road. They have also built three antiaircraft weapons sites on the hills outside of Pak Beng, the road's terminus on the Mekong River. We have no evidence that the Chinese are preparing at this time to extend road construction eastward from Route 46 into the Nam Ou River Valley, although they did some survey work there during the past dry season. No appreciable progress was noted on the other major road construction project near the Sino-Laotian border between Muong Sing and Nam Tha.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

Sensitive
19 July 1972

45



Top Secret 25X1

Exempt from general
declassification under E.O. 14176
exemption category 5B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

19 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Cairo's semiofficial newspaper, al-Ahram, appears to be hedging on President Sadat's announcement that Soviet military personnel must leave Egypt. The Soviets have not yet reacted publicly to Sadat's announcement. (Page 1)

South Vietnamese troops inside Quang Tri City are edging closer to the Communist strongpoint in the citadel. (Page 3)

25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

Several hours after President Sadat publicly insisted that Soviet military personnel leave Egypt, the semiofficial Cairo daily al-Ahram appeared to be hedging on the extent of Cairo's demand. Al-Ahram said that Soviets engaged in training the Egyptian armed forces are not affected by the decision. Al-Ahram asserted that Egypt is eager for the provisions of the Egyptian-Soviet treaty of friendship and co-operation to remain in force.

In his speech yesterday before the Arab Socialist Union's Central Committee as summarized by the Egyptian news agency, however, Sadat announced he had made three important decisions. Sadat said that as of Monday he had terminated the services of Soviet military advisers and experts in the country and had replaced them with Egyptians. He had also ordered the Egyptian military to take over exclusive control of all installations and equipment established since the June 1967 war, apparently an allusion to important Soviet facilities in Alexandria, Mersa Matruh, and Aswan. Finally, Sadat said his actions were taken to facilitate consultations on a "new stage" in the Soviet-Egyptian relationship, although he insisted that he had no intention of altering basic cooperation between the two countries.

The theme of Sadat's speech--which followed that of a current series of articles by al-Ahram editor Muhammad Haykal--was that Egypt requires complete freedom of action in dealing with Israel. Sadat alluded to disagreements with Moscow on the supply and control of Soviet weapons and said he could not accept restrictions on Egypt's ability to make its own political decisions. He observed that Egypt had no desire to have "friendly advisers" fight Egypt's battle, and he implied that by taking over equipment and missions controlled by the Soviets he would free the Soviet Union from authority and responsibility for Egypt's future actions.

The number of Soviet military personnel currently in Egypt is estimated at about 13,000.

25X1

(continued)

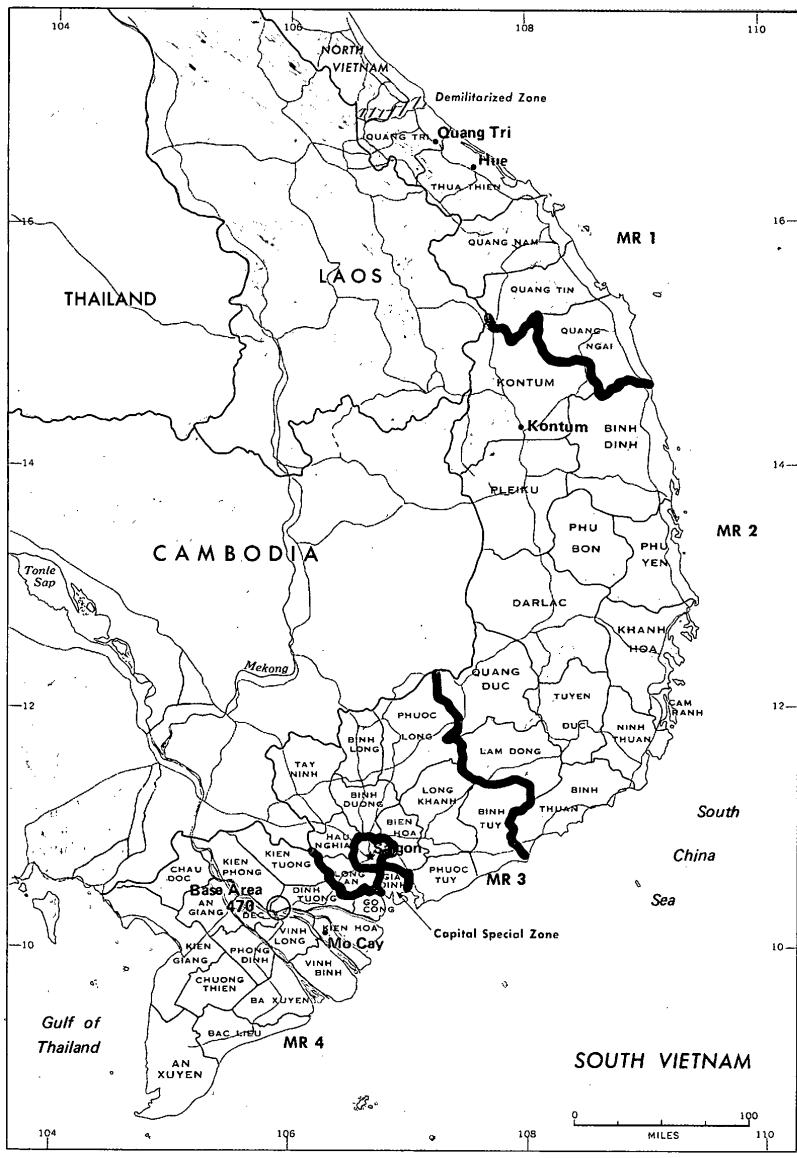
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The Soviets have become accustomed to Sadat's surprise moves, but these latest steps may have caught them off guard. The communiqué winding up Prime Minister Sidqi's recent visit to Moscow for example, carried no hint of the new direction that Sadat had chosen.

There has been no public reaction thus far from the Soviets, who may be waiting until they can be certain which forces must leave Egypt.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553356 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

South Vietnamese Airborne troops inside Quang Tri City are edging closer to the citadel, the Communist-held strongpoint in the city's northern section, but Communist resistance is stiff. On the city's northern outskirts, other airborne troops pushed back a tank-led enemy infantry force after an eight-hour battle early yesterday. Other government units, including airborne and marines to the east of the city, report continued enemy shelling but only light ground contact.

Scattered action has been reported elsewhere. Hue was again hit by rockets. In Kontum Province, Communist forces northwest of the provincial capital attacked a South Vietnamese Army patrol--their first such action in that area in two weeks.

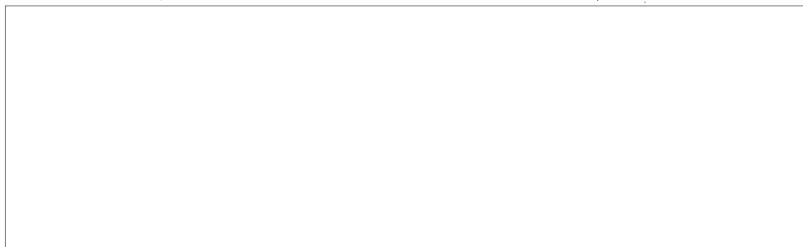
A prisoner has claimed that a North Vietnamese unit is tasked with holding back government units while other Communist forces complete their withdrawal from Kontum. We believe that the attacking forces were elements of this unit.

In the Mekong Delta, increased enemy activity continues in Kien Hoa Province. A government outpost just south of Mo Cay district town was destroyed by a mortar and ground attack. Farther west in the delta, an element of the North Vietnamese 32nd Regiment has been detected near the enemy Base Area 470 in western Dinh Tuong Province. The 32nd may have been brought in to aid other Communist forces that have been attempting to expand the base area and secure surrounding lines of communication.

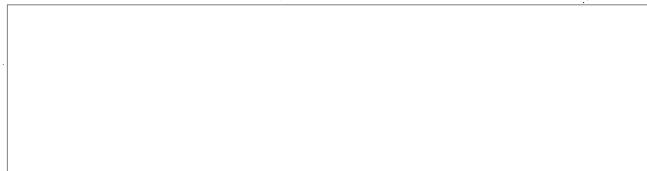
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

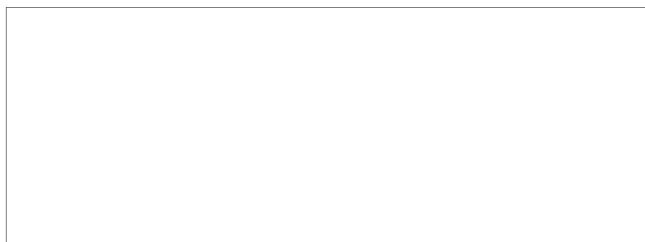
USSR



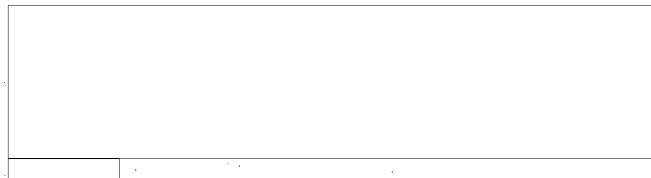
25X1



25X1



25X1



25X1



25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

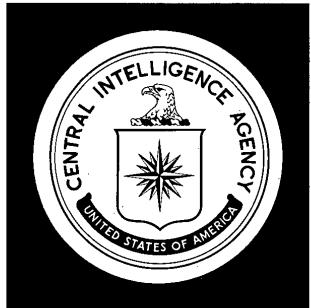
Romania: A national party conference, the second since Nicolae Ceausescu became party chief in 1965, opens today in Bucharest. We expect the conference to be a relatively low-keyed affair, with discussion focused on the economy and educational reform. As in the case of the last conference in 1967, we expect some high-level personnel shifts in party and state agencies but Ceausescu will remain in firm control.

China:

25X1(1)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

20 July 1972

47



Top Sec^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification pursuant to E.O. 11652
exemption category 3B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

25X1

Moscow has confirmed the recall of Soviet military personnel from Egypt.

25X1

25X1

(Page 1)

Ground fighting tapered off in Quang Tri Province yesterday, but there are indications that the Communists are preparing for an attempt to disrupt the South Vietnamese attack on Quang Tri City. North Vietnam apparently has embarked on a policy of harsh treatment for captured American pilots. (Page 3)

The Chinese

25X1

North Vietnam

25X1

(Page 5)

25X1

The USSR is making another major purchase of grain from Canada which, together with other recent purchases, may double its imports in the next year.
(Page 6)

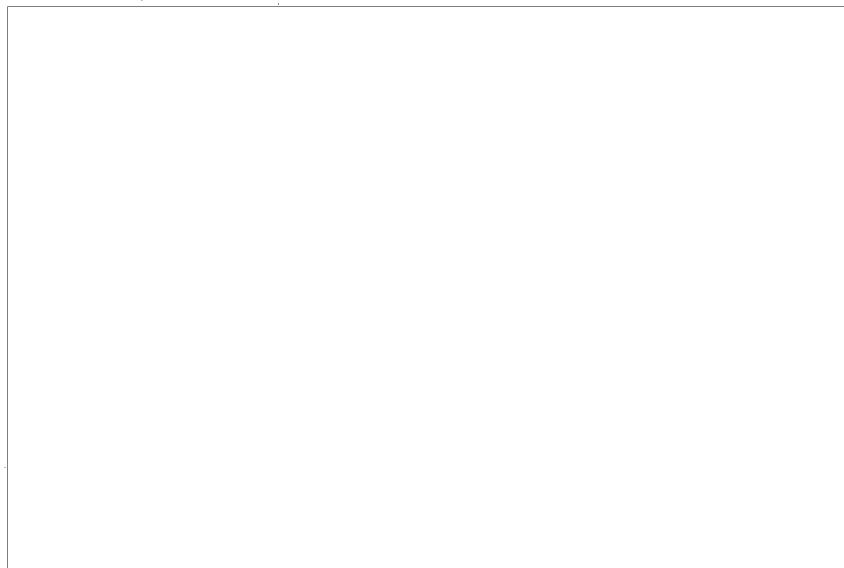
Finland's minority government resigned yesterday rather than accept responsibility for signing the economic arrangement that had been worked out with the EC. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

Moscow has confirmed the recall of Soviet military personnel from Egypt. In language associating the USSR with President Sadat's decision to terminate the Soviet military advisory presence, TASS yesterday announced that Soviet instructors and advisers in Egypt had "completed their functions" and would "shortly return" to the USSR. Moscow explained that these forces were intended to remain in Egypt for only a "limited period" and that, following an exchange of opinions, both sides had "deemed it expedient" to bring them home. Thus the Soviets have chosen conciliatory language in order to minimize the damage both to their prestige and their presence in Egypt.



25X1



25X1



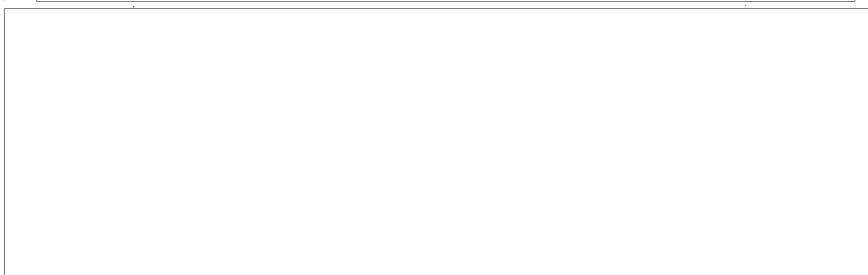
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

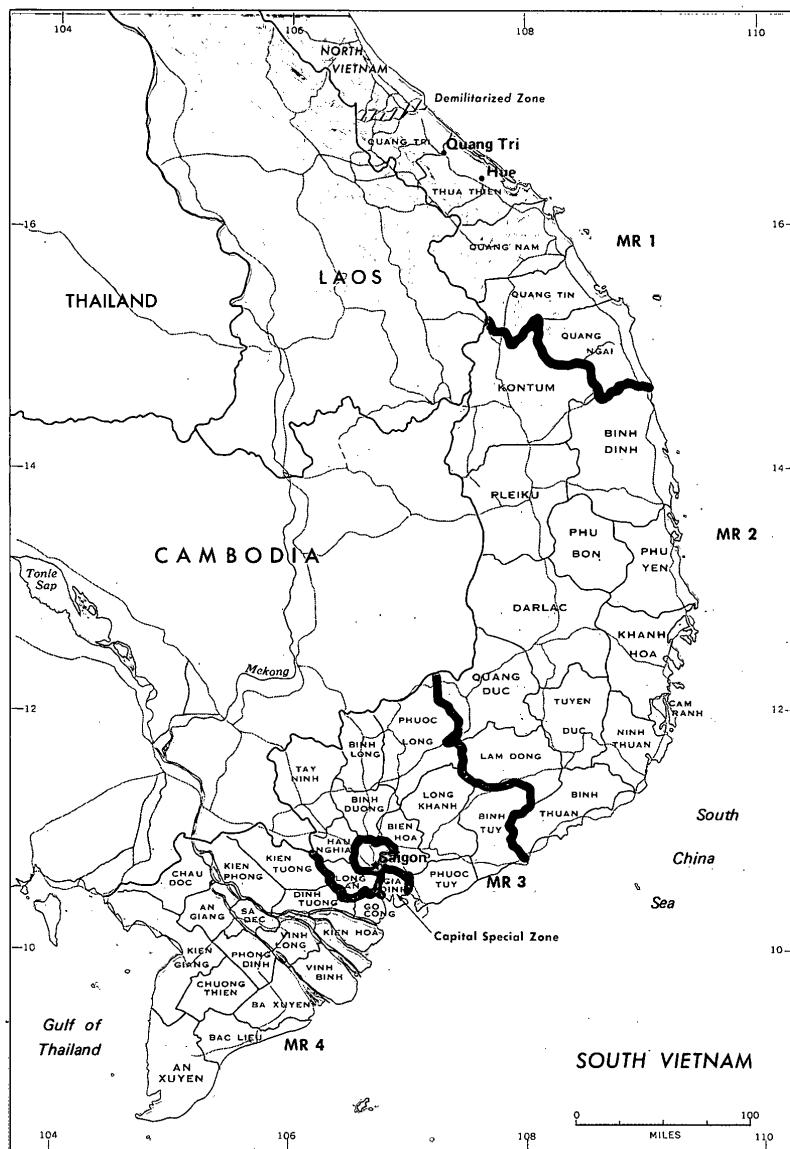


25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553362 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Ground fighting tapered off in Quang Tri Province yesterday, but Communist shellings increased. The heavier shellings suggest that enemy artillery units in Quang Tri have regrouped and have been resupplied. Recent troop movements and reconnaissance activity west of Quang Tri City indicate that the North Vietnamese are preparing to strike South Vietnamese forces on their flank to disrupt their attack on the city.

Two more elements of North Vietnam's 312th Division have moved farther south toward the DMZ. Radio direction-finding of 19 July placed the division headquarters in northern Quang Binh Province and one of its regiments in the central part of the province.

These two units appear to be following close behind another regiment from the 312th that crossed the DMZ into South Vietnam a few days ago. The two elements are in staging areas only a few days march from the DMZ and could cross into northern South Vietnam with little warning.

* * *

It appears that North Vietnam has embarked on a policy of harsh treatment for captured American pilots. According to an intercept of 18 July, the headquarters of an enemy radar regiment located near Quang Khe, about 60 miles north of the DMZ, told subordinate units that "the crew of any B-52 shot down will be annihilated along with the crew of any A-6 aircraft." The action was touted in the message as a "reprisal" against the US for its "clandestine" attacks on North Vietnamese dikes and would also serve to raise the "hatred" of the populace toward the US.

The latest enemy instruction concerning captured pilots follows directives to kill American prisoners that were intercepted on 5 and 6 July from Communist units in Quang Tri Province of South Vietnam. The message of 5 July claimed that two pilots from an F-4 aircraft were executed on the previous day, while the second intercept contained instructions to a North Vietnamese air defense unit in Quang Tri Province to "kill the ten Americans." These killings were apparently done in haste by units withdrawing to avoid allied combat operations.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

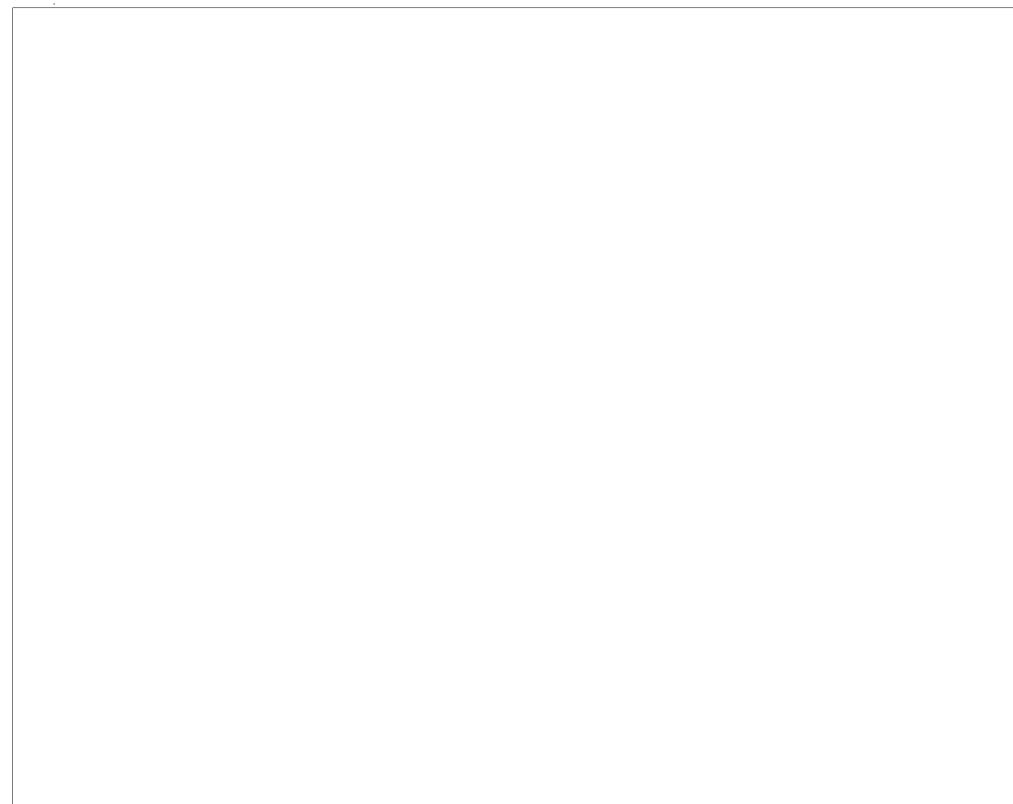
* * *

Hanoi has issued a labor mobilization order under which all able-bodied citizens must register and be available for state-directed tasks. This mobilization order--which is similar to decrees issued during the 1965-68 bombing period--lays the groundwork for the rapid call-up of labor as needed to cope with current problems and future emergencies. For several weeks, government officials have expressed anxiety about coping with the effects of heavy bomb damage to the transportation system, the condition of the dike system, and possible recurrence of last year's disastrous floods.

Efforts to repair bomb damage or to meet a new flood crisis could require the enlistment of several hundred thousand workers. During the 1965-68 period, some 400,000 people throughout the country were engaged in repairing damaged bridges, railroads and highways. While such an effort would create some temporary labor shortages, the over-all labor force--nearly ten million people--is large enough to meet such a demand. Much of the mobilized labor would come out of the seven million agricultural labor force, a segment of the economy which traditionally has surplus labor at various times in the planting-harvesting cycle. Such a slack period will begin in a few weeks.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA - NORTH VIETNAM

25X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Moscow is making another major purchase of grain from Canada. The deal calls for delivery during the next 12 months of 1.5 million metric tons of Canadian wheat and 200,000 tons of barley.

This purchase is in addition to the 3.5 million metric tons of Canadian wheat contracted for in February, and follows closely the big contract to buy US grain over the next three years.

25X1

[redacted] four million tons of wheat and five million tons of corn worth \$500 million have already been bought under the \$750-million US pact for delivery by mid-1973.

25X1

Soviet imports during the next 12 months may double and reach a total of 15 million tons, making the USSR a large net importer of grains for the first time since the disastrous harvests of 1963 and 1965. In the past 12 months the Soviets apparently balanced their grain trade, importing about eight million tons while exporting a similar amount to Eastern Europe and other client states. Despite increased demands due to crop damage in Eastern Europe and new commitments to countries such as Bangladesh and Chile, we expect exports to be more than offset by the increase in imports. The net imports will be used mainly to increase meat production.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

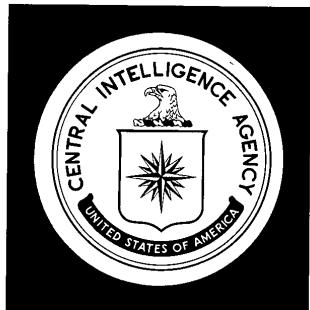
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Finland-EC: The minority Social Democratic government resigned yesterday rather than accept responsibility for signing the economic arrangement that had been worked out with the EC. Prime Minister Paasio based this move on his belief that "only a majority government" should take action on this controversial issue. Finland, along with five other West European countries, was to have initiated the agreement today, as a step toward formal signing on 22 July. The Finnish parliament had been expected to ratify the agreement this fall, barring Soviet opposition. Although Moscow has shown some understanding for Helsinki's need for economic ties with the EC, it remains leery of their possible political implications and presumably welcomes Paasio's hesitation.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

21 July 1972

46

Top Sec^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification pursuant to E.O. 11652
exemption category 3B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

21 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Soviet withdrawal from Egypt will include at least some operational units as well as advisers.
(Page 1)

South Vietnamese troops have cleared the road from Saigon to An Loc, but to the north, the enemy is attempting to cut Route 1 behind South Vietnamese units attacking in Quang Tri Province. *(Page 3)*

Sirik Matak is reconsidering his earlier rejections of the vice-presidency of Cambodia. *(Page 4)*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

[redacted] the Soviet withdrawal from Egypt will include at least some operational units as well as advisers.

25X1

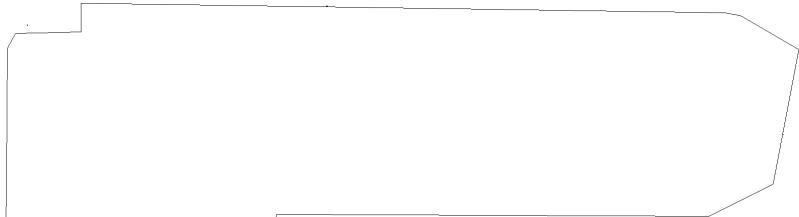
25X1

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

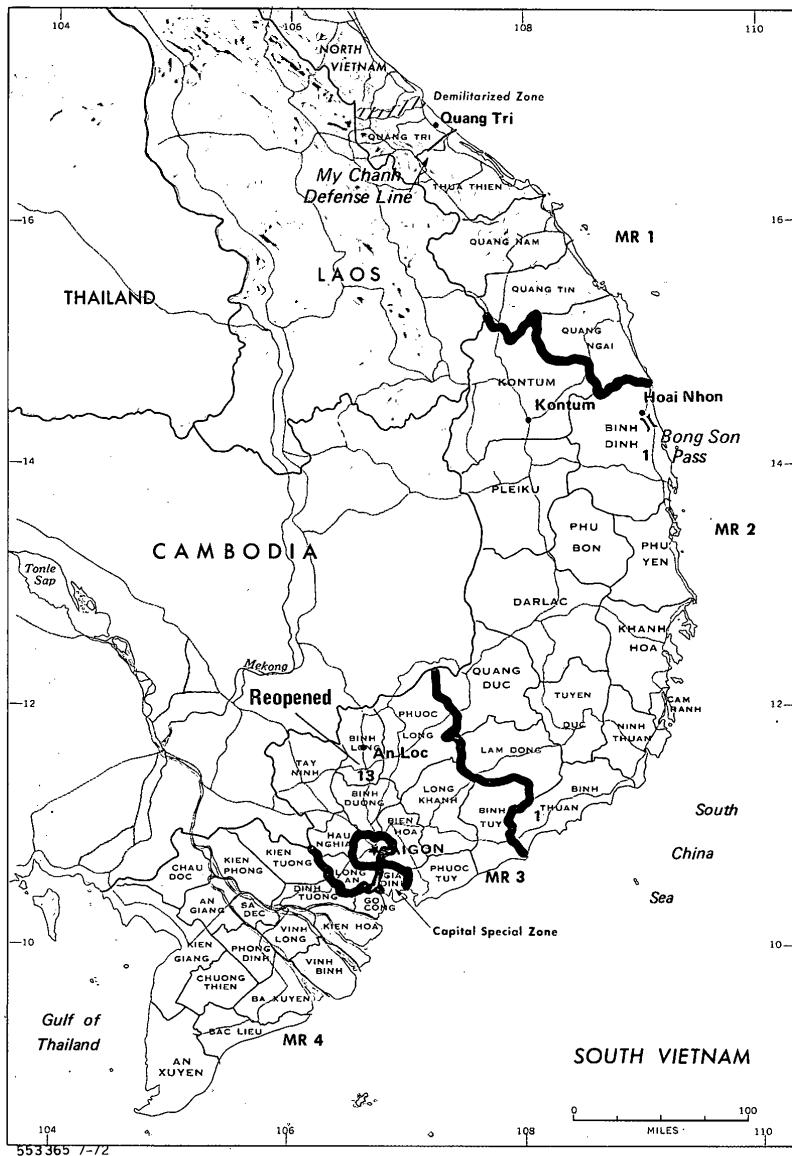
* * *



According to press reports, some personnel and dependents have already left on civil aircraft.

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Elements of Saigon's 25th Division yesterday cleared the last of the Communist blocking forces from Route 13 south of An Loc. The government plans to send a convoy up the road today. Route 13 had been closed since 5 April, and efforts to open it had been repeatedly frustrated by well-entrenched enemy troops.

In coastal Military Region 2, the government counteroffensive into the northern districts of Binh Dinh Province is proceeding against only light enemy resistance. South Vietnamese Army troops and tanks moved through the Bong Son Pass and according to late press reports, reoccupied Hoai Nhon district town without a fight.

Fighting around Quang Tri City is still at a reduced level, although enemy artillery continues active. An enemy battalion is said to have attacked government troops on the My Chanh defense line near Route 1, well south of Quang Tri. This area has seen little combat activity since the South Vietnamese offensive began on 28 June, but recent intercepts have indicated that the Communists intend to attack South Vietnamese forces in Quang Tri from the rear. One message referred to shifting some units closer to Route 1 and to making a "strong assault behind" the advancing government forces. Another noted that in the event of a South Vietnamese retreat, "we have units blocking Route 1."

In the highlands, a South Vietnamese Army unit probing northwest of Kontum City was attacked and suffered losses of more than 100 killed, wounded, and missing. This is the second such attack in this area in three days by an enemy force we believe has the mission of screening the withdrawal of other Communist forces from the Kontum battlefield.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

President Lon Nol has again offered Sirik Matak the vice-presidency [redacted]

25X1
25X1

[redacted] Matak had turned down earlier offers because he believed that the office would be powerless, but this time Lon Nol promised him his unqualified support and said that the vice-president would in effect serve as "president delegate." He even offered Matak the authority to pick a new cabinet and prime minister, but stated that his current offer would be the last he would tender.

[redacted]
25X1

In view of his first-hand experience as Lon Nol's deputy, Matak probably harbors reservations concerning the worth of Lon Nol's promises to delegate authority. Nonetheless, the vice-presidency would give Matak a significant advantage over potential rivals in a bid for power in the event that Lon Nol dies or is incapacitated by another stroke. [redacted]

25X1
25X1
[redacted]
25X1

The vice-presidential appointment will be made immediately following the National Assembly elections on 3 September. Matak may try to defer a decision as long as he can in order to protect his own power base. Should he accept immediately, he could well undermine the electoral chances of his newly organized Republican Party. He would also hurt his standing among Lon Nol's other opponents.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

22 July 1972

45



~~Top Secret~~
25X1

Exempt from general
declassification pursuant to E.O. 11652
exemption category 5K(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

25X1

In South Vietnam, fighting around Quang Tri City remains relatively light, but the Communists appear to be trying to increase activity on the government's western flank. (Page 2)

The Soviets are continuing early phase test launches of their new large ICBM. (Page 3)

The Cuban leadership has issued a central committee resolution indicating dissatisfaction with some key Soviet policies. (Page 4)

Chile

225X1

(Page 5)

The Soviets have now responded favorably to King Husayn's request to visit Moscow. (Page 6)

At Annex, we discuss the dike bombing issue.

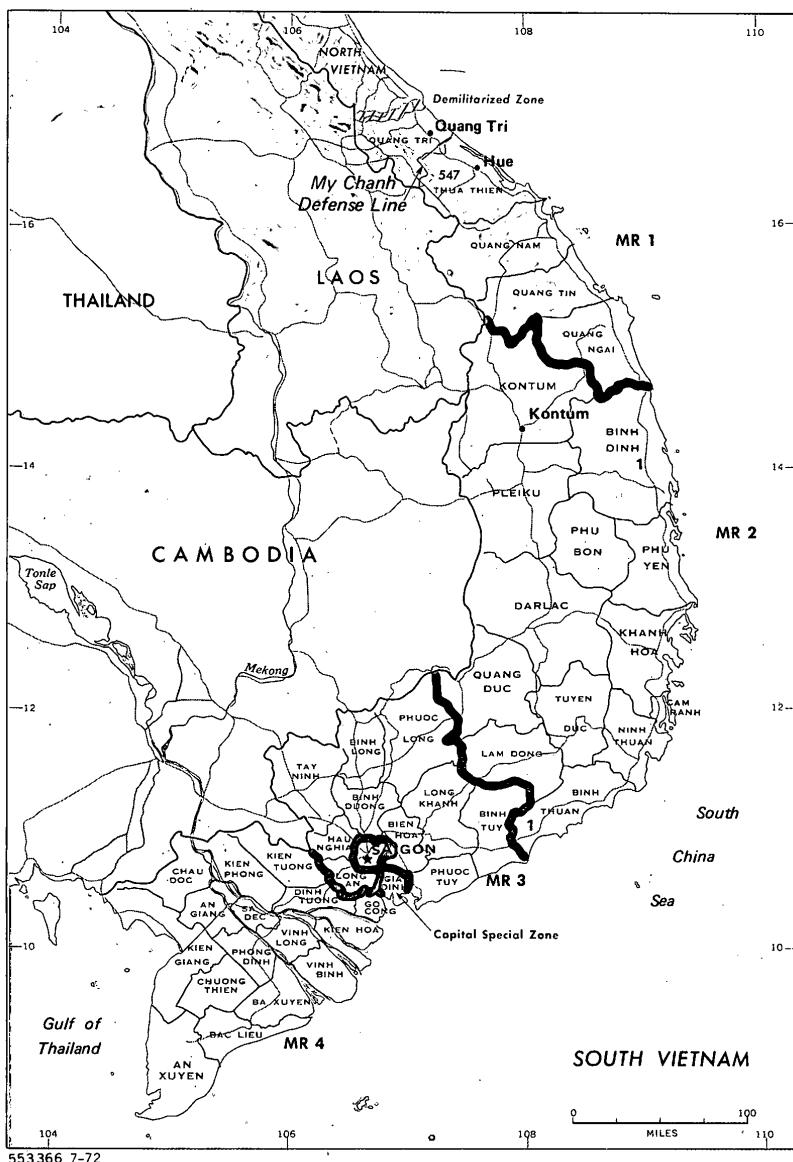
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese Airborne and Marine forces report only scattered ground contacts with enemy troops in the vicinity of Quang Tri City, but the Communists are continuing to shell government forces. The Communists are maintaining pressure on government positions along Route 1 just below the My Chanh River. Two enemy prisoners, captured just before these attacks began,

25X1

[redacted] have been assigned the mission of interdicting Route 1 along the Quang Tri - Thua Thien provincial border. Other elements of this division have been active west of Route 1 and just north of the My Chanh River.

Intercepts indicate that all three regiments of the enemy's 324B Division are now west of Hue. The messages order division elements to coordinate prior to a "coming heavy mission," suggesting that the enemy plans increased action against government positions along Route 547, the main road into Hue from the west.

In coastal Binh Dinh Province, the government drive to retake the northern three districts, which has been moving ahead on schedule, may soon face stronger opposition. A North Vietnamese regiment is apparently moving to join two regiments of the Communist 3rd Division that are already in northern Binh Dinh.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

25X1

ILLEGIB

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

The latest satellite photography of Tyuratam shows more missile debris in the complex used in test launchings of the USSR's new large ICBM.

This photography gives us fresh evidence that early phase test launchings of the new missile are continuing. There now have been several such tests since late last year, and in each instance, the missile apparently was destroyed immediately after lift-off. If this phase of testing has proceeded satisfactorily, firings from Tyuratam to the Kamchatka Peninsula could begin at any time. About two years of flight testing will be required before the missile is ready for deployment. We believe the new ICBM could be equipped with MIRVs and that it will be installed in the new large silos currently under construction at five SS-9 complexes.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CUBA

A carefully worded resolution on Fidel Castro's recent trip issued by the Communist Party central committee indicates that the Cuban leadership is less than satisfied with certain key aspects of Soviet policy. The choice of the central committee to make the statement--the committee has met only twice since 1965--indicates that Castro wishes to emphasize the unity of the Cuban leadership as well as the importance of the statement.

Havana's major problem is with Moscow's policy of detente with the US. The resolution states that the "struggle against imperialism" must be "based upon the full awareness that imperialism's apparent cooperation with any truly revolutionary process is deceptive and false in the long run."

Havana's displeasure is primarily linked to what it views as a lack of Soviet support for North Vietnam. The resolution declares that victory in Vietnam requires "international solidarity" and points to the statements on Vietnam made by Fidel during his trip. In Poland, for example, he affirmed that "today Vietnam is the supreme test of proletarian internationalism...the supreme test of the principles of Marxism-Leninism." Although the Cuban leader may be genuinely concerned with the fate of Vietnam, he is even more concerned over its possible implications for Cuba's security.

The resolution also hints that Havana is upset over Soviet attempts to press Cuba into more orthodox economic policies in exchange for increased economic assistance. It asserts that assistance from socialist countries is a "moral right" of those nations "where truly revolutionary changes are being made."

Despite his displeasure, Castro has few alternatives to continued close cooperation with Moscow. Cuba is almost totally dependent on the Soviet Union, and we do not foresee that Fidel will attempt to alter this relationship significantly at this time.

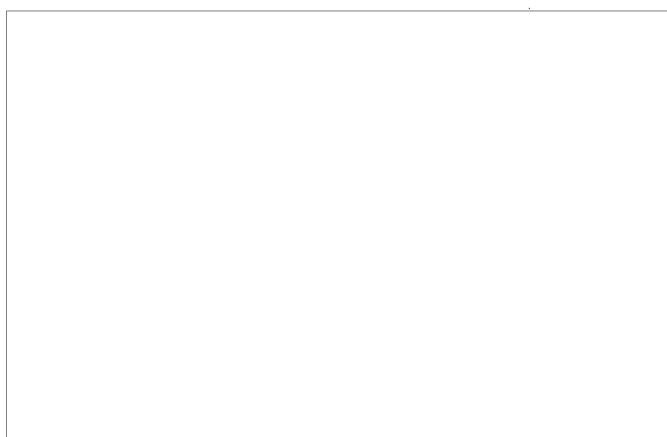
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

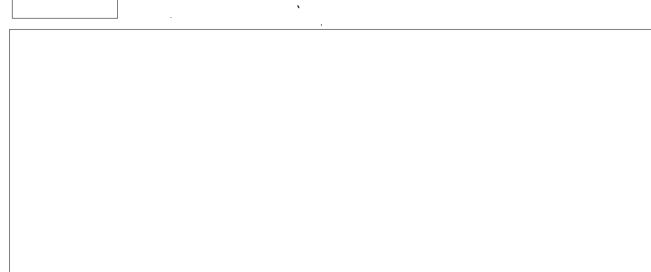


25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Jordan-USSR: After several months of temporizing on King Husayn's request to visit Moscow, the Soviets on 19 July informed the Jordanians that they will be delighted to receive the King at any time. Husayn originally had hoped to persuade the Soviets to support his West Bank federation proposal, which he put forth last March, but the acrimonious Egyptian and fedayeen reaction to his plan apparently forced the Soviets to put off his trip. The timing and apparent urgency of the response, in the aftermath of events in Egypt, may well foreshadow additional Soviet efforts to shore up relations with the other Arab states.

Iraq: Satellite photography of 9 July shows four SA-3 missile sites around Baghdad. Equipment for these sites was seen at Rashid Airfield near Baghdad last April, but this is the first time operational SA-3 sites have been observed in Iraq.

25X1

Laos: Lao Communist leader Souphanouvong's latest message to Prime Minister Souvanna contains no new proposals for settling the war. The letter refers to earlier Communist proposals and repeats the Communist line that any progress toward a settlement depends on a US bombing halt throughout the country. It does not rule out, however, additional preliminary contacts between Souvanna and Souk Vongsak, the Communists' envoy.

Thailand: The appointment of Field Marshal Thanom as supreme commander of the armed forces has been extended for one year. This will delay other changes in the top leadership and postpone significant changes in Thailand's internal and foreign policies. The extension, the second granted Thanom since he reached the retirement age of 60 last year, indicates that the deputy chairman of the ruling National Executive Council, General Praphat, still lacks sufficient popular support to move into the number one spot. The intense rivalry between Thanom's and Praphat's supporters, which tends to have an immobilizing effect on government operations, is likely to continue.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Panama: Foreign Minister Tack told Ambassador Sayre on Wednesday that a new negotiating position on the Canal is ready for final review by General Torrijos. Tack plans to bring it to Washington himself, and his past comments suggest that he wants to discuss it with Secretary Rogers.

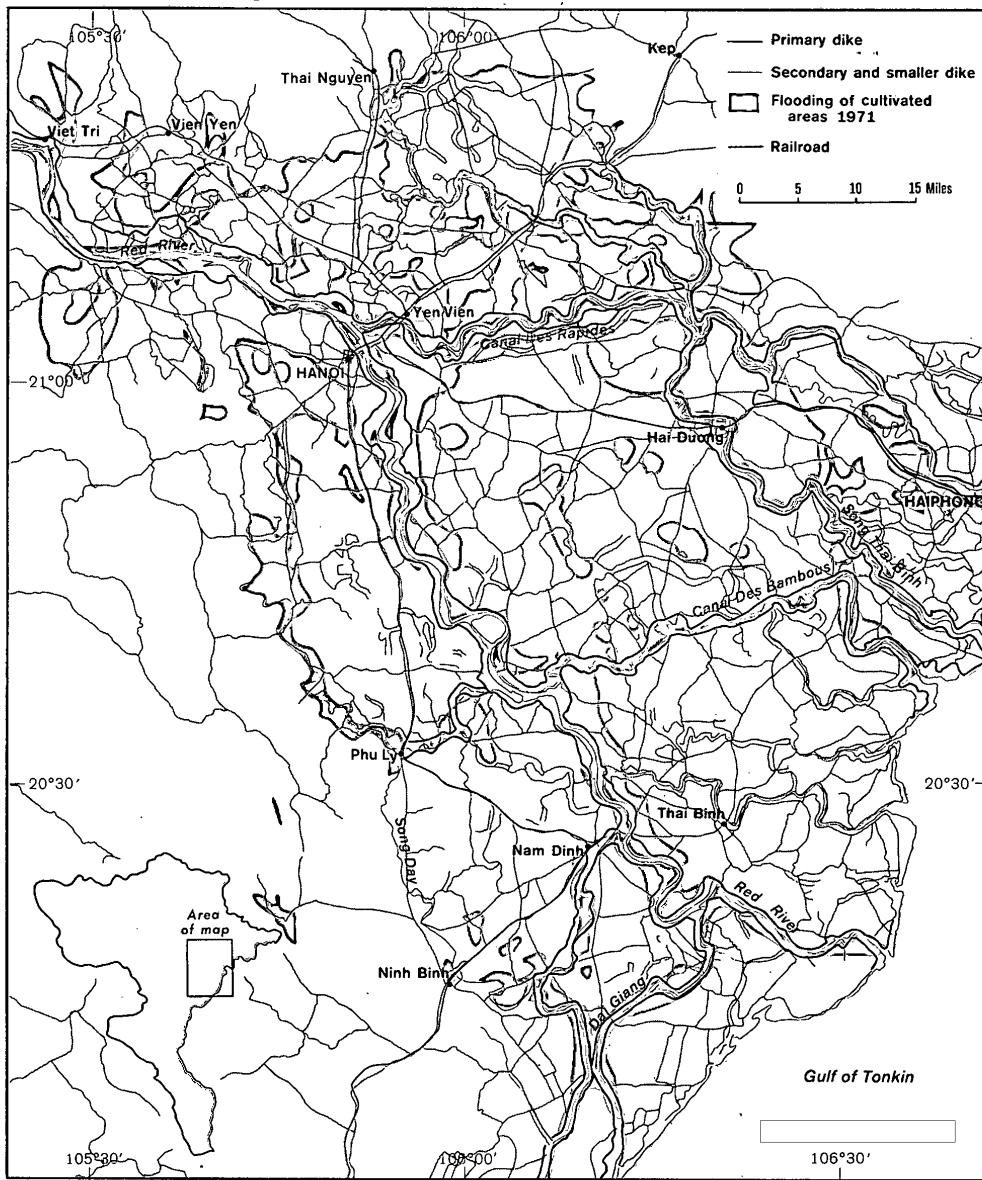
25X1

25X1

7
100-18000
100-18000
100-18000

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

North Vietnam Water Control System



25X1

553367 7-72 CIA



Example of cratering near Hai Duong

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

A
N
N
E
X

NORTH VIETNAM: THE DIKE BOMBING ISSUE

Since the early weeks of the US air interdiction program, Hanoi has tried to convince the world that North Vietnam's elaborate dike system of water control is a direct and deliberate target of US bombing. We now have photographic coverage of the Red River Delta as of mid-July which enables us to assess Hanoi's claims. It provides evidence of scattered and inconsequential damage done by bombs directed at nearby military targets, but in no case of serious or deliberate attack.

North Vietnam's Water Control System

North Vietnam's elaborate network of dikes, dams, and locks controls the water of the heavily populated Red River Delta. The delta farmland depends on irrigation during the dry months and is endangered by flooding in the wet months. The country's major transportation waterways--the Red River, the Thai Binh River, and the connecting Canal des Rapides and Canal des Bambous--link the principal urban centers. Fertilizer, foodstuffs, petroleum, and other commodities are moved, in part, by these waterways, as is the coal mined in the Hon Gai and Cam Pha areas. Southern North Vietnam also contains rivers necessitating a dike and lock system for water control and navigation, but the system is less important than that of the delta.

Dikes to control flooding and the course of the waterways are most fully developed along the Red River. The Red River system begins near Viet Tri, only 43 feet above sea level, although about 100 miles inland. The great amount of silt brought down from the mountains and deposited along the river beds in the delta has raised the waterways above the surrounding countryside in many places and requires a constant elevation of the restraining walls. In some areas--particularly around Hanoi--the height of the dikes reaches 40 feet. Some are as broad as 80 feet at the flood line and spread to 200 feet at the base. A secondary system between 4 and 22 feet high running parallel to the main dikes is designed to localize and minimize damage if the primary dikes are breached. A tertiary system of smaller dikes divides the rice-growing plains into compartments, assists irrigation, and controls the level of small streams and local waterways. In addition, small natural or man-made dikes along the coast keep out brackish sea water.

(continued)

A1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Dams and locks play a lesser role. Only a few large dams are constructed of concrete with gates to permit passage of watercraft, and only one major waterway in the Red River Delta has navigation locks to control water levels and facilitate transport.

Recurring Floods

The rivers rise to a seasonal peak during July and August, when unusually heavy rains frequently cause breaches in the levees. Extensive floods and destruction to property and agricultural crops result. Although there have been only a few major breaches since the mid-1940s, minor breaks occur almost every year.

The floods of last August rank with the most serious ever recorded. Four major breaches occurred in the primary dikes along the Red River. An estimated 1.1 million acres of rice land--a quarter of the country's rice acreage--were seriously flooded and the entire crop in that area destroyed. Storms took out a half-mile section of a levee outside Hanoi and closed the railroad north to Dong Dang. The area of heavy flooding continued to expand through late September, probably because prolonged soaking and high water pressure had undermined the secondary dike systems.

Apart from immediate rice losses, the floods produced extensive longer term physical damage. The enormous force of water unleashed through breaches in the primary dikes caused widespread erosion far beyond obvious scouring effects near the breaks. Long stretches of irrigation canals were cut, and the press reported many washed-out pumping stations. Flood water everywhere deposited silt in drainage ditches. The prolonged inundation during the floods may have caused subtle undermining of the primary dike systems that will not show until late this summer. The possibility that the dike system has been weakened thus adds to this year's flooding threat.

Resiliency of the System to Bombing

North Vietnam's water control system includes a large number of widely dispersed individual components which could be substantially affected only by a large-scale, coordinated air offensive. Such attacks would be necessary against specific locks, dams, and dike areas, and bomb damage would have effect only during the relatively short periods of high water. Even then, the North Vietnamese, long accustomed to battling against floods, could be expected to act promptly to mend breaches in the system.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Damage to the locks would have little effect on either North Vietnam's transport or its water control systems. Inland craft could be diverted to waterways not dependent on locks, and some cargoes could be sent by the many alternative land routes. Accidental bomb damage during the 1965-68 period made some locks inoperative, but had little effect on water transport or flooding in the area. Similarly, breaching of dams, even during periods of high water, would not cause significant disruption because most are small and easily repaired.

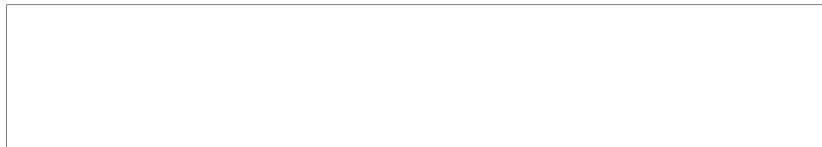
Dikes are particularly resistant to bomb damage. Those in the primary system could be breached only by a series of overlapping craters across the entire top of a dike, and the lips of the craters would have to be sufficiently lower than the river surface to initiate the flow and subsequent scouring action of water rushing through the breach. The dikes along the Red River near Hanoi are approximately 80 feet wide at the flood line.

Hanoi's Claims Versus Actual Damage

North Vietnam's official press agencies and radio services have repeatedly described alleged US bombing attacks on the dike system. In April and May, the North Vietnamese made more than 40 specific allegations, and on 30 June the official press quoted the Deputy Minister of Hydraulics as saying that 20 bombing attacks had been made on dikes during that month. Foreign diplomats, newsmen, and, most recently, actress Jane Fonda have been escorted to dikes to view damage--most of it around Hai Duong, southeast of Hanoi.

A detailed examination has been made of photography of mid-July of the North Vietnamese Red River Delta. No flooding has been identified resulting from bombing. Dikes cratered by bombs were detected at 13 locations, four of which were just north of Hai Duong. None of the damage has been in the Hanoi area, where destruction of the dikes would result in the greatest damage to North Vietnam's economy and logistics effort. Nearly all the damage has been scattered downstream from Hanoi, as well as downstream from the areas of major breaks resulting from the 1971 floods. Most craters are on primary dikes, with the others on the secondary system.

25X1



A3

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Because a large number of North Vietnamese dikes serve as bases for roadways, the maze they create throughout the delta makes it almost inevitable that air attacks directed against transportation targets cause scattered damage to dikes.

25X1

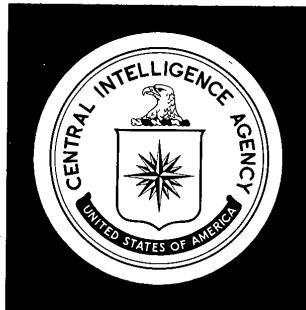
There are no signs of destruction of vital dike portions stretching to a length of several kilometers--as reported by Hanoi-based newsmen. In comparison to the dikes, the craters are small, and no flooding has occurred as a result of the damage. Although water levels are not yet at their highest, the absence of leakage through the craters indicates that damage was limited.

The bomb craters verified by photography can be repaired easily with a minimum of local labor and equipment--a crew of less than 50 men with wheelbarrows and hand tools could repair in a day the largest crater observed. Repairs to all the dikes could be completed within a week, as the necessary equipment is available throughout the delta. Local labor historically mobilizes to strengthen and repair dikes to avoid serious flooding. An occasional bomb falling on a dike does not add significantly to the burden of annual repair work normally required. North Vietnam must, however, complete the repair of damage caused by the 1971 floods before next month when this year's rainy season will reach its peak.

A4

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

24 July 1972

45

~~Top Secret~~^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of D.O. 11652
exemption category 3B(1)(2)(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet surface-to-air missile personnel are apparently part of the forces being returned from Egypt to the USSR.

25X1

(Page 1)

In the Vietnam fighting, enemy activity increased sharply over the weekend in both Thua Thien and Quang Tri provinces. (Page 3)

25X1

Vietnam
(Page 4)

25X1

Lao Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma's two-month struggle with rightist elements in the national assembly may be moving toward a showdown. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

Soviet surface-to-air missile personnel are apparently part of the forces being returned to the USSR.

25X1

[redacted] There have been no flights since President Sadat's announcement of the Soviet withdrawal.

25X1

25X1

[redacted] On the whole, Egyptian military activity continued at a routine level.

25X1

25X1

Moscow is still trying to put on the best face it can. Soviet leaders have sent Egyptian leaders congratulations on the anniversary of the Egyptian revolution and have affirmed the closeness of USSR-Egyptian relations and continued Soviet support. Soviet television has carried a soothing address by the Egyptian ambassador in Moscow, and the press has reported that Soviet advisers were being given a warm ceremonial send-off in Cairo.

25X1

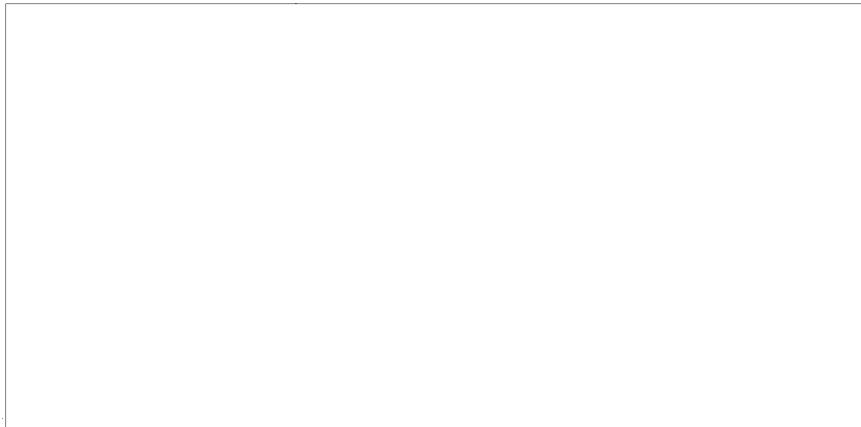
25X1

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

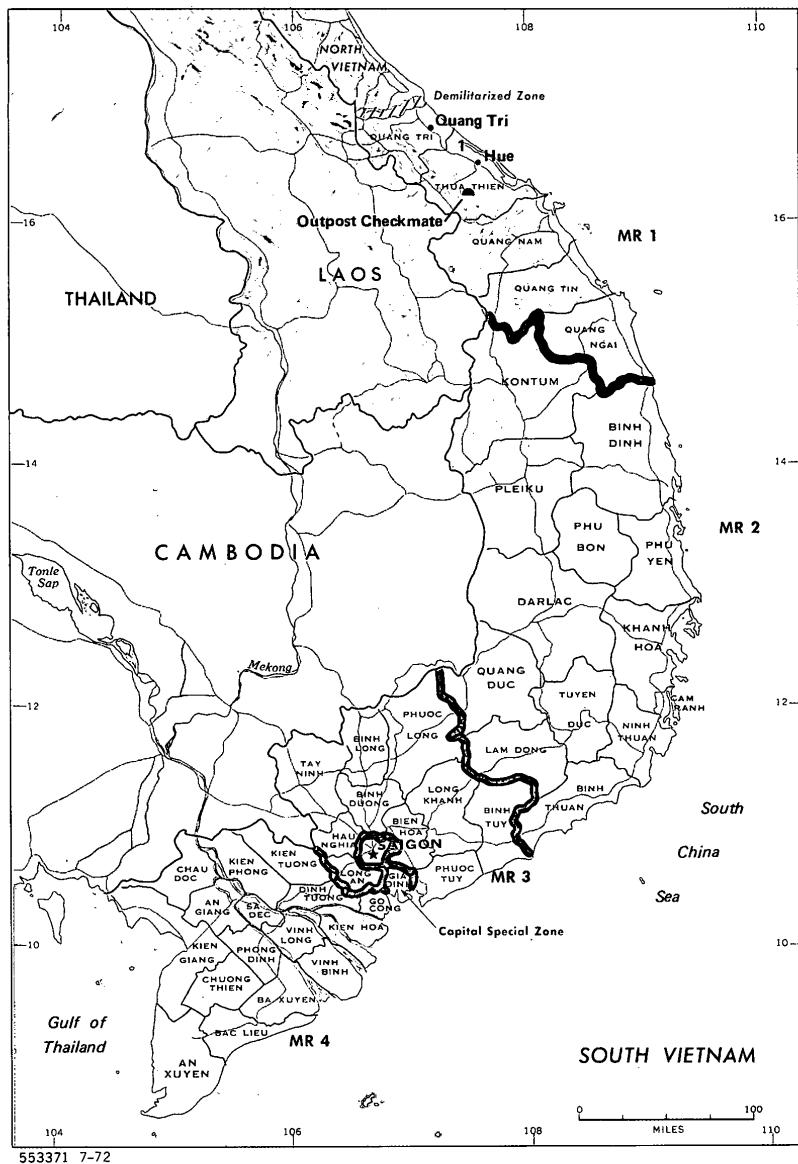
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

2

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553371 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Enemy activity increased sharply during the weekend. Communist ground and artillery attacks near Route 1 in northern Thua Thien Province on 21 and 22 July resulted in a temporary restriction of traffic on the road, which is the principal land link to government units fighting farther north in Quang Tri Province. There was also heavy ground fighting around Outpost Checkmate southwest of Hue, and government positions in this area were hit by more than 3,300 artillery rounds in a series of shelling attacks.

[redacted] these attacks aimed at interdicting Route 1 are to continue through the end of the month. Artillery attacks on Hue and surrounding positions will also continue through July.

25X1

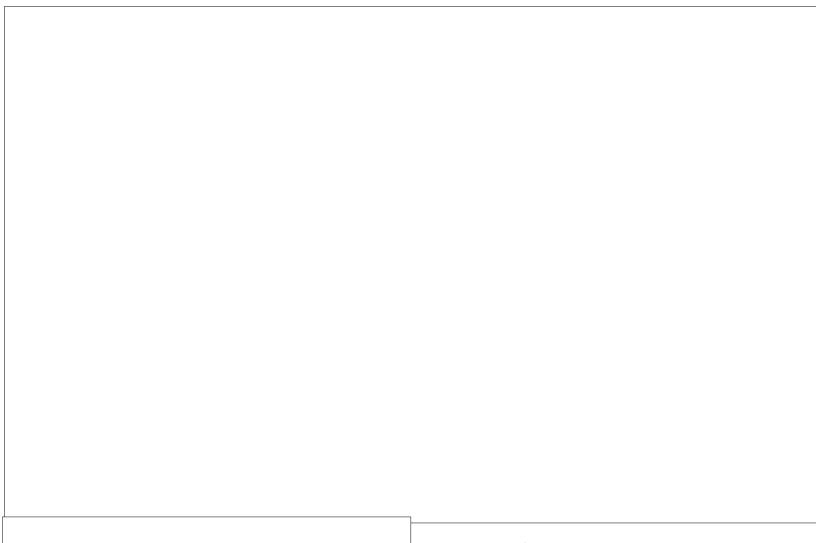
Action has also been heavy around Quang Tri City. On 22 July a South Vietnamese Marine battalion was airlifted to a point about six miles north of the city, where it joined two other marine battalions. This combined force reports it has inflicted moderate casualties on enemy forces in fighting since the airlift. Other marine and airborne elements have had several clashes with enemy forces located on the city's outskirts, and on Friday, airborne troops fought a pitched battle inside the citadel.

In other developments on the northern front, the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 325th Division has moved from North Vietnam into Quang Tri Province and is now located about 13 miles west of Quang Tri City. Two of its subordinate regiments are already in Quang Tri.

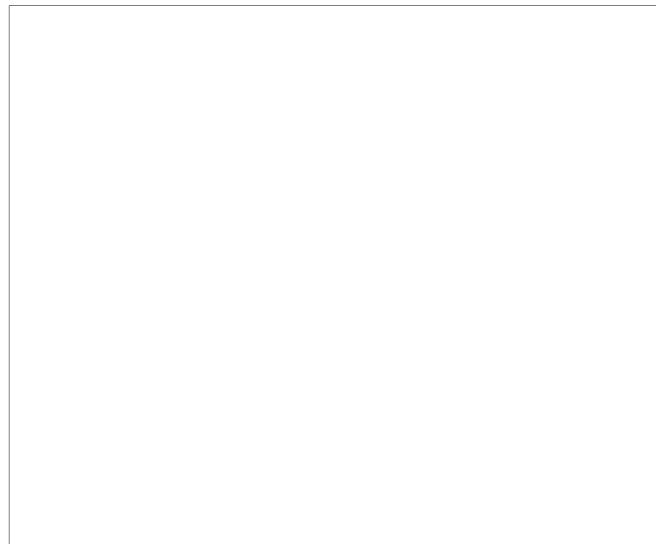
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM.



25X1



25X1

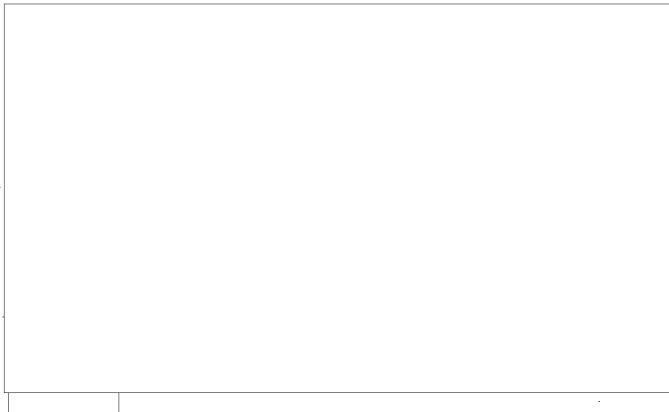
25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma's two-month struggle with rightist elements in the national assembly may be moving toward a showdown. An earlier compromise between Souvanna and his critics broke down when the King refused to invest the prime minister's government until it had received a vote of confidence from the national assembly elected last January. The rightists, led by the powerful Sananikone family, interpret the King's refusal as supporting their contention that, under the Lao constitution, the Souvanna government must resign and present a new cabinet for the approval of the new assembly. The Sananikones hope to force Souvanna to reshuffle his cabinet and in particular, to drop Finance Minister Sisouk, their archenemy. They also hope to force Souvanna formally to resign in order to undermine his argument that his "coalition" government was invested by the 1962 Geneva Accords.

Souvanna is taking a tough stand against the renewed challenge from the rightists. He has withdrawn his earlier commitment to reshuffle the cabinet and has made it clear that he will not disrupt the continuity of the government by resigning. The burden of terminating the government thus falls on the assembly, and Souvanna appears confident that the Sananikones lack the votes to force the issue there.

Souvanna has moved quickly to line up support. On Friday he gained the strong backing of top military leaders including those in command of troops in the Vientiane area. These generals and prominent civilian politicians are now lobbying with assembly deputies on Souvanna's behalf.

Souvanna's next move depends on his estimate of his support in the assembly.

25X1

[redacted] if the lobbying appears successful, he could seek assembly approval of his cabinet as early as Wednesday.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

USSR: Venus 8, an unmanned Soviet space probe,
entered the atmosphere of Venus on 22 July.

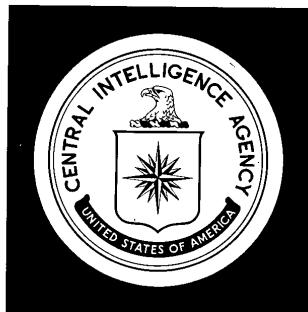
25X1
25X1

25X1;X1
25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

25 July 1972

45



~~Top Secret~~^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of D.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1)/(2)(j)(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Soviets continue to withdraw from Egypt. President Sadat spoke for four hours yesterday, emphasizing his disappointment with Moscow's failures to meet its commitments to Cairo. (Page 1)

Egyptian air defense forces yesterday launched several missiles against Israeli fighters along the Suez Canal. (Page 3)

25X1

Fighting in South Vietnam is heaviest in Quang Tri and Binh Dinh provinces. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 4)

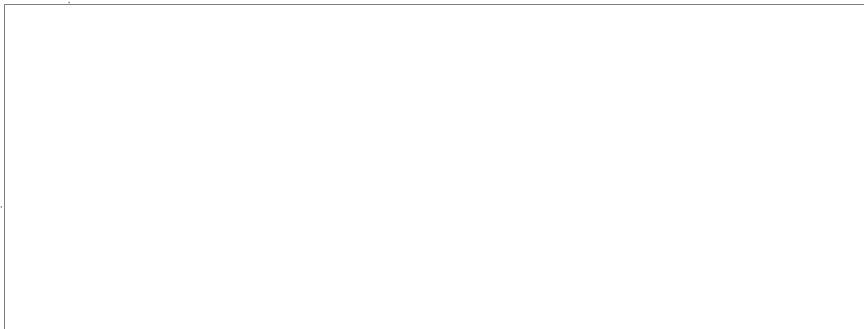
The latest satellite photography shows that the Soviets are still building a very large ship with a flight deck of at least 400 feet. (Page 5)

Japan and China have begun official contacts with a view toward restoration of normal relations. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR



25X1



25X1



25X1

25X1

* * *

President Sadat spoke for four hours yesterday, without clarifying the causes of the Soviet withdrawal from Egypt. Sadat, frequently rambling and repeating himself, said, however, that the failure of the USSR to honor commitments to Egypt during 1971 had led to the present state of Soviet-Egyptian relations.

Without going into detail, Sadat reported that differences of view became apparent during his trip to Moscow in March 1971, but at the time he had been hopeful that the disagreements were between friends, and that the gaps could be bridged. A few months later, he said, when Soviet President Podgorny came to Cairo to sign a treaty of friendship, he was assured by the Soviets that the main differences between them would be resolved within four days of Podgorny's return home. In October, Sadat said, he was given yet another promise that a "definite agreement" would be implemented. The year 1971 passed, and with it Sadat's "year of decision," but the disagreement continued and ultimately led to the departure of the Soviets.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The Egyptian President never said explicitly that he had been looking for offensive weapons, and he never specified the nature of the differences nor of the Soviet commitment. To do so, he said, would play into the hands of Egypt's enemies. Instead, he made frequent references to the firm US military, political, and economic aid to Israel, and contrasted such aid with the limited Soviet response to Egypt's pleas for help.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

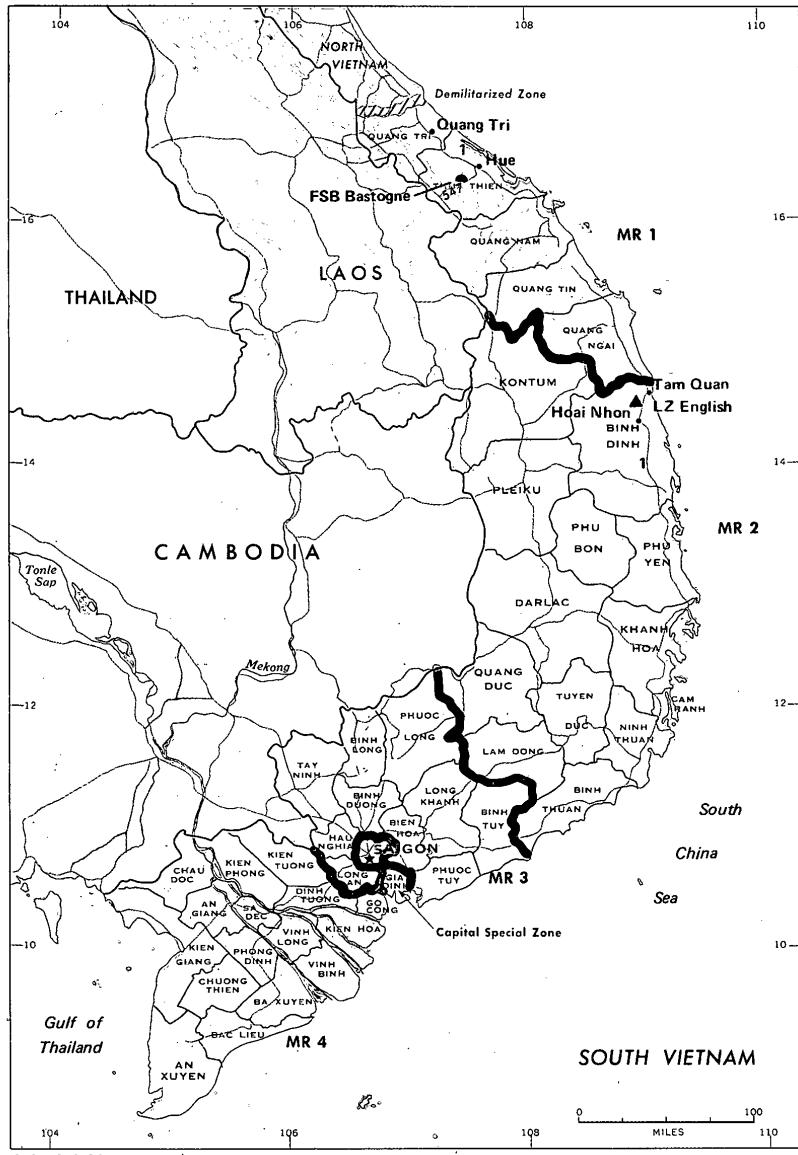
EGYPT-ISRAEL

Egyptian air defense forces yesterday launched several surface-to-air missiles at Israeli fighters along the Suez Canal.

President Sadat and a large political and military entourage visited frontline areas on Sunday. It has been implicit in Sadat's speeches and in Muhammad Haykal's political columns in al-Ahram that Egypt must recreate a credible threat of military action against Israel so as to induce some movement toward a settlement of the Middle East stalemate. Even an isolated aerial clash over the cease-fire lines would serve Sadat's purpose by raising international fears of new hostilities.

Israeli political leaders may be restrained from retaliating for fear of the effect such an action could have on the Soviet evacuation. In the past, however, Israeli doctrine has been to discourage Egyptian attacks by direct retaliation.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553373 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

Fighting is heavy in Quang Tri City, where enemy troops entrenched inside the citadel area continue to hold off government assaults. South Vietnamese paratroops so far have been unable to enter the fortress through cuts in the wall made by allied air strikes. South Vietnamese Marine and Airborne units north, south, and east of the city continue to be harassed by enemy shelling and occasional ground attacks.

Route 1 between Quang Tri City and Hue is open, but a North Vietnamese regiment remains west of the highway and in position to close the road again. Government defenses west of Hue are still under enemy pressure; more than 2,000 shells were fired at Fire Support Base Bastogne and nearby troop concentrations on Sunday. Units from the South Vietnamese 1st Division have begun to move onto the high ground on both sides of Route 547 near Bastogne in an effort to force the Communists to move their artillery out of range of Hue.

In the government's counteroffensive in coastal Binh Dinh Province, Landing Zone English and the district capital of Tam Quan have been recaptured. Army units near the district capital of Hoai Nhon continue to consolidate their recent gains despite enemy shelling.

* * *

25X1

Two additional Chinese freighters arrived late yesterday at the Hon Nieu anchorage serving Vinh, North Vietnam, joining the three other Chinese freighters already there. A sixth Chinese freighter remains at Hon La, 75 miles to the south.



Ship Under Construction at Nikolayev

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

The latest satellite photography provides new information on the large ship under construction at Nikolayev on the Black Sea. When completed, it will be the largest ship in the Soviet Navy, some 800 feet long. Construction has not progressed far enough to allow us to discern a superstructure similar to the "island" on US aircraft carriers, but it is now apparent that the new ship will have a flight deck of at least 400 feet.

A flight deck of this length means that the ship will carry either helicopters with an antisubmarine mission, or high-performance short take-off and landing (V/STOL) interceptors and reconnaissance aircraft.

The new ship, begun in mid-1970, is being built at the same shipyard that produced the two Moskva-class helicopter carriers. It will not be operational for two or three years.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN-CHINA

Foreign Minister Ohira's meeting on 22 July with two Chinese officials is the most significant Sino-Japanese move to date toward regularized official contacts. Ohira later announced that Foreign Ministry representatives might have continuing direct contacts with the Chinese Trade Office in Tokyo.

Following Ohira's talks, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party formally inaugurated a council to foster a party consensus for normalization. Prime Minister Tanaka presented to the council a ten-point statement of principles for relations with Peking, emphasizing a "full understanding" of Peking's long-standing principles for normalization. Tanaka's attendance at the meeting indicates the importance he assigns to achieving party unity as well as Tokyo's desire to move ahead rapidly.

These developments are the latest in a series of increasingly friendly Sino-Japanese exchanges since Tanaka assumed office on 6 July. The new government has conveyed--both publicly and privately--its determination to improve relations, and Peking's response has been both prompt and positive. Premier Chou En-lai has welcomed formation of the Tanaka cabinet and, through a visiting Japanese Socialist, last week extended an informal invitation for Tanaka to visit Peking. No date has been set for such a trip, but Tanaka undoubtedly would like to go to the mainland before he calls general elections late this year or early next.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

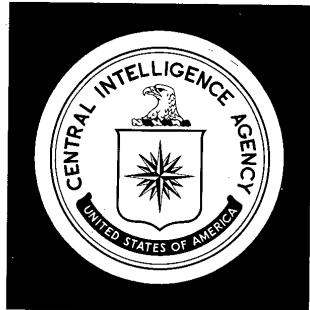
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

France-China: The French Foreign Ministry is extremely pleased with Foreign Minister Schumann's recent visit to China. A Quai official characterized the visit as a reaffirmation of France's "special position" as the only government besides the US engaged in dialogue designed to "bring out" the Chinese. The only concrete result of the talks, however, seems to have been Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei's acceptance of an open-dated invitation to visit France. Although agreement was reached on closer contacts in many areas, no regular consultations, such as France holds with the USSR, were planned.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

25X1

25X1

26 July 1972

45

~~Top Secret~~



Exempt from general
declassification directive of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), (2)(D)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

26 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

South Vietnamese troops have moved into the citadel in Quang Tri City. The Communists, meanwhile, are preparing new positions north and west of the city.
(Page 1)

Lao

25X1

25X1

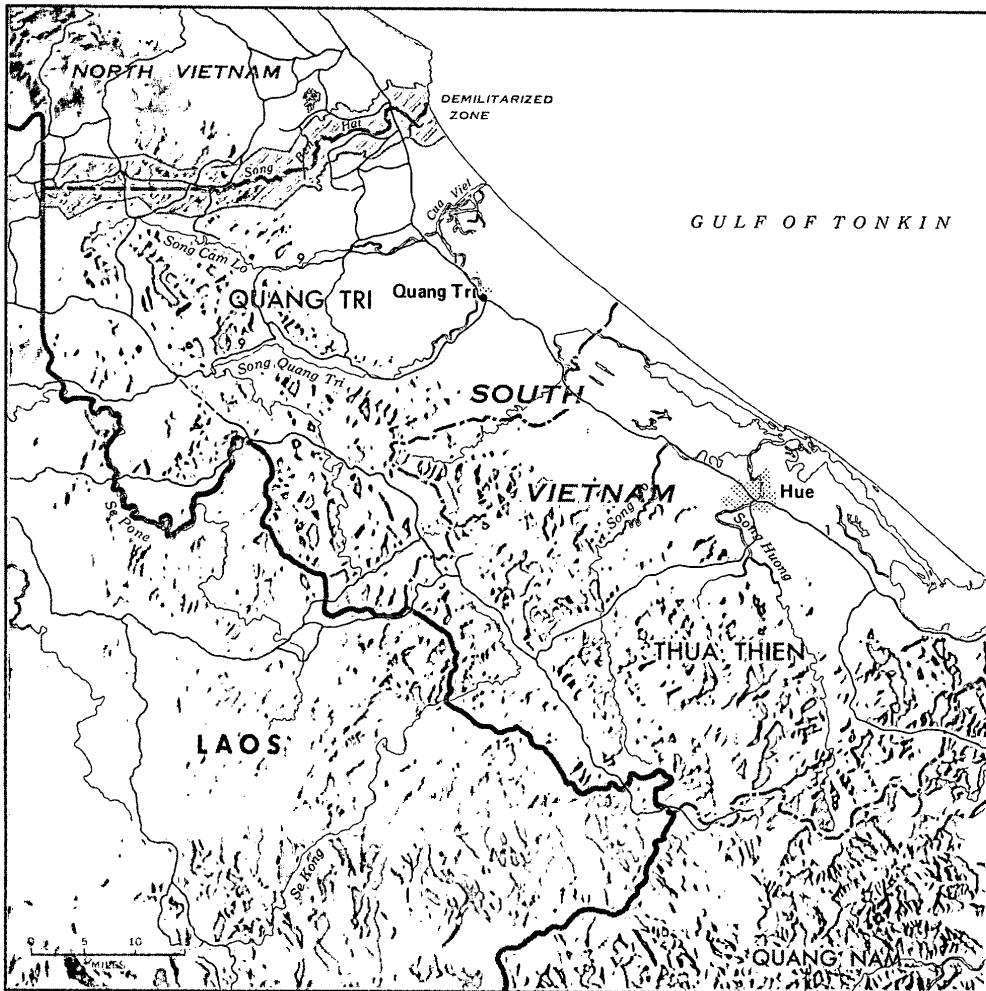
The Soviets are conducting early phase launch tests of a new or highly modified missile from the SS-11 area of Tyuratam. *(Page 3)*

25X1

The Japanese Government is examining plans to increase purchases from the US and to liberalize foreign access to Japanese markets. *(Page 4)*

Chile's President Allende has acknowledged important economic difficulties and warned of future belt-tightening. *(Page 5)*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553379 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese paratroops moved into the citadel in Quang Tri City yesterday, but recent reporting indicates some fighting is continuing. North Vietnamese artillery units that had been near the provincial capital have shifted to the north and west, and some are setting up new positions along the northern bank of the Cua Viet River. Some Communist infantry units have also pulled back to the west.

These withdrawals as well as recent enemy troop reinforcements and resupply activities indicate the Communists will continue to defend their remaining holdings in eastern Quang Tri Province.

Action elsewhere in the northern provinces remains fairly heavy. Communist gunners fired more than 1,300 artillery and mortar rounds at South Vietnamese defensive positions south and west of Hue on Monday and also shelled the citadel in Hue. The South Vietnamese are continuing to push into northern Binh Dinh Province and are now deploying at least company-sized units in all three districts that were taken by the Communists this spring.

* * *

25X1



25X1



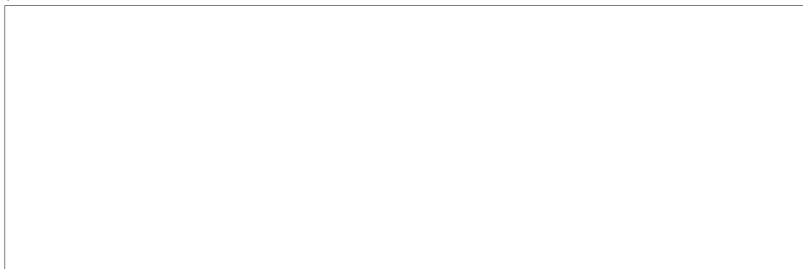
25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

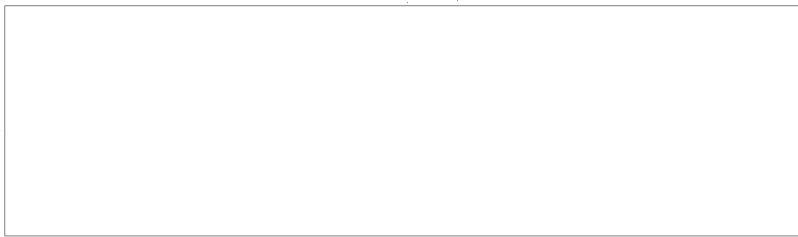
LAOS



25X1

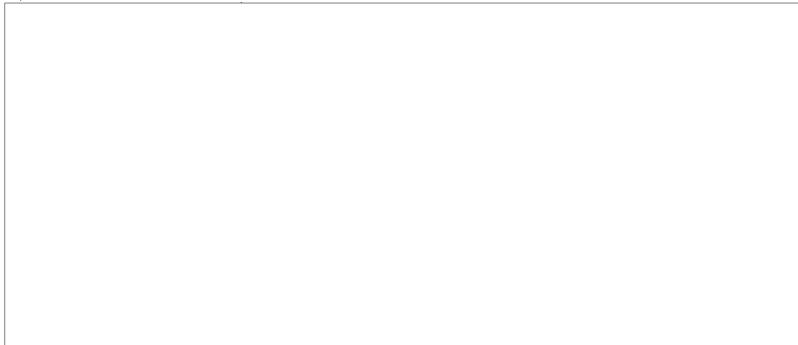


25X1



25X1

25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

A review of satellite photography of Tyuratam shows that the Soviets are conducting early phase launch tests of a new or highly modified missile from the SS-11 area of the range. Missile debris from two tests was seen about 3,000 feet downrange from an SS-11 research and development silo facility.

[redacted] 25X1

25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN-US

For several weeks the Tanaka government has been examining plans to increase purchases from the US and to liberalize foreign access to Japanese markets in preparation for the bilateral trade negotiations that began yesterday. In addition to proposals for large-scale purchases of American grains and safeguarded enriched uranium, Tokyo is considering increasing imports of US commercial aircraft and military hardware, as well as expanding import quotas on foodstuffs and computer products and easing restrictions on foreign investment in retail and wholesale outlets.

Conflicting bureaucratic and business interests, which in the past have often precluded significant trade concessions, are still unresolved, however. Some higher echelons of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, together with the foreign and finance ministries, favor import liberalization, but they face strong opposition from middle-level bureaucrats who represent business and agricultural interests.

Prime Minister Tanaka is clearly determined to redress Japan's growing trade imbalance with the US. He is in a stronger position than his predecessor to prod concessions from the ministries and to weather the political controversy that might follow the imposition of liberalization programs.

Any new measures are not likely to have a major impact on the trade balance this year, however. Large-scale purchases now could at most boost imports from the US by only a few hundred million dollars during the remainder of the year. Other trade and investment measures being considered represent a continuation of Tokyo's policy of gradually opening up the domestic market, which will only be felt over the long run.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

In a major speech Monday night, President Allende admitted that loans and credits from the Soviet Union and other countries were insufficient to balance losses caused by the disruption of traditional economic patterns. As a partial remedy, Allende prescribed a savings plan that would provide local investment funds and a soak-the-rich pricing scheme. He also promised the workers a larger share of goods and services, announced a general wage boost to take effect in October, and outlined a plan to give workers paid vacations in Chile. Allende offered small businessmen and farmers guarantees against expropriation but, lest some take his optimistic tone too seriously, warned that further belt-tightening would come.

The government's poor performance to date and increasing economic pressures suggest that implementing the new measures will be difficult at best. In any event, more stringent government controls on the economy and on the spending habits of consumers seem certain. If the economy does not improve, further attacks on the US and the local oligarchy are likely.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

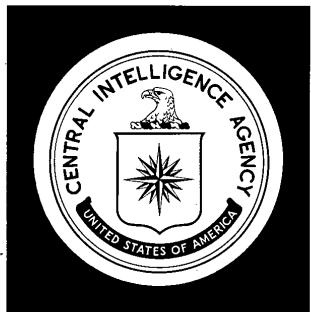
NOTE

Egypt: 

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

27 July 1972

45



Top Sec^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1)(2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Heavy fighting continues inside the Quang Tri citadel as South Vietnamese Airborne troops battle the Communists for control of the walled fortress. The government counteroffensive in Binh Dinh Province continues to move northward against light enemy resistance.

25X1

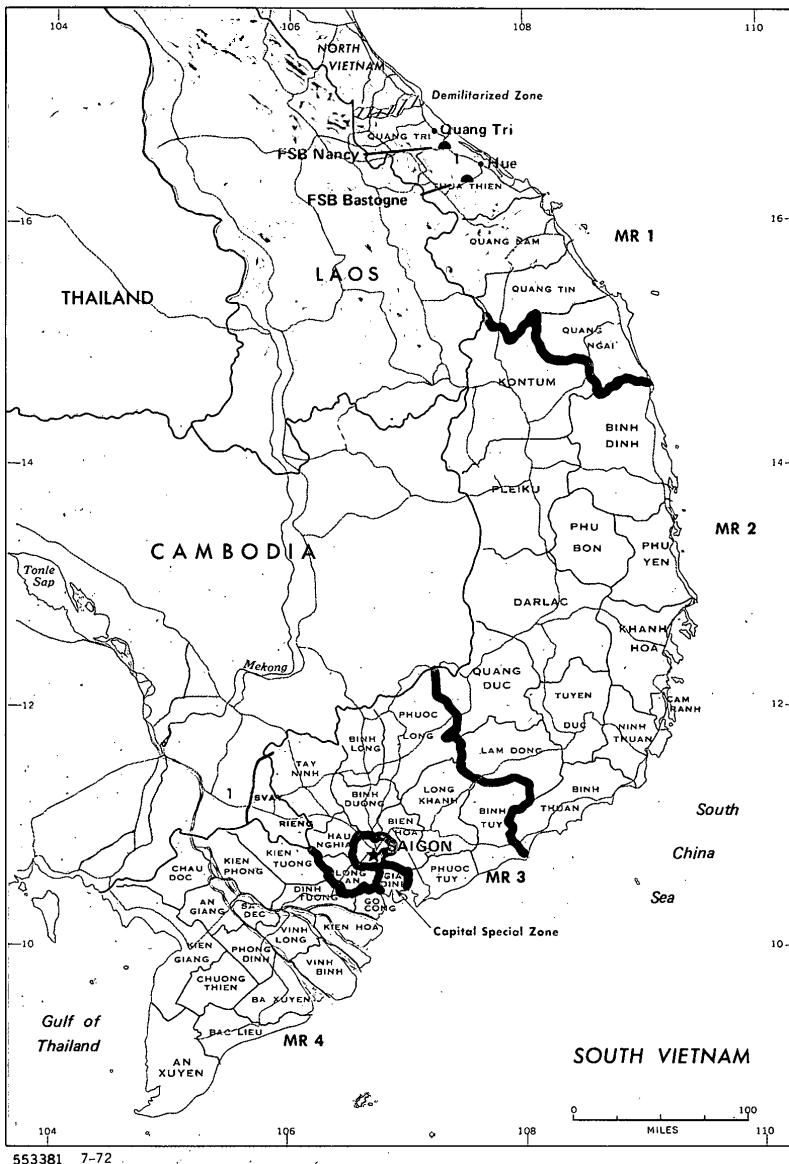
(Page 1)

25X1

The Soviet withdrawal from Egypt is continuing, as the Soviets attempt to put the best possible face on the matter. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Meir's first public comments on the affair were conciliatory in tone although she maintained a firm stand on the issues between Israel and Egypt.

(Page 2)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553381 7-72

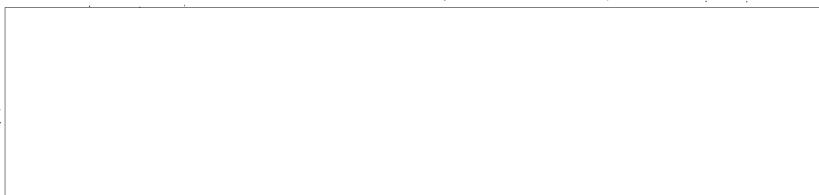
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese Airborne troops are engaged in heavy fighting with entrenched North Vietnamese forces in the northern and western sections of the Quang Tri citadel. Five companies of airborne troops now control part of the walled fortress. These units are being supported by South Vietnamese air strikes against enemy positions. In other parts of Quang Tri City, airborne forces are moving from house to house to ferret out enemy troops. Government forces north and south of the city still are being subjected to light shellings and ground attacks.

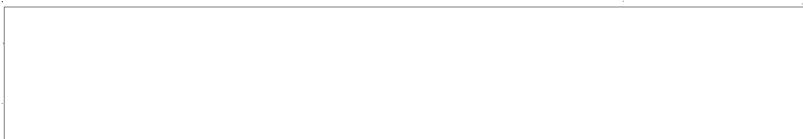
Farther south, the South Vietnamese continue to hold off enemy ground attacks in the vicinity of Fire Support Base Nancy. West of Hue, government troops yesterday temporarily withdrew a short distance from Fire Support Base Bastogne following heavy enemy shellings and ground attacks. Enemy gunners continue to harass South Vietnamese traffic on Route 1 between Hue and Quang Tri City.

The government counteroffensive in Binh Dinh Province continues to progress northward against light enemy resistance. Most enemy forces appear to have pulled out of the coastal areas in the three northern districts and moved inland to the mountains.

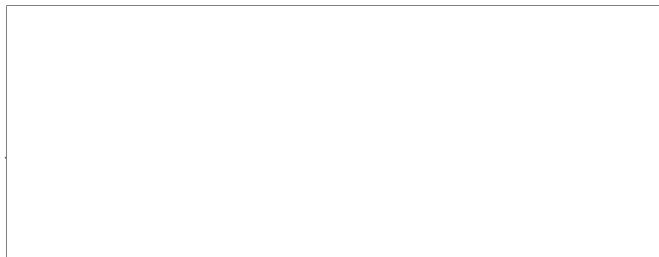


25X1

* * *



25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-ISRAEL-USSR

25X1

[Redacted box]
As of yesterday afternoon, eight passenger aircraft had completed the round trip from the USSR. These flights could have returned home about 1,000 Soviet personnel and dependents.

25X1

* * *

25X1

The Soviets are continuing to put the best possible face on their reverses in Egypt. [Redacted box]

25X1

[Redacted box] Soviet propaganda continues to reaffirm Soviet friendship and support for Egypt, although attacks on "right-wing, reactionary elements" in Egypt are becoming standard.

25X1

* * *

Israeli Prime Minister Meir, in commenting on the expulsion of Soviet advisers from Egypt, has taken a conciliatory tone while maintaining a firm stand on the issues. She told the Knesset yesterday that although this action could be a positive development she had seen no indication thus far of a "turning point" in Egypt's policy. Mrs. Meir reiterated basic Israeli demands for a settlement with Egypt and warned that frustration might lead the Egyptians to resume fighting.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

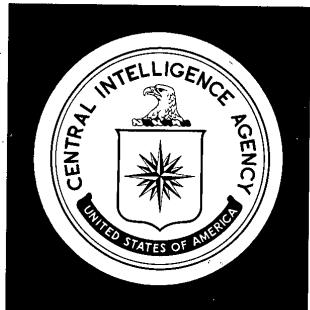
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Japan-China: Tokyo has approved financing by its Export-Import Bank for the sale of a synthetic fiber plant to China. Although Japan lifted its ban on official trade credits late last year, this is the first time such credits have been granted. This gesture reflects the new Tanaka administration's emphasis on improving relations with China.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

28 July 1972

45



~~Top Secret~~^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of F.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1)(2)(3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LATE ITEM

Egypt-USSR:

25X1

The withdrawal of these
aircraft appears to end the Soviet capability for
naval air reconnaissance from Egypt.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

28 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Vietnam, both sides are repositioning their forces in the Quang Tri City area in preparation for further heavy fighting. Recent photography shows another petroleum pipeline under construction in North Vietnam parallel to the nearly completed dual pipeline system. (Page 1)

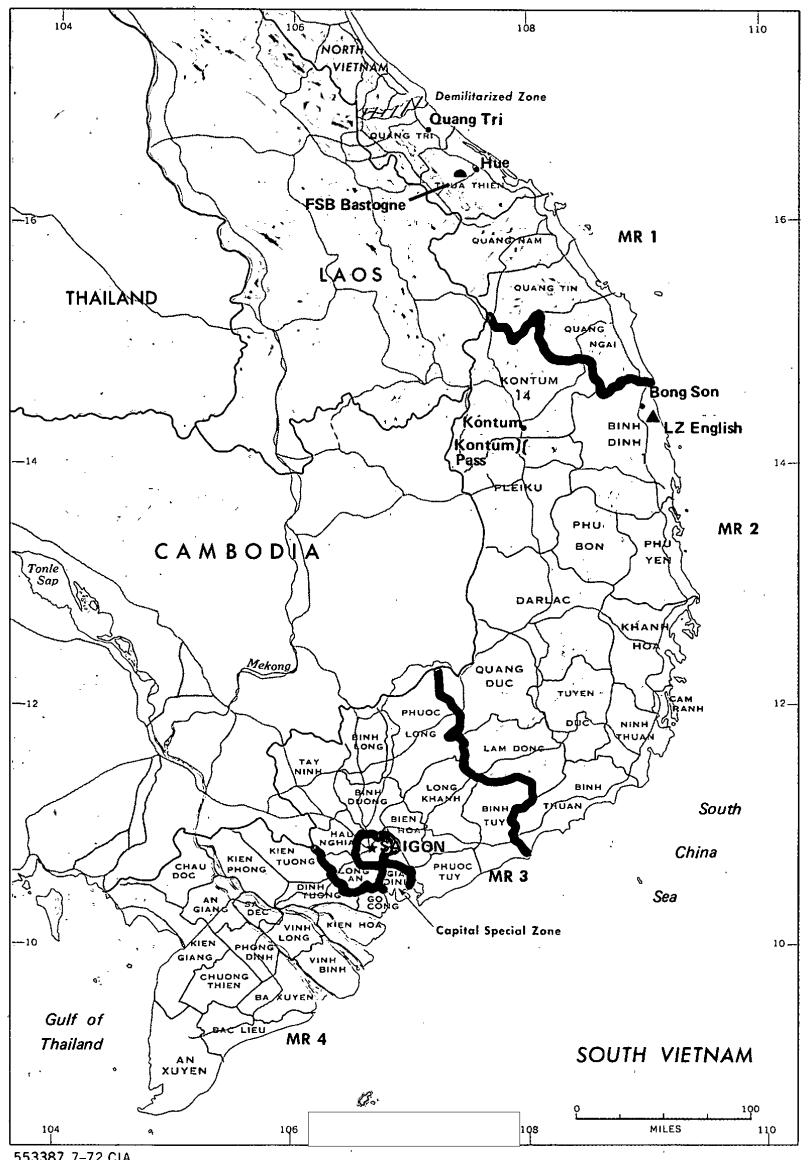
Indian Prime Minister Gandhi has made clear her intense distrust of the US in a farewell interview with Ambassador Keating. (Page 3)

The USSR apparently has nearly completed work on a new tactical surface-to-air missile system. (Page 4)

Another major Soviet manned space mission appears imminent. (Page 5)

	USSR (Page 6)	25X1 25X1
At Annex	Soviet Egypt.	25X1 25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

553387 7-72 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

South Vietnamese Airborne troops were withdrawn yesterday from inside the Quang Tri citadel after suffering heavy casualties. Government marine units will now assume the responsibility for clearing the Communists from Quang Tri City and from within the citadel. During the rotation, sporadic enemy shellings hit South Vietnamese troops in the area. Several sharp ground clashes were reported on the city's northern and southern edges.

Enemy intercepts disclose that the Communists are preparing to strengthen their forces in the Quang Tri City area. Elements of the recently arrived North Vietnamese 325th Division have been ordered to attack government forces along the city's western flank in order to relieve pressure on Communist forces inside the capital.

This is the first indication that units from the 325th Division will be committed to the Quang Tri City battlefield. It will raise to seven the number of enemy infantry regiments now involved in the defense of Quang Tri City.

Following their pullback from Fire Support Base Bastogne on Wednesday, South Vietnamese units are regrouping near the base and have moved reinforcements into the area. The enemy's occupation of Bastogne, however, puts them within easy artillery range of Hue.

The government's drive to recapture northern Binh Dinh Province met increased enemy resistance yesterday. Several sharp ground clashes were fought along Route 1 north of Landing Zone English, while Communist gunners hit the nearby town of Bong Son with over 200 rocket and mortar rounds. Farther inland, Kontum City received its first significant shelling in more than a month. A North Vietnamese infantry regiment has moved back into the Kontum Pass area south of the city and has begun again to harass South Vietnamese military convoys traveling on Route 14.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

* * *

Photography taken in mid-July of the dual petroleum pipeline under construction between the Chinese town of Ping-hsiang and Hai Duong in North Vietnam does not confirm that the system is operational, but suggests that it is nearly completed. Photography

[redacted] has shown another petroleum pipeline under construction parallel to the dual pipeline system. Intermittent construction of the new pipeline currently extends from the Dong Dang area to a few miles north of Hai Duong and has taken place in the last two weeks. Although the new construction route is only a few yards from the earlier pipeline at some points, there is no evidence that the two are actually connected. The new line will provide added import and distributive capacity in meeting North Vietnam's petroleum requirements.

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

INDIA

Prime Minister Gandhi made clear her intense distrust of the US in a farewell interview with Ambassador Keating on 24 July.

Mrs. Gandhi accused the US of trying to drive a wedge between India and Bangladesh, of colluding with radical Indian Communists against her government, of sponsoring visiting professors who have engaged in "improper activities," and of working against Indian interests in the "monetary field." Mrs. Gandhi declined a request to document her charges, but insisted she had "reasons" for her "feelings." She maintained that India will progress with or without US help and that "it doesn't matter in the least to us what the US does about debt relief or aid." She implied that India will continue to discriminate against US economic interests.

Ambassador Keating's farewell talks with other members of the government--including President Giri, Foreign Minister Singh, and Foreign Secretary Kaul--were much friendlier and more moderate in substance. Nevertheless, they tended to confirm that Mrs. Gandhi's government will, for the present, do nothing to improve bilateral relations or to arrest the trend toward tightened restrictions on all US activities in India.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

The latest satellite photography of the Emba test range northeast of the Caspian, where tactical surface-to-air missile systems are developed, shows four vehicles of the new SA-X-8 system that the Soviets have been working on for some five years. Each vehicle has four launch rails or tubes and a target acquisition radar.

The SA-X-8 system is designed to provide ground force units with close-in defense against low-flying tactical aircraft--possibly as low as 50 to 150 feet. The system, which resembles the US Army's Chaparral, would complement the coverage provided by Soviet man-portable SAMs and antiaircraft gun systems.

The presence of four SA-X-8 vehicles indicates a late stage of testing. If the remainder of the test program proceeds smoothly, the system could enter operational service by the end of the year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Another major Soyuz space mission appears imminent. Soviet space support ships in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans are taking up stations normally associated with the monitoring of manned space flights.

25X1
25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR: [Redacted]

25X1

Cuba: During his annual 26 July state-of-the-nation address, Castro made it plain that at this juncture Cuba has no real alternative to close economic and military collaboration with the Soviets. He then said, however, that this was temporary and that economic and political integration with Latin America could solve many of Cuba's problems--although not until after the socialist revolution in the area. Under today's circumstances, he saw no hope of resuming ties with the US.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE SOVIET MILITARY WITHDRAWAL FROM EGYPT

President Sadat announced on 18 July that, as of the previous day, he had decided to "terminate the mission of the Soviet military experts and advisers, who came at our request" and would replace them with Egyptians "in all the tasks they used to carry out." He said that "all the military equipment and installations set up within Egyptian territory" since June 1967 would be "the sole property of Egypt and under the administration of its armed forces."

A
N
N
E
X

25X1



(continued)

A1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

29 July 1972

45



Top Secret

25X1

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 3B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The fighting in South Vietnam is still heaviest in northern Military Region 1 and along the coast in Binh Dinh Province. (Page 1)

Satellite photography shows an operational Chinese missile site near the Korean border. (Page 2)

Pakistan is preparing to recognize Bangladesh. (Page 3)

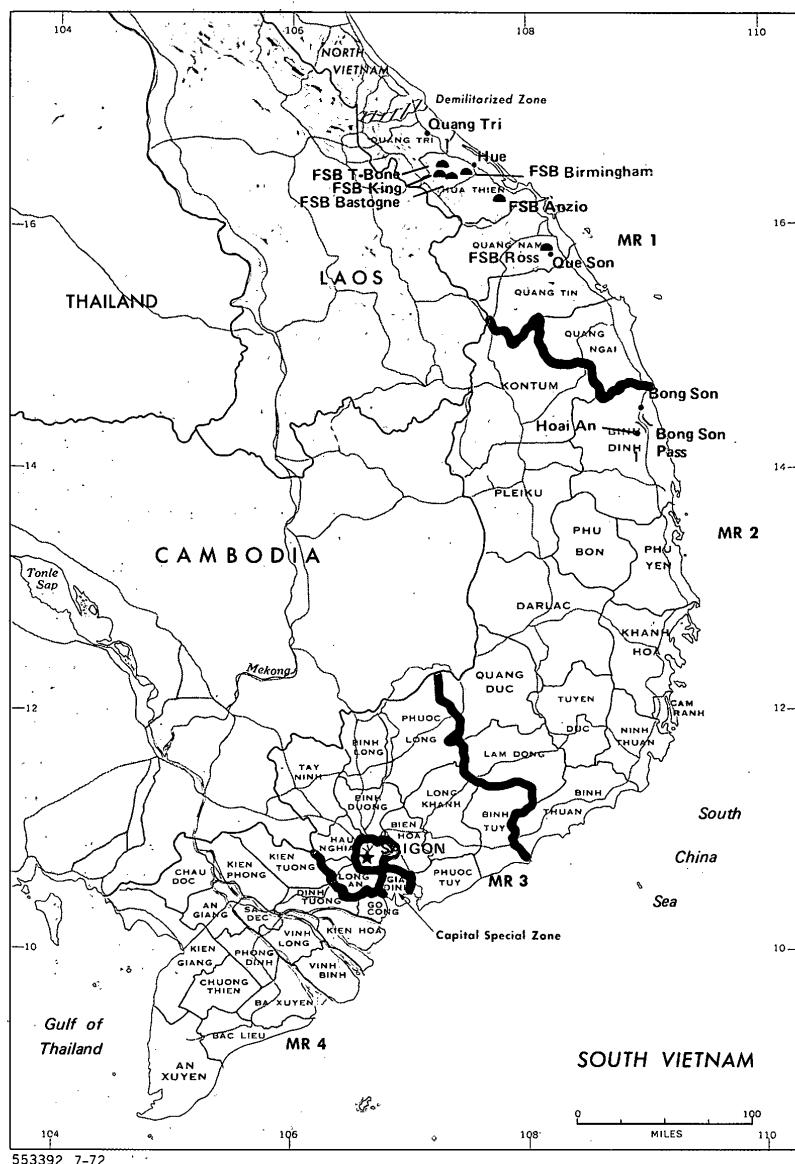
The Soviets are making efforts to extend the combat radius of their Mach 3 Foxbat aircraft. (Page 4)

Chile's army commander is watching closely President Allende's steps to reform the constitution. (Page 5)

The Soviet [redacted] it. (Page 6)

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Fighting remains heavy in northern Military Region 1. South Vietnamese Marine units engaged in several sharp ground clashes north of Quang Tri City yesterday, while government forces south and east of the city continued to receive enemy mortar fire. South Vietnamese Airborne units that were withdrawn from the Quang Tri battlefield on 27 July are planning to regroup and refit north of Hue. The Marine Division now has responsibility for all government combat operations in the northernmost province.

In Thua Thien Province, Communist artillery units continued to shell government positions near recently abandoned Fire Support Base Bastogne. They also shelled the other fire support bases which ring Hue in an arc from the north to the south. Intercepts show that the enemy is making extensive preparations for early ground attacks against some of these positions.

Farther south, in Quang Nam Province, enemy units pressed their attack against FSB Ross and have surrounded a regiment of the government's 2nd Division. All three regiments of North Vietnam's 711th Division have been detected in the combat area.

The government's counteroffensive in northern Binh Dinh Province met increased enemy resistance yesterday, and there are signs that the Communists may plan to challenge further the government's presence there.

25X1

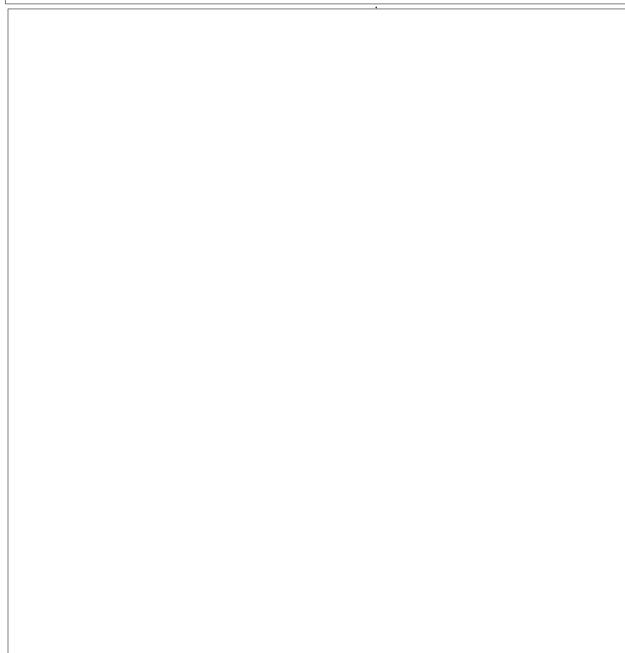
Heavy fighting is taking place near the district capital of Hoai An. South Vietnamese units attempting to push westward out of Bong Son were forced to pull back into the town.

In the delta, enemy activity increased in intensity, particularly in Dinh Tuong Province. A prisoner from the 5th Division--elements of which have been moving into an enemy base area along the Dinh Tuong - Kien Tuong province border--claims that there is heavy infiltration of men and supplies into the redoubt. Recent contacts between South Vietnamese and Communist units tend to confirm the prisoner's information.

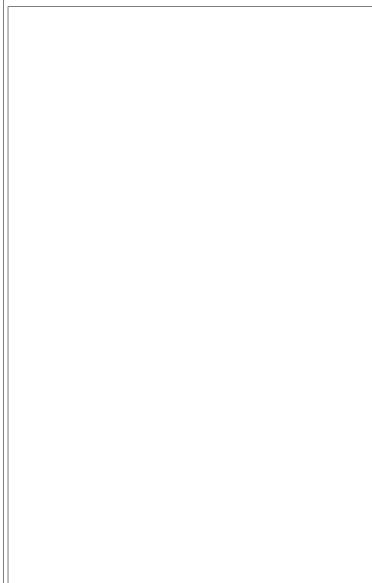
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

China: Field Deployed CSS-1 Equipment

25X1



25X1



25X1

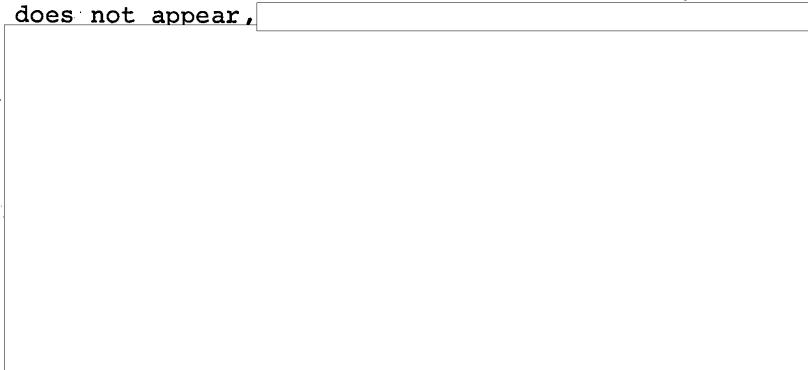
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

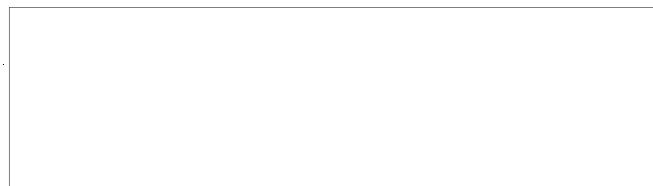
CHINA

The latest satellite photography has turned up an operational launch site near the Korean border for China's 600-nm ballistic missile, the CSS-1.

Enough equipment for one CSS-1 launch unit has been identified at the site. The missile itself does not appear.



25X1
25X1



25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

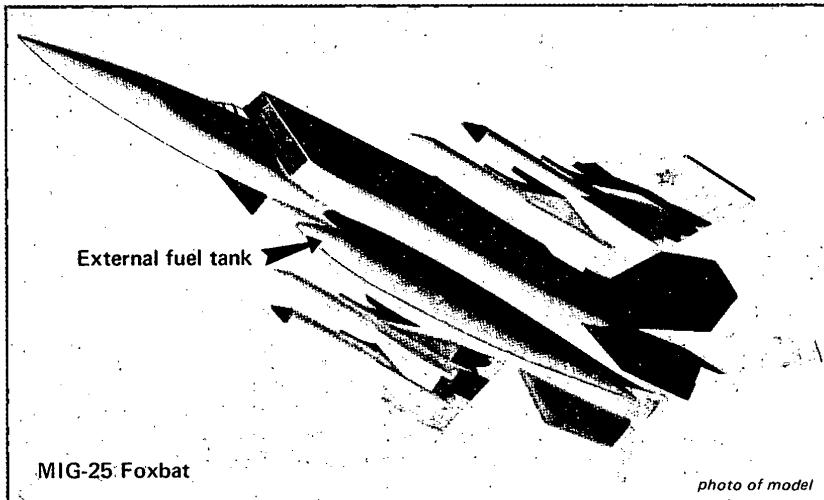
PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH

The Pakistani information minister has announced that recognition of Bangladesh will be on the agenda of the National Assembly when it meets in mid-August, and his comments indicate that the government expects a favorable vote.

Recognition of Bangladesh would cause President Bhutto little trouble at home, where the majority of the population seems resigned to the move. He has delayed thus far primarily because recognition is one of the few bargaining chips he has for negotiations with the Indians and the Bengalis. Neither New Delhi nor Dacca, however, is likely to make any significant concession to obtain recognition, but Bangladesh had made recognition a pre-condition for any talks with Islamabad.

The key unresolved issues between Pakistan and Bangladesh are the repatriation of prisoners of war, war crimes trials, the exchange of minority groups, and the division of the assets and liabilities the two countries shared before East Pakistan became independent.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



Length 65 feet
Wingspan 47 feet
Speed 1,600 knots (Mach 3)
Combat ceiling 80,000 feet

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Satellite photography of the Foxbat production facility at Gorkiy and Soviet flight test centers shows several large, aerodynamically shaped fuel tanks, evidently for use on the Mach 3 Foxbat beneath the fuselage. The capacity of the tank is about 10,000 pounds of fuel. The tank has not yet been seen at an operational Foxbat base.

The tank will extend the Foxbat's supersonic combat radius while fully armed with four air-to-air missiles from 420 nautical miles to about 600 nm and its subsonic radius from 800 nm to about 1,100 nm.

Soviet designator for the Foxbat is the MIG-25.

25X1

[redacted] the designator for the other new Mikoyan fighter--the swing-wing Flogger--

25X1

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

General Prats, the Army commander in chief, has ordered military legal experts to give him a detailed analysis of the controversy between President Allende and Congress over the procedure on reforming the constitution to redefine the government's role in the economy.

25X1

Prats' actions show the growing politicization of the military under Allende. Although some officers have made their individual views known, this close examination of political issues is extraordinary for the army as an institution. This could lead to problems if Prats concludes that Allende is acting improperly, but the President has announced that he will abide by the decision of the constitutional tribunal.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

25X1

NOTES

USSR: [redacted]

25X1

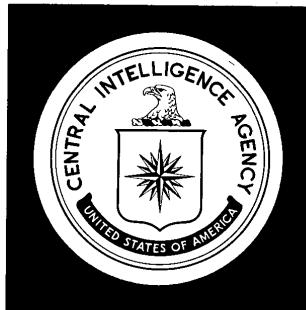
France: [redacted]

25X1

25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

31 July 1972

45

Top Sec^{25X1}

Exempt from general
declassification schedule of E.O. 11652
exemption category 5B(1), (2), (3)
declassified only on approval of
the Director of Central Intelligence

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

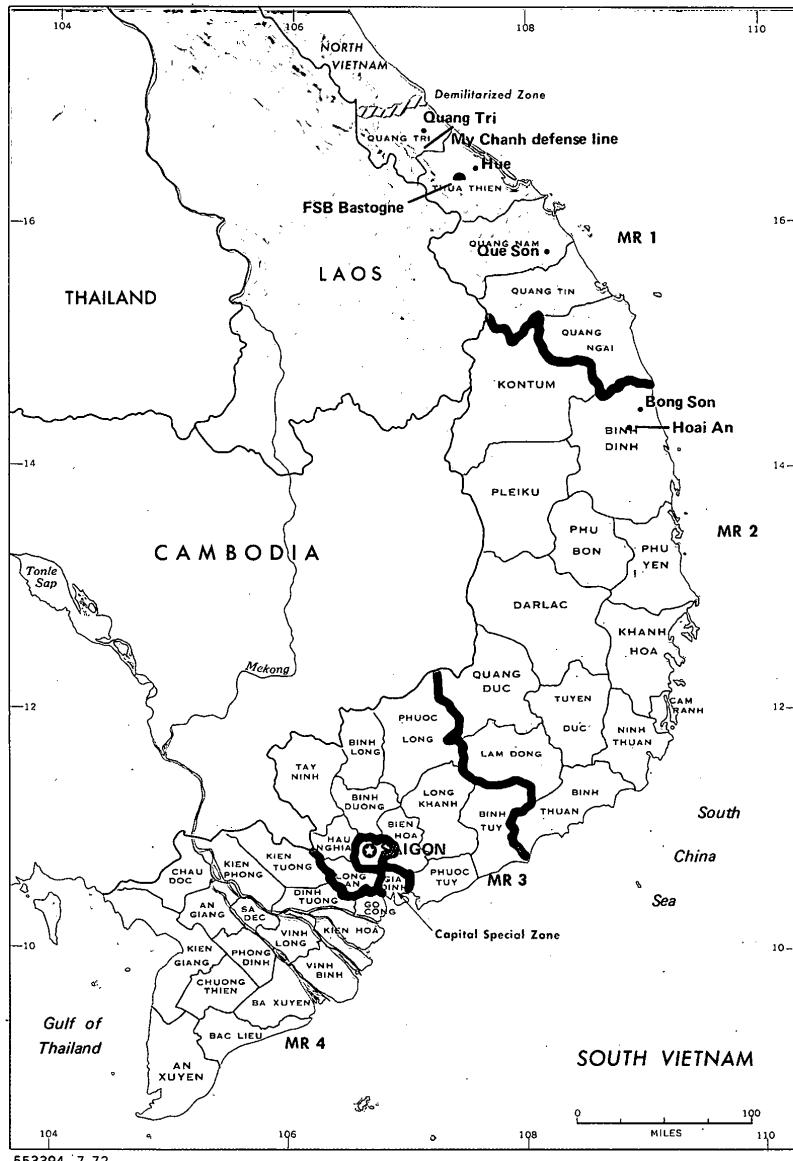
31 July 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Vietnam, fighting continues in the northern provinces amid signs that the Communists are planning new attacks. (Page 1)

Government forces in Laos are making little progress in their efforts to recapture territory lost during the dry season. (Page 2)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



553394 7-72

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

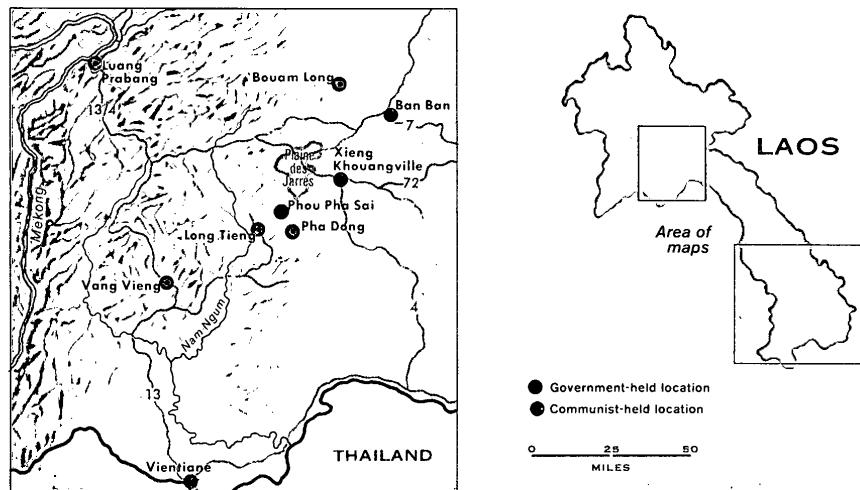
Over the weekend, South Vietnamese Marines and paratroopers repulsed several enemy attacks, including one tank-led assault, against government positions in Quang Tri City and along the western end of the My Chanh Defense Line to the south. Several sharp Communist ground probes also occurred near enemy-held Fire Support Base Bastogne west of Hue, where Communist tanks were sighted last week. Enemy intercepts indicate that additional Communist armor may be en route to this area from the Laos panhandle.

Intercepts show that enemy reinforcements are being "rushed" into the Quang Tri City area and that the Communists have drawn up new attack plans. North Vietnamese antiaircraft units located a few miles northwest of the Citadel have been ordered to "strike extremely hard."

Farther south, government forces in Quang Nam Province are still engaged in heavy fighting with elements of the North Vietnamese 711th Division near the Que Son district capital. There are signs that the Communists are attempting to move toward heavily populated coastal areas and intend to move armor and artillery into Quang Nam Province.

South Vietnamese forces in Binh Dinh Province report continued stiff resistance to clearing operations in the northern part of the province. Government forces apparently have pulled out of the Hoai An district capital, and heavy fighting is under way in nearby Bong Son.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Government forces are making little progress in their efforts to recapture territory lost during the dry season. In south Laos, irregulars have consolidated their hold on Khong Sedone, but are still encountering stubborn resistance in the surrounding area. On the Bolovens Plateau, the Communists have thwarted government attempts to push east from the junction of Routes 23 and 231.

During the rainy season last year, government forces attempted to retake Paksong and establish themselves on the central portion of the Plateau. This year, the Communists are seeking to keep government forces tied down in the western Bolovens and Khong Sedone areas well away from the infiltration corridor to the east.

In the north, the government's effort to recapture the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres has stalled, in part because bad weather has limited air support. Government units on a ridge just south of Phou Pha Sai returned to Pha Dong last week after being attack by small North Vietnamese forces.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Egypt-USSR:

25X1
25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret