



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*1 February 1971*



~~48~~  
~~Top Secret~~ 50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

1 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The ambush of the first petroleum convoy on Route 4 since its reopening occurred in an area where some enemy harassment has been continuing. (Page 1)

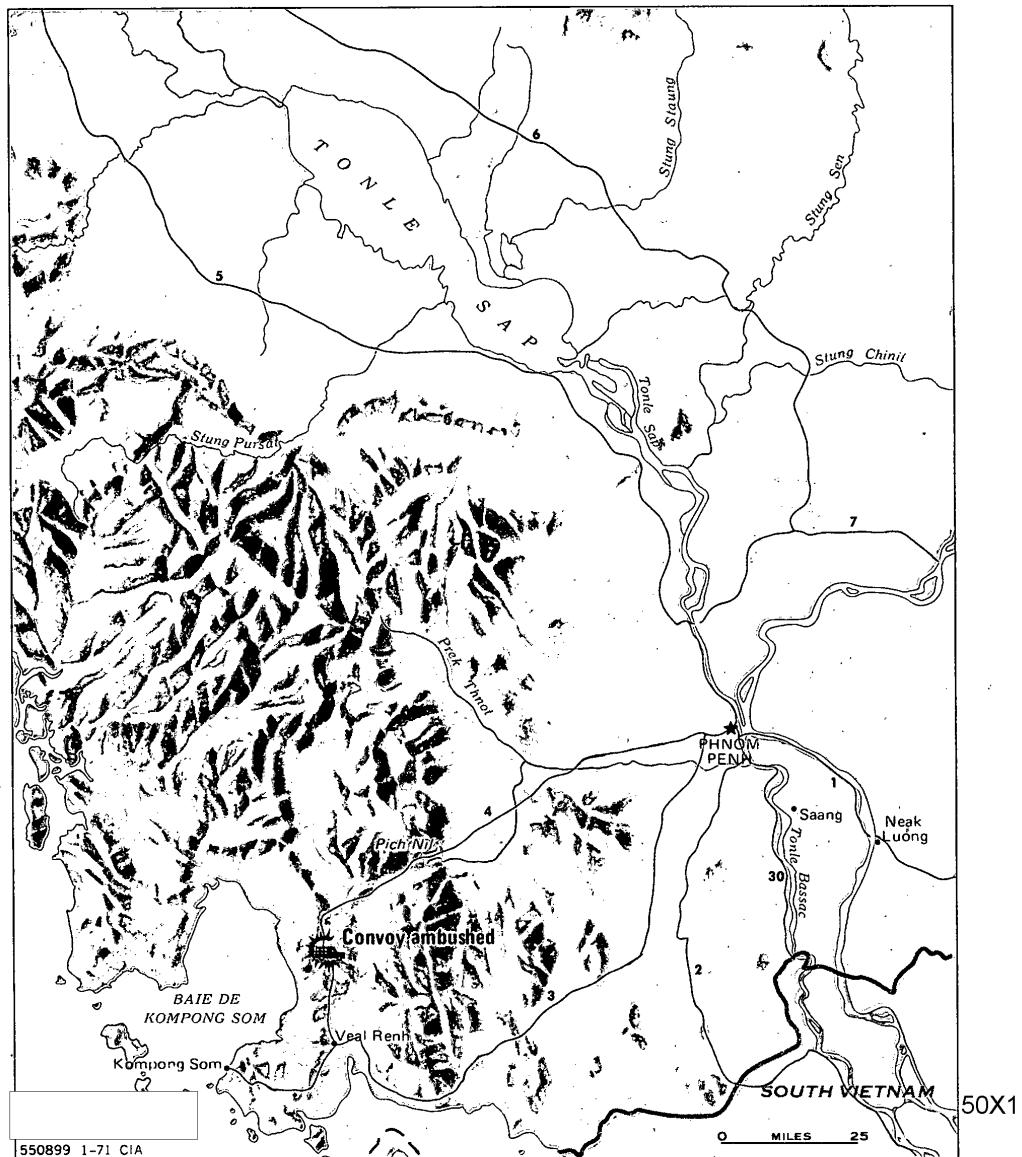
50X1

50X1

The latest East German disruptions of civilian traffic to and from West Berlin have been the most severe of the past two months. (Page 2)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## CAMBODIA: Current Situation



550899 1-71 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

The first convoy of petroleum for Phnom Penh from the refinery at Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) was ambushed, despite air cover, on 30 January by Communist troops along Route 4 about 42 miles north of Kompong Som. At least ten of the 31 tanker trucks were destroyed or set afire and the remainder returned to Kompong Som. There have been several enemy harassing attacks against government positions in the same general area in the past few days.

Route 4, closed since November, had been declared officially open to civilian traffic during daylight hours by the Cambodian commander in the region, Sosthene Fernandez.

[redacted] that his forces could keep the road clear between Veal Renh and the Pich Nil pass in the stretch where the ambush later occurred, but that his units farther north near the pass were being harassed.

50X1

A POL convoy coming by river from South Vietnam arrived safely in Phnom Penh on 29 January. The convoy, consisting of four oil barges and three tugs carrying 1,226,700 gallons of petroleum supplies, encountered two minor enemy attacks during the trip, but sustained no damage.

This was the first such resupply mission to reach the capital since 17 January.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

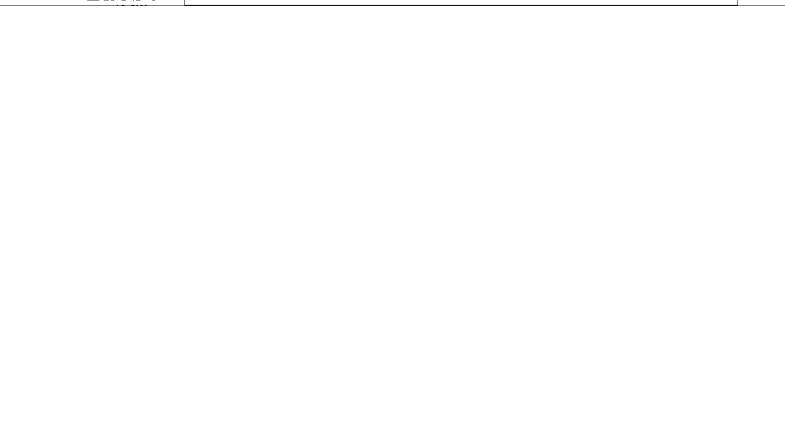
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

Laos:

50X1

50X1

A large rectangular box with a black border, occupying most of the page below the notes section. It appears to be a redaction.

Berlin: East German harassment of civilian traffic to and from West Berlin continues and is apparently intensifying as of Monday morning, despite the conclusion of the meeting of the West German Free Democratic Party on Saturday and the departures from Berlin of President Heinemann and of Chancellor Brandt on Sunday. The delays are the longest of the three harassing episodes experienced within the past two months, with traffic held up from ten to 18 hours at main checkpoints. There is considerable public resentment in West Berlin over the East German action and disappointment over the failure of Allied protests to prevent recurrences. US, UK, and French representatives in Bonn will review the situation this morning and decide whether the four-power advisory meeting on Berlin--scheduled for 2 February--should be canceled or postponed.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

2 February 1971

50

50X1  
~~Top Secret~~

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

2 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The North Vietnamese moved large amounts of supplies into the Laotian panhandle during January. (Page 1)

International oil negotiations are discussed on Page 2.

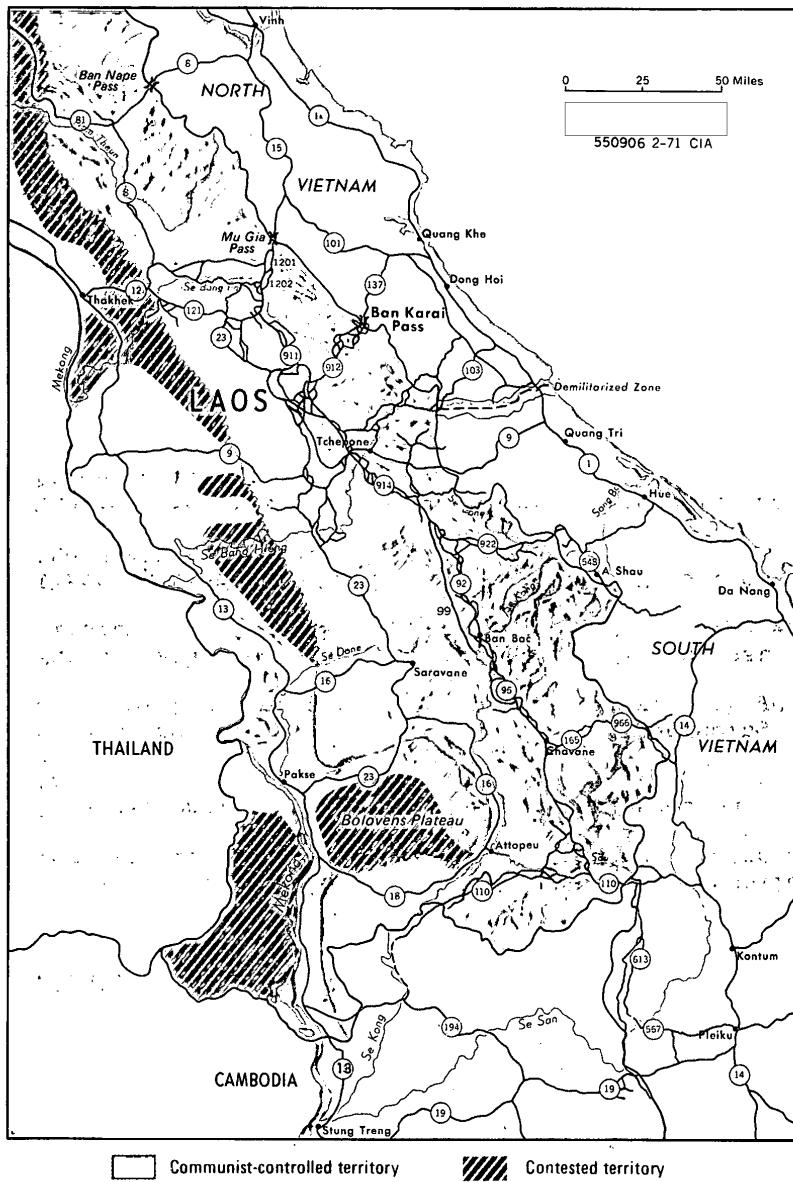
France and Germany are close to formally agreeing on a joint training program for jet pilots. (Page 3)

The Secretary General's report on the Middle East situation will be issued today at the UN. (Page 4)

Three Russian ships are steaming toward Cuba from the North Atlantic. (Page 4)

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

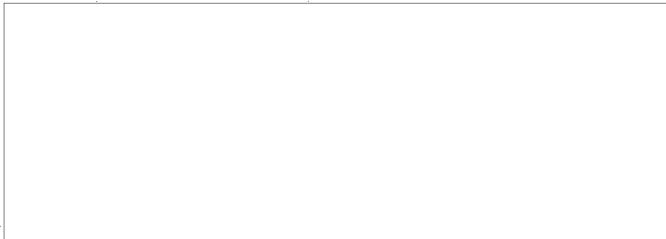


50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**LAOS-VIETNAM**

The sharply increased movement of supplies into the Laos panhandle that began in early January continued through most of the month. A message from a unit handling supplies transiting the Ban Karai pass indicates that an average of 140 tons was transported daily during 1-20 January.



50X1

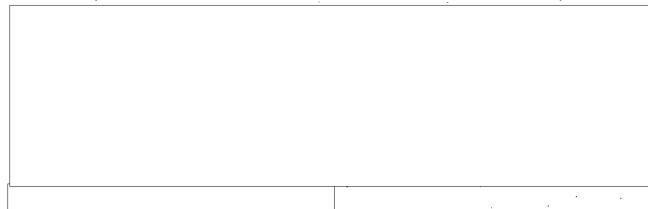
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**INTERNATIONAL OIL**

Yesterday's meeting in Tehran between the oil company representatives and the Persian Gulf members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) did not develop any significant forward movement. A final attempt will be made today to reach a compromise on the per barrel price the companies will pay the Gulf states.

The British have warned the Iranian ambassador in London that a breakdown in the negotiations would cause "an unfortunate division between producing and consuming countries" and that the "British cabinet would have to conclude that the fault was that of OPEC."



50X1

50X1

*If no agreement is reached or in sight by 3 February, a general conference of all ten OPEC countries scheduled in Tehran that day will decide the next move. The Shah has threatened to demand even higher terms patterned on the Venezuelan model and OPEC may even impose a temporary cut-off of oil shipments as a punitive measure.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**Mockup of New Franco-German Alpha Jet Trainer**



Power: 2 turbofan engines creating about 3,000 lbs thrust each  
Length: 40 ft  
Wing span: 30 ft  
Takeoff weight: about 10,000 lbs  
Speed: Mach 0.9  
Takeoff run: less than 1,600 ft

550900 2-71

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

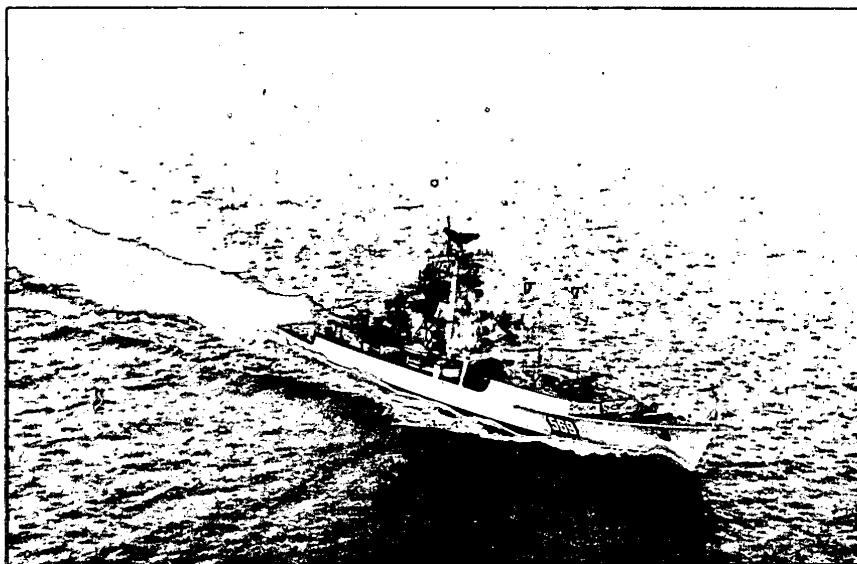
**FRANCE-GERMANY**

The French and German governments have reached an "understanding" to train pilots jointly on a new Franco-German jet trainer. According to a French official in Bonn, arrangements will be made for German pilots to shift their basic jet fighter training from the US to France once the "understanding" becomes a formal agreement. Current plans call for 400 of the subsonic jet trainers to be produced, with each country receiving 200 planes.

*This program, suggested by the Germans, is one of a number discussed when defense ministers Debre and Schmidt met last October. The pilot training scheme would substantially reduce German dependence on the USAF, although advanced jet fighter training would continue in the US. At present the US trains about 180 Luftwaffe pilots annually.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Kresta-class Guided Missile Cruiser



550905 2-71 CIA

50X1

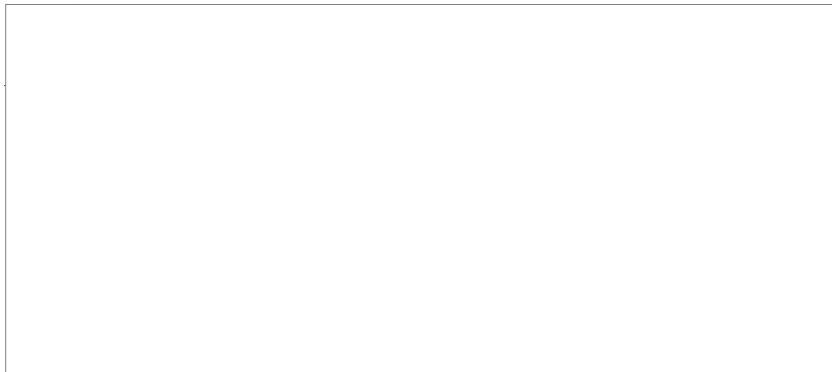
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

UN - Middle East: UN Secretary General Thant told Ambassador Yost yesterday that he will issue his report today on the Middle East situation. The report will call on the parties to exercise military restraint during this delicate stage of negotiations and to carry out the 1967 Security Council resolution in its entirety. The latest Egyptian aide-memoire addressed to Thant indicates that Cairo would have preferred to have Thant's report explicitly define the cease-fire period as one month with only selective references to the 1967 resolution. Based on their discussions with the Egyptians and the UAR aide-memoire, both Thant and Ambassador Yost believe that the Secretary General's report, supported by some sort of statement from the Big Four on Thursday, will be sufficient to induce the Egyptians to extend the cease-fire for one month even though the time frame is not mentioned in Thant's report.

50X1

USSR-Cuba: Three Soviet ships--similar in composition to the force that went to Cuba last September--are currently heading southwest in the North Atlantic. The group is made up of a Kresta-class guided missile cruiser, a submarine tender, and a tanker. The ships are now northeast of Bermuda, and if they remain on their present course they could reach Cuba in about ten days. An N-class nuclear-powered attack submarine has been operating near Bermuda and may accompany these surface ships to Cuban waters.



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

3 February 1971

46



~~Top Secret~~

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

3 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Hanoi has issued an open communique on the meeting Monday of the Communist Party central committee.  
*(Page 1)*

In his talks with Pompidou, Brandt won support for the general purposes of Ostpolitik but received little encouragement on specific issues. *(Page 2)*

50X1



In Laos, Communist forces overran Muong Soui yesterday but its loss will be of more psychological than strategic importance at this time. *(Page 4)*

Photography shows that Egyptian river-crossing equipment is still stacked at a depot near Cairo.  
*(Page 5)*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

An unusual open communiqué issued Monday following a meeting of the Communist Party central committee has set the line that more will be required of the North Vietnamese people in the coming months to meet the needs of what is seen as a long war ahead. Concentrating on the home front, the communiqué--the first open one since 1964--leaves no doubt that the party leadership expects to call on the North Vietnamese for greater sacrifices than were anticipated just two years ago.

The party calls for better domestic performance in a way it has been urging for the past year, especially since Sihanouk's ouster. The government clearly intends to follow practical, expedient policies designed to induce maximum popular response to its directives. The communiqué pays lip service to the longer term goals of developing heavy industry, further collectivizing agriculture, and generally building a more orthodox Marxist state, but indicates that an all-out effort to support the war comes first.

At a similar central committee gathering held in the spring of 1969 to discuss the full range of war-related issues, the party established a new policy of fighting the war on a lower key so as to preserve its forces for the long haul. The guidelines for this policy did not begin to appear in the South, however, until after COSVN issued its Resolution Nine that summer.

Whatever the reasons for the current publicity, we expect that tactical advice, based as in the past on a secret resolution covering Communist prospects in the war, will soon be disseminated to party authorities down the line.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FRANCE - WEST GERMANY**

In his talks last week with Pompidou, Brandt won renewed statements of support for the general purposes of Ostpolitik, but received little encouragement on specific issues. Brandt agreed with Pompidou that inter-German discussions of Berlin must await four-power authorization, but found Pompidou unresponsive to his proposals for seeking means to hasten a settlement in the four-power forum.



50X1

50X1



50X1



50X1

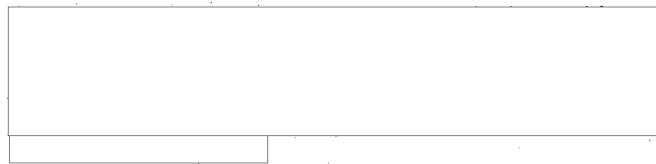
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

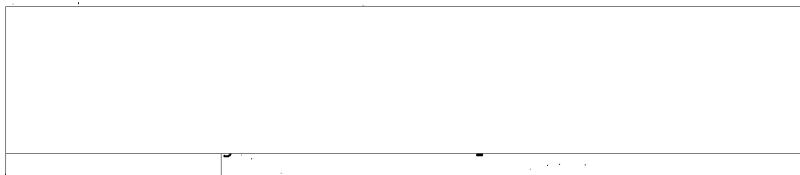
**THAILAND**



50X1

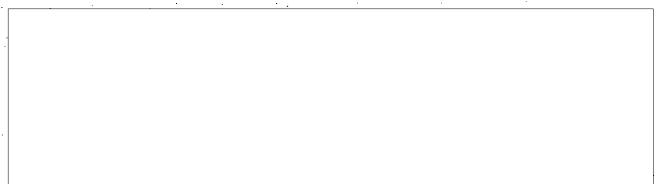


50X1



50X1

50X1

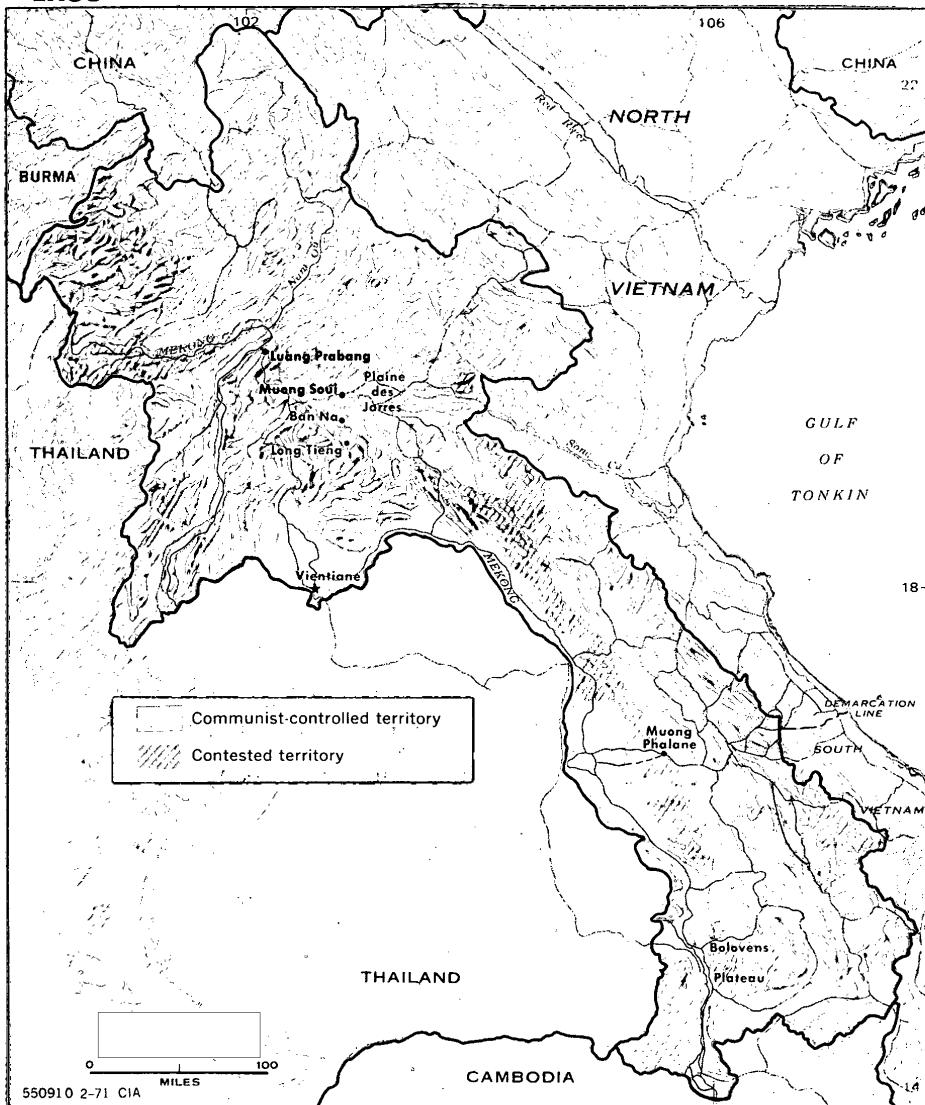


50X1

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## LAOS



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**LAOS**

Communist forces yesterday overran a small government force defending Muong Soui northwest of the Plaine des Jarres on Route 7.

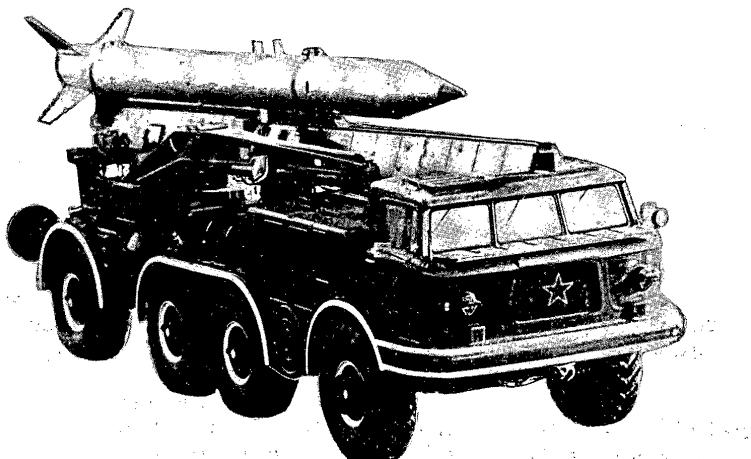
*Muong Soui was recaptured by government irregulars under Vang Pao last October. It has been virtually deserted by its civilian inhabitants for several months, however, and was only lightly garrisoned by the government. Its fall will be of more psychological than strategic importance at this time.*

*The attack may have been carried out by elements of the 174th Regiment of the North Vietnamese 316th Division which has been massing west of the Plaine for several weeks in preparation for the expected dry season campaign.*

There are also reports that three government outposts north and east of Luang Prabang have come under attack. The extent of the enemy thrust in this area is not clear.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

## Soviet Rocket Launcher Seen Near Cairo



550909 2-71 CIA

*-FROG short range surface-to-surface missile and transporter-erector-launcher, seen here in a Soviet parade.*

50x1

50X1

Range . . . . .	about 40 nautical miles
CEP . . . . .	500 meters at maximum range
Warhead weight . . . . .	1200 lbs (conventional)
Warheads available . . . . .	-high explosive
(in Warsaw Pact forces)	-nuclear
	-chemical

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**EGYPT**

Satellite photography [redacted] shows no change in the amount of equipment at Egypt's major river-crossing equipment depot near Cairo. The pontoons, boats, and bridging equipment photographed at this installation in late October are still stacked throughout the area. At the FROG-7 missile storage depot, also near Cairo, 12 transporter-erector-launchers were identified, along with 13 resupply vehicles. Most of the FROG equipment was observed at this installation in late October.

50X1

*Before a major amphibious operation, the Egyptians would have to assemble and move most of the equipment at these installations into position near the Canal. It would take only a few days to ready the equipment, however, if the Egyptians were to decide to do so.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTE**

Ecuador: Rumors of a military take-over are increasing in frequency and intensity, according to the American Embassy. President Velasco appears to be alienating military figures by making all decisions unilaterally, including the recent one to request withdrawal of the US military assistance and advisory group. The ambitious cabinet rivals, Minister of Defense Acosta and Minister of Government Martinez, are ready to use any clear signs of military dissatisfaction to gather armed forces support for an attempt to succeed Velasco.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

4 February 1971

47

~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

4 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

In Laos, the Communists have overrun several government positions northeast of Luang Prabang in their first significant actions since November. (Page 1)

A Soviet commentary on SALT marks a departure from Moscow's normal public reticence on specific points at issue. (Page 2)

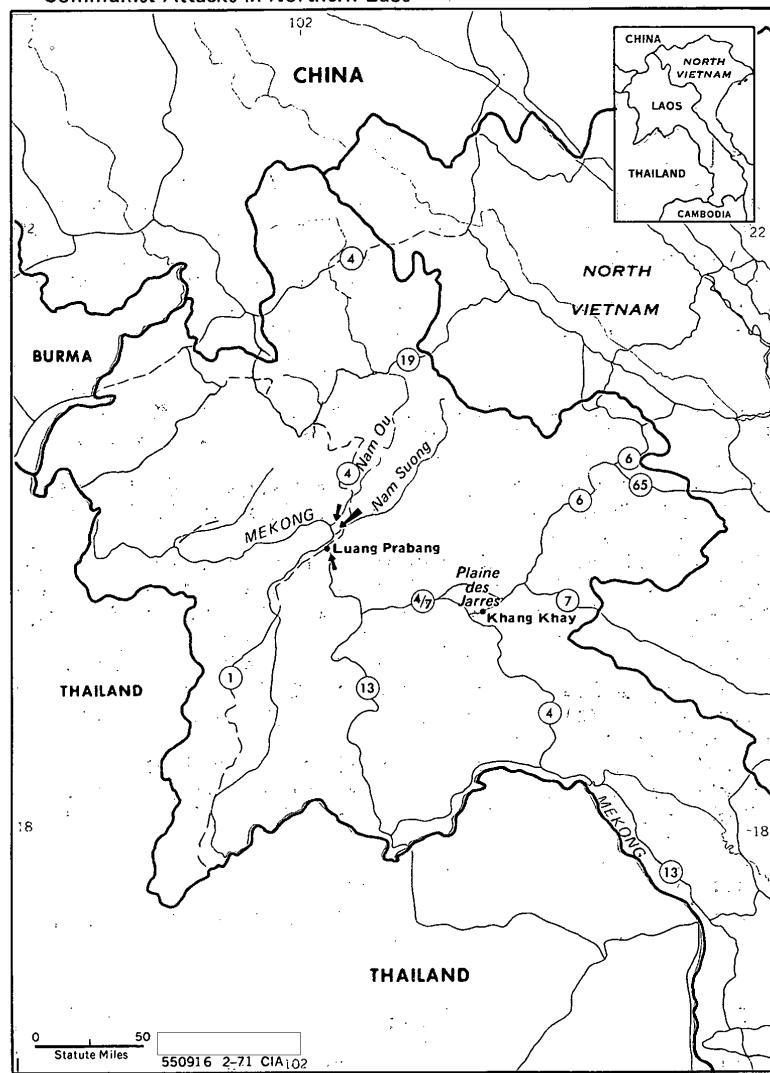
The Egyptians, too, have departed from past practice by telling us they are extending the cease-fire in advance of the public announcement. (Page 3)

A new class of submarine of Chinese design has been detected at a shipyard in northern China. (Page 4)

The Chinese have about completed preparations for another nuclear test at Lop Nor. (Page 4)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

Communist Attacks in Northern Laos



50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The Communists overran several government positions northeast of Luang Prabang on 2 February, with the brunt of the enemy effort falling on Lao Army units about 10 to 15 miles from the royal capital where the Nam Ou and Nam Suong rivers join the Mekong. One Communist unit raided a village about five miles from Luang Prabang, but failed to hold it.

These are the first significant enemy actions in the Luang Prabang area since last November, when the North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao launched a series of unexpectedly sharp attacks along the lower Nam Ou. The November attacks were viewed as a possible reaction to a government effort to stop the Communists from moving supplies along the river rather than as a serious threat to Luang Prabang itself.

The latest attacks may indicate, however, that the royal capital, long assumed to be immune from Communist attack because of the Pathet Lao's professed allegiance to the King, is in some danger. Lao military leaders are now expressing some doubts about their earlier assumption, and King Savang recently expressed a belief that the North Vietnamese intend to occupy the capital with Pathet Lao troops in order to bring down the government in Vientiane.

[redacted] as many as five North Vietnamese battalions are active in the vicinity of Luang Prabang. [redacted] there are actually six battalions--four North Vietnamese, one Pathet Lao, and one mixed--located north, east, and south of the town.

50X1

50X1

50X1

Such a force is far in excess of what the Communists have heretofore maintained in this area.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-SALT

A Soviet commentary issued yesterday marks a departure from Moscow's normal public reticence toward contentious SALT issues, and may be an initial maneuver prior to the renewal of talks in Vienna on 15 March.

An article in Pravda by V. Shustov, a disarmament expert in the Foreign Affairs Ministry, charged that US "militarists" ordered the American press to stress that the talks should not be concerned with "nuclear facilities advanced to the frontiers of the USSR and other socialist countries." This viewpoint is said to "deliberately disregard" the fact that a mutually acceptable agreement must yield no unilateral military advantages to either side. The article also stated that the strengthening of US military forces over the past year is incompatible with efforts to reach an agreement.

These views are consistent with private Soviet statements at the arms talks, and amplify Defense Minister Grechko's comment in Finland Friday that the US "wants to take advantage" of the talks. Previously in public, however, Moscow took the position between sessions that it remained committed to seeking an agreement and that it would be self-defeating for Washington to try and negotiate from a "position of strength." In calling attention for the first time to one of the fundamental differences of the negotiations, the Soviets presumably have tailored their cautiously worded statement directly for consumption in Washington. In stressing Moscow's concern with the specific issue of forward-based systems, the statement seems intended to increase pressure for further US movement before the Vienna round begins.

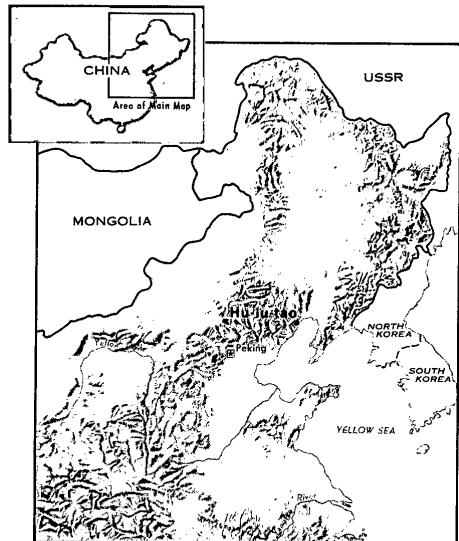
The Soviets' decision to plead their case in public was forecast in comments to Governor Harriman in Moscow last month. Pravda commentator Yury Zhukov told him that the Soviets were irritated by US press leaks on SALT, and would be responding in their own way.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**EGYPT**

*Cairo's decision to extend the cease-fire for another month, communicated in advance to the US, will be formally announced by Sadat later today. The Egyptian move to advise the US of its decision is in marked contrast to Nasir's practice, which was to make full use of suspense and surprise in an effort to achieve maximum impact at home and abroad. The Egyptians no doubt count on favorable world reaction to their decision. They apparently regard the extension as of short enough duration to insure continuing pressures for substantive movement in the diplomatic arena.*

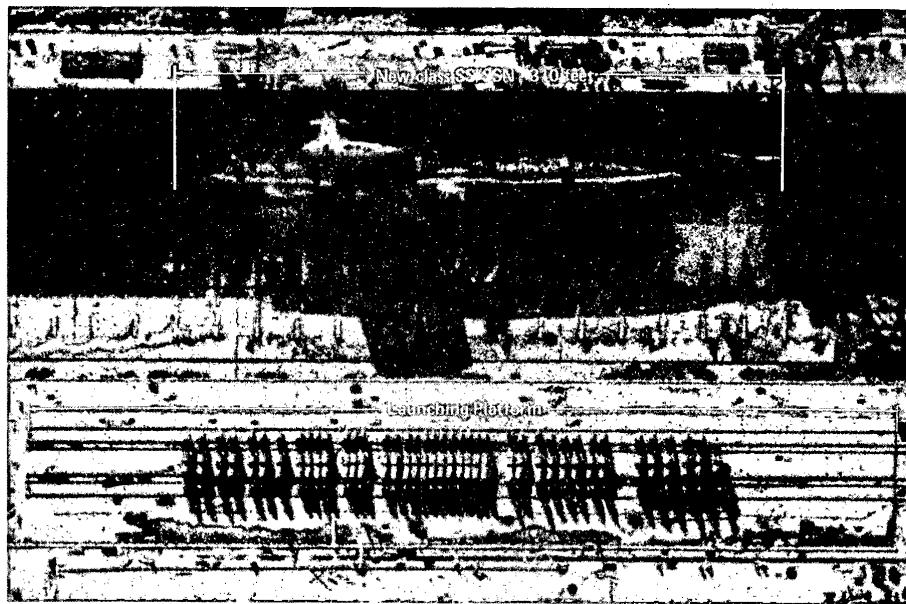
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



## New Chinese Attack Submarine

50X1

50X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Communist China: Satellite photography [redacted] January shows an attack submarine, which is a new class of Chinese design, in the launch basin at Hu-lu-tao shipyard in northern China.

50X1

50X1

[redacted] The submarine is a modern, high-speed type, about 310 feet long with a 33-foot beam. It cannot be determined yet whether it has a nuclear or diesel propulsion system.

Communist China: Satellite photography of late January shows that preparations are nearing completion for a nuclear test at the new ground zero at Lop Nor, first identified last November. The type and location of structures in the test area indicate that the Chinese will detonate the nuclear device from a platform, or possibly a balloon, and that it will be of relatively low yield.

China's last test [redacted]

occurred on 14 October 1970.

50X1

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

*5 February 1971*

49

~~Top Secret~~ 50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

5 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

On *Page 1*, we discuss some recent East German maneuvers regarding the Berlin situation.

50X1

The French are expecting to conclude a sale of Mirage aircraft to South Africa. (*Page 2*)



Communist China's production rate of MIG-19 aircraft has increased. (*Page 4*)

Jarring intends to take a more active role in trying to advance the Middle East negotiations, which he considers at a critical stage. (*Page 4*)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY

A front-page editorial in the East German official party newspaper, Neues Deutschland, on 3 February warns that further "misuses" of West Berlin would meet East German resistance. The editorial rejected Western protests over Pankow's interference with traffic last week and blamed "diplomats of some Western powers" for encouraging Bonn's unwanted political activity in West Berlin.

*The editorial suggests that Pankow is determined to create further autobahn harassment in response to West German political activity in Berlin. The first test will come tomorrow when the Christian Democratic Party (CDU) holds a political rally in Berlin. On 15 February two events in Berlin--a Socialist Party leadership conference attended by Brandt and a major CDU rally--may bring further East German obstructionism.*

\* \* \*

In another development on Berlin, East German Premier Stoph yesterday made public a proposal for direct negotiations of Berlin problems between his government and the West Berlin Senat.

*The East German offer ignores and in effect undercuts the four-power talks on Berlin, and removes Bonn entirely from the discussions on the city's access to the West. The proposal is standard East German fare, designed to emphasize that West Berlin is a distinct political entity, entirely separate from both West and East Germany.*

*The Soviets no doubt have acquiesced in this approach, which Ambassador Abrasimov has advocated at the four-power talks. The Soviets argue that East Germany is a sovereign state and needs no mandate from the four victorious powers to negotiate with either Bonn or the West Berlin Senat, a position that West Germany and the Senat will reject.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE - SOUTH AFRICA

In a private conversation with US officials, the French minister in London said that negotiations for the sale of Mirage aircraft to South Africa have been under way for some time. The French were said to anticipate the successful conclusion of the sale but the number, price, and delivery dates have not been finally resolved.

Last November, France agreed to suspend further sales of helicopters and armored cars to South Africa. We had not counted on Paris to extend this embargo to Mirage aircraft, particularly if the price were right. The French may use the growing Soviet interest in the Indian Ocean as the rationale for such a sale, but the potential profits are the main consideration in Paris.

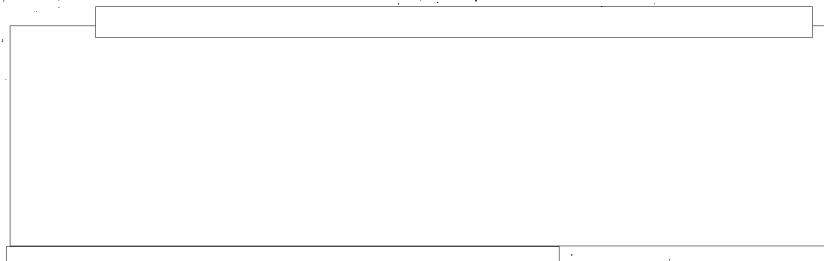
In 1970, French foreign sales of military equipment rose sharply, carrying France to a level of about \$1.3 billion. The sale of aeronautical equipment, including aircraft and missiles of all types, accounted for \$940 million or nearly three fourths of the total.

A French sale could have some impact on the debate in Britain over Prime Minister Heath's proposal to sell arms to South Africa, and could aid him in overcoming domestic opposition to such sales. Heath probably will not announce any decision on sales during the next several months while a newly appointed Commonwealth study group examines the issue.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SAUDI ARABIA - SOUTHERN YEMEN

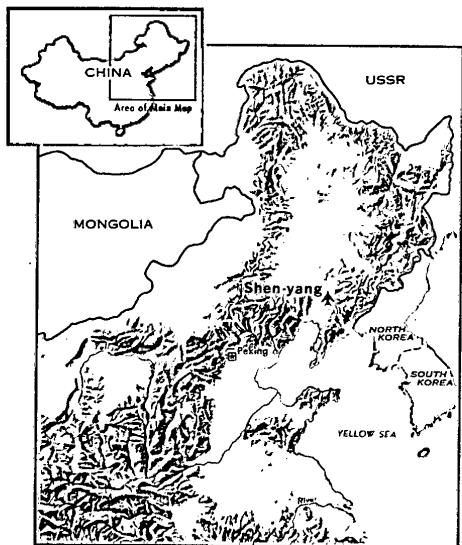


50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

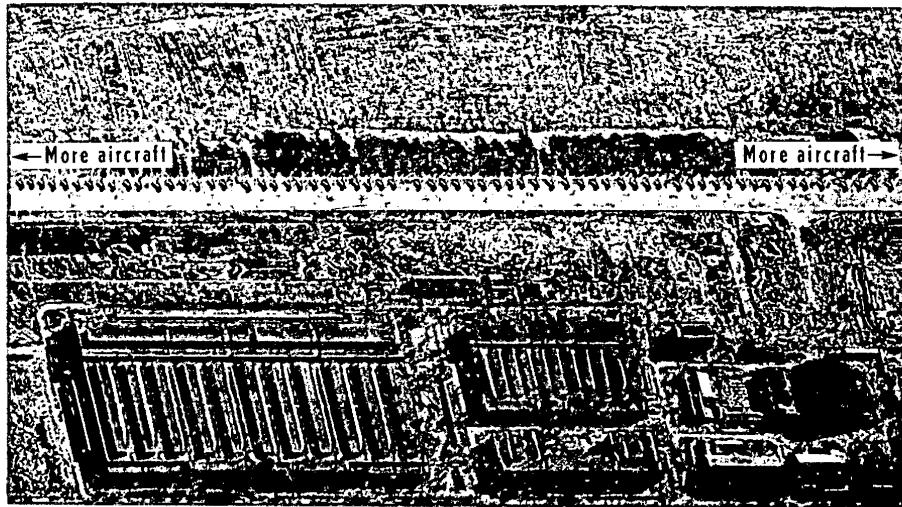


A portion of the MIG-19s seen  
at Shen-yang airframe plant

50X1

50X1

[redacted]  
550925 2-71 CIA  
[redacted]



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

Communist China: The latest satellite photography indicates that the production rate of MIG-19 jet fighters has increased considerably in the past several months. At China's only MIG-19 production facility, the Shen-yang airframe plant in Manchuria, the photography shows 204 aircraft compared with about 115 in early December. Not all of the aircraft seen on either occasion were necessarily newly produced; some may have been returned for overhaul or modification. The photography [redacted] suggest a current production rate of some 35 aircraft per month compared to 25 per month in early 1970.

50X1

Middle East: With the extension of the cease-fire, Jarring now plans to offer both Middle East parties his own ideas on a settlement and to request a Big Four statement on the question of guarantees. Jarring realizes that this would be contrary to Israel's view that he should play only a limited role and that his mission might be paralyzed, but he believes that the present moment is critical. Jarring has told Ambassador Yost he believes there must be a forthcoming Israeli statement on withdrawal and that this should be made no later than 14 February when the Israeli cabinet meets.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

6 February 1971

49

~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

6 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

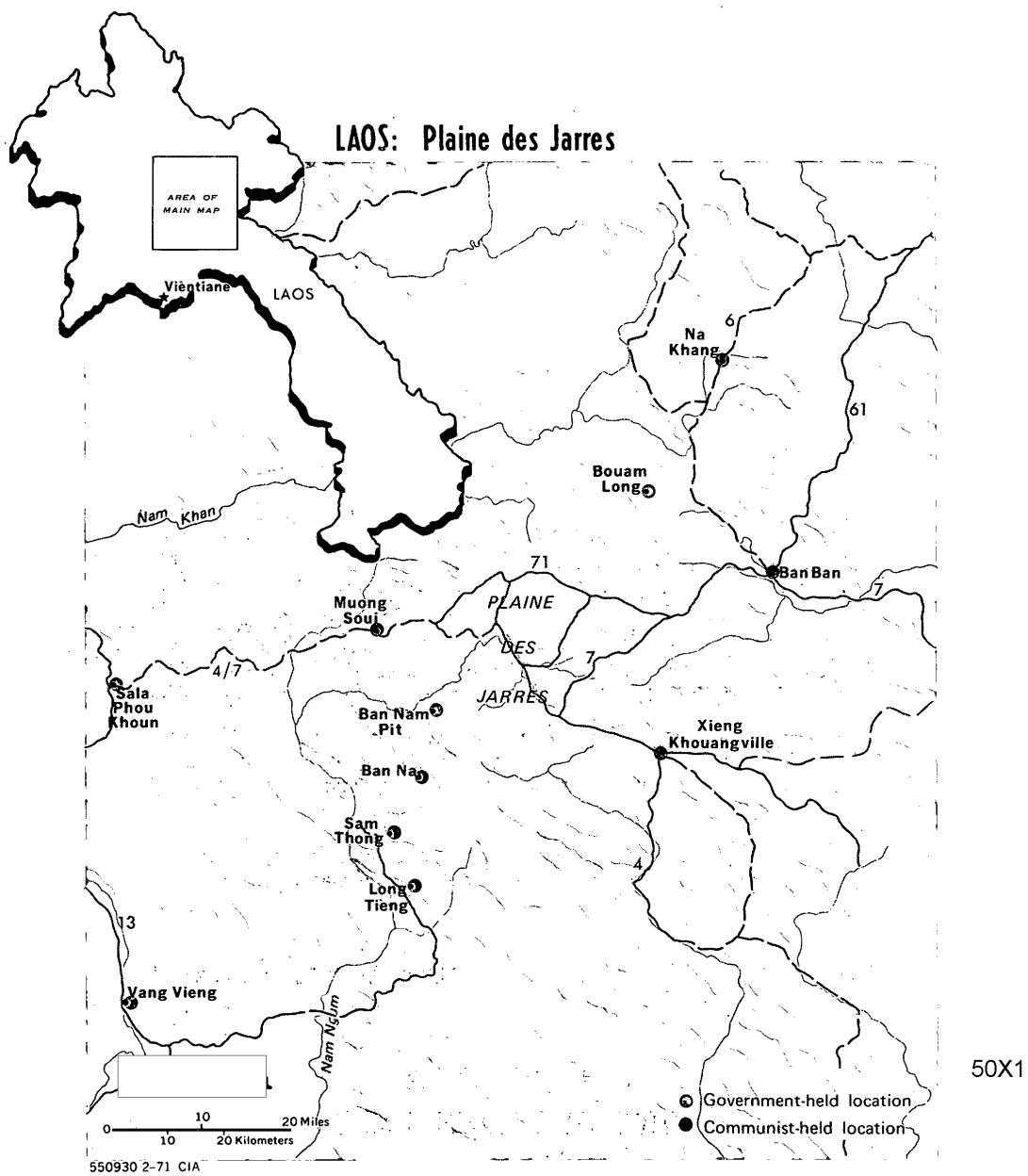
The North Vietnamese are positioning troops for attacks against government forces in northern Laos.  
*(Page 1)*

The Lon Nol government is being widely criticized for the continuing incidents of misbehavior by the South Vietnamese Army in Cambodia. *(Page 2)*

Bonn's inaction to Berlin autobahn harassment has disheartened the West Berlin populace, but West German leaders believe that a tough response may make matters worse. *(Page 3)*

The Soviets are lurching toward their party congress.  
*(Page 4)*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

*Intercepted communications from North Vietnamese units in the vicinity of Ban Na suggest that an attack on government positions there is imminent.*

Messages of 4 February between elements of the NVA 174th Regiment said that preparations were being made to "initiate combat operations" and that units were moving to high ground west and south of Ban Na. According to other intercepts, elements of the NVA 316th Division are preparing to shell Ban Nam Pit, four miles north of Ban Na, and a surgical team is to move into an area west of Ban Na "in time for combat."

*The government maintains about 1,300 troops and several key artillery positions at Ban Na. The enemy can bring to bear at least an equivalent number of troops.*

A few miles to the south, in the vicinity of Sam Thong and Long Tieng, government irregulars report increasing contact with small enemy units.

[redacted] noted evidence of greater North Vietnamese use of the trails in this area. On 3 February, ten NVA troops briefly probed an irregular position only three miles to the northwest of Long Tieng, and early this morning irregular forces repulsed attacks against three of their positions in the Long Tieng area.

50X1  
50X1

*Enemy strength in the vicinity of the government's key bases southwest of the Plaine des Jarres thus seems to be growing. This continued probing apparently is the forerunner of major offensive action in the near future.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

[redacted]

50X1

Thus far, [redacted] the government has mollified its critics by arguing that the ARVN presence is a necessary evil.

50X1

50X1

[redacted] the government would be in political difficulty by mid-year if incidents continue at the present rate, and [redacted] Cambodia must soon become capable of waging the war on its own without any help from ARVN. [redacted] despite substantial high-level good will between Phnom Penh and Saigon, the government doubts that Saigon is doing all it can do to reduce incidents.

50X1

50X1

Foreign Minister Koun Wick expressed similar sentiments to Ambassador Swank on the same day, stating that the incidents are causing Matak and Lon Nol considerable anguish. He claimed, without providing details, that a proposal for the total withdrawal of all ARVN forces from the country had been rejected.

*Lon Nol and Thieu are said to have agreed last month to establish a joint committee to investigate incidents. This and other ameliorating measures are unlikely to help much, however, in view of the centuries-old antagonism between the two peoples.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY - EAST GERMANY

The prospect of further Berlin autobahn harassments against West German political activities in the city poses a dilemma for Chancellor Brandt. Most of the top government leaders in Bonn prefer to avoid aggravating the situation further, but the West Berlin city elections on 14 March compel Brandt to go along with the unusually high level of federal political activity in the city for the next several weeks.

The reassurance that these political activities are intended to convey to West Berliners, however, is essentially negated by Communist harassments of the city's vital access links to the West. Bonn has warned of "countermeasures," but it is reluctant to take any meaningful retaliations for fear they would make matters worse. Many West Berliners, however, find this attitude disheartening. City leaders are warning not only of a possible electoral setback for Brandt's ruling Social Democrats, but of the danger that many residents may be sufficiently discouraged to find new homes in West Germany.

For the immediate future, Bonn's primary hope of dealing with the situation appears to be centered on its exploratory talks with the East Germans. The West Germans have told the three allied powers, however, that the latest meeting on 3 February between Egon Bahr and his East German counterpart, Michael Kohl, again failed to make any progress on the transit question.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

USSR

Several party congresses in the various Soviet republics and important regional conferences have recently been rescheduled, in some cases only ten days before they were to meet.

50X1

Normally the republic congresses precede the national party congress by about three weeks, and their schedules may have been upset when the main event was postponed from early March to 30 March. Plans for the 24th party congress appear to be going forward, although with a greater degree of confusion than usual, and further delays may occur. Obviously, the leadership has had problems reaching decisions on plan directives and resource allocations.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*8 February 1971*

50

*Top Secret*<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

8 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

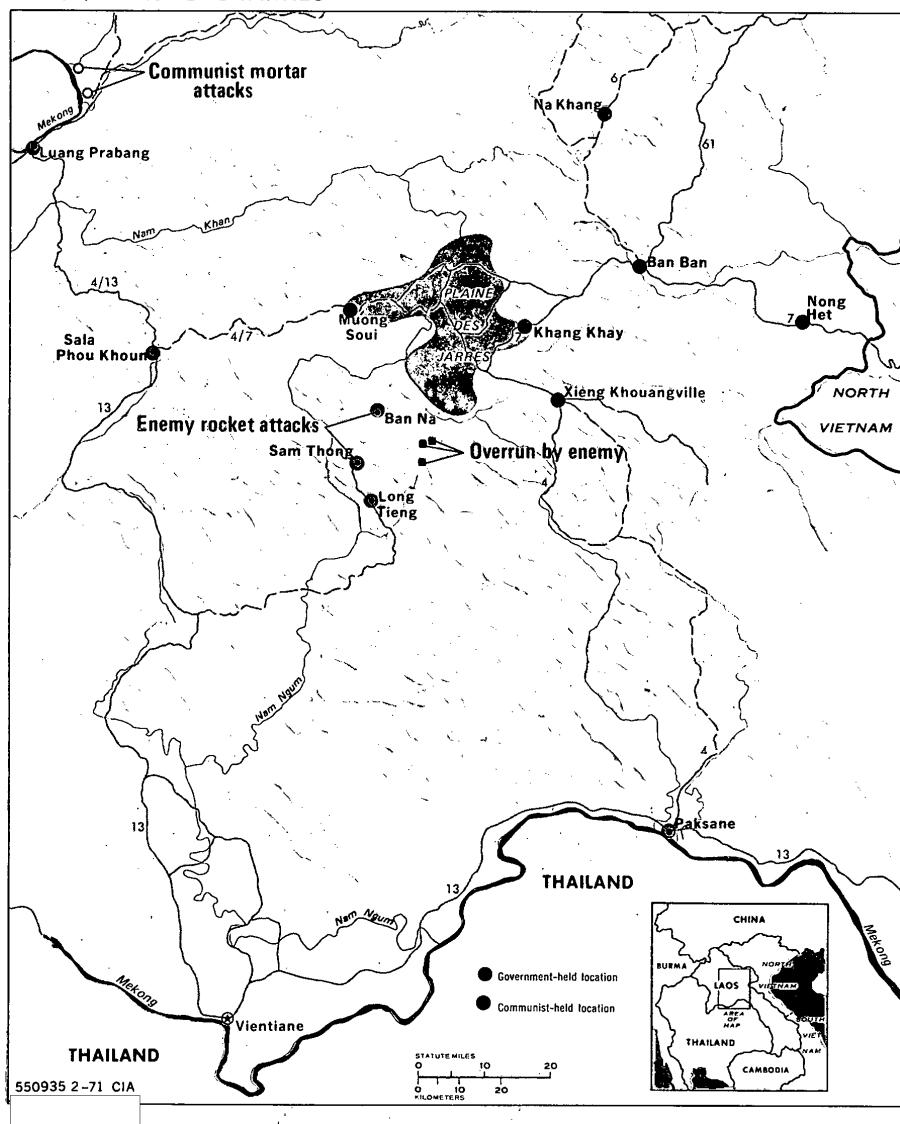
In northern Laos, the Communists have seized three outposts guarding the eastern approaches to Long Tieng, and are continuing their buildup in the area.  
*(Page 1)*

For the second time in recent days, the Moscow press has commented on specific SALT issues in dispute, this time criticizing the US attitude on an initial ABM-only agreement. *(Page 2)*

On *Page 3* we assess the meeting of the Polish central committee held this past weekend.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS/PLAINE DES JARRES



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

Communist units yesterday overran three government irregular outposts guarding the eastern approaches to the base at Long Tieng. The commander of one of these positions--a mobile group headquarters about nine miles northeast of Long Tieng--was killed. A fourth position in the area is surrounded while some others northwest and northeast of Ban Na have also been attacked. Both Ban Na and Sam Thong have been the target of rocket attacks in the last two days.

While the precise timing of any Communist drives southwest of the Plaine des Jarres is not yet clear, the continued buildup of forces in the area indicates that the Communists plan to follow up their recent attacks.

50X1

[redacted] elements of the 174th Regiment of the NVA 316th Division reflect continuing combat preparations. In addition,

50X1  
50X1

[redacted] elements of two regiments of the 312th Division are in the general area of Ban Na.

The Communists have continued to harass a number of government positions northeast of Luang Prabang with mortar fire, but have caused little recent damage or casualties. Government artillery fire, which can be heard in the royal capital, is keeping local residents on edge and producing a rash of rumors about Communist intentions.

50X1

Vientiane [redacted]  
has already been put on a semialert status, largely as a precaution against possible sapper attacks.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**USSR-SALT**

An Izvestiya article on Saturday used Western press reporting on Ambassador Smith's remarks last week before a congressional committee as a peg to criticize the US attitude toward an initial ABM-only agreement. Izvestiya claimed that Smith's audience was "puzzled by his extremely negative approach to such a practical step." The article charged that Smith was trying to prejudice the views of those American legislators and scientists who favor an ABM-only agreement. Izvestiya labeled this a "rather peculiar situation."

*As discussed in The President's Daily Brief of 4 February, earlier last week an article in Pravda on forward-based systems broke the USSR's public silence on contentious SALT issues. The articles show a new determination to increase pressures for concessions from the US, and are likely to be followed by further propaganda attacks leading up to the renewal of talks on 15 March.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

Gierek used the long-delayed party central committee session held over the weekend to explain and assign blame for past errors and to chart a general course for the immediate future. The clique surrounding Gomulka and his already ousted politburo associates, economic czar Boleslaw Jaszcuk and ideologist Zenon Kliszko, were tagged with responsibility for conditions that led up to the December upheaval. Jaszcuk and Kliszko were stripped of their central committee membership, and the hospitalized Gomulka suspended. Two others were dropped from the politburo, with no replacements announced. Further changes may be in the offing.

In a brief sketch of the months ahead in his closing speech, Gierek advocated strengthening the features that have characterized his seven weeks of rule, including greater popular participation in government at all levels, a continuing direct dialogue with the workers, a rejuvenation of the trade unions, and a greater role for parliament. However, he appeared determined to make clear that the leading role of the party is not to be challenged.

In sum, the plenum has given the Polish people a general promise that the party will consider new political and economic measures but little hope of any more immediate relief. Gierek is trying to convince them that a new start has been made without opening doors that could lead to an erosion of party control over the country.

The next step will come with the party congress--to be advanced from next year when previously scheduled, although no date is yet set. Gierek will use that session to install more of his own men in the central committee and possibly to gain endorsement for more fundamental policy moves.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

North Vietnam: Reports are circulating in Hanoi that Truong Chinh, the second-ranking member of the party hierarchy, is either seriously ill or dead. Chinh, who only recently returned from his second trip in two and a half years to East Germany for medical treatment, has not been seen publicly since 26 January and was conspicuously missing from the round of official appearances normally made by top leaders during the Tet holidays. While Hanoi's leaders appear in agreement on the need to respond to the demands of the broadened Indochina conflict, Chinh's death or incapacitation would remove a figure who has at times questioned the regime's heavy priority to the war effort in relation to domestic considerations.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*9 February 1971*

*49*

~~Top Secret~~ 50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

9 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The Lao Government is moving to strengthen its forces around Long Tieng and Luang Prabang. (Page 1)

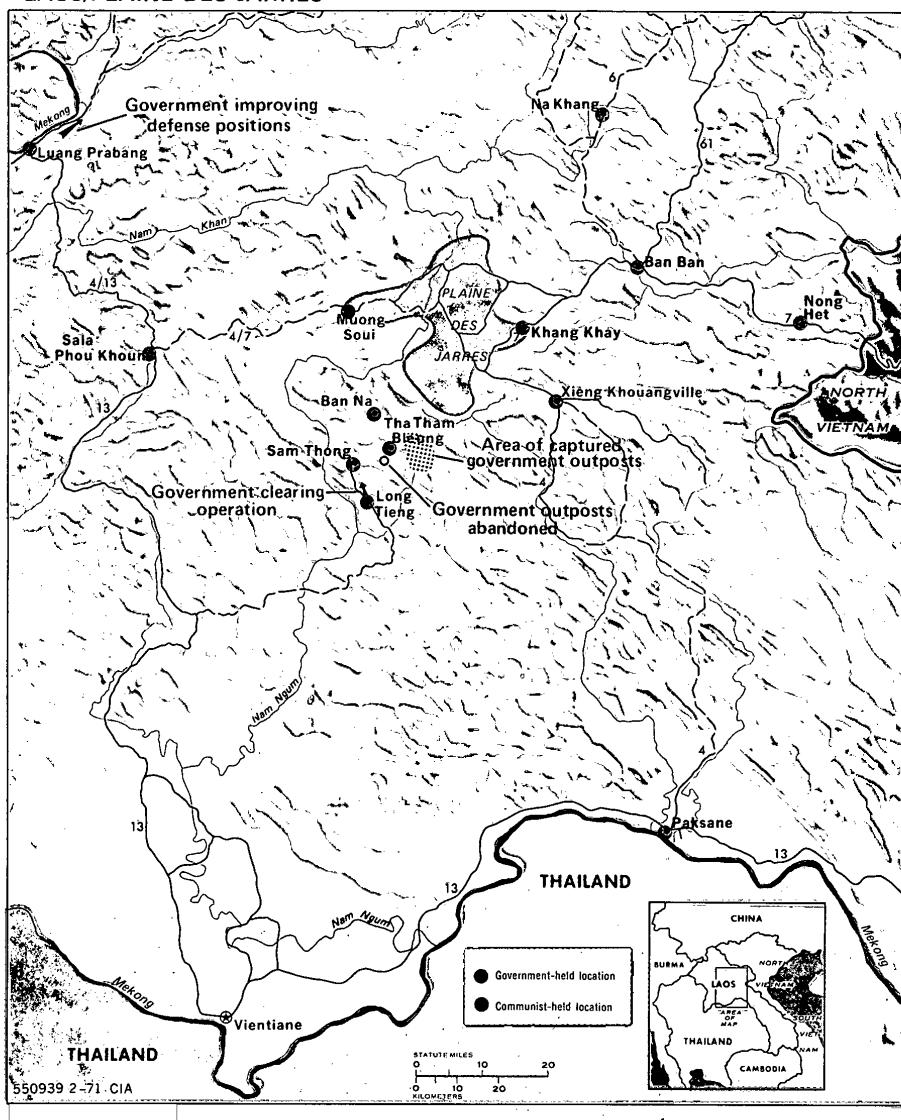
The current South Vietnamese operations in Cambodia are discussed on Page 2.

Satellite photography contains no evidence that the Soviets have begun construction of any SS-9 groups since last June. (Page 3)

Leaders of East Pakistan apparently are considering a declaration of independence. (Page 4)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS/PLAINE DES JARRES



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

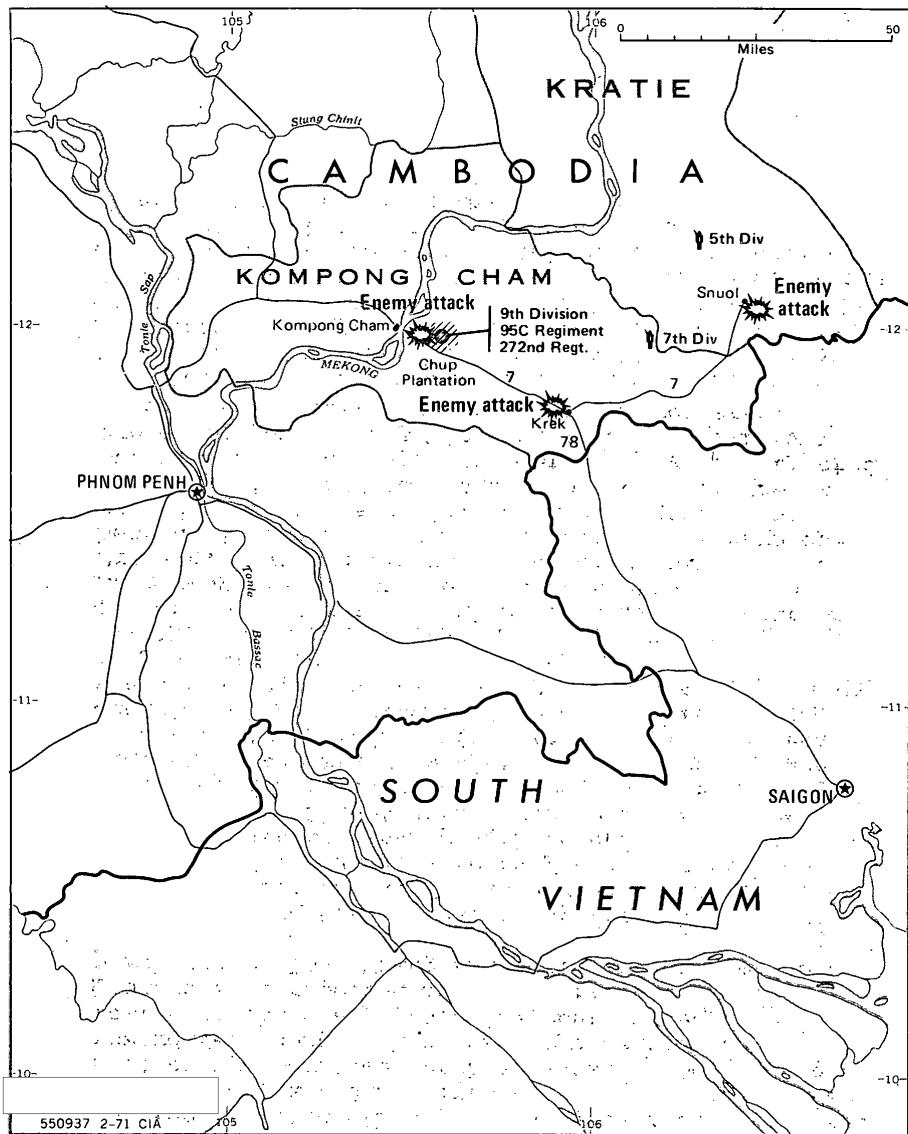
**LAOS**

The government has flown two irregular battalions to positions north and northeast of Long Tieng in order to strengthen its defenses around the base. In addition, a 280-man irregular force has launched a clearing operation north and west of Long Tieng toward Sam Thong. This force apparently had no contact with the enemy yesterday, but at least two clashes were reported by other irregular forces northeast of Long Tieng and northwest of Sam Thong.

A total of eight irregular outposts was lost in the fighting around Long Tieng on 7 February. Troops from these outposts are now moving back toward Long Tieng and Tha Tham Bleung. The irregulars were forced to withdraw from two more outposts near Tha Tham Bleung on 7 February, and are joining units elsewhere in the area. Enemy shelling attacks and harassments have continued around Ban Na and Tha Tham Bleung.

The government has also launched an operation to improve the defensive positions around Luang Prabang. Two additional irregular companies have been airlifted into the area. Irregulars have occupied some of the positions on high ground that the Communists had been using to shell government outposts north of the town. Attacks by an estimated two enemy companies against these ridge positions late on 8 February were successfully resisted.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA - SOUTH VIETNAM**

Enemy troops have carried out a series of ground and mortar attacks against the South Vietnamese forces operating since 4 February in the vicinity of the Chup rubber plantation in Kompong Cham Province. These attacks have been repulsed with the help of air and artillery support, and the South Vietnamese claim so far to have killed more than 300 Communists while losing about 40 killed.

[redacted] enemy forces in the Chup area include elements of two regiments--the 272nd and the 95C--from the Viet Cong 9th Division together with the division headquarters.

50X1

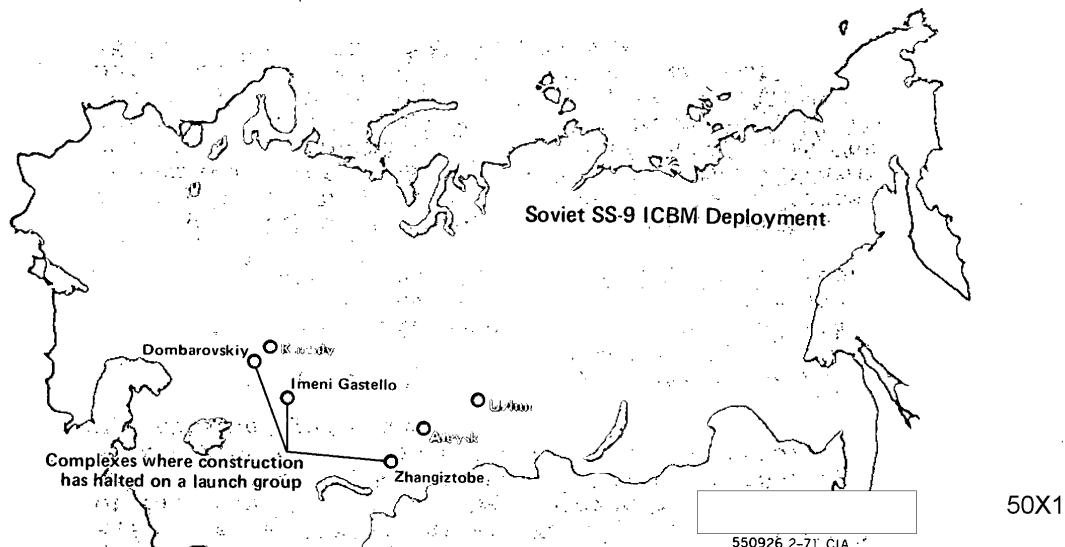
A Communist mortar attack during the weekend against a South Vietnamese position closer to the border in Kompong Cham Province destroyed a large quantity of fuel and ammunition. This attack was against a regimental command post located just north of the town of Krek, at the junction of Routes 7 and 78. Another position manned by ARVN troops in Kratie Province, a few miles northeast of Snuol, was attacked yesterday.

50X1

Elements of the North Vietnamese 7th Division, are near the Kompong Cham - Kratie border area. The Communists' 5th Division and its three subordinate regiments are within range of the Snuol area.

[redacted]

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

Satellite photography reveals no evidence that the Soviets have begun construction of any SS-9 groups since June 1970. Of groups started earlier, work is continuing on two, which probably will be completed by mid-1972, but construction has stopped at three others.

Satellite photography in January of portions of four of the six SS-9 complexes showed that construction had halted on a group of six silos in the Imeni Gastello complex. Work first began on this group in September 1969, but proceeded at a much slower pace than normal. The group shows no construction progress since it was last photographed in November 1970.

This is the third SS-9 launch group where work recently has been halted. Photography of last November had indicated that construction at two other groups--one at the Dombarovskiy complex and one at Zhangiztobe--had been abandoned. These two groups, the last known to be started, were begun in June 1970. The group at the Zhangiztobe complex was seen in the latest coverage and again showed no evidence of construction activity. The Dombarovskiy complex was not photographed in January.

The only other complex not covered in January was Aleysk. When this complex was photographed in November, all construction was completed.

There are now 276 SS-9 launchers operational--18 having become operational since December. The current photography showed that work is continuing on 12 additional silos--six in a group at the Uzhur complex and six at Kartaly. Both groups probably will be completed by mid-1972, bringing the total SS-9 force to 288 launchers. If construction is resumed at the three groups which are now inactive, the eventual total would be 306 launchers.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**PAKISTAN**

The US Consulate General in Dacca has been told that East Pakistani political leader Mujibur Rahman is very pessimistic about chances of reaching agreement on a new constitution with Zulfikar Bhutto, head of West Pakistan's largest party. Mujibur's party, the Awami League (AL), wants a constitution that provides for provincial autonomy but they now expect Bhutto and other Western politicians to block this proposal. The AL will then propose separate constitutions for East and West Pakistan under a loose confederation. If this plan fails, the AL will declare East Pakistan's independence. This message was delivered by Alamgir Rahman, a responsible member of the AL, who also inquired about the US attitude toward a unilateral declaration of independence by East Pakistan.

*East Pakistanis have complained for years about West Pakistan exploitation and domination, and sentiment favoring early secession seems to have risen sharply within recent months. It is unlikely that West Pakistani-led armed forces could prevent a final split between the two wings. Indeed, many West Pakistanis consider East Pakistan a burden on the economy, and they too might welcome separation.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

**USSR-Berlin:** Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov was noncommittal about a Western draft for a possible Berlin agreement at yesterday's session of the four-power ambassadorial talks. He did not explicitly reject the Western draft, which was originally tabled at an advisers' meeting on 5 February, but he made it clear that the Soviets will be tabling their own language. It was agreed that the ambassadorial advisers would begin detailed discussions on a working draft later this week, thereafter meeting as often as deemed necessary and useful.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*10 February 1971*

49



50X1  
*Top Secret*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

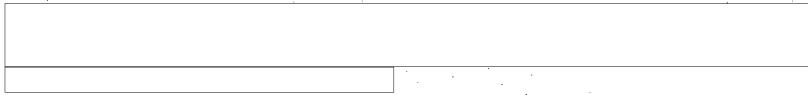
10 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The Communists' military and political position in the Mekong Delta provinces of South Vietnam has deteriorated. (Page 1)

50X1

There is no agreement in sight between Israel and Egypt on reopening the Suez Canal although there may be further dialogue. (Page 2)



50X1

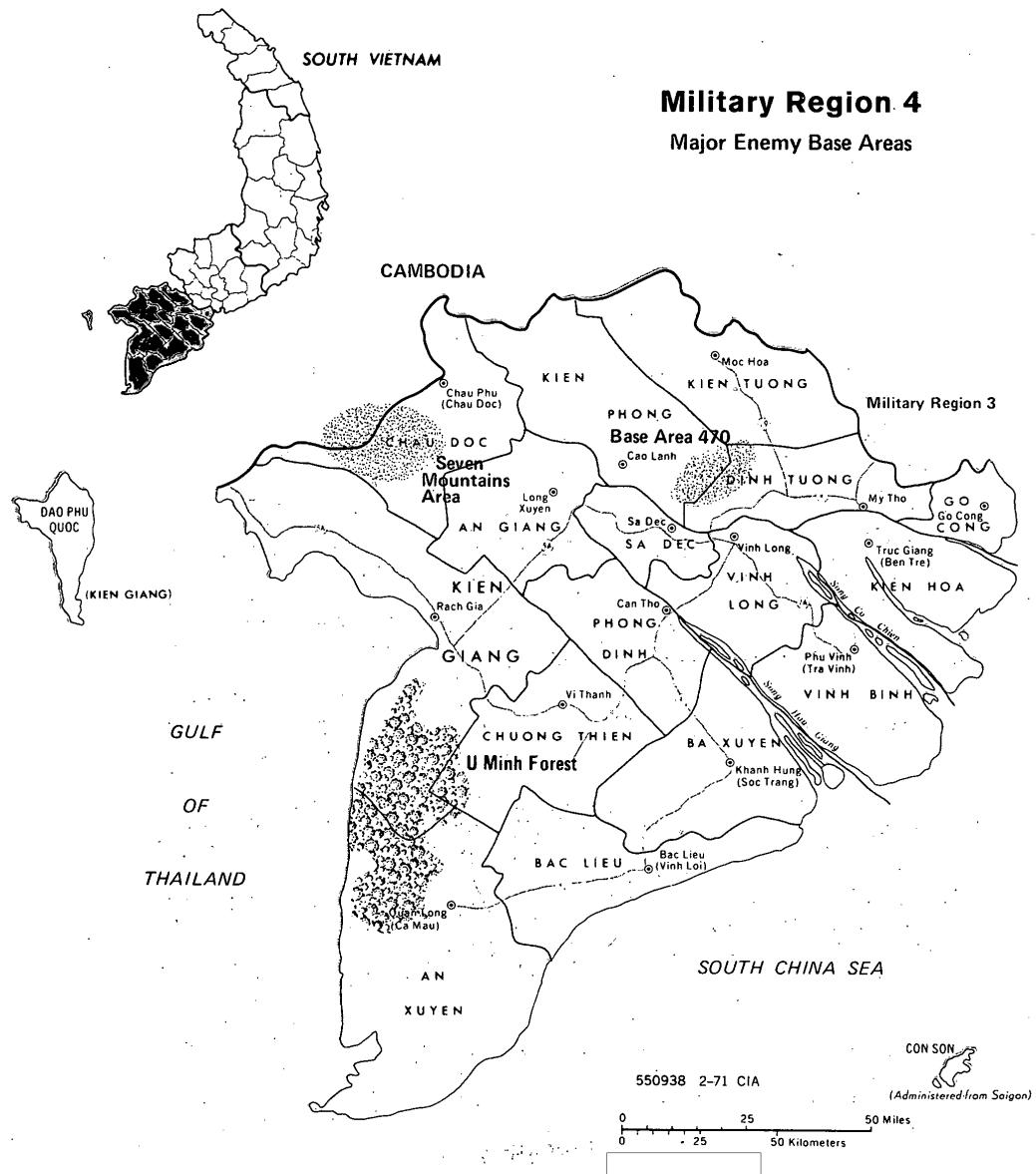
In North Vietnam, Truong Chinh's recent activity has countered rumors that he is seriously ill. (Page 4)

50X1



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SOUTH VIETNAM**

Captured enemy documents have given us an insight into a declining enemy position in the southernmost delta provinces. One document--an assessment of the overall Communist situation for the third quarter of 1970 passed from the regional headquarters for the southern delta to COSVN--lamented that some two thirds of the population lived in South Vietnamese - controlled areas and only 13 percent were directly under Communist control. In addition to constant problems, such as manpower attrition, low morale, and insufficient supplies, the document gloomily concluded that it would be "many years" before the balance of power in the southern delta provinces could turn in favor of the Communists.

*Since then, South Vietnamese military operations, under the command of General Ngo Quang Truong, have added to the deteriorating military and political position of the Communists in the Mekong Delta provinces. Recent drives by South Vietnamese regulars into traditional enemy strongholds in the U Minh Forest, the Seven Mountains area, and Base Area 470 have been successfully carried out, and permanent artillery bases have been built in all these areas. In addition, Regional and Popular Force troops in concert with the police have conducted a successful short-term campaign against Viet Cong guerrillas and members of their political apparatus, and further such operations are being planned.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**ISRAEL-EGYPT**

*In yesterday's speech to the Knesset, Mrs. Meir characterized Egyptian President Sadat's demand for a partial Israeli withdrawal in return for reopening the canal to "international navigation" as aimed merely at giving Cairo a strategic advantage without including any real commitment to peace. While Mrs. Meir stated that Israel would favorably consider proposals aimed at the mutual reduction of military forces along the canal, there was no indication that Israel was prepared to depart from its long-held position that there would be no withdrawal prior to a signed peace treaty.*

*Mrs. Meir offered to conclude an agreement outside the peace talks that would reopen the canal to all shipping, including vessels flying the Israeli flag. There will be further dialogue on this subject but Cairo is unlikely to agree at this stage to any proposals concerning the canal that ignore the question of Israeli withdrawal.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Israel

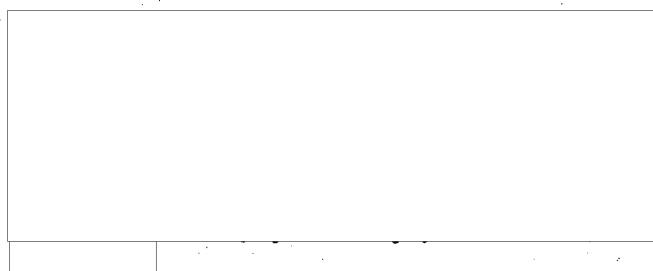
50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CONGO-ISRAEL-SUDAN**



50X1



50X1

50X1



50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

North Vietnam: Hanoi has made a special effort to scotch rumors--noted in The President's Daily [redacted] that Truong Chinh, the second ranking party leader, is seriously ill. Two radio broadcasts yesterday announced that Chinh chaired a meeting of the National Assembly on 8 February and visited troops the following day.

50X1

Fedayeen: [redacted]

50X1

[redacted]  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*11 February 1971*

48



*Top Secret* 50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

11 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The impact of Lon Nol's illness is discussed on  
*Page 1.*

The situation in Laos is described on *Page 2.*

In southern Laos, the Communists are fighting rear  
guard actions but they may be preparing to offer  
stiffer resistance. (*Page 4*)

The Chinese appear to be preparing for launch opera-  
tions at the Shuang-cheng-tzu missile test center.  
(*Page 5*)

A Soviet naval force has begun another round of port  
visits in Cuba. (*Page 5*)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

## CAMBODIA

The prospects for Lon Nol's full or partial recovery from his stroke may not be known for several weeks. Lon Nol's younger brother, Lon Non, has told the press that convalescence would last about a month and that Deputy Prime Minister Sirik Matak will assume Nol's office for the time being.

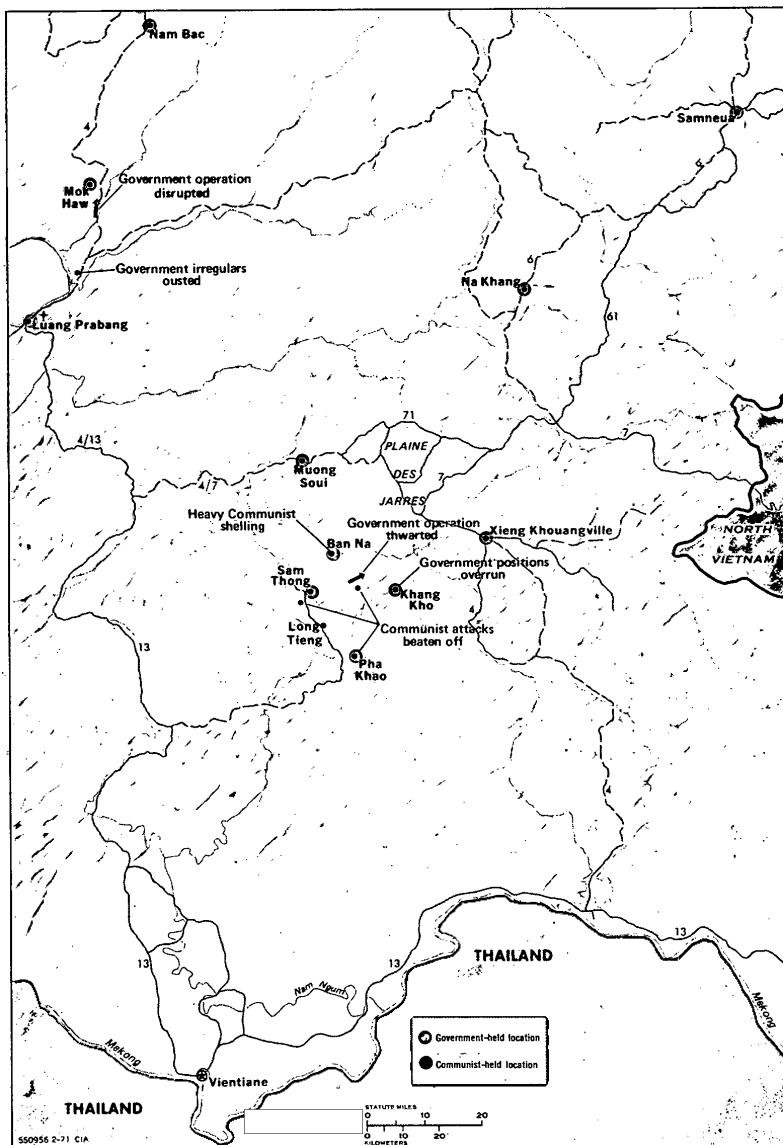
Matak is an able administrator and served as acting prime minister in the early months of the Lon Nol government. Since last March he has been responsible for managing the regime's domestic business, with Lon Nol concentrating almost exclusively on military matters. Matak may be in for some tough going politically, however. Increasing criticism has been leveled at him recently by students, intellectuals, and others among the government's key supporters for his failure to stem inflation and corruption.

He also cannot hope to enjoy the degree of support from the military establishment built up by Lon Nol over the years.

As long as Matak retains Lon Nol's support, however, he should be able to preserve the political unity that has been one of the government's most important assets. Moreover, as demonstrated when he led the move to oust Sihanouk, Matak is a skilled political infighter who has the strong will necessary to keep independent-minded Cambodian officials in line.

The acting prime minister may well choose to turn over much of the responsibility for the conduct of the war to Lon Nol's two trusted subordinates, General Srey Saman, Chief of Staff of the Ministry of National Defense, and General Sak Sutsakan, Army Chief of Staff. It clearly will not be possible for Matak to give the exhausting personal attention to military affairs that Lon Nol has. Although this may result in some temporary dislocation and confusion, it may also help to foster greater military efficiency in the long run.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS

The North Vietnamese have ousted irregular forces from Khang Kho on the eastern approaches to the Sam Thong - Long Tieng complex. The irregulars are retreating to the south; the full extent of their casualties is not yet known. Enemy action has also prevented the irregulars from recapturing positions northeast of Long Tieng lost on 7 February. At Ban Na, continued heavy Communist shelling has hampered aerial resupply and efforts to evacuate wounded.

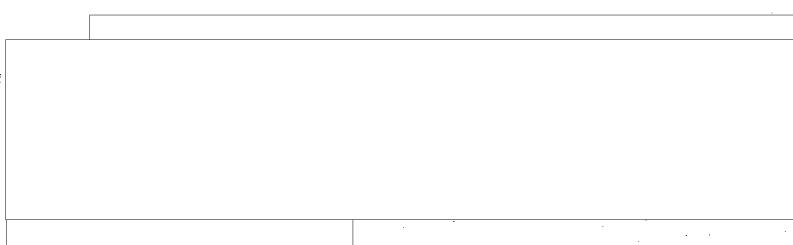
Irregulars have repelled an attack by about 100 North Vietnamese two miles southwest of Sam Thong and a similar attack about six miles southeast of Long Tieng. About 200 irregular reinforcements are being airlifted into the latter area.

Northeast of Luang Prabang, meanwhile, government irregulars have been driven from their recently reoccupied high ground positions, including one only seven miles from the royal capital's airfield. The North Vietnamese also routed a government operation to retake positions in the Mok Haw area 30 miles northeast of Luang Prabang.

\* \* \*

The Laotian National Security Council adopted a resolution on 9 February recommending that Souvanna declare a state of emergency and order general mobilization in all areas except the Vientiane military region. The council rejected the contention of Interior Minister Pheng Phongsavan, who chaired the meeting, that it was already too late for further military moves and that the government's best hope lay in immediate negotiations with the Communists. The cabinet is scheduled to consider the resolution today.

50X1  
50X1

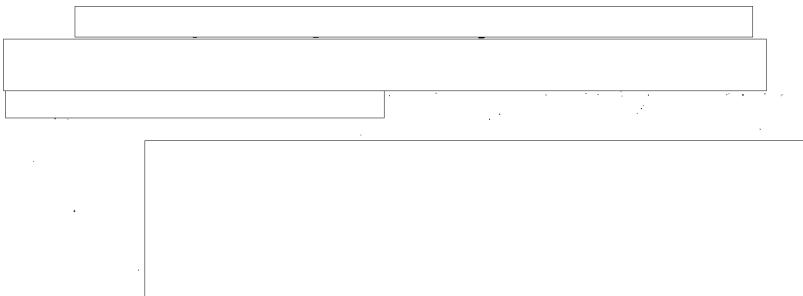


50X1

(continued)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



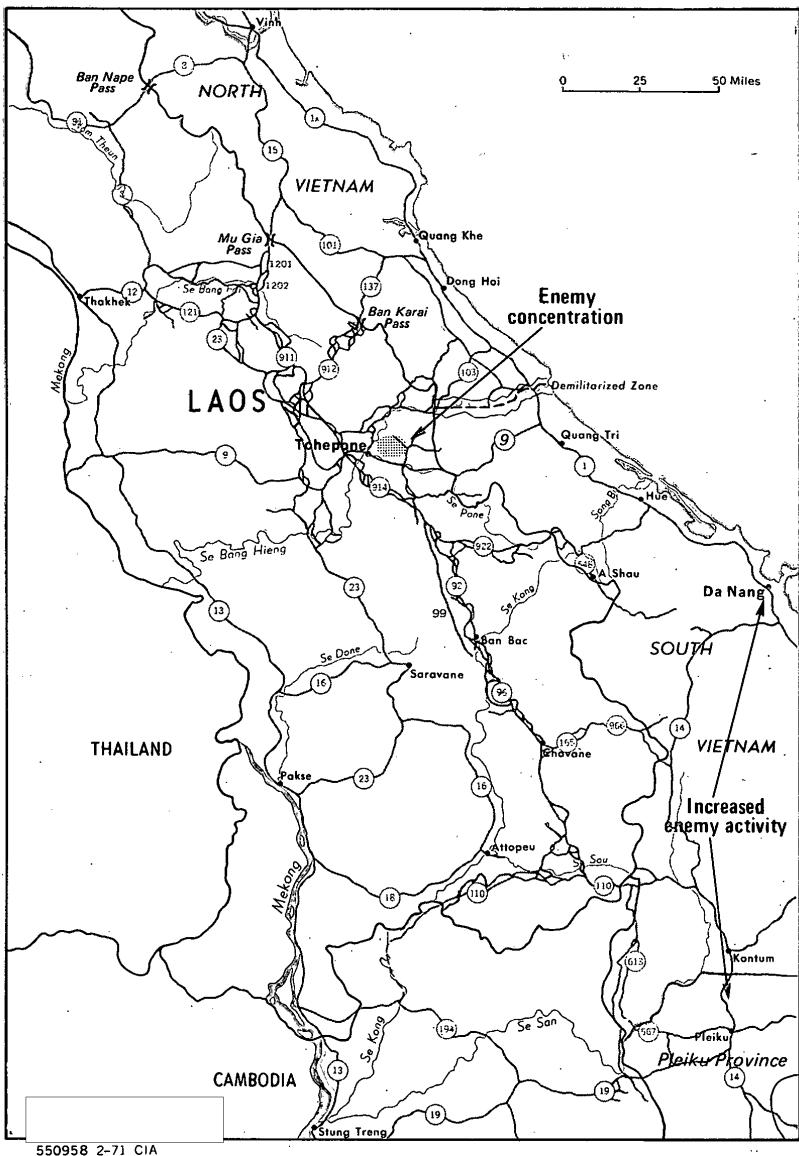
50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS - SOUTH VIETNAM**

For now, the Communists seem in no hurry to contest the South Vietnamese advance into eastern Laos. Enemy units are fighting rear guard actions but then pulling back to sectors where terrain and prepared fighting positions might give them more advantage. One such strongpoint appears to be developing a few miles north of Tchepone, where North Vietnamese anti-aircraft units have been digging in for several days.

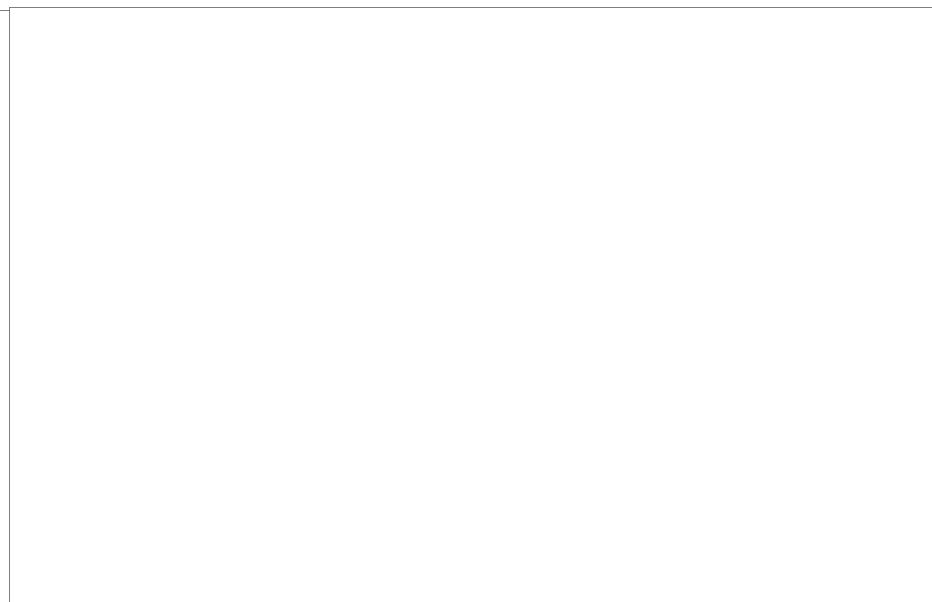
Roughly a division of North Vietnamese regulars, concentrated in rugged terrain between the border and Tchepone, may offer stiffer resistance, however. These troops have not seriously contested allied operations so far, but as South Vietnamese lead elements move past to the west they could threaten South Vietnamese lines of communication. This North Vietnamese force was brought to division strength only in the last few days with the arrival of a regiment that had been positioned in southernmost North Vietnam.

Some Communist forces in South Vietnam are being told that allied operations in Laos are opening opportunities for accelerated military operations in South Vietnam. Around Da Nang, where more enemy units than usual seem to be preparing for combat, some fairly ambitious local attacks could be in the offing. There are also signs of increased enemy activity in Pleiku Province aimed at keeping the allies from moving into Communist bases in adjacent regions of Cambodia.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1



50X1



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

Communist China: Satellite photography of the Shuang-cheng-tzu missile test center's Complex B, a large complex evidently designed for space or ICBM launches, indicates the Chinese are preparing for launch operations. This photography of late January showed two trailers and signboards of the type seen at the center before China's first space launch in April 1970. A launch could occur from this site in the near future but the general appearance of the facility and the low level of activity in January do not suggest an imminent launch.

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet naval force noted earlier northeast of Bermuda (see The President's Daily Brief of 2 February) split into two groups north of Puerto Rico Tuesday and has begun a round of port visits in Cuba. A Kresta-class guided-missile cruiser and a tanker entered Havana yesterday. A submarine tender and an N-class nuclear-powered torpedo attack submarine are south of Haiti and appear to be headed for Cienfuegos. They could enter this port by early Friday. The rescue tug and the two nuclear submarine support barges that came to Cuba last September remain in Cienfuegos.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*12 February 1971*

50



*Top Secret*

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

12 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The Soviets are conducting initial tests of new defensive system components at Sary Shagan. (Page 1)

In eastern Laos, enemy resistance remains modest, but strong counterattacks are being planned and additional North Vietnamese reinforcements have arrived. (Page 2)

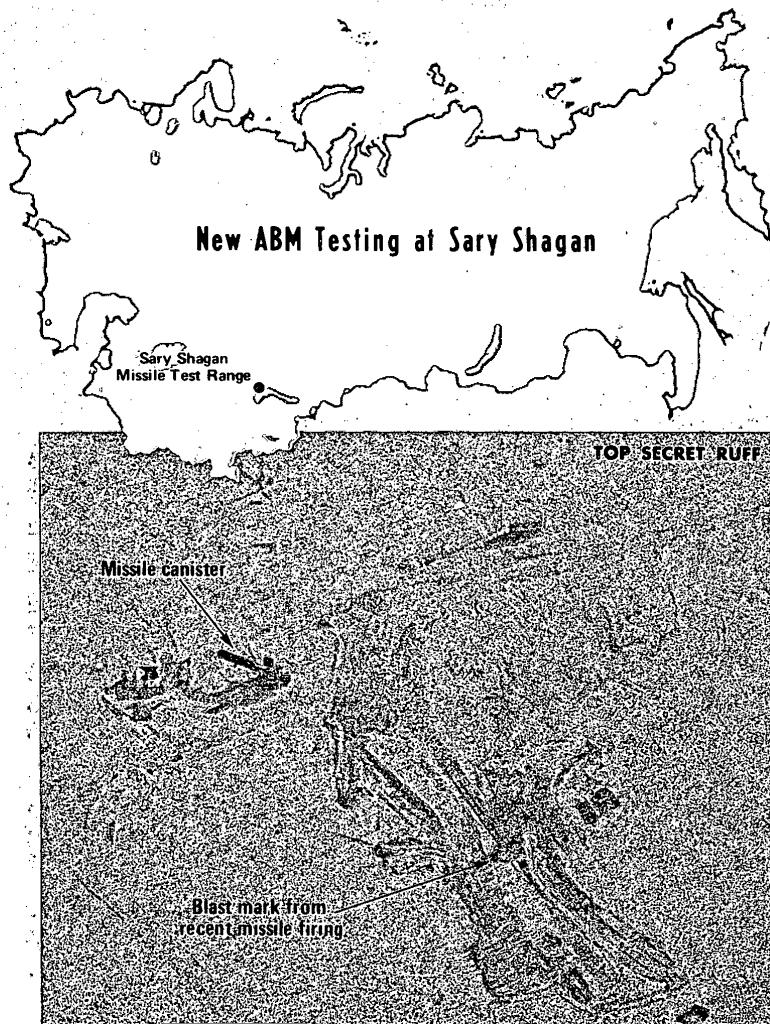
Cambodia's difficulties in moving surplus rice for export are worsening. (Page 3)

50X1K1

50X1

The Laotian Government today announced a country-wide state of emergency. (Page 5)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**USSR**

The Soviets are conducting initial tests of new defensive system components at the Sary Shagan missile test range. Recent satellite photography of one of the two launch sites at a new ABM facility there showed burn scars at one launcher and a canister similar to the one used for the Galosh ABM at another launcher.

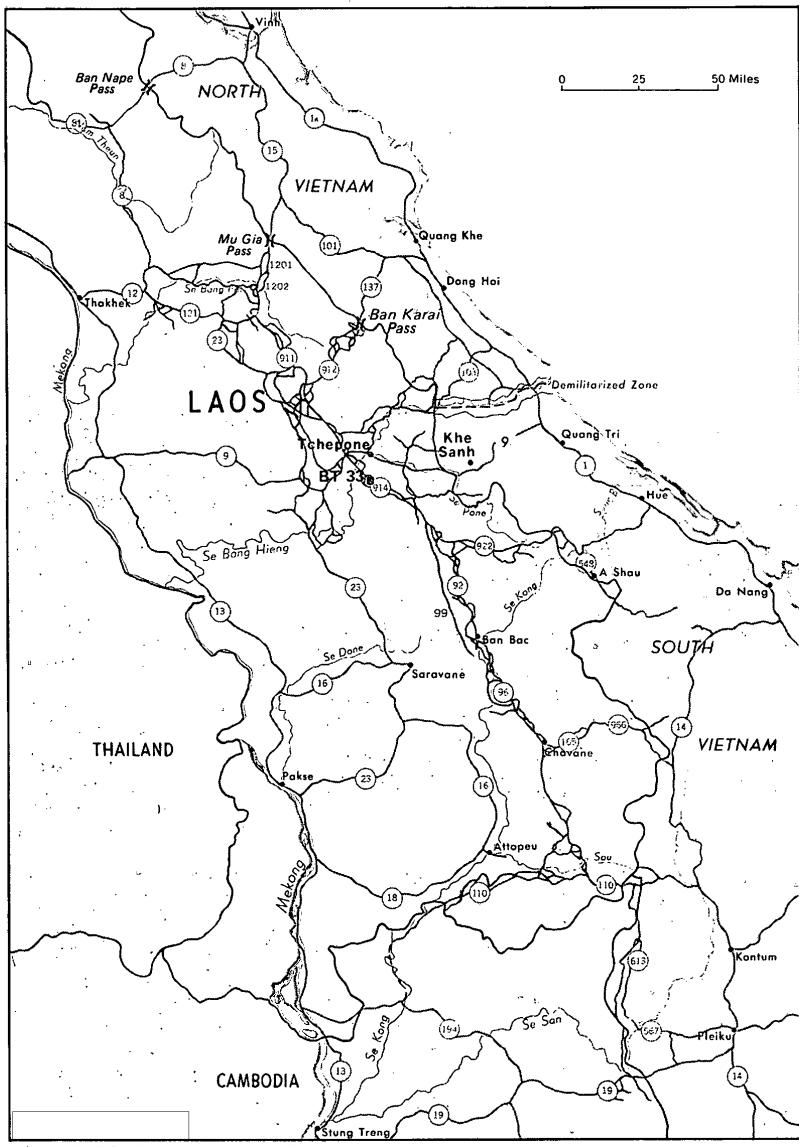
50X1

New launchers, much smaller than those used for Galosh, have been emplaced at the second launch site, but are not yet in use.

Near the second launch site a new radar has been assembled some time during the last six months. The new radar has two antennas, and possibly a third, one of which may be a square phased array. Its size is sufficient to suggest that it could track incoming ballistic missile warheads and provide guidance for ABM interceptors during an engagement.

It is too early to say exactly what kind of system the Soviets are developing and what its capabilities will be. The Soviets may be developing a system having ABM capabilities that does not require large missile site radars which take years to construct. Whether these new radar and missile components will be able to function independently of large, long-range acquisition and tracking radars like Dog House or whether they will be integrated into the Moscow ABM system is not yet known.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

Enemy resistance in eastern Laos is still modest, but strong counterattacks appear imminent. According to an intercept the North Vietnamese 64th Regiment plans to mount a series of coordinated tank-infantry attacks on an ARVN concentration about midway between Tchepone and the border. Other Communist forces evidently will continue to harass ARVN columns and strongpoints.

Additional North Vietnamese troops have arrived on the scene. Wednesday the 88th Regiment of the 308th Division was located astride the South Vietnam - Laos border northwest of Khe Sanh; six days earlier it had been 35 miles to the northeast in North Vietnam. Enemy units also continue to strengthen their defenses to the west of Tchepone.

The Communists have continued to move large amounts of supplies south through the Laotian panhandle and to combat units in eastern Laos. A unit south of the Ban Karai Pass reported in mid-week that 75 vehicles, capable of carrying 300 tons of supplies, had passed through. Binh Tram 33 just south of Tchepone reported achieving 86 percent of its task--presumably the "crash" logistics effort that began in that sector on Sunday. Most resupply has involved munitions, sometimes double and triple the normal amount.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CAMBODIA**

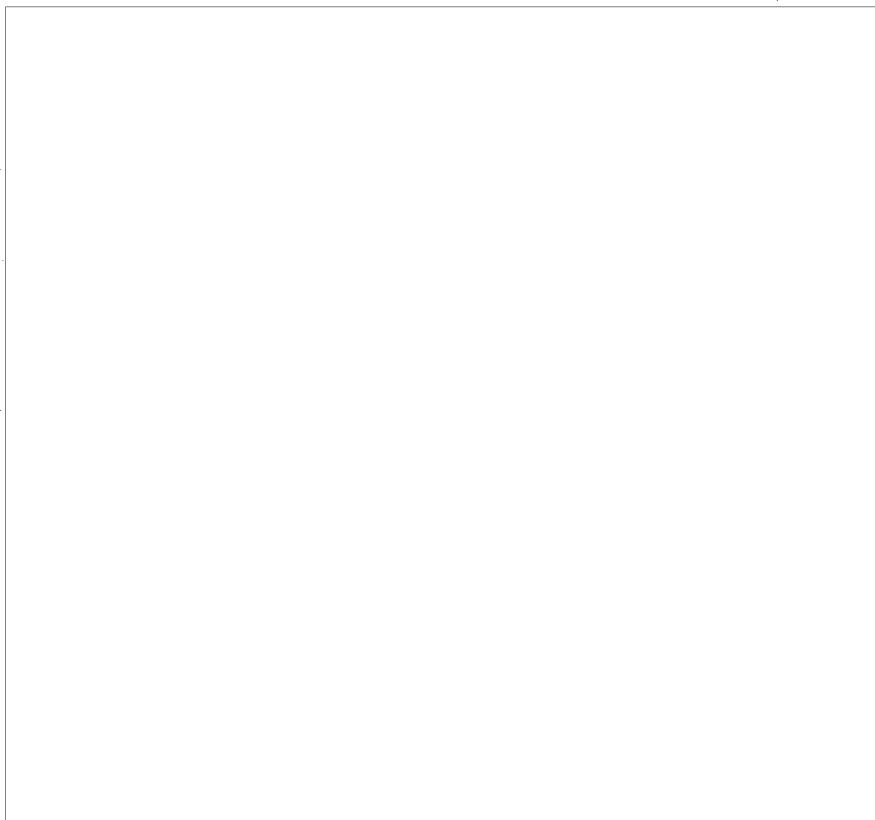
Cambodia's difficulties in trying to move its surplus rice to the ports of Phnom Penh and Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) are growing worse as the war continues. In the northern province of Battambang, which normally accounts for half of the country's rice exports, warehouses are overflowing with last year's crop even as a large new crop is being gathered. Transport costs from Battambang to Phnom Penh have increased fivefold since March, principally because of Communist harassment of road and rail lines, truck shortages, and general insecurity. Even when the rice reaches the capital, the availability of shipping has been reduced by Communist harassment along the Mekong.

*The Cambodian Government is especially eager to avoid defaulting on its export commitments abroad and thus forfeit badly needed foreign exchange, as happened last year. Rice exports in 1970 totaled only about 180,000 tons, or 40 percent of anticipated sales before the war intensified. Unless the security of transportation can be improved substantially, however, the war's impact on Cambodia's exports this year will be even more disastrous than in 1970.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SOUTH VIETNAM



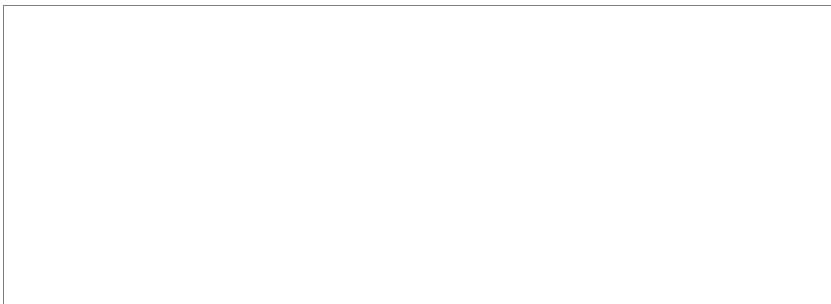
50X1

4

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**



50X1

Laos: The government today announced a state of emergency throughout the country. Its communiqué referred to the South Vietnamese penetration in southern Laos, but attributed this to continued North Vietnamese violations of the Geneva accords. No mention was made of any general mobilization order, which the Laotian National Security Council had also recommended to the cabinet as reported in yesterday's Daily Brief.

Jordan: Steady army pressure to clear Amman of fedayeen resulted yesterday in an armed clash near the city's airport and new fighting broke out today, according to press reports. In a house-to-house search for arms public security forces claim to have found large quantities of explosives and weapons, including rockets aimed at the airport. Because of yesterday's incident fedayeen leaders are said to have reissued weapons collected from their undisciplined militia following the truce last month, and gun battles may again occur frequently. The fedayeen nevertheless seem incapable of any sustained resistance to the army.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

13 February 1971

50

*Top Secret*

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

13 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

There are further signs that the Communists may soon stiffen their resistance to South Vietnamese operations in southern Laos. (Page 1)

In northern Laos, there is a growing concentration of Communist forces west of the Plaine des Jarres. (Page 2)

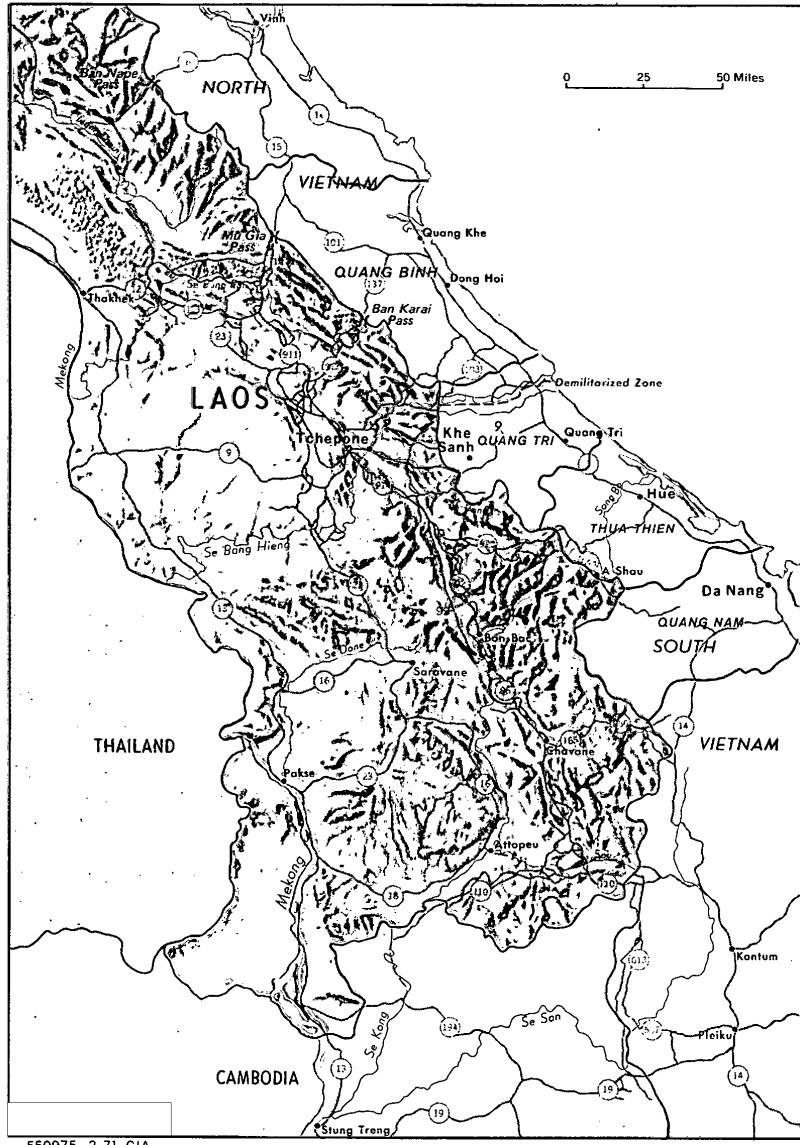
50X1

[Redacted]

Peking's current attitude toward allied cross-border operations in Indochina suggests no change in its desire to avoid military involvement. (Page 4)

No early cabinet changes in the Cambodian cabinet seem likely to ensue from Lon Nol's illness. (Page 5)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS-VIETNAM**

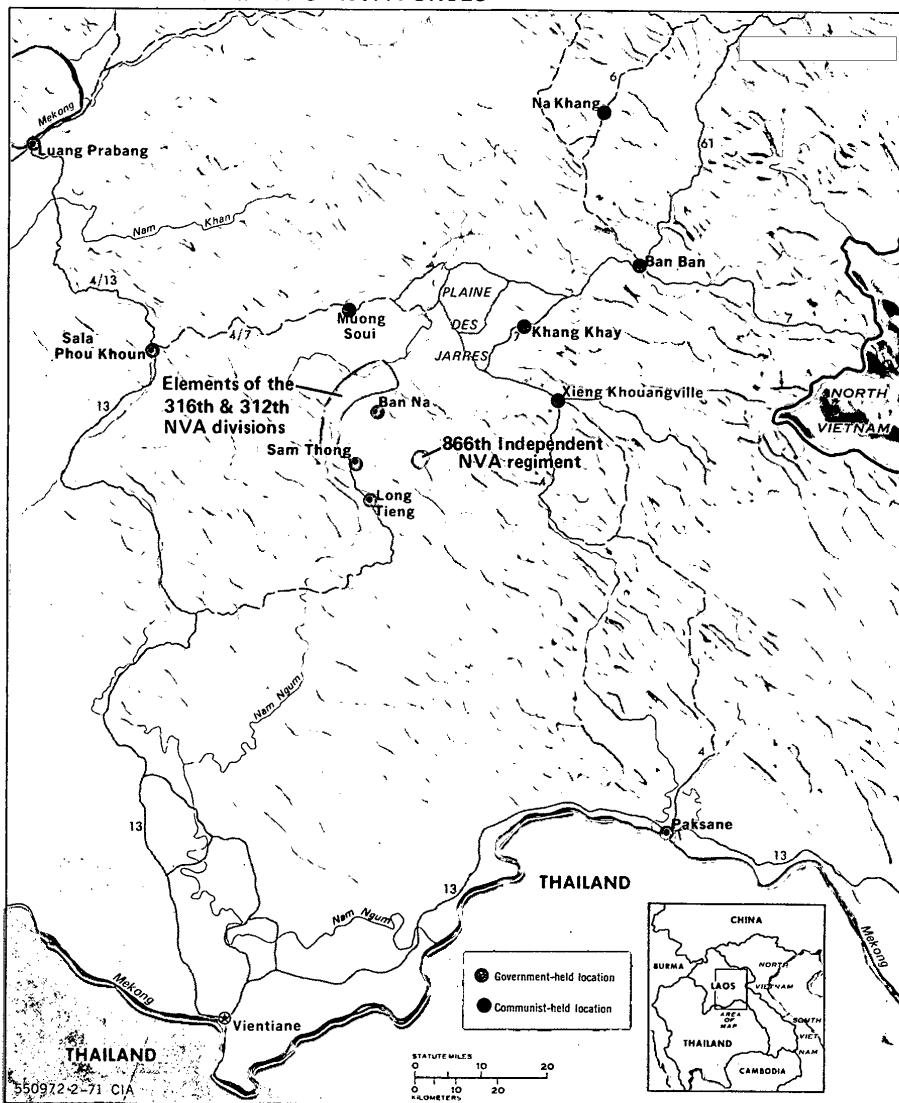
Communist units are making vigorous preparations for both defensive and offensive actions as the South Vietnamese push into Laos nears more sensitive areas. Enemy units south of Route 9 have been preparing ambush sites on routes they expect the South Vietnamese to use, according to intercepts, and many units have orders to "mobilize to strike the enemy." Communist forces well to the west of Tchepone and to the south of Khe Sanh, as well as some in southernmost North Vietnam, have been put on special combat alert against possible allied ground or air attacks.

*In addition to the continuing indications that enemy resistance in the panhandle may soon stiffen, there is further evidence that Communist forces in South Vietnam may become more active in the hope of hindering the cross-border operations. Elements of two artillery regiments and at least three infantry regiments have been coordinating attack plans against allied troops just south of the Demilitarized Zone and appear responsible for recent shellings and ambushes north of Route 9. Recent intercepts indicate that the Communists may become more active against targets around Da Nang, and the Viet Cong radio has publicly called for the people in Hue and adjacent rural areas to "increase attacks" on the government in response to the move into Laos.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

50X1

PROBABLE DEPLOYMENT OF NVA FORCES



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

There is a growing concentration of North Vietnamese forces southwest of the Plaine des Jarres. Most of the units are from the 316th Division, but more elements of the 312th, which only recently entered from North Vietnam, are also arriving in the area; they are deployed generally in an arc to the west of Ban Na. In the past few days, one regiment from the 316th and a battalion from a second one have shifted farther south and are now about five miles from Sam Thong, where a sapper battalion has been operating. In addition, elements of an independent regiment located east of Ban Na have moved closer to the key government installation at Long Tieng, which was struck by five 122-mm. rockets early today, without significant effect.

The southward shifts are further evidence that the Communists are trying to skirt Ban Na and prepare for early strikes around Sam Thong and Long Tieng. Enemy intercepts have indicated that harassments or siege tactics were more likely than a direct assault against Ban Na, which contains artillery emplacements supporting the Long Tieng - Sam Thong complex. The Ban Na base is in an exposed position and Communist shellings and heavy machine gun fire from the hills surrounding the air-strip have been creating difficulties for the government's aerial resupply operations.

Neutralization of Ban Na would give the Communists much greater freedom to position their forces against the Long Tieng complex. Communist intercepts suggest that they intend to conduct attacks and "create disorders" around Long Tieng in an effort to keep the irregulars pinned down while additional large Communist units move into the area.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS



50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**COMMUNIST CHINA - LAOS**

A Communist [redacted] official [redacted]

50X1

[redacted] has told [redacted] that direct intervention by China is unlikely if allied operations from South Vietnam are restricted to southern Laos and Cambodia. [redacted]

50X1

[redacted] however, the official implied that any ground move into northern Laos--specifically above the 17th parallel--might be considered a direct threat to China, thus raising the possibility that Chinese troops might be brought into the conflict.

50X1

[redacted]  
 Peking has throughout the Indochina conflict shown a concern for the protection of its own border, and the official's comments are generally consistent with this attitude. His remarks about the 17th parallel may be a means of conveying China's sensitivity regarding areas near its border, rather than a hard and fast demarcation that would automatically trigger Chinese intervention if the line were crossed.

50X1

Peking has had ample time to consider the implications of allied moves in southern Laos; it almost certainly has expected them for some time. Peking has adopted a measured reaction to recent developments and has avoided a high degree of belligerence. Although Chinese propaganda has been heavy, none of Peking's pronouncements suggests that it views the situation with immediate alarm. China's propaganda seems designed to dramatize its concern as well as its eagerness to throw its public support behind Hanoi.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CAMBODIA**

Lon Nol, shortly after becoming ill, told Acting Premier Matak and Deputy Chief of Staff Sak Sutsakhan that he did not want to make any ministerial changes for at least the next three months.

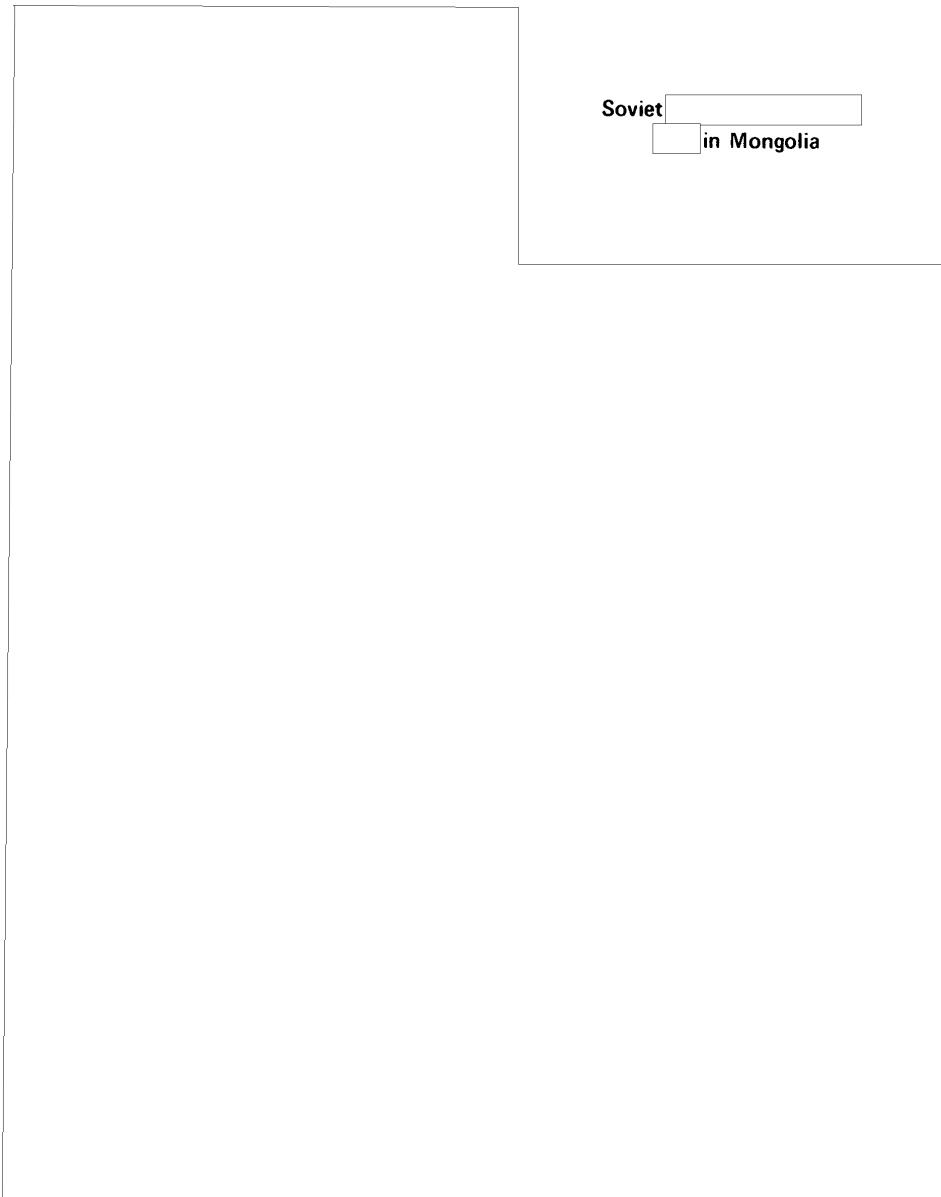
[redacted] he indicated that he considered cabinet stability necessary in order to maintain national unity.

50X1  
50X1

*The last major cabinet reshuffle in Phnom Penh occurred last summer.*

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

Soviet [redacted]  
[redacted] in Mongolia

50X1

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

Communist China:

<u>Communist China:</u>	
-------------------------	--

50X1  
50X1

USSR-China:

<u>USSR-China:</u>	
--------------------	--

50X1  
50X1

50X1

USSR: A prototype of the new swing-wing bomber--  
designated KAZ-A--

With  
its test program apparently proceeding smoothly, the  
aircraft is expected to be ready for operational serv-  
ice during the 1974-76 period.

50X1

USSR: The Soviets appear to be transferring  
a Y-class ballistic missile submarine from the At-  
lantic to the Pacific Fleet. This would give the  
Soviets four of these units in the Pacific and en-  
able them to maintain one unit continuously on, or  
en route to, missile patrol off the US West Coast.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

14 FEB 1971

~~15 February 1971~~

45

Top Secre<sup>50X1</sup>



CABLE 10 PRESIDENT

2/19/71

p.1

## LAOS-VIETNAM

Another indication that Hanoi is planning to make a stronger stand against the South Vietnamese incursion into Laos has turned up in a message of 12 February, sent by North Vietnam's top military policy body to all military units in the area of the South Vietnamese operation. One garbled sentence suggests that enemy units along Route 9 are to evade advancing South Vietnamese forces, protect storage areas, and hide whatever materials and equipment they can. But the message contains one passage that calls for creation of conditions that will enable Communist forces to "advance forward and smash to smithereens the adventurist military plot of the enemy." It concludes with an appeal to "exert every effort to accomplish the mission of defending the Ho Chi Minh Trail."

Ground contact between South Vietnamese and Communist forces has picked up, according to [redacted] enemy intercepts. One intercept says that the South Vietnamese have seized Ban Dong, a major crossroads half way between the border and Tchepone. Other enemy messages relate problems caused the Communists by the advancing South Vietnamese and [redacted] casualties caused by air strikes. Elements of the North Vietnamese 64th Regiment, which remain in the vicinity of Ban Dong, have [redacted] launched artillery attacks on allied positions and one message claims that a South Vietnamese force has been encircled and that further strikes are [redacted] being planned.

50X1  
LORAN 41

P.2

The North Vietnamese are trying hard to maintain the momentum of their transportation "offensive," which thus far has achieved "outstanding results" [redacted] according to a message on 11 February from a way station on the [redacted] infiltration pipeline. [redacted] A 12 February message says that the accelerated supply effort will continue during February and that vehicles will move both day and night, the second mention of such unusual daylight vehicle activity since 5 February. There is also evidence [redacted] that the North Vietnamese are taking more elaborate air defense measures and that they are involved in a special effort to keep damaged vehicles in service.

The North Vietnamese are beginning to experience difficulties in the western DMZ [redacted] north of Route 9 because of allied ground and air operations. [redacted]

[redacted] vehicles were not able to cross the Se Ban Hieng River. The same day, another AAA battalion was forced to withdraw from its positions and leave vehicles behind because of [redacted] "damage" from an air strike. In the same area an infantry battalion reported that it was out of ammunition and [redacted] a river transportation battalion lost communications after ground contact with allied forces.

50X1

50X1

P.3

COMMUNIST CHINA - LAOS

The Chinese ~~Communist~~ Communists issued a new government statement yesterday pledging to take "all effective measures" to aid their Indochinese allies. It contained familiar references to rear-base support for North Vietnam but referred to the Laos operation in terms of a "menace to China" and warned that the Chinese "will not remain indifferent to it."

The suggestion that the allied operations pose a threat to China itself is an escalation of ~~Chinese~~ Chinese rhetoric regarding the war. This formulation was avoided by Peking during the allied incursions into ~~Cambodia~~ Cambodia last spring and has been absent from Chinese ~~propaganda~~ propaganda for several years. Nevertheless, the government statement and other authoritative comment on the situation in Indochina since the beginning of the month has generally placed Chinese "assistance" in terms of rear base support.

50X1

The Chinese concluded an agreement yesterday for economic and military aid to North Vietnam over and above that provided for ~~in~~ by the annual ~~aid~~ aid pact signed last fall.

p. 4

LAOS

A second and more destructive shelling of Long Tieng took place less than 24 hours after the rocket attack launched against it yesterday. Mortar ~~and rocket~~ rounds ruined the Air America installation early this morning and caused extensive material damage within the American compound. One American was wounded, but not seriously. Ammunition and gasoline supplies were not hit, and the air strip was undamaged.

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*15 February 1971*

13

*Top Secret* 50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

15 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Construction is under way on a new type of ICBM silo at three missile complexes in the USSR. (Page 1)

The situation in northern Laos is discussed on Page 3.

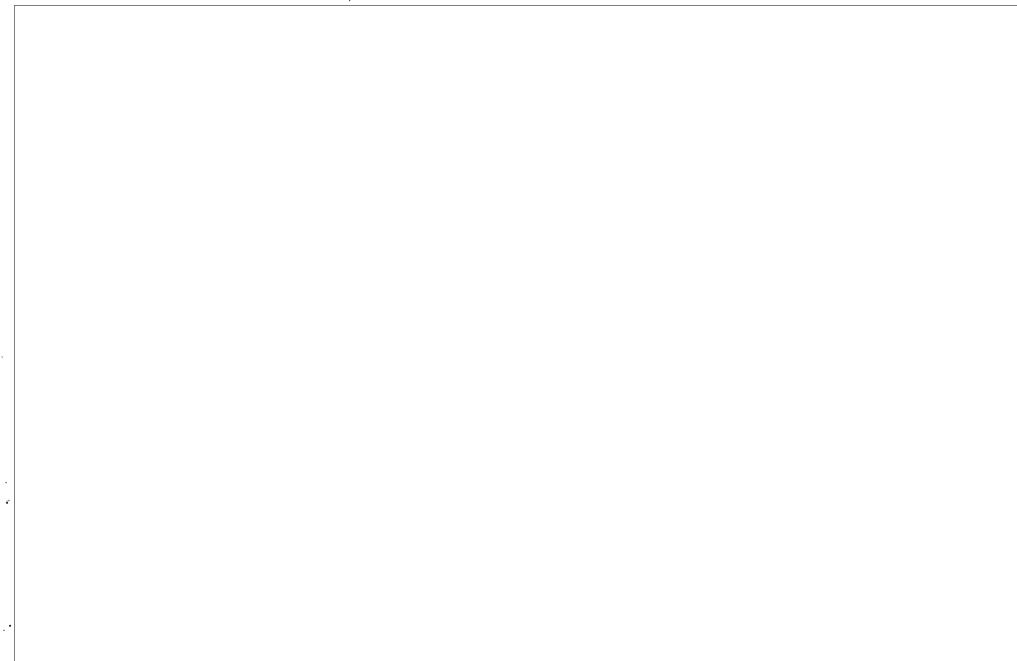
South Vietnamese troops involved in the Laotian campaign made only sporadic contact with enemy units over the weekend. (Page 4)

Communist China has escalated its rhetoric on the Laotian operation but its statements do not commit Peking to a particular course of action. (Page 5)

50X1  
50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

50X1



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

USSR

*The latest satellite photography shows that construction is under way on a new type of ICBM silo at three existing missile complexes in the USSR.*

Small portions of 21 of the 24 Soviet ICBM complexes were covered in [redacted] photography

50X1  
50X1

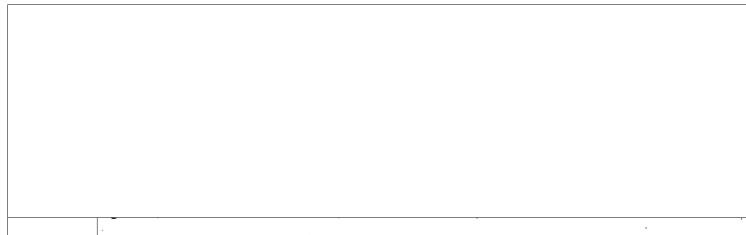
This photography showed 10 and probably 11 new silos under construction at three operational missile complexes--the Dombarovskiy and Imeni Gastello SS-9 complexes and at Derazhnya, where both the SS-4 MRBM and the SS-11 ICBM are deployed. The new silos are unlike those seen anywhere else except at a new group of silos--designated the R group--at the Tyuratam missile test center. All of the new silos, including those in the new group at Tyuratam, have been started since August 1970; those at the two SS-9 complexes have been started since late November.

50X1

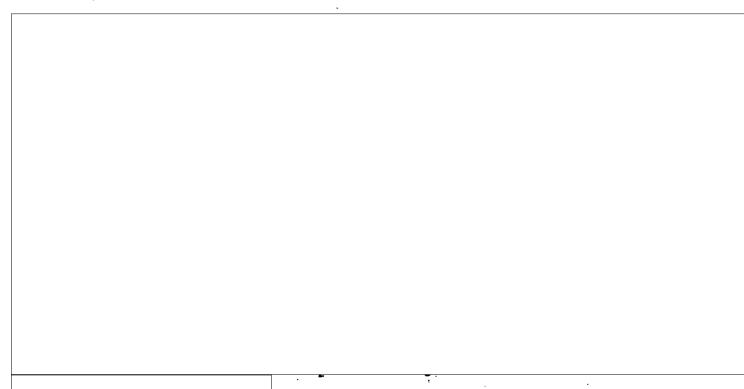


*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

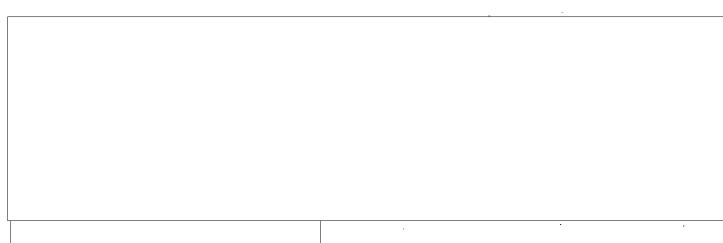


50X1



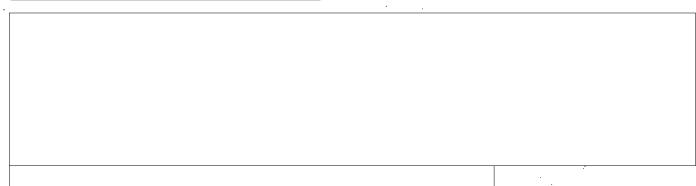
50X1

50X1



50X1

50X1



50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

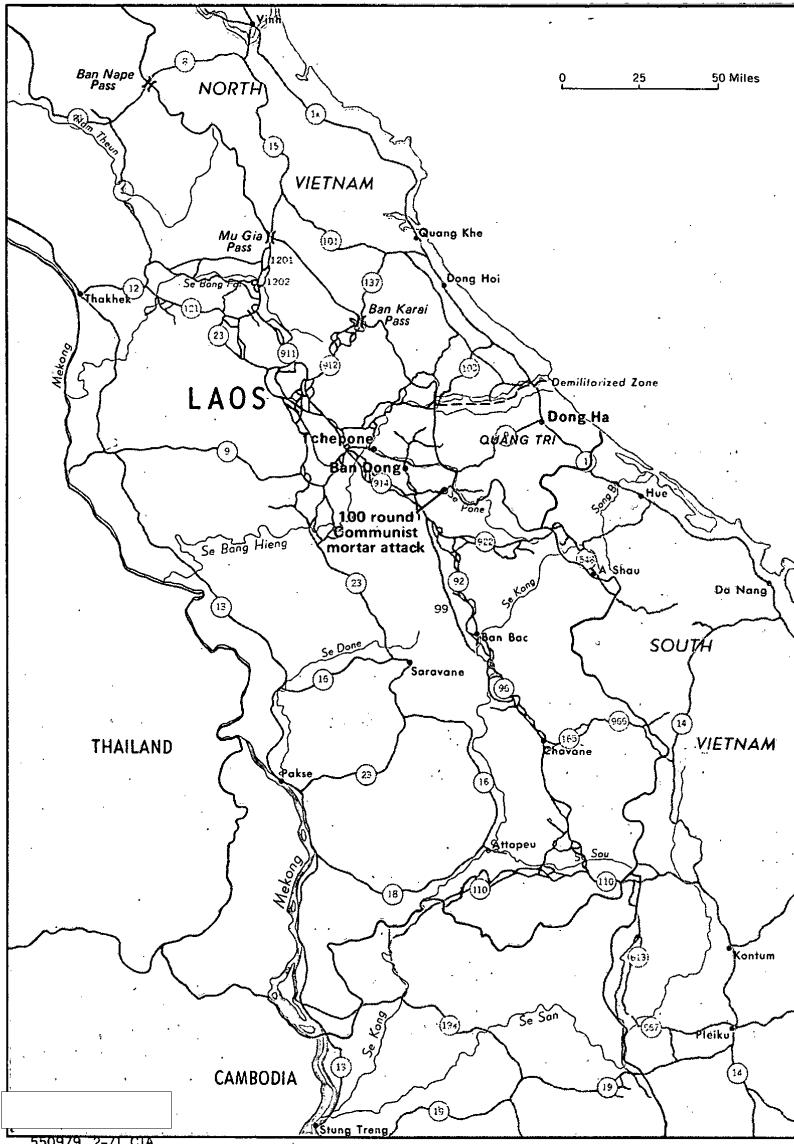
LAOS

Early yesterday morning an estimated 50 to 100 Communist troops approached Long Tieng from the west, overran a 105mm. artillery position about a mile from the center of the base, and from high ground on the southwest edge of the Long Tieng Valley fired rockets and mortars into the base's residential area. Most of the fire was directed at US installations. Bombing by Lao- and Meo-operated T-28's soon forced the Communists from their position, however.

An initial damage assessment reveals destruction of the main rice and food warehouse, the Air America hostel, the diesel fuel depot, the electric power station, and one of the headquarters compounds. There was no damage to the airstrip, the main gasoline and ammunition depots, and the T-28 parking area and runway. At least 11 Meo soldiers or civilians are believed to have been killed. Enemy losses appear to have been light.

*Vang Pao appears to be coping adequately with the immediate threat. Yesterday some 200 fresh irregular troops were moved into the base, as well as a 380-man neutralist battalion from Vang Vieng north of Vientiane. These forces will be placed on the high ground from which the enemy mortar attack was directed. The Communists nevertheless retain the capability of mounting new and even heavier attacks at any time.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS-VIETNAM**

South Vietnamese troops involved in the Laotian campaign made only sporadic contact over the weekend with enemy units. The most significant enemy action was a series of shellings, including a 25-round rocket bombardment of Dong Ha in northeastern Quang Tri Province in South Vietnam and a 100-round mortar barrage against a South Vietnamese field position inside Laos. Damage from these attacks was light.

The North Vietnamese continue to press ahead with their transportation "offensive" down the Ho Chi Minh trail.

50X1

Vehicles are apparently moving day and night [redacted] the North Vietnamese are taking more elaborate air defense measures along the pipeline.

50X1

There is mounting evidence, however, that allied pressure is causing the enemy difficulties. On 13 February, for example, a way station near Tchepone said its convoys were moving out "strongly" but acknowledged that supply activity was "hindered by the enemy," the first such admission detected since the "crash program" began on 7 February. B-52 strikes have destroyed a Communist storage area near Ban Dong and [redacted] several enemy anti-aircraft units and a river transportation battalion have been hammered by allied air attacks. [redacted] anti-aircraft vehicles were not able to cross the Se Ban Hiang River and another anti-aircraft unit was forced to withdraw from its positions and leave vehicles behind because of "damage" from an air strike.

50X1

50X1

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**COMMUNIST CHINA - LAOS**

On Friday a government statement called the South Vietnamese incursion into Laos a "menace to China." Yesterday a mammoth rally was held in Peking to condemn allied actions in Laos, and a People's Daily editorial responded to a US explanation that the actions do not threaten China by insisting that, on the contrary, "the new war venture definitely poses a grave threat to China." The editorial added that the Chinese people would "adopt all effective measures to extend powerful support to the people of the three Indochinese countries."

*The claim that the operations in Laos threaten China itself is an escalation of Chinese rhetoric regarding the war. The Chinese had avoided this formulation in their propaganda for several years, including during the time of the allied incursions into Cambodia last spring.*

*Nevertheless, this language does not commit Peking to any particular course of action. Indeed, the editorial makes clear that Peking expects the "people of the three Indochinese countries" to continue to bear the brunt of the actual fighting.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

***Israeli***

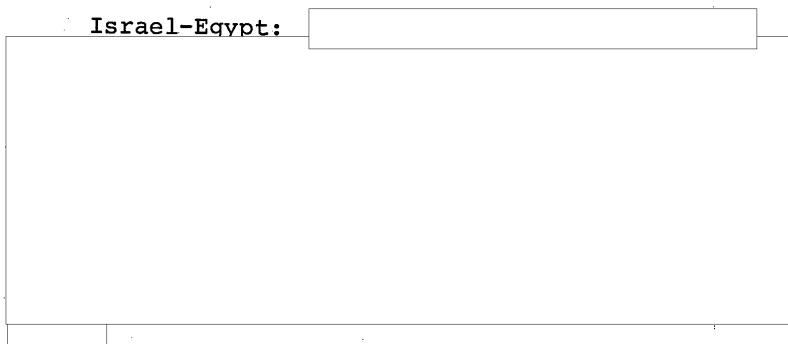
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTE

Israel-Egypt:

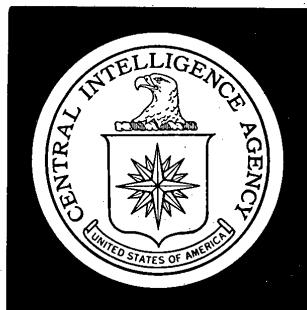


50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

16 February 1971

49

~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

16 February 1971.

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

In northern Laos, additional reinforcements have arrived at Long Tieng, and the government's position at Ban Na has come under heavy fire. (Page 1)

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

50X1  
50X1

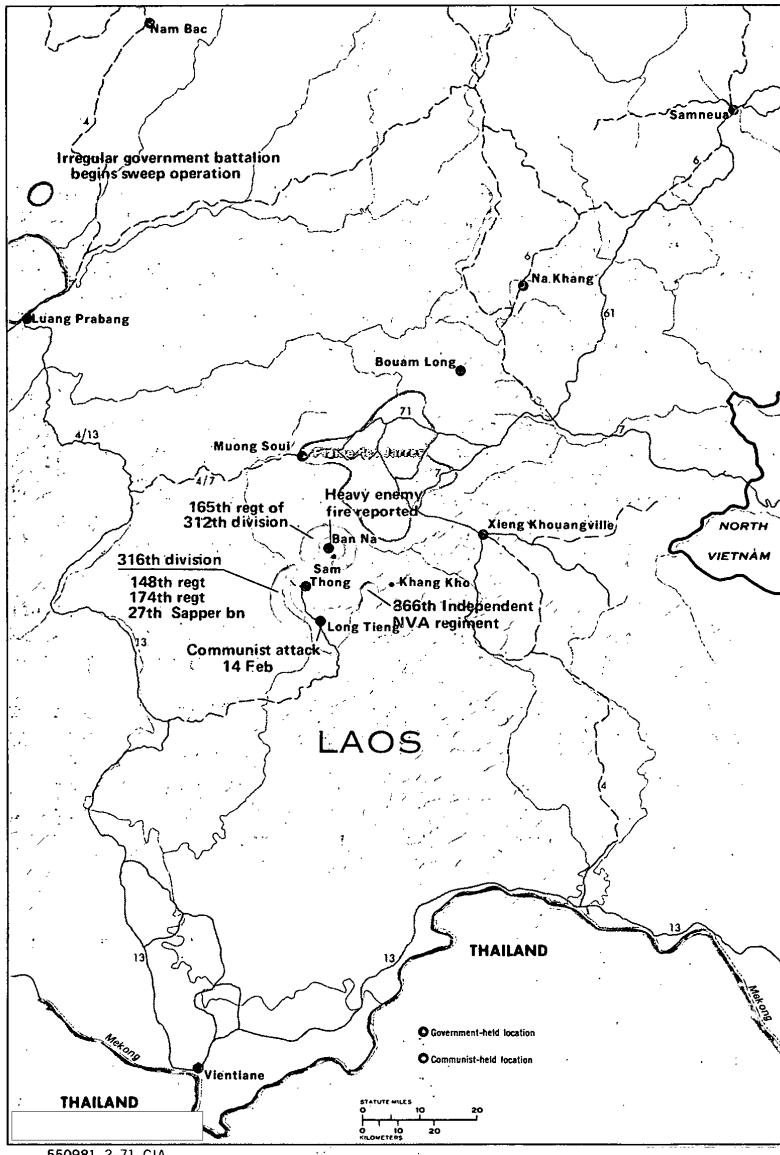
Relations between India and Pakistan have greatly worsened following the destruction of a hijacked Indian airliner. (Page 3)

On Page 4 we comment on the draft directives for the Soviets' new five-year plan.

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Some 1,400 reinforcements arrived at Long Tieng yesterday and are being placed both in the town and along the high ground from which the Communists launched Sunday's mortar attack. To the north, the government's position at Ban Na has received heavy enemy fire.

Ban Na, the site of several key artillery emplacements aimed at interdicting Communist troop and supply movements southward toward the Long Tieng complex, is surrounded by well-entrenched enemy troops, identified as the 165th Regiment of the North Vietnamese 312th Division.

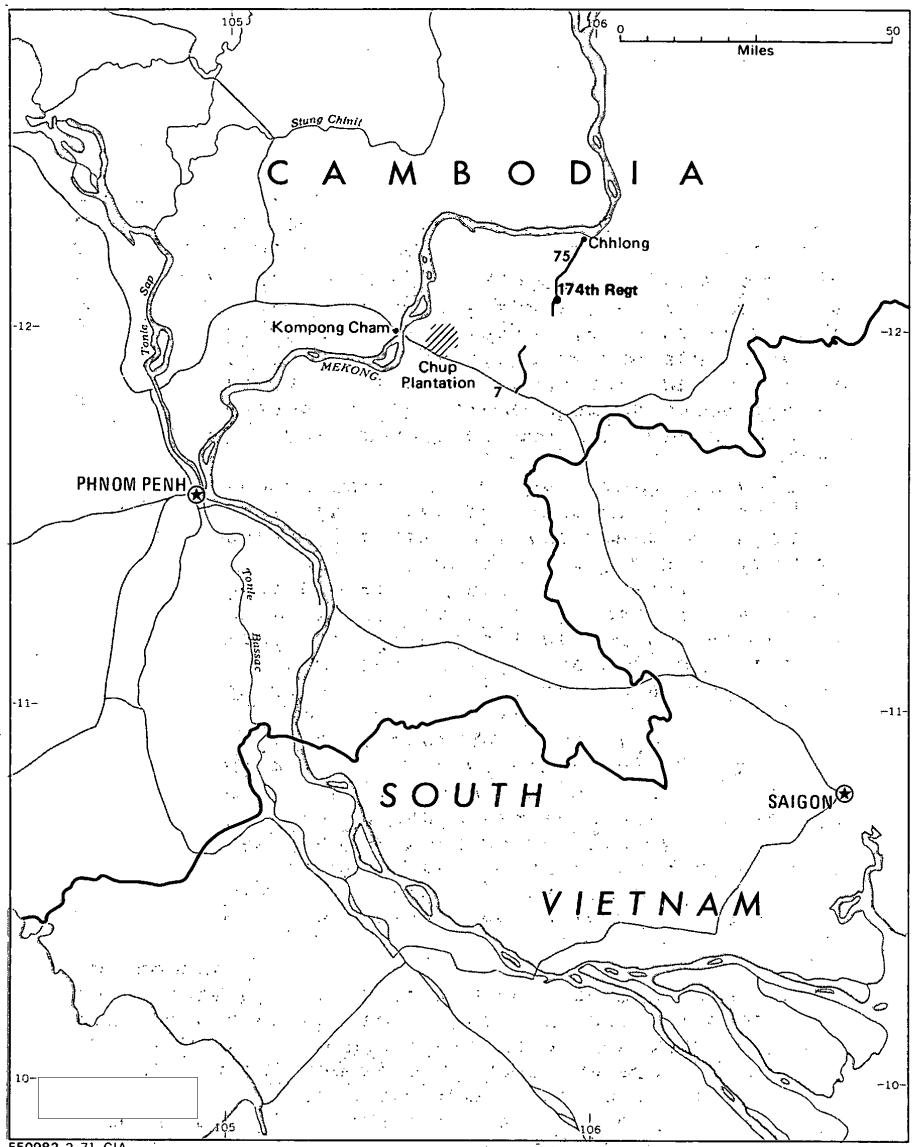
[redacted] other Communist forces in the area are preparing for further combat. These forces include major elements from the North Vietnamese 316th Division to the north and northwest of Long Tieng and Sam Thong, plus the North Vietnamese 866th Independent Regiment to the east.

50X1

In the Luang Prabang area, government irregulars have taken advantage of a lull in the fighting to improve their defenses northeast of the royal capital. They have succeeded in airlifting a battalion into a position 25 miles north of Luang Prabang, near an area where a landing attempt failed last week.

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

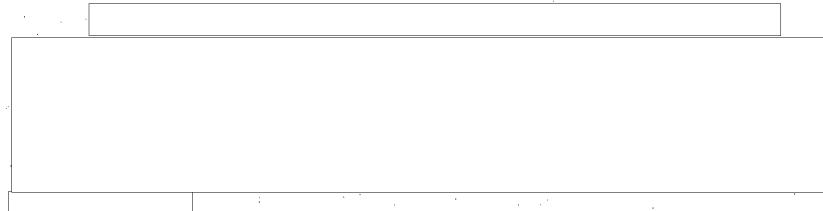
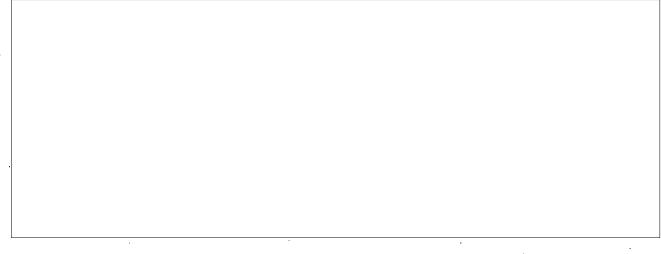
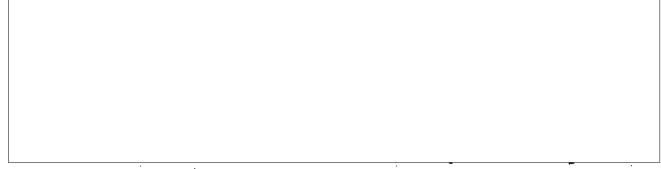


50X1

550982 2-71 CIA

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

CAMBODIA - SOUTH VIETNAM

	50X1 50X1
	50X1 50X1
	50X1 50X1
	50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

**INDIA-PAKISTAN**

Repercussions from the destruction in Pakistan of a hijacked Indian airliner two weeks ago have brought the two countries' relations to their lowest point since the brief war of 1965. Two self-described "Kashmiri freedom fighters" destroyed the plane in Lahore on 2 February after releasing the passengers and crew. Charging the Pakistani Government with collusion, New Delhi banned all Pakistani flights across India until compensation was paid. President Yahya in turn appealed to the US, UK, and USSR to use their good offices to bring the situation back to normal.

Each country now claims the other is making threatening military moves. Yesterday the Pakistani Foreign Ministry briefed the US Embassy on a series of alleged actions by the Indian armed forces, including the canceling of all army leaves, the sending of troops into border regions not previously occupied, and the moving of tanks near the borders.

Indian officials had earlier complained of Pakistani movements near the West Pakistan - India border.

50X1

50X1

The political situation in both countries complicates the picture. Mrs. Gandhi, campaigning for next month's national elections, is demanding that Pakistan evacuate the part of Kashmir under its control, in addition to compensating for the plane and extraditing the hijackers. West Pakistani politicians are trying to improve their positions for the coming meeting of the constituent assembly, and the government is allowing the hijackers to be treated as heroes by the populace.

Even as the political leaders seek to get some mileage out of the dispute, however, we doubt that either country wants a major confrontation at this time. Officials of both continue quietly to seek means for defusing the crisis.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

As summarized by TASS, the draft directives for the ninth five-year plan, which is to be presented at the 24th party congress opening on 30 March, reflect the modest growth expectations contained in most Soviet pronouncements during the past year. The average annual rates of increase projected for the industrial, agricultural and other sectors are only slightly above those reached under the 1966-1970 plan. With somewhat lower growth rates targeted for new investment and for the labor force, it seems likely that the USSR will be hard pressed to surpass its overall growth rate of 5.5 percent we believe it achieved in the latter half of the 1960s.

From the incomplete data available, it appears that allocation of resources between the principal claimants--investment and consumption--will follow recent patterns. Agricultural goals make it clear that the augmented resources to improve farm production, decided on last year, have not been abandoned. Special efforts are pledged to increase the supply of meat and other quality foods and to improve the soft goods and consumer durables. The stated intention to hold the line on consumer prices, and even reduce some, was made with an eye to recent events in Poland.

The announcement contains the usual pledge that the new plan will "ensure the further growth of the Soviet Union's defense capacity," but provides no clear indication of the relative share of resources to be allocated to military purposes. There are enough references to priorities for defense-related industries, however, to suggest that the military's share will not be materially altered.

The fact that the Central Committee resolution approving the draft directives appears over Brezhnev's signature provides further evidence of his increasing primacy in the leadership as the party congress approaches. Ever since Stalin's day such documents have not carried any personal signatures.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Vietnam-Laos: As South Vietnamese troops continue their deliberate advance into the Laos pan-handle, allied aircraft operating across the border are encountering extremely heavy antiaircraft fire.

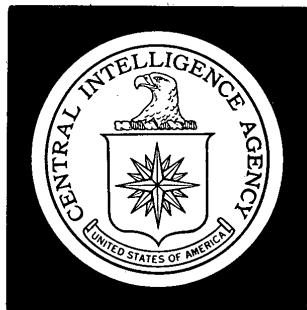
50X1

50X1

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet submarine tender and nuclear-powered N-class torpedo attack submarine previously noted south of Haiti (see The President's Daily Brief of 11 February) arrived at Cienfuegos during the weekend, joining the Soviet rescue tug and two nuclear submarine support barges already there. According to Reuters, the Kresta-class guided-missile cruiser which arrived in Havana on 10 February together with a tanker left yesterday afternoon, but we have no confirmation of this yet.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

17 February 1971

49

Top Secret 50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

17 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

More North Vietnamese forces are moving toward the area of Laos where the South Vietnamese are operating. (Page 1)

In northern Laos, there have been only minor clashes in the past two days. (Page 2)

[Redacted]

50X1

The latest satellite photography shows the highest number of MIG-21s ever seen in Communist China. (Page 4)

[Redacted]

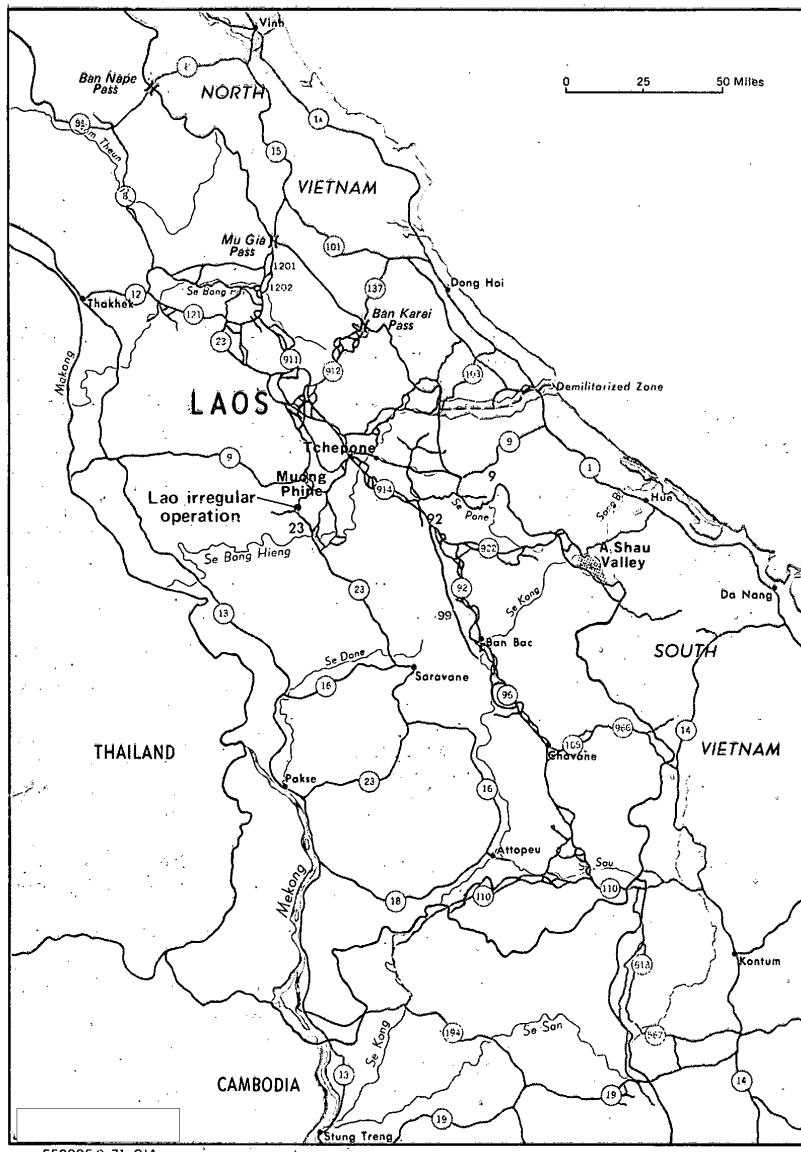
50X1

50X1

Tension remains high between India and Pakistan and between East and West Pakistan. (Page 6)

On Page 7, we comment on the decision by Warsaw to rescind the food price increases.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

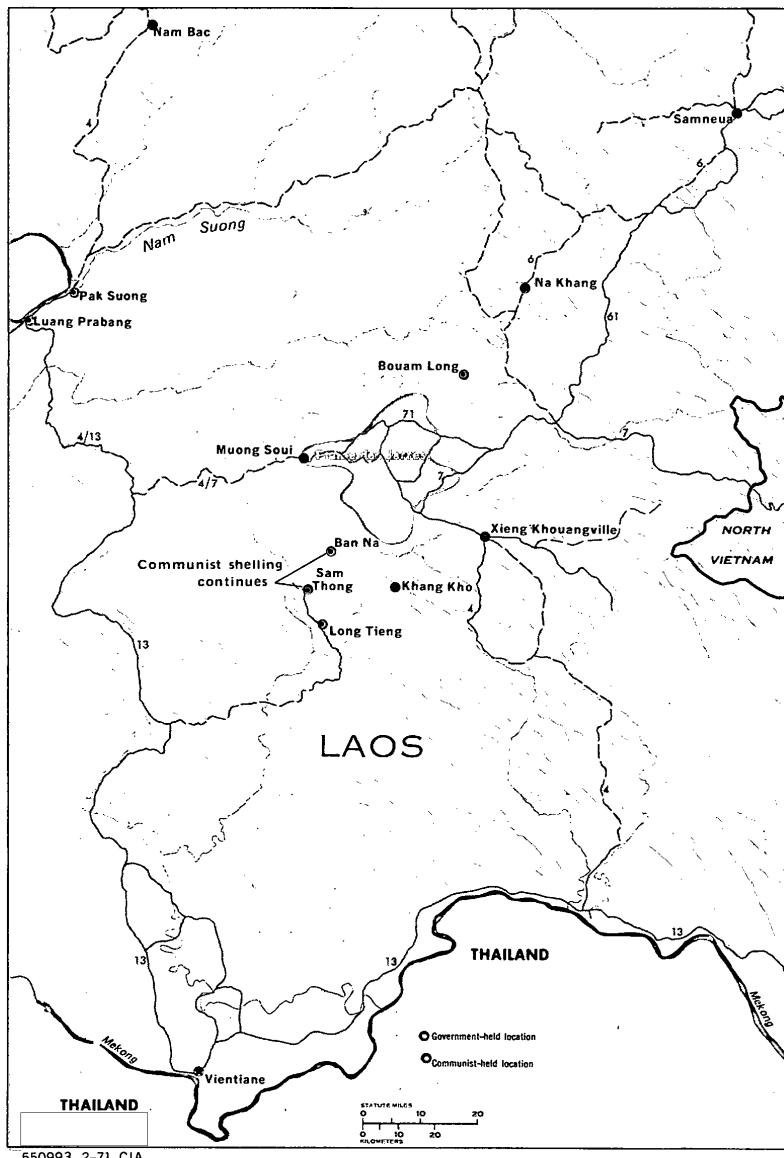
**LAOS-VIETNAM**

Additional Communist forces are moving toward the area of the South Vietnamese operation in Laos. North of Route 9, the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 2nd Division has moved to a position just east of Tchepone. The 270th Regiment has shifted westward along the northern edge of the Demilitarized Zone toward the Lao border. South of Route 9, there is evidence that the 29th Regiment has moved from the A Shau Valley into Laos, a move that would put two enemy regiments in positions flanking Route 92.

*These continuing movements strongly suggest that the North Vietnamese intend to counter the South Vietnamese thrust into Laos. At the moment, however, contact between South Vietnamese and Communist infantry forces is generally light and sporadic. The enemy is still making heavy use of antiaircraft, mortar, and artillery fire to harass allied rear base areas and South Vietnamese field positions.*

The new Lao irregular operation against Communist supply efforts along Route 23 between Muong Phine and the Se Bang Hieng River has so far drawn little enemy reaction. The operation began early yesterday when a four-battalion irregular task force was airlifted into an area about eight miles southwest of Muong Phine.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

Only minor clashes and scattered contacts have occurred in the last two days around Long Tieng and Sam Thong, but Communist shelling of Sam Thong and Ban Na is continuing. The 165th Regiment of the North Vietnamese 312th Division, which has been pinning down about 800 troops manning the government base at Ban Na, has now been joined by at least one battalion from its companion 209th Regiment, bringing enemy combat strength there to roughly 2,000. Meanwhile, most of the civilians living in the Long Tieng Valley have been evacuated to smaller villages to the south and west. Press reporting on military and civilian casualties continues to appear exaggerated.

In the Luang Prabang area, the ridge positions northeast of the royal capital that have changed hands several times have been deserted by government paratroops that recently reoccupied them. These troops are now moving back to the city's outskirts.

*The paratroops, who do not seem to have been under immediate attack, have been protecting government artillery located nearby at Pak Suong. The artillery will be pulled back each night to a safer site until another security unit can be moved into the area. Elements of the North Vietnamese 335th Independent Regiment are still active in the vicinity.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

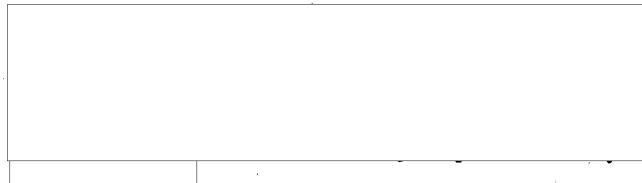
NORTH VIETNAM



50X1



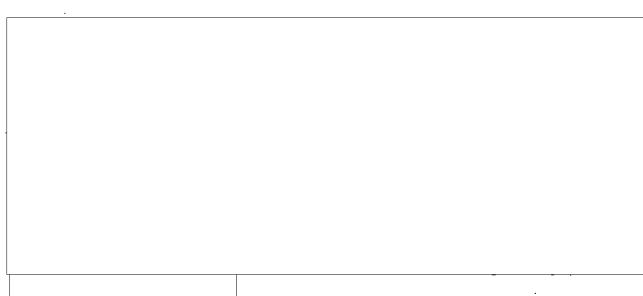
50X1  
50X1



50X1



50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1

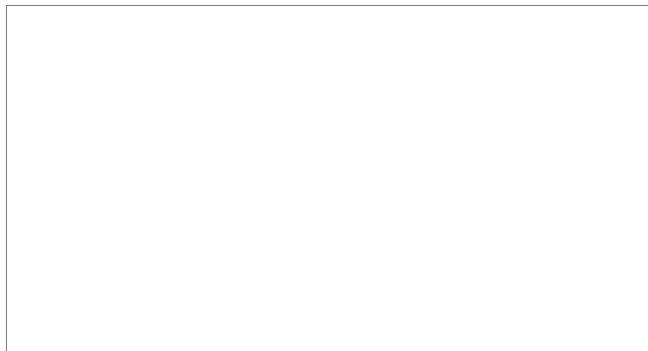
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**COMMUNIST CHINA**

The latest satellite photography shows ten MIG-21s at the Cheng-tu airframe plant. In addition, 24 MIG-21s were at other Chinese airfields.



50X1

Recent photography also shows seven MIG-21s and 12 MIG-21 [redacted] in Albania, the first time this aircraft has been seen there. [redacted]

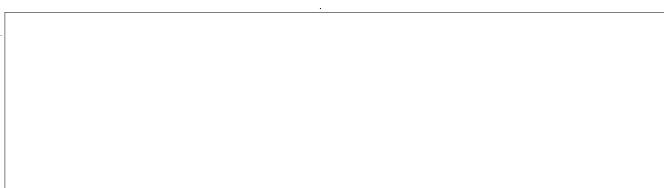
50X1  
50X1



50X1



50X10X1

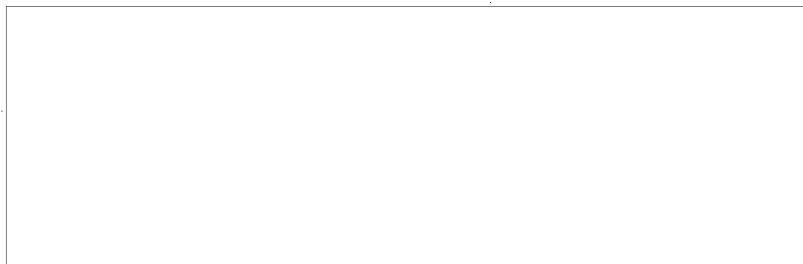


50X1

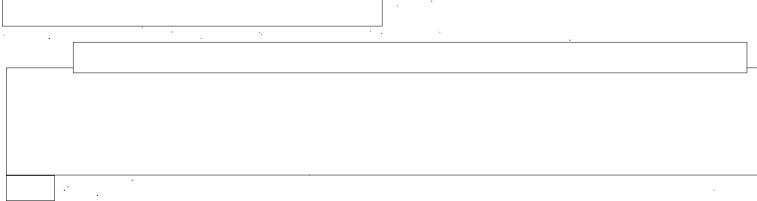
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SOUTH VIETNAM

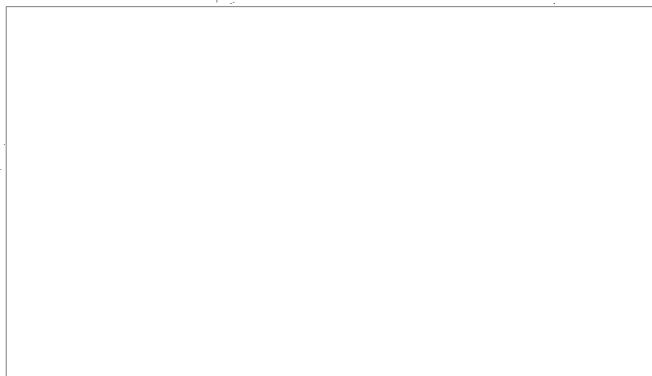


50X1



50X1

50X1  
50X1



50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**INDIA-PAKISTAN**

Each nation has recalled its high commissioner for consultations over the hijacking and subsequent destruction of an Indian airliner by Kashmiri radicals. Officials in both countries insist that the recall is not permanent. Pakistan remains incensed, however, over New Delhi's ban against all Pakistani flights over India, and Indian media have been critical of Pakistan's attempts to involve third countries in the dispute. Tension remains high although most of the Indian press now concedes that troop movements within East Pakistan are related to domestic politics.

The situation within Pakistan has indeed been further complicated by Z. A. Bhutto's announcement that his Pakistan People's Party will not attend the National Assembly now scheduled to meet on 3 March to begin writing a new constitution. East Pakistan's Awami League will have an absolute majority in the assembly, and Bhutto is concerned that the League will ram its program for provincial autonomy through the assembly sessions.

*Bhutto has, in effect, given notice that West Pakistan will not accept a purely East Pakistani constitution, but the League may well refuse to deal with him. It hopes to win enough support from Bhutto's West Pakistani opponents to make it appear that the League's constitution has the support of both sections of the country. Many East Pakistanis would rather split the country than settle for anything less than provincial autonomy, and an apparently growing number would prefer outright independence.*

*East Pakistan's relationship with India is by no means as hostile as West Pakistan's. India's occupation of Kashmir, for example, does not cause the anguish in East Pakistan that it does in West Pakistan. In addition, East Pakistan enjoys the economic advantage of a brisk bilateral trade with India.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

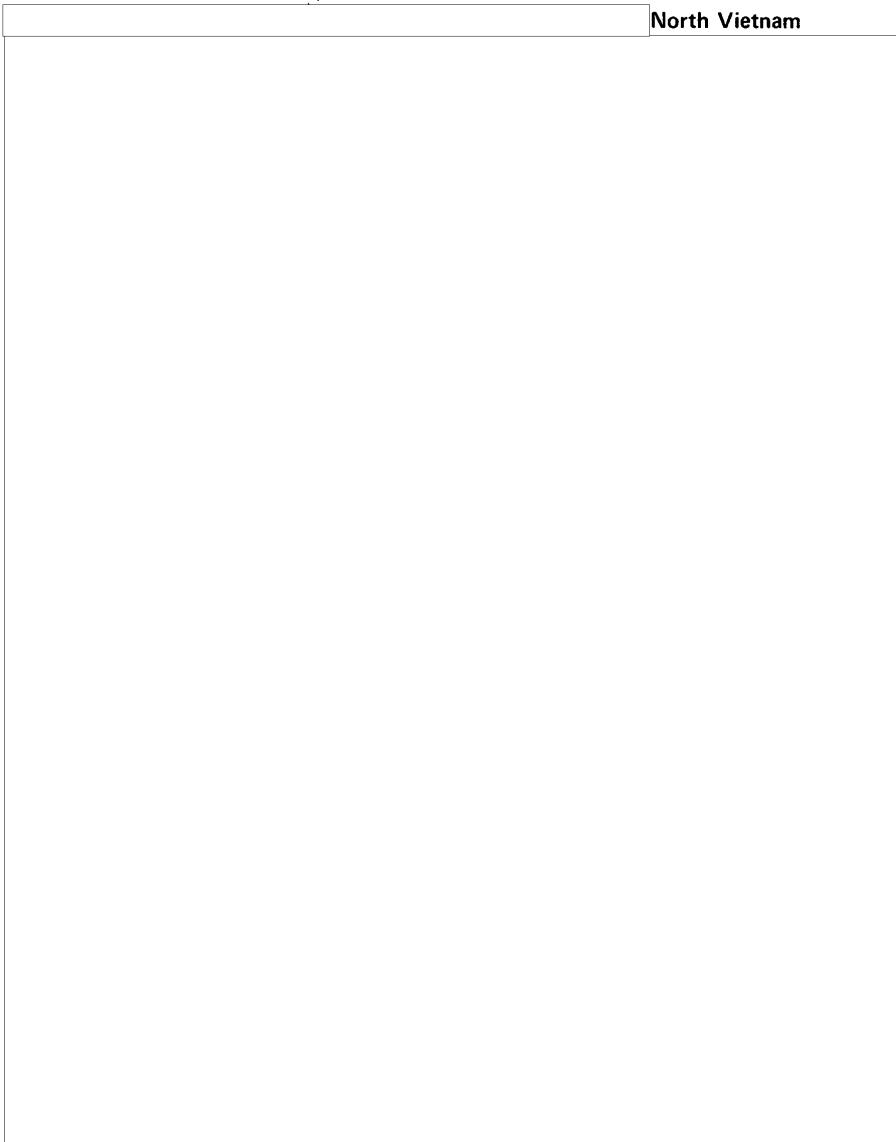
The government's decision to rescind the food price rise constitutes a significant retreat from its previous position that food prices would not be further increased for two years. The price rollback may have been necessary to prevent a third wave of strikes. Although the sit-down strike of textile workers in Lodz was made public, the Polish press has implied that labor unrest has also existed in other industrial centers.

Most of the workers in Lodz have now returned to their jobs, and Premier Jaroszewicz's announcement of the price cut makes it clear that no further concessions can be expected. To reinforce this point he linked the government's ability to rescind the prices with credits from the USSR. Jaroszewicz appears to be attempting to remind the workers that the Soviets always collect their debts.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

North Vietnam

50X1  
50X1



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

Communist China - North Vietnam: 

50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*18 February 1971*

48

*Top Secret<sup>50X1</sup>*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

18 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Substantial movements of North Vietnamese troops into Laos west of the DMZ suggest that the enemy plans to resist the South Vietnamese cross-border operation more vigorously. (Page 1)

Two Russian hydroacoustic research ships entered the Caribbean Sea this week. (Page 3)

50X1

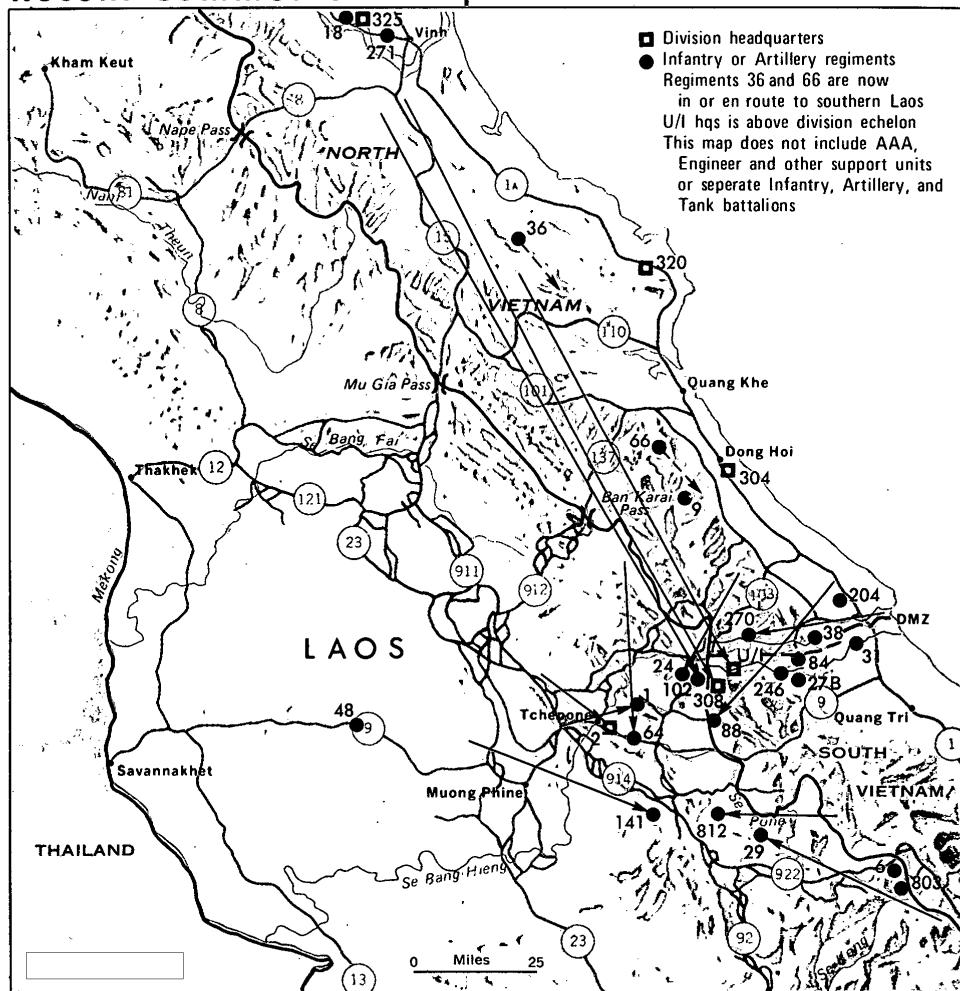
50X1

Unrest among Polish workers employed in East Germany has caused some uneasiness in the East German party apparatus. (Page 4)

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

## Recent Communist Troop Movements



551003 2-71 CIA

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM-LAOS

It now seems that North Vietnam has assigned all three regiments of the 308th Division to the Laotian panhandle battlefield. The division headquarters and its 102nd Regiment recently linked up with the 88th Regiment west of the DMZ, and the communications of its 36th Regiment suggest that it too is en route, or already in, eastern Laos.

The 66th Regiment of the North Vietnamese 304th Division is showing signs that it too may be moving into Laos from the Dong Hoi area in North Vietnam. Its sister regiment, the 24B, has been involved in offensive action in Laos just north of Route 9. South of Route 9, the North Vietnamese 812th Regiment has joined two other enemy regiments in a new buildup on the southern periphery of the South Vietnamese cross-border operation.

*These new identifications, together with those units sent earlier, indicate the North Vietnamese will soon abandon their cautious tactics of the past two weeks and attempt to counter the South Vietnamese thrust more vigorously. Hanoi is not likely to accept the substantial disruption of its supply lines without a major fight.*

While the Communists are repositioning troops in response to the South Vietnamese action, they are also continuing a crash supply effort. A recent message from a major supply station west of Tchepone said that the transportation mission for this unit for the entire dry season is to be completed during February. To accomplish this, up to 250 vehicles were to pass through an area every night.

*This order places a great burden on the supply system. If it can be carried out, however, the heaviest movement of Communist supplies through the Tchepone area could be taking place by the end of this month.*

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

As another result of the South Vietnamese operations into both Laos and Cambodia, a spate of new reports claims the Communists plan to increase action in various parts of South Vietnam. Although planning for additional action as part of the Communists' annual winter-spring campaign is normal at this time of year, many recent reports relate future efforts specifically to the South Vietnamese cross-border operations.

*A moderate increase in enemy activity is likely. The enemy appeals, however, are clearly designed to boost troop morale and promote a more vigorous seasonal campaign.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**USSR**

Two Soviet hydroacoustic research ships entered the Caribbean Sea on 16 February. Prior to their departure from the USSR last month, the leader of the expedition, Academician L. M. Brekhovskikh, said in a press interview that the study of waves under the ocean's surface would be one of the main objectives of the voyage.

Brekhovskikh is chairman of the Acoustics Committee of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and is the USSR's foremost expert on underwater sound and its application to sonar design. In the past, these two research ships have conducted acoustical experiments in conjunction with submarines off the West African coast.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

**USSR:**

50X1  
50X1

50X1

**East Germany - Poland:**

50X1  
50X1

a delegation of Polish workers, employed in East Germany's Suhl district, submitted a number of grievances over living and working conditions to the Polish ambassador in Berlin. This event will reinforce East German concern about the possibility of contagion from Polish workers in their midst. During the December rioting in Poland, for example, Polish workers were partially isolated from German workers; this caused some minor frictions but no serious incidents developed. The East Germans will have fresh anxieties, however, now that the Poles have gone over the head of local officials to deliver their complaints to Berlin.

**Congo (Kinshasa) - Israel - Sudan:**

50X1  
50X1

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

19 February 1971

48

Top Secret<sup>50X1</sup>

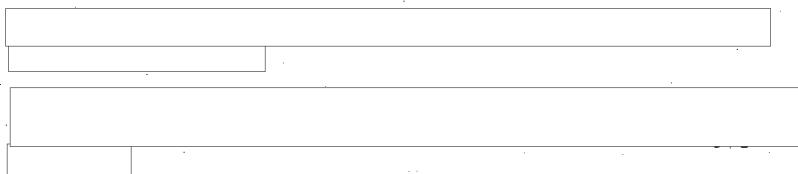
**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

19 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

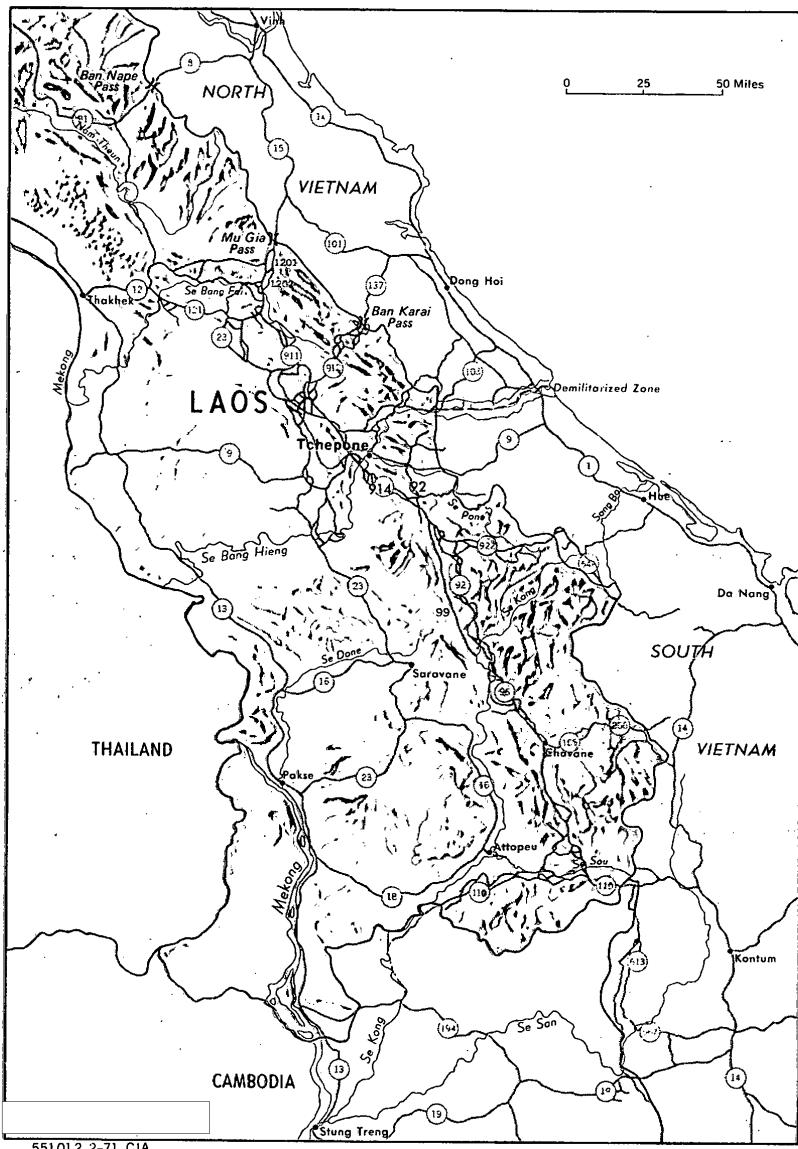
Enemy forces are digging in at a road junction southwest of Tchepone in order to counter South Vietnamese attacks. (Page 1)

The arrest in the Canal Zone of a Panamanian official on a narcotics charge has produced a strong reaction from the Panamanian Government. (Page 2)



50X1  
50X1  
50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM-LAOS

North Vietnamese forces southwest of Tchepone near the intersection of Routes 92 and 914 have been urgently digging in to counter South Vietnamese attacks,

A strong enemy effort to defend this area makes sense in view of the great importance of Routes 92 and 914 to the Communist supply system. The bulk of the material destined for Communist forces in South Vietnam and Cambodia moves over them.

50X1

As of 16 February, [redacted] no slowdown in Hanoi's transportation effort. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

[redacted] large numbers of vehicles had been moving through the area. [redacted]

50X1

[redacted] some storage facilities in the southern Lao panhandle are nearly full and [redacted] enemy units are having trouble unloading vehicles because so many have been arriving each night.

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA

The arrest in the Canal Zone on 6 February of a Panamanian official on a narcotics charge has produced a strong reaction from the Panamanian Government. It has publicly demanded that the official be returned to Panamanian authorities.

50X1

50X1

50X1

The arrested official, Jim Gonzalez, was chief air controller at Panama City's international airport.

50X1

50X1

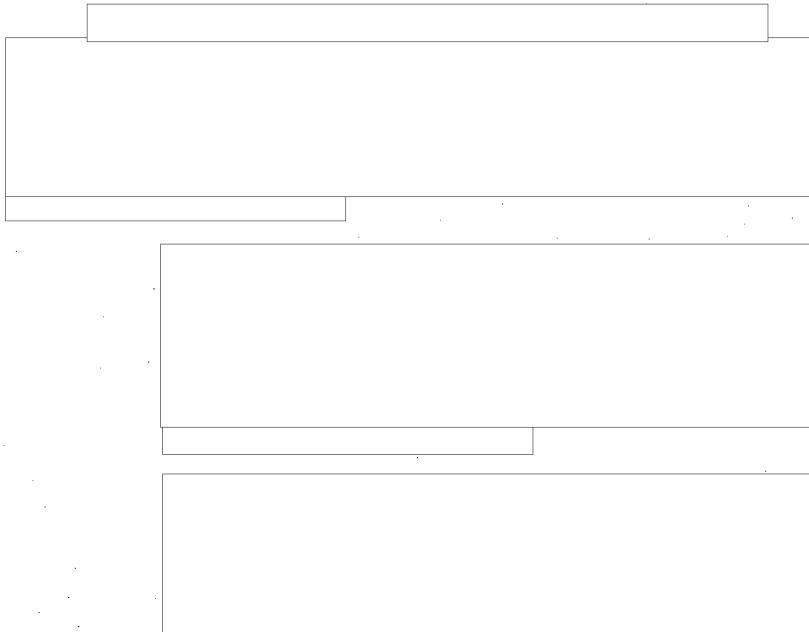
The government may well feel obliged to take additional action in response to the US decision to fly him to Texas tomorrow to face trial. Other US organizations in Panama could face punitive action, and strongman Torrijos may be tempted to allow students to take to the streets in protest.

Economic constraints could temper Panama's reaction; President Lakas and other officials are urging restraint. The government currently is arranging a loan through a New York investment firm to alleviate serious budgetary difficulties. Large-scale demonstrations would jeopardize this loan and risk the loss of tourist revenue from pre-Lent activities in the next few days. Even if Torrijos accepts Lakas' advice, however, a spontaneous eruption is possible when the US action becomes public knowledge.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**LIBYA-USSR**



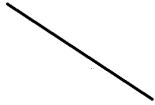
50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



**NOTE**

Singapore-USSR: A Soviet maritime mission will visit Singapore, beginning 24 February. All members of the delegation appear to be civilian and the visit ostensibly is to discuss only Soviet commercial use of Singapore's harbors. Following a flurry of rumors last October, Lee Kuan Yew denied that the Soviets would be permitted use of the island's naval base. Lee recently renewed assurances to Foreign Secretary Douglas-Home that there would be "full consultations" before making a final decision on whether to grant any facilities to the USSR.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

EGYPT-ISRAEL

A  
N  
Z  
E  
X

50X1

50X1

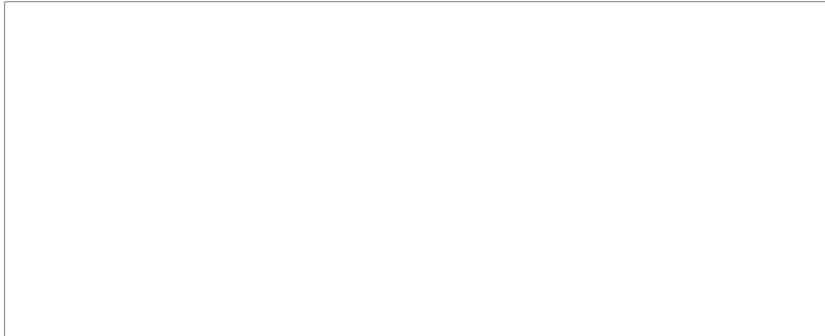
50X1

(continued)

A-1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

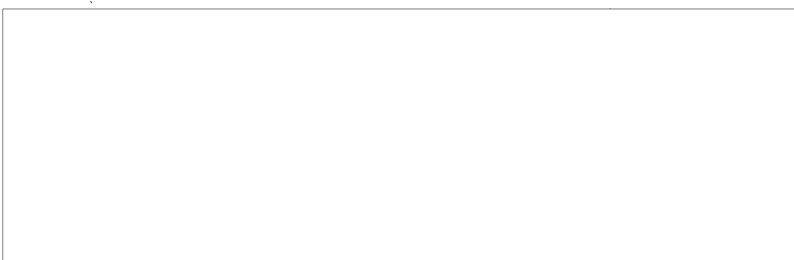
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

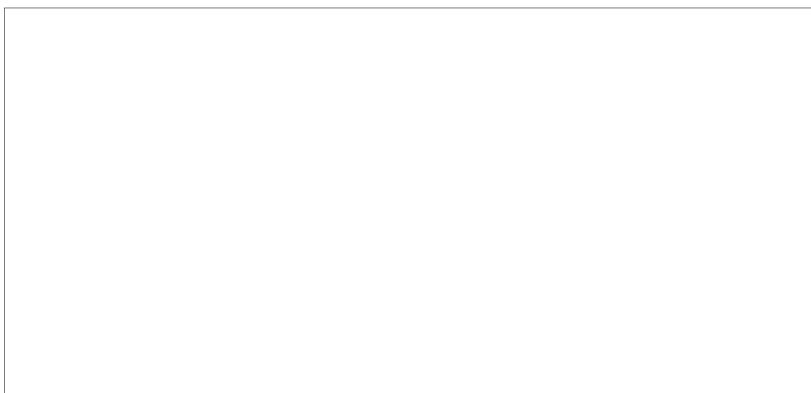


50X1



50X1

50X1



50X1

A-2

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

20 February 1971

46

~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

20 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The military situation in northern Laos is discussed on *Page 1*.

In Cambodia, the Communists are continuing to resist the South Vietnamese clearing operations near the Chup plantation. (*Page 2*)

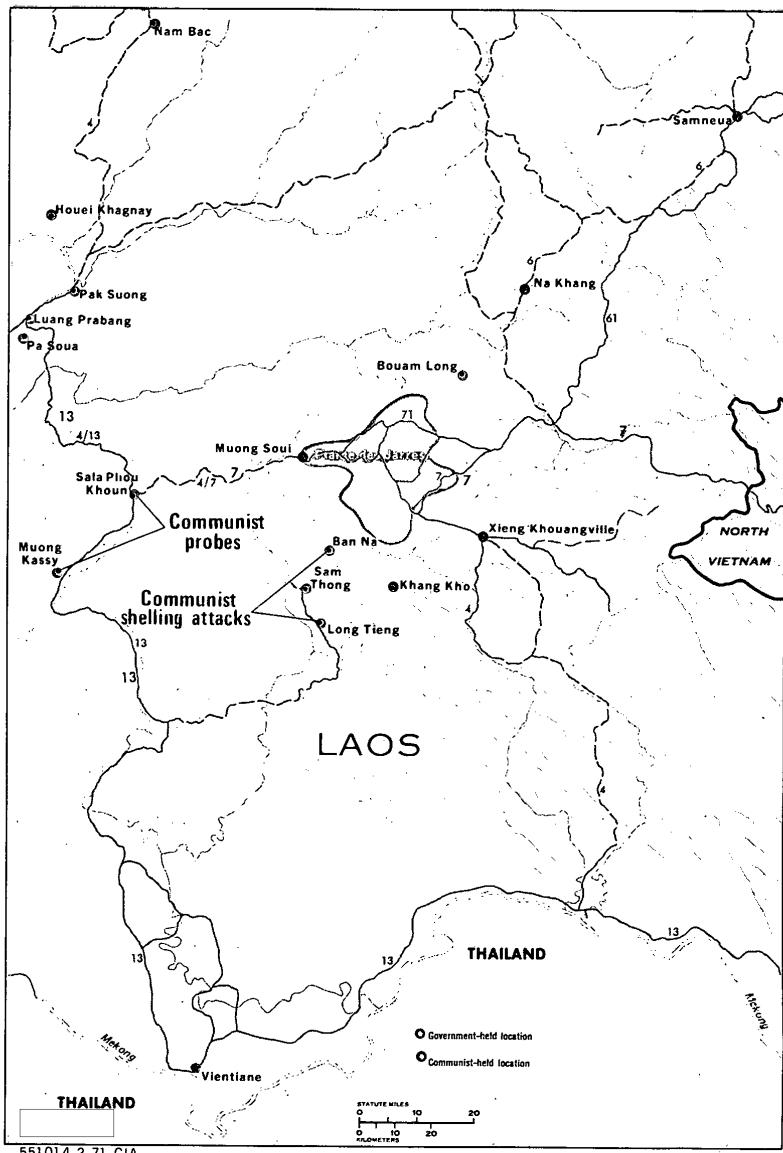
[redacted] a constitution along the lines proposed by East Pakistan's Awami League. (*Page 3*)

50X1

A dispute between Colombia and Venezuela over delineation of seabeds in the Gulf of Venezuela is alarming Colombian officials. (*Page 4*)

The new Polish regime has indirectly warned that further labor unrest could jeopardize the workers' gains. (*Page 5*)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

At Ban Na, north of Long Tieng, Communist probes have continued to hamper government aerial resupply efforts. On 17 February sporadically heavy enemy fire forced the closing of the airstrip. Yesterday two rockets hit the Long Tieng base, but without damaging logistic or air facilities. The previous day, tactical air sorties in northeastern Laos produced 125 secondary explosions.

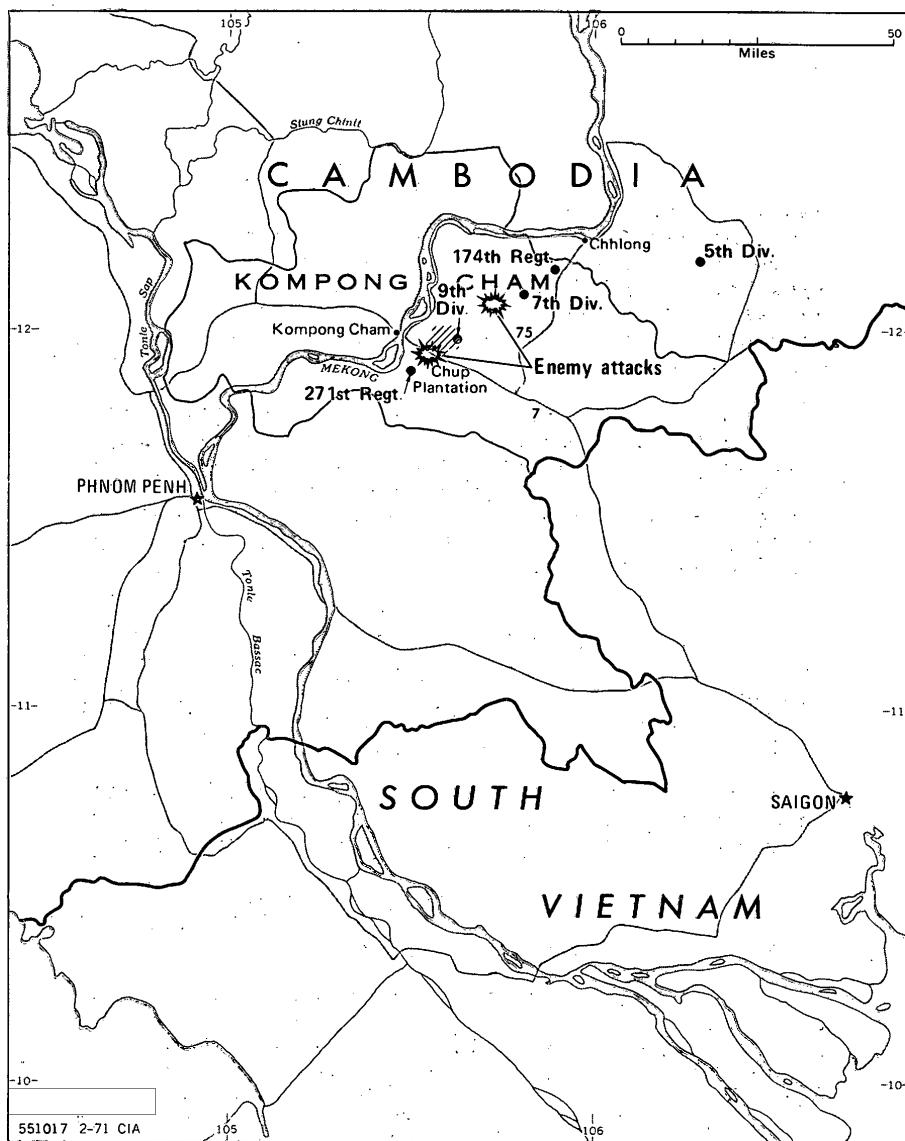
*This is the highest number ever noted in the area, and underscores the extent of the North Vietnamese buildup.*

The government yesterday closed Route 13 between Vientiane and Luang Prabang following Communist probes at Sala Phou Khoun and Muong Kassy.

*Although the only land link between the two capitals, Route 13 is used mainly for local traffic. Its closing may nevertheless upset the civilian population as a mark of the war's growing nearness to their homes.*

On the political front, National Assembly President Phoui Sananikone and some other legislators are seeking ways to put the assembly on record as critical of Souvanna's handling of the war. At Phoui's request, Souvanna will send a Defense Ministry representative to brief the assembly's military affairs committee next week.

*Although dissidents do not appear to have enough votes to censure the government, the current maneuverings reflect the assemblymen's longstanding factional jealousies over Souvanna's leadership, as well as a fear that he will prejudice government interests in any negotiations with the Communists.*



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA-VIETNAM**

The Communists are continuing to resist South Vietnamese clearing operations in Kompong Cham Province. South Vietnamese armor and ranger units have clashed sharply with enemy troops in and around the Chup rubber plantation. ARVN soldiers claim to have taken only light casualties, while the Communists suffered heavily.

[redacted] the enemy is still reinforcing and repositioning main force combat units near Chup. The 174th Regiment of the Communist 5th Division, east of the plantation near Route 75, now is coordinating its operations with the headquarters of the Communist 7th Division. The headquarters of the Communist 9th Division has moved deep into the plantation, placing it behind the South Vietnamese task forces that recently pushed through Chup. The division's 271st Regiment, which has been responsible for the probing attacks against South Vietnamese troops moving along Route 7, is now located south of Chup, just below Route 7.

50X1

*The Communists evidently want to keep the fighting focused in central Kompong Cham for as long as possible to prevent the South Vietnamese from moving toward Communist supply centers in Kratie Province to the north.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

a constitution  
along the lines proposed by East Pakistan's Awami League.

50X1

50X1

The League wants to limit central government responsibilities to defense and foreign affairs and to give provincial governments all taxing power. It has given every indication that it plans to use its majority to force through its program in the assembly.

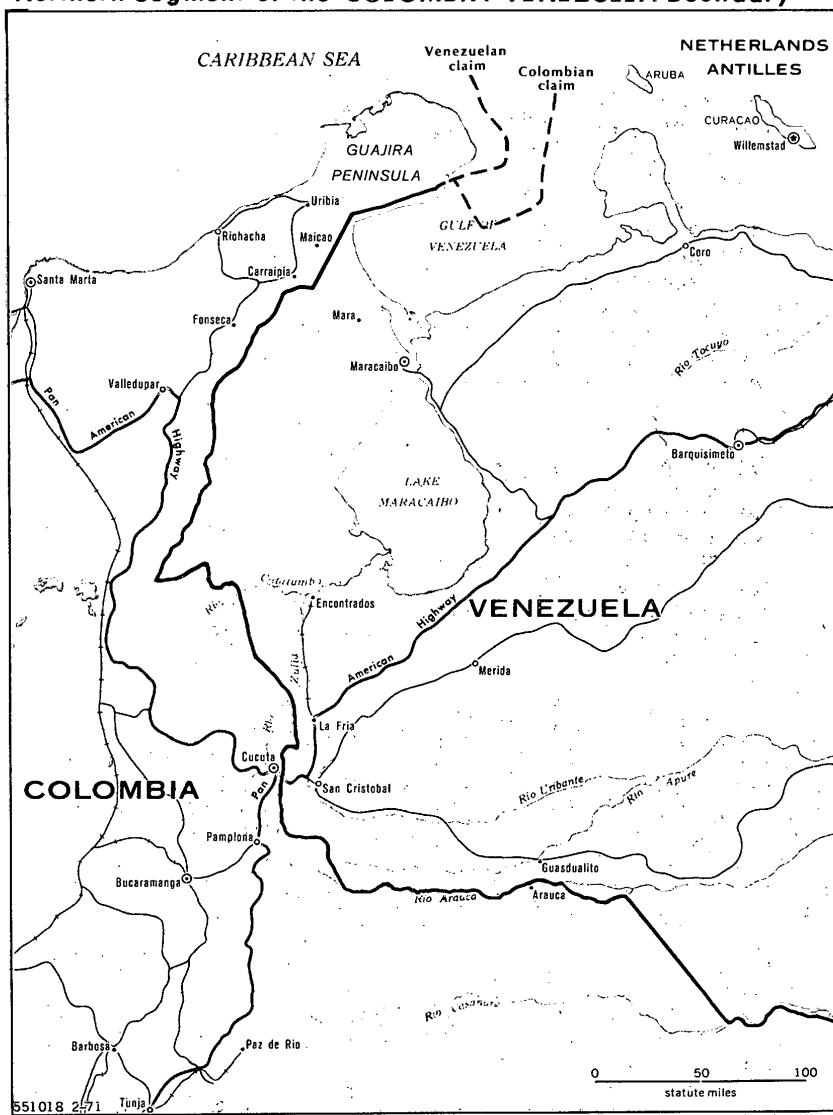
Rejection of the League's constitution and the extension of military rule might well have the acquiescence of the largest West Pakistani party, but East Pakistanis would react strongly, possibly even to the point of proclaiming their independence.

Yahya must be aware of this risk and of the extreme difficulty of holding Pakistan together by force. He and the generals may be willing to let the East go, however, to avoid subjecting the entire nation to what they believe would be an unworkable governmental system which would threaten the position of the military.

The situation could still be saved by a compromise between East and West Pakistani politicians, but their public statements in the past week give little hope of this. Mujibur Rahman, spokesman of the East Wing and Awami League leader, has reiterated his unwillingness to compromise on provincial autonomy. Z.A. Bhutto, major political leader in West Pakistan, has emphasized that his decision to boycott the constituent assembly unless Mujib is willing to negotiate remains "unshakeable and irrevocable."

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

## **Northern Segment of the COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA Boundary**



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA

On 18 February, Colombia's ambassador to Venezuela, Hector Charry, on his own initiative asked for US assistance in solving the Venezuelan-Colombian dispute over delineation of seabeds in the Gulf of Venezuela. He feared the dispute might lead to a clash or to the fall of both governments through military coups.

On the same day, former president Alberto Lleras Camargo told US officials in Bogota that an untoward incident could touch off an armed conflict. He asserted that Venezuela had hardened its stand on the boundary dispute and stated that the present position is completely unacceptable to Colombia. He expressed fear that political pressures in Venezuela on the issue could lead to a military coup.

*Both countries believe that the disputed area is rich in oil. The two governments have been in frequent contact on the issue, and another round of talks is scheduled next month.*

*Jingoistic press treatment, especially in Venezuela, has stirred latent hostility between the peoples, and a military buildup by both countries along the border has increased the chances of an inadvertent clash. Although conditions do not seem ripe for a coup in either country, the views expressed by the Colombians underline the seriousness with which veteran political leaders and officials view the current trend.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

An authoritative commentator in Warsaw's most popular daily wrote yesterday that a sharp struggle is being waged on many levels between entrenched party functionaries associated with the former Gomulka regime and advocates of Gierek's new style of rule. The writer warned that extremist worker demands are playing into the hands of the old party bureaucrats who oppose sharing power with anyone. He hinted that these elements, for their own political purposes, are encouraging excessive worker demands.

*In effect, this article is a public warning that further labor unrest could jeopardize the gains workers have made and could undermine Gierek's efforts to mold a party apparatus more responsive to popular desires. In part, it could be an attempt to intimidate the workers into not making any further demands. This point has become critical because it has become abundantly clear that Gierek has nothing more to give.*

*The speedier-than-anticipated ouster of provincial and local party officials in recent days lends some credence to the possibility that there is considerable resistance to change among party functionaries fearful of their tenure. Gierek would like to gain the public's confidence in his policies by installing new faces among the bureaucrats who are in daily contact with the people. Unless Gierek's new style of rule effectively restores calm and a modicum of local party authority soon, he may come under increasing pressure from the Soviet Union and his own party to adopt a hard line.*

(continued)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

[redacted] the Soviet  
credit recently granted to Poland amounts to \$1.2  
billion. It is to be used for the purchase of  
grain, gas, and petroleum products [redacted]

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

*This is the largest single Soviet credit  
to any Communist country. Whatever its  
precise terms, it is certain to increase  
Poland's political and economic depend-  
ence on the USSR during the next decade.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

22 February 1971

50

Top Secret<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

22 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Weekend developments associated with the South Vietnamese cross-border operation into Laos are summarized on *Page 1*.

The military situation in northern Laos is discussed on *Page 2*.

North Vietnam's top leaders have become personally involved in fresh efforts to mobilize more men for military duty. (*Page 3*)

[Redacted]

5050X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

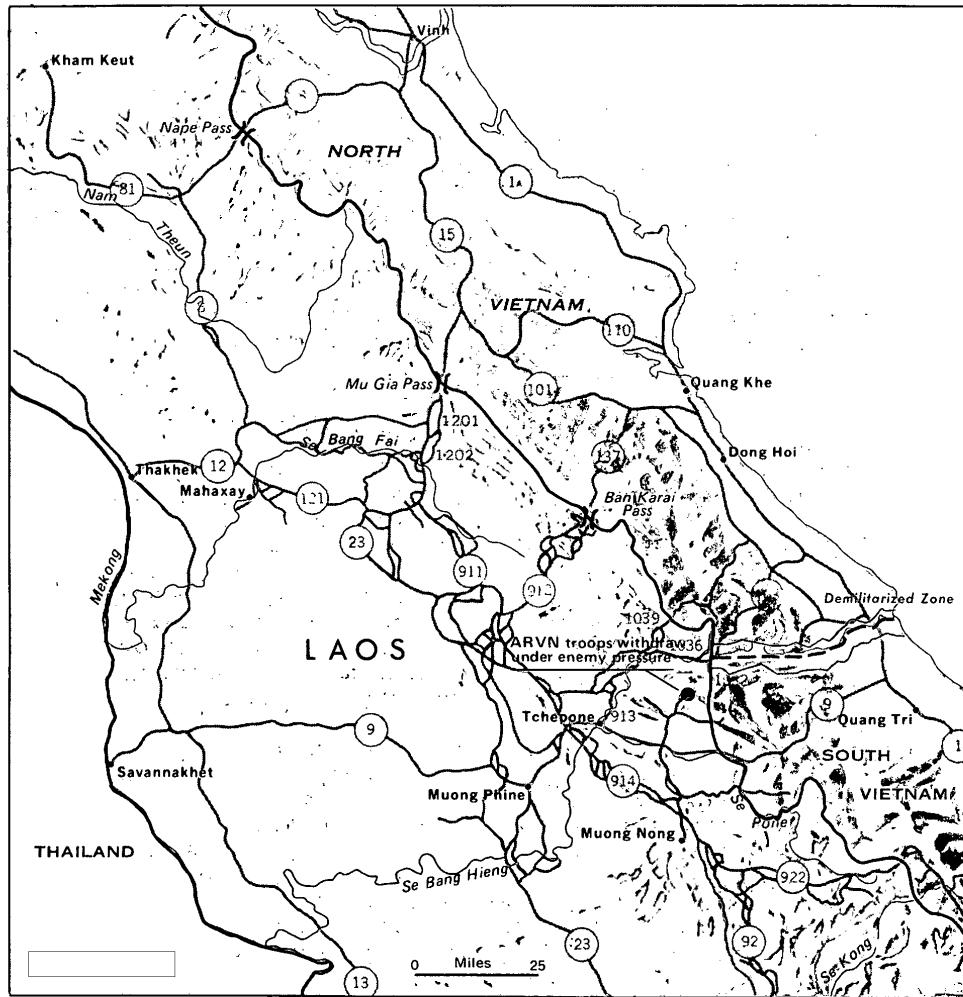
50X1

The status of Soviet ships in the Caribbean is noted on *Page 6*.

[Redacted]

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

551022 2-71 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

Sustained Communist pressure over several days has forced a South Vietnamese battalion to withdraw from a position in the mountainous terrain north of Route 9 between Tchepone and the South Vietnamese border. Precise casualty figures from this action are not yet available, but US aerial observers estimate that the North Vietnamese lost more than 600 troops killed.

Several regiments from North Vietnam recently have reinforced the enemy in this area and the Communists apparently intend to challenge the right flank of the South Vietnamese drive toward Tchepone. Over the weekend there were signs [redacted] that elements of yet another regiment from the 308th Division may have arrived in this area.

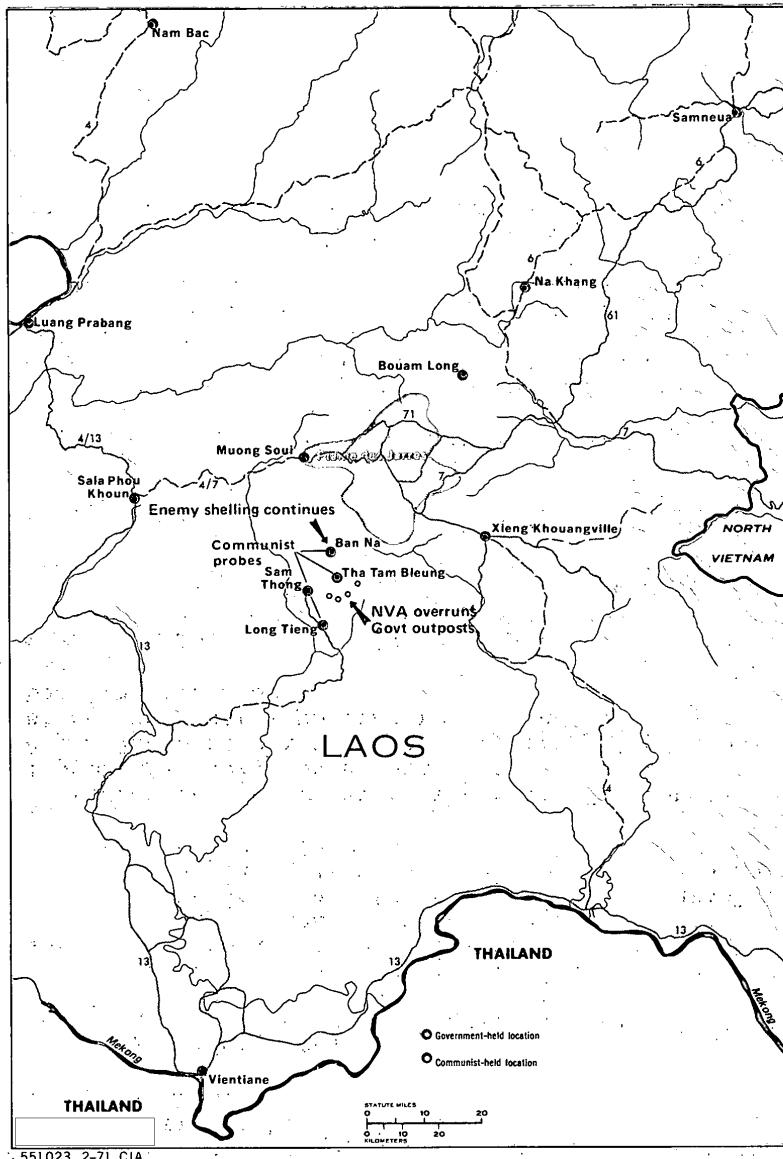
50X1  
50X1

Southeast of Tchepone the North Vietnamese launched a sharp ground attack on 20 February against South Vietnamese forces who are attempting to obstruct the most important routes in the enemy's Laotian road system.

The North Vietnamese appear to be moving a forward command post from the 324B Division into this area to oversee the operations of three recently arrived regiments, and the enemy is likely to intensify its efforts to protect this road network.

Intercepted messages from North Vietnamese logistics units covering the period through 19 February indicate that supplies were still moving through the area adjacent to Tchepone, but that some difficulties were beginning to develop farther to the southeast along the key Route 914-92-922 complex. One message said that North Vietnamese units near the town of Muong Nong had not received needed supplies and anticipated a difficult time dealing with the "enemy" if the shipment did not arrive.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**LAOS**

*The Communists continued to nibble away over the weekend at government strong-points commanding the approaches to Long Tieng.*

North Vietnamese forces have overrun four Lao irregular outposts in the vicinity of Tha Tam Bleung. The outposts were garrisoned by elements of two guerrilla battalions which withdrew to the southwest after sustaining casualties of eight killed and 25 wounded. The irregular base at Tha Tam Bleung itself was subjected to enemy ground probes.

Ban Na, under strong pressure from elements of the North Vietnamese 312th Division, was shelled on at least a dozen occasions during the weekend. Small-scale ground clashes occurred around its defensive perimeter as well as around the nearby base at Sam Thong. Despite the intensity of enemy shelling, the airstrip at Ban Na has been reopened, and medical evacuation and resupply missions are once again under way.

Near Long Tieng, government irregulars have beaten back several small-scale ground probes against outposts within a mile of Vang Pao's headquarters. Intercepts indicate, however, that some elements of the major Communist units threatening Long Tieng--the NVA 316th Division and NVA 866th Independent Regiment--edged closer to the base during the weekend. Early this morning in Long Tieng, a light rocket attack cut main power lines causing a temporary blackout.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NORTH VIETNAM**

The Communist Party central committee has convened a conference to review the regime's efforts to mobilize more women for tasks on the home front. A Radio Hanoi announcement of 18 February left a clear impression that the mobilization is designed to free more men for military duty. Party head Le Duan and Premier Pham Van Dong addressed the meeting.

Gatherings of this kind aimed at mobilizing the North Vietnamese masses for one purpose or another are standard fare, but this one seems more than an ordinary meeting. The central committee does not usually sponsor run-of-the-mill conferences, nor do Hanoi's top leaders, particularly Le Duan, normally show up at routine affairs. Moreover, this high-level, public meeting on manpower occurred shortly after the beginning of the Laotian operation and only a few weeks after a central committee plenum that almost certainly weighed the possibility of such an allied move.

An accelerated recruitment and conscription drive has been under way in North Vietnam for several months. This meeting may signal a period of even more intense manpower mobilization for the front lines and for the home guard.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CHINA**



50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

CAMBODIA



50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

**USSR-Cuba:** The Soviet Kresta-class guided-missile cruiser and the tanker Liepaya arrived yesterday in the port of Cienfuegos. The cruiser had been operating in the Gulf of Mexico since leaving Havana on 15 February. U-2 photography [redacted] shows the Soviet submarine tender and the N-class nuclear-powered attack submarine still moored in the naval basin near Cayo Alcatraz in Cienfuegos Bay. The two nuclear submarine support barges are still tied up at the Cuban naval base at Cienfuegos.

50X1  
50X1

**Burma:** [redacted]

50X1  
50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

23 February 1971



49

50X1

~~Top Secret~~

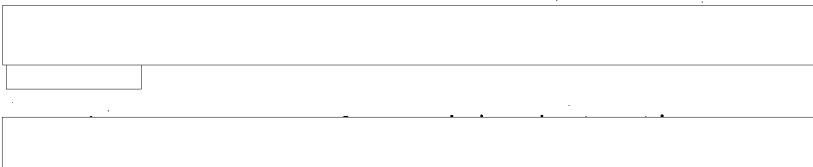
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

23 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Communist military activity is continuing in several areas near Phnom Penh. (Page 1)



50X1

50X1

The North Vietnamese are moving a large volume of supplies into northern Laos. (Page 4)

In Pakistan, the constitution-making impasse shows no sign of abating but tension seems to be easing with India over the recent hijacking incident. (Page 4)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Phnom Penh Area



551024 2-71 CIA

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

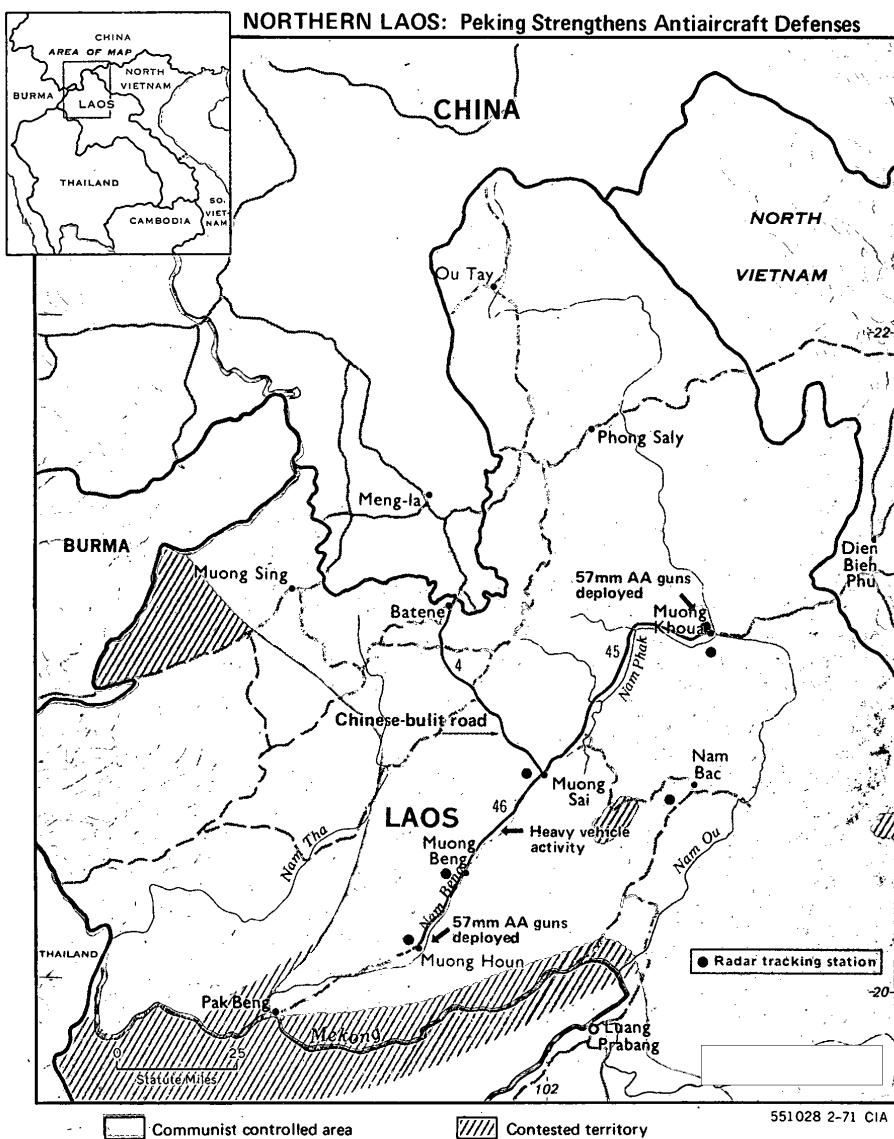
**CAMBODIA**

An enemy attack yesterday on a Mekong River convoy some ten miles southeast of the capital destroyed a barge carrying ammunition. Other vessels in the convoy sustained only minor damage and were able to proceed on to Phnom Penh. Cambodia's other main transportation route to South Vietnam, Route 1, has been closed since Saturday, when the enemy destroyed a bridge near Neak Luong.

Northeast of Phnom Penh, Cambodian troops conducting clearing operations near the village of Vihear Suor continue to report light contact with enemy elements. Meanwhile, Cambodian Army messages indicate that small enemy groups are infiltrating several villages to the northwest of the capital.

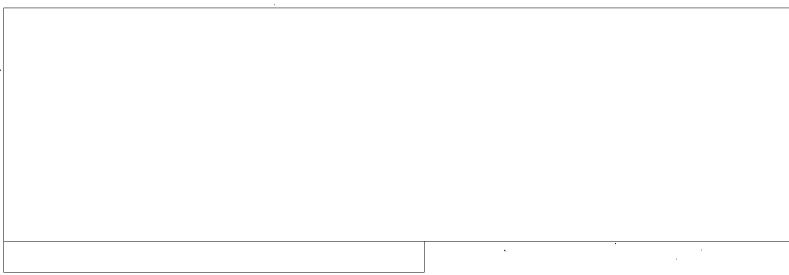
*Heavier fighting in the Vihear Suor sector may be in prospect. Intercepted army messages recently have claimed that there has been intense nighttime Communist infiltration from the north and the northeast. On 20 February the headquarters of the Communist 96th Artillery Regiment was some 15 miles northeast of Phnom Penh, within easy range of Vihear Suor.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

COMMUNIST CHINA - LAOS



50X1

50X1

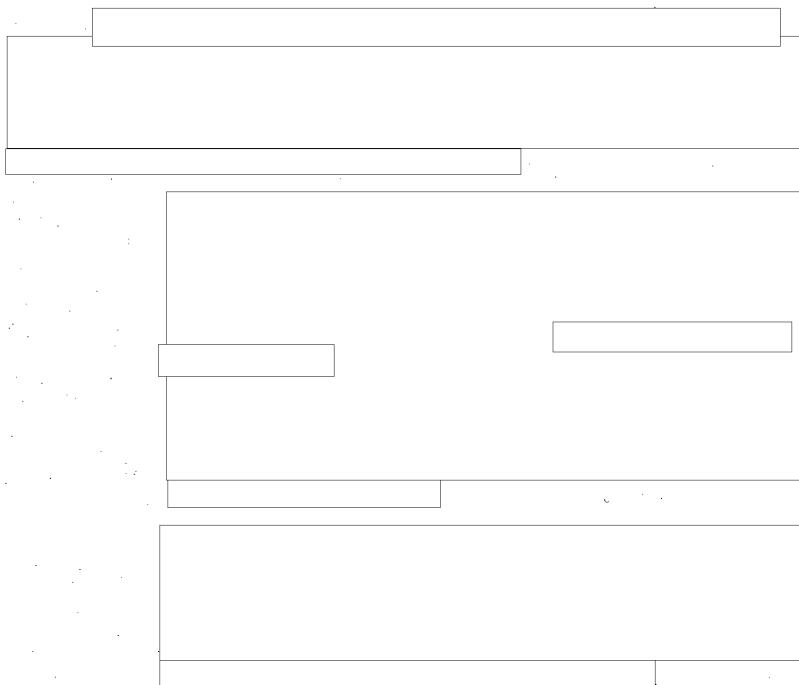
50X1

Photography [redacted] showed a continuing buildup of Chinese engineer units at Muong Houn, but they have still not resumed construction of the road beyond Muong Houn, southwards toward the Mekong River.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

EGYPT-USSR



50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

North Vietnam - Laos: Intercepts show that the North Vietnamese are moving a large volume of supplies into northern Laos. Beginning on 20 February, nearly 2,000 tons of supplies are scheduled to be sent to units in and around the Plaine des Jarres. About half of the supplies are to go to North Vietnamese units, with the remainder split between Pathet Lao and neutralist troops. The supplies to the North Vietnamese units are to include about 175 tons of arms and munitions and 500 tons of food-stuffs; almost all the shipments to the others are to be food. Delivery of those supplies destined for the Pathet Lao is to be completed in about three weeks, but no time frame has been disclosed for the other deliveries.

Pakistan: President Yahya is flying to Dacca this week to urge East Pakistani leader Mujibur Rahman to end his intransigence on the new constitution. Although the trip is an extraordinary gesture to Mujib, who refused to go to West Pakistan to see Yahya, it has little chance of success. Mujib will find it difficult to make significant concessions to Yahya, especially in the face of current West Pakistani threats to boycott the assembly if Mujib does not back down. Mujib still insists that he will use his majority in the constituent assembly to ram through a constitution giving provincial governments responsibility for all matters except defense and foreign policy.

India-Pakistan: According to Indian Foreign Office officials, Pakistan has agreed to call off its military alert along the border, and India has assured Pakistani diplomats that it does not wish to "escalate the controversy" stemming from the hijacking of an Indian airliner on 2 February. The Pakistani ambassador in Washington has again told US officials that Pakistan is willing to negotiate a settlement. Politicians in both countries may still be tempted to play upon strong popular feelings about the hijacking, but the diplomats appear to be moving the two governments toward a settlement of the immediate crisis.

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

24 February 1971

48

50X1  
Top Secret



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

24 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The military situation in northern Laos is presented on *Page 1*.

The South Vietnamese operation in Laos met sharp resistance at several places yesterday. (*Page 3*)

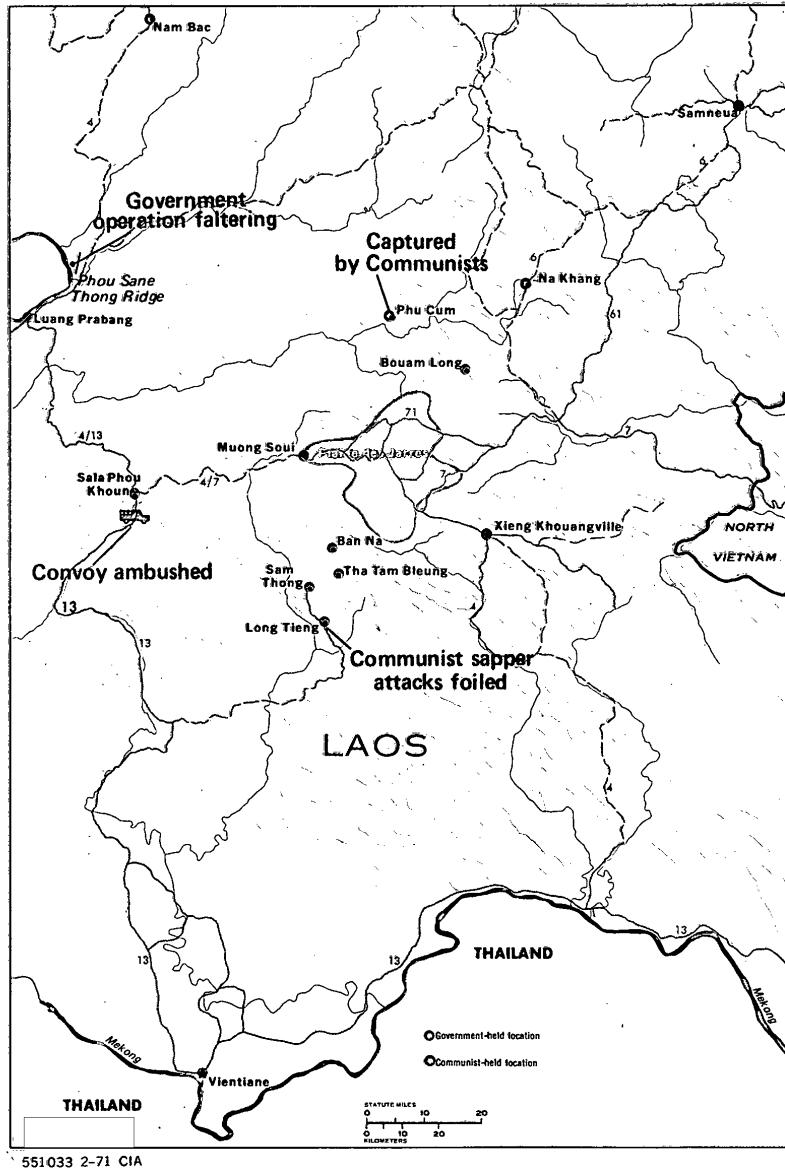
[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

Laotian political circles are showing increased nervousness. (*Page 5*)

A growth of terrorism in Turkey has sparked fresh reports of imminent military intervention. (*Page 6*)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

Yesterday Communist units overran Phu Cum, some 30 miles northeast of Muong Soui and one of the last two government positions north of the Plaine des Jarres.

*The government's remaining post, Bouam Long, is strongly defended and does not appear to be the center of any major Communist force concentration at this time, although it has been the object of increasingly frequent Communist probing attacks. The only large North Vietnamese unit in the Bouam Long vicinity, the 766th Independent Regiment, has not usually been used in heavy combat.*

Communist main force units are still inching closer to the Long Tieng complex and are maintaining the pressure on the base and its outposts. On 21 February, local security forces intercepted and dispersed ten North Vietnamese sappers in the Long Tieng valley, only a few hundred yards from the ramp used by T-28 aircraft. The Communists have also been trying to reach positions in the hills overlooking Long Tieng to get a clear shot at the base facilities, which are partially protected by rock outcroppings on the valley floor. Yesterday morning, however, government irregulars recaptured a position six miles to the northeast, one of the four outposts that the North Vietnamese had overrun last weekend.

*The Communists apparently are paying a heavy price for their efforts against Lona Tieng.*

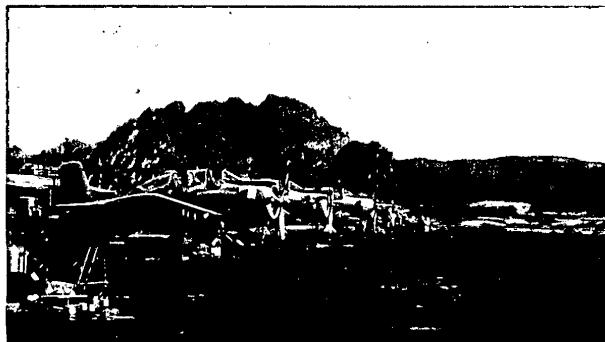
50X1

*casualties have been heavy, and medicine and ammunition have been used up.*

(continued)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

LONG TIENG AIRBASE



T-28 flight line



Rock outcroppings near logistic facilities

551027 2-71 CIA



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

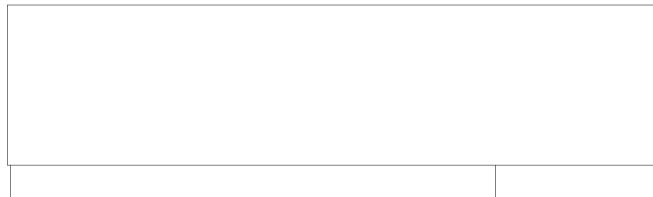
To the west of the Plaine, Route 13 between Luang Prabang and Vientiane is again open, but under a night curfew. Early this week the Communists ambushed a small truck convoy on Route 13 near Sala Phou Khoun, killing two civilians. The government has moved some 525 reinforcements into the Luang Prabang area, but its operation to secure defensive positions northeast of the royal capital appears to be faltering. An irregular battalion attempting to reoccupy the northern end of the Phou Sane Thong ridge was driven from its positions yesterday and scattered by an enemy mortar attack and ground assault. The southern end of the ridge, taken last Sunday, is still in government hands.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

South Vietnamese forces met sharp enemy resistance at several places in Laos yesterday, but there have been no new large-scale attacks. North Vietnamese tanks were sighted again northeast of Tchepone, and there were reports that the enemy in that area has been using 130-mm. artillery--the weapon used extensively during the seige of Khe Sanh in 1968. This artillery has a range of 29,200 yards.



50X1

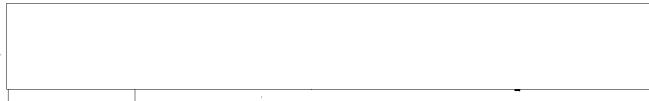


50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NORTH VIETNAM



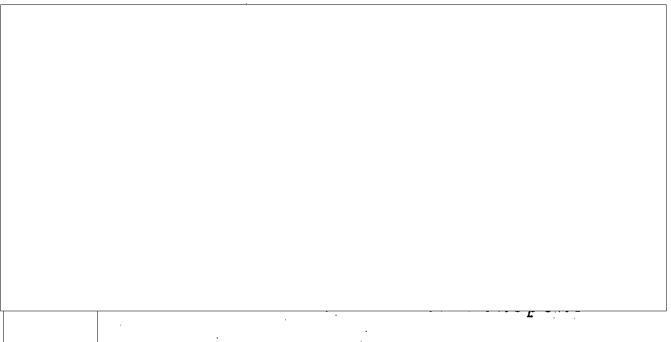
50X1



50X1

50X1

50X1



50X1

50X1



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Laotian political circles are showing increased nervousness in the face of current military developments.

A group of national assemblymen has informally proposed that the King make a goodwill trip to Hanoi and Peking to persuade the Communists to bring about an end to the fighting and to begin negotiations.

50X1

50X1

Communist diplomatic missions are also showing some signs of concern. The Chinese charge d'affaires, whose tour is at an end, has postponed his long-planned return to Peking. No official explanation for this abrupt change has been made, but Chinese Embassy officials are said to be concerned about the viability of the Souvanna government and the possibility of a military take-over in Vientiane. The North Vietnamese mission has been receiving requests for evacuation to Hanoi from some local Vietnamese who fear government reprisals for Communist military actions. On 22 February the Soviet Embassy notified its invited guests that today's traditional Army Day reception was being canceled.

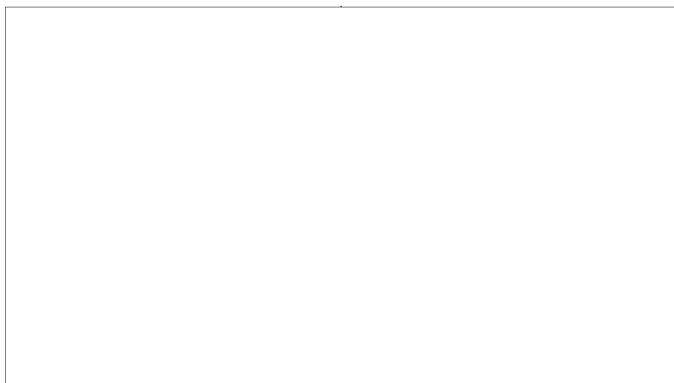
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**TURKEY**

A growth of terrorism--which has taken on the character of an urban guerrilla movement--has sparked fresh rumors of imminent military intervention. Actions by terrorists in recent days have led to the death of one high school student and injuries to police and students. Homes, offices, and police stations have suffered bomb damage and several vehicles have been burned. Clashes between students and police have also resulted in the closing of many urban schools and universities.

The militant left--which is primarily responsible for the violence--now appears to be better armed and to be using more sophisticated explosives than previously.



50X1

Prime Minister Demirel, whose Justice Party government has been seriously weakened by intraparty conflict, faces a dilemma in dealing with the terrorism. The employment of harsher police measures to control student radicals could bring charges of the kind of repression that helped bring down the Menderes government in 1960. On the other hand, declaration of martial law would reflect an inability to maintain law and order short of military intervention. Once having invited the military to step in, he might find it difficult to return them to the barracks.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

25 February 1971

47



~~Top Secret~~ 50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

25 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Communist forces are resisting the South Vietnamese operations in Laos with shellings and ground attacks, but there have been no new large engagements.

(Page 1)

The petroleum crisis in Phnom Penh has eased.  
(Page 2)

Moscow views China's UN membership as inevitable but perhaps delayed because of the Taiwan ejection issue.

(Page 5)

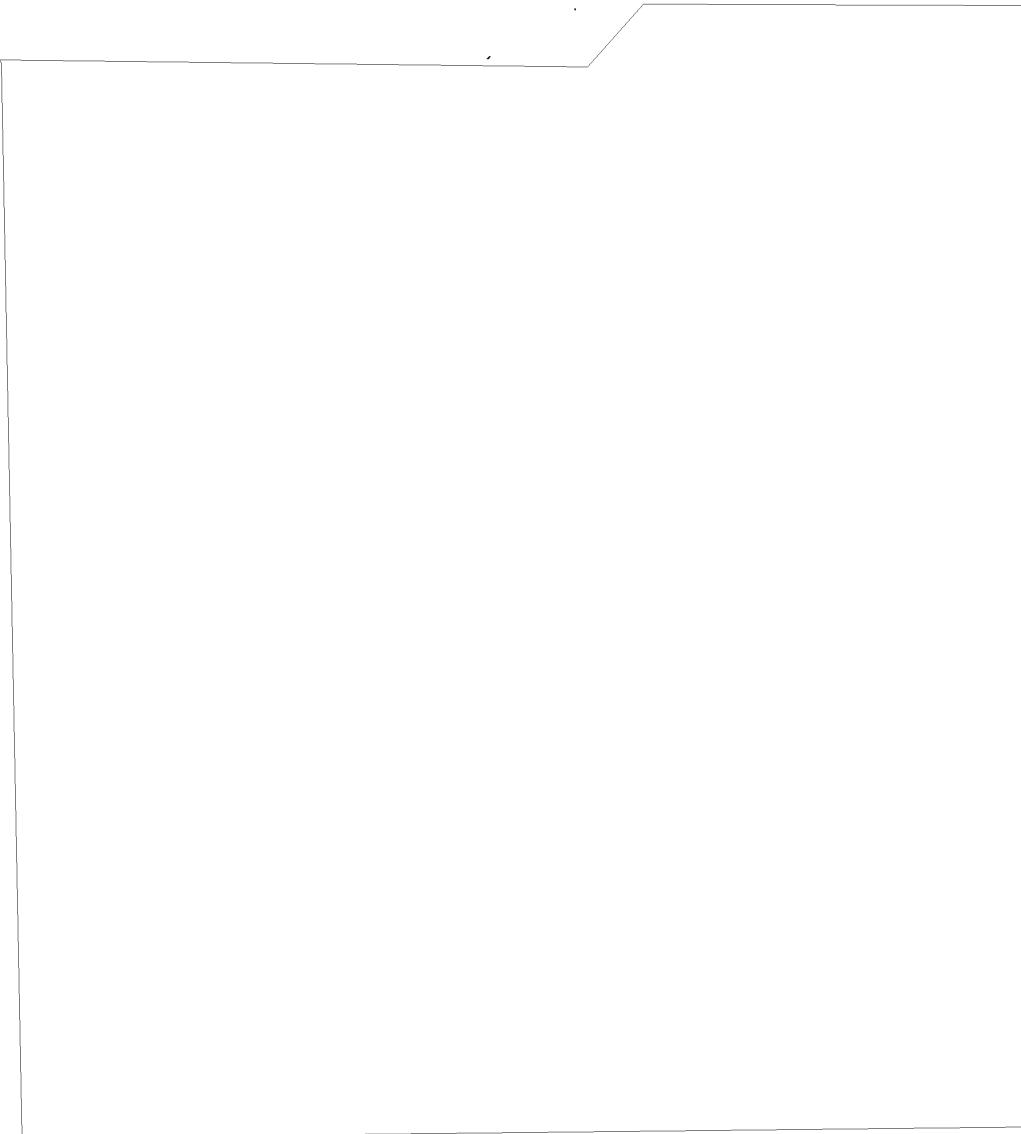
50X1

The Japanese resolve to go easy in trying to improve their relations with China. (Page 6)

50X1  
50X1

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

Communist forces are resisting the allied operations in Laos with shellings and some ground attacks, but there have been no new large engagements.

The account of a North Vietnamese defector suggests that the Communists intend to commit still more units to resist the South Vietnamese push into Laos.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

As of 22 February, the Communists apparently were still moving substantial quantities of supplies through the area southeast of Tchepone.

50X1

there was some decline in truck traffic on 22 February from the high levels of the past few weeks. South Vietnamese forces operating in the vicinity of Muong Nong probably caused some of the decline, but the North Vietnamese have many bypasses and alternate routes in this area and only part of the system has been affected.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

## CAMBODIA

Recent deliveries of about 18,000 metric tons of petroleum supplies to Phnom Penh from South Vietnam via the Mekong River have eased the oil crisis. Petroleum has also reached Phnom Penh by truck over Route 4 from the refinery at Kompong Som, as well as overland from Saigon and Bangkok. Land shipments, however, have amounted to less than a thousand metric tons of petroleum since last December, due to the continuing insecurity of key highways. As an alternative to the use of Route 4, the Cambodians are planning in the near future to start regular petroleum deliveries by water from Kompong Som to Phnom Penh in small, recently chartered tankers.

*There are now enough stocks in the city's petroleum depots to meet essential military and civilian requirements for at least three weeks. The petroleum situation will remain difficult, however. The Cambodians have not as yet followed through on plans to purchase petroleum transport vessels of their own. Their Mekong supply route is maintained by foreign vessels and crews, which could suddenly abandon this service if the Communists increase the dangers. The hazards of the Mekong passage were emphasized again on 22 February, when enemy fire struck six of nine commercial vessels in a convoy, sinking one.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

USSR

50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1

50X1

(continued)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**USSR-CHINA-UN**

The Soviet Foreign Ministry's chief China watcher, Mikhail Kapitsa, told Ambassador Beam on 23 February that Soviet officials believe China is definitely interested in UN membership. Kapitsa pointedly noted, however, that he was "absolutely convinced" Peking will not abandon its demand that Taiwan be ejected from all UN organs as a condition of Peking's membership. A Soviet UN diplomat took a similar line with a US official on 22 February.

*Moscow evidently views China's UN admission as inevitable but may be hoping that Western resistance to Taiwan's expulsion will delay Peking's admission. Despite its public support, Moscow remains unhappy with the prospect of Peking's presence in the UN, fearing the Chinese will use it as a forum for voicing anti-Soviet policies and for undercutting Soviet appeal to the Third World. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that the Soviets will risk upsetting their somewhat improved relations with Peking by becoming openly identified with efforts to delay its admission.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN - COMMUNIST CHINA

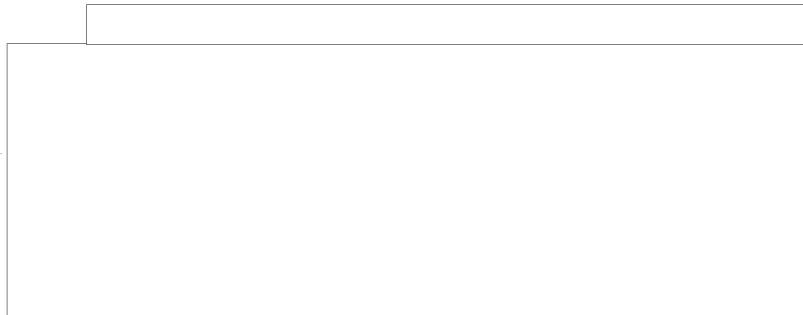
Foreign Minister Aichi told the US ambassador on 23 February that protecting Nationalist China's position in the UN would be a "prime objective" of Japanese policy. Although the Japanese still hope for improved bilateral relations, Aichi said they will not be "intimidated" by Peking. Aichi talked of the need for the Japanese and US governments to keep in step on the China issue. He added that Tokyo was in no hurry to reach final decisions on strategy before this summer, implying that opposition pressure in the Diet had been less than anticipated.

*Tokyo appears to have concluded that a conciliatory approach toward the China problem would be unproductive because of Peking's hostility toward the Sato government. For the present, at least, the Sato government will probably continue to support Taipei's diplomatic position while making sounds about improving relations with Peking. Such strategy would be intended to keep domestic political pressures in check.*

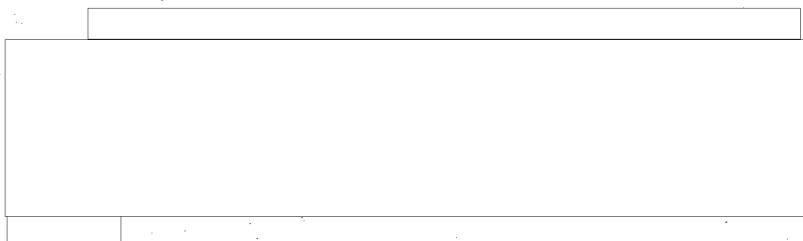
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

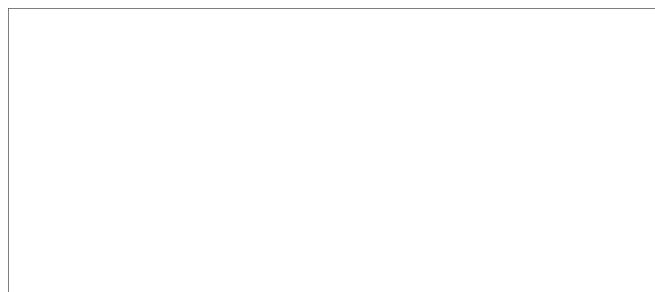
**SYRIA-USSR**



50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1



50X1  
50X1

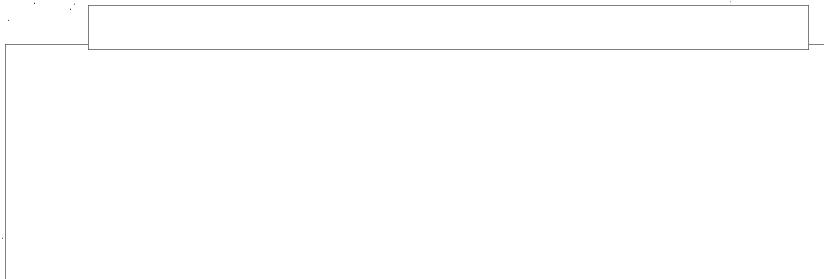


50X1  
50X1

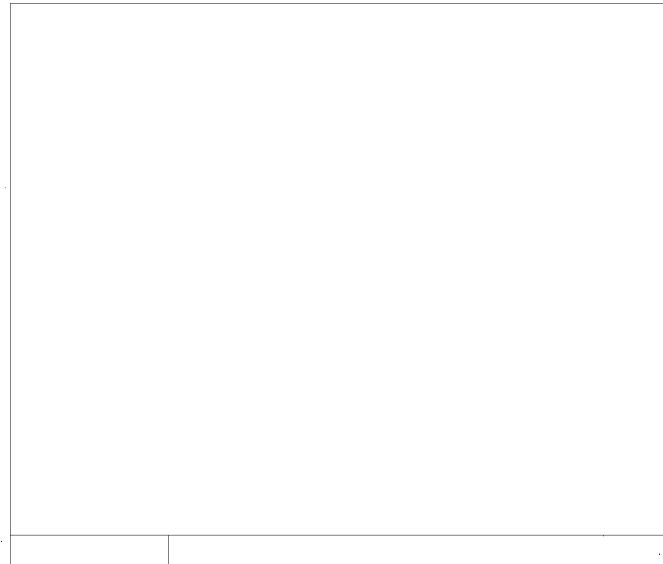
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

BURMA



50X1  
50X1



50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*26 February 1971*

50



~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

26 February 1971

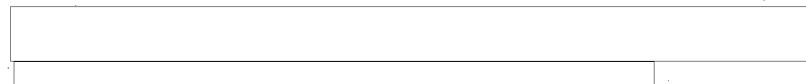
**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

In northern South Vietnam, fresh Communist forces are approaching rear bases supporting the South Vietnamese campaign in Laos. (Page 1)

Recent remarks by Thai Foreign Minister Thanat to Ambassador Unger are reported on Page 3.



50X50X1  
50X1

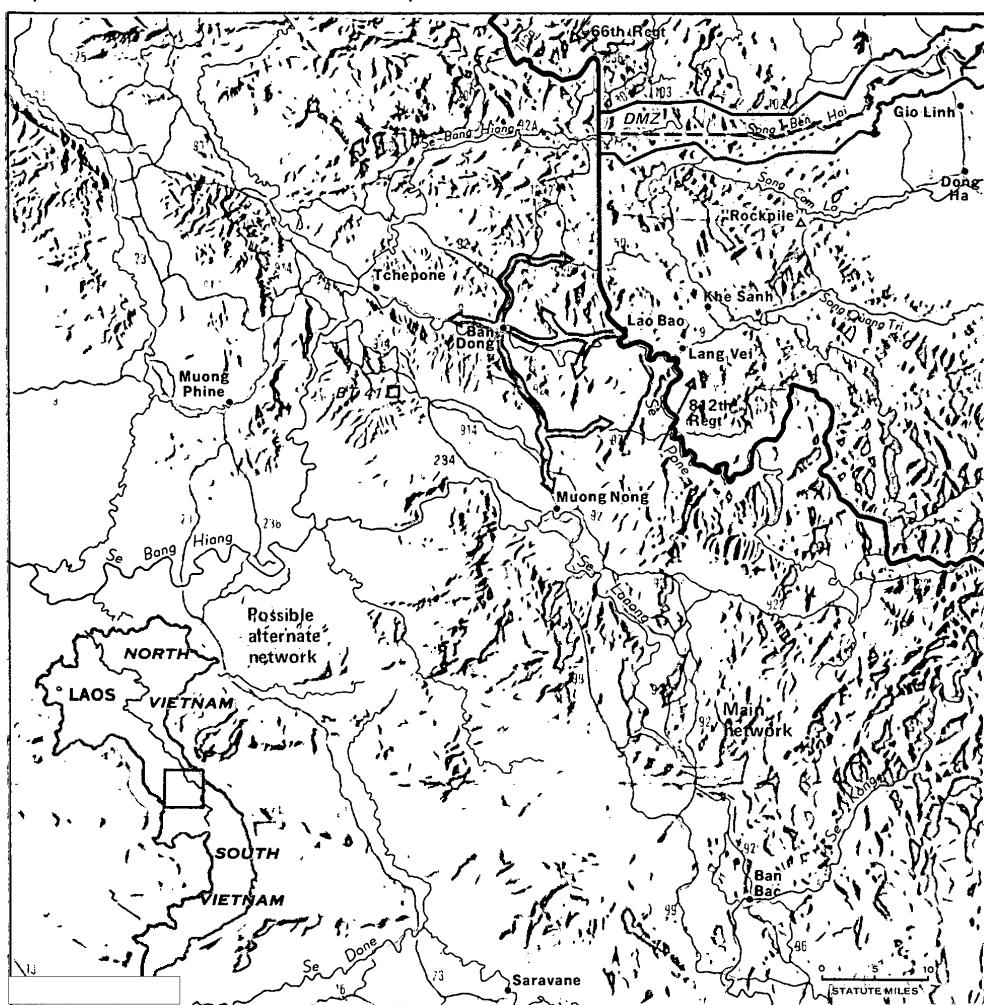


50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Operation LAM SON 719 Situation Map

General location of ARVN forces



50X1

551052 2-71 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

*In northern South Vietnam, fresh Communist forces are approaching rear bases supporting the South Vietnamese (ARVN) campaign in eastern Laos.*

The 812th North Vietnamese Regiment moved north to within two miles of Lang Vei on 24 February. Intercepts indicate that Communist artillery units may be continuing to relocate from the DMZ area toward allied positions along Route 9. Unidentified elements from the 84th North Vietnamese Artillery Regiment have been noted operating within range of Khe Sanh, and a few miles north of the Rockpile. The 66th North Vietnamese Regiment appeared to be about ten miles from the western corner of the DMZ on 23 February. A week before, the 66th had been along the coast in southern North Vietnam.

On the supply front, the focus of the Communist effort seems to be shifting to the region well south of Tchepone. On 21 February a way station some 40 miles down the trail from Tchepone radioed that a "crash" transportation drive was beginning in its sector.

*A similar "crash" program started in the immediate vicinity of Tchepone on 7 February. This is in keeping with the enemy's normal dry season supply movement pattern: "crash" efforts progress southward as do peak levels of cargo shipments. Thus, the highest levels of Communist logistics activity should soon be taking place south of Muong Nong, and in subsequent weeks even farther south.*

*The beginning of an accelerated supply program south of Muong Nong is consistent with earlier evidence that large quantities of cargo have been moved through the Tchepone area during the past few weeks. If the Communists are able to keep enough roads open, a substantial level of supply activity is likely to continue through the Tchepone area from the north. A recent message from a supply station in the Mu Gia Pass area, for example, suggests that heavy supply shipments from North Vietnam into the Laotian panhandle are continuing.*

(continued)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

A supply station not far south of Tchepone, Binh Tram 41, has been running into supply problems, however, because of its recent relocation to the west and because of South Vietnamese operations. On 23 February elements from this unit radioed that they were short of medical supplies; they also noted that movement in the Muong Nong area was restricted by South Vietnamese forces blocking part of the road network. One message indicated that the South Vietnamese had ambushed a Communist convoy in this area on 22 February and on the same day another transportation unit subordinate to Binh Tram 41 reported suffering heavy losses.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THAILAND**

Foreign Minister Thanat told Ambassador Unger recently that "nothing worthwhile" has accrued from Thai talks with the North Vietnamese delegation that has been in Bangkok for several months negotiating the repatriation of refugees. Thanat said he had tried to use the talks to start a dialogue on broader Southeast Asian issues, but he said the members of Hanoi's delegation were like computerized "talking machines" and "listening devices," powerless to act on their own and always referring everything back to Hanoi.

Thanat seemed similarly disenchanted with the results of Thai overtures to Peking. He said he was aware of "rumors" that the Chinese were interested in normalizing relations, but he talked "half jokingly" about the alleged Chinese terms, a highly attractive trade agreement in return for treatment in Thailand "on an equal basis with the US." Thanat also said the Thai Government had no doubts whatsoever about President Nixon's policies and future intentions in Indochina, although he personally feared that in a crisis the President might be "gravely hampered" by US domestic political pressures.

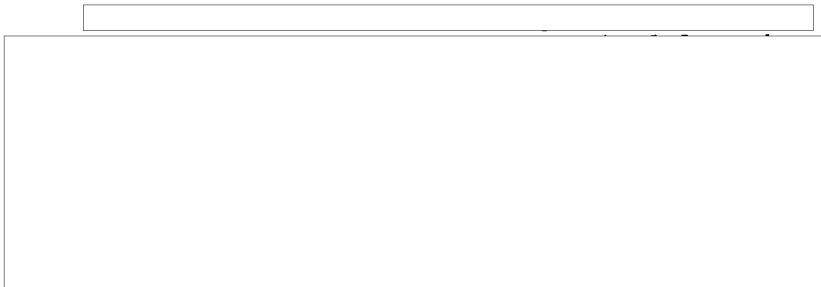
*Thanat seems to be trying to move his relations with the US back to an even keel. The operations into the Laotian panhandle may have shored up his confidence in the US commitment to Southeast Asia, and Thanat may also be reacting to Washington's recent effort to engage in closer consultations with him on PL-480 rice sales and the Chinese UN representation question.*

*At the same time, Thanat appears to recognize that Hanoi and Peking are showing little interest in his overtures. His failure to attract significant support from Bangkok's military leadership is leaving Thanat increasingly isolated from the mainstream of Thai policy makers and may make him believe he has no choice at this point but to moderate his attitude toward Washington.*

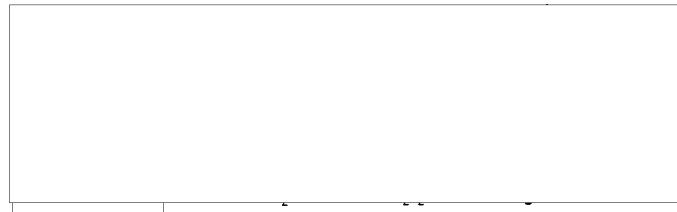
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

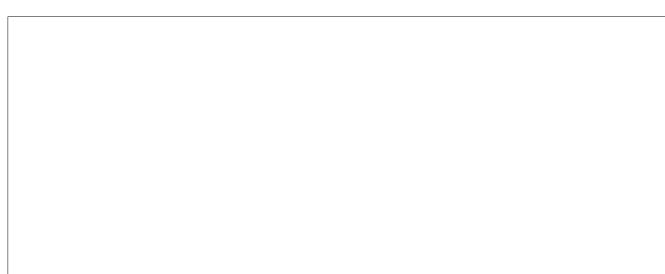
USSR



50X1  
50X1



50X1



50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTE

Fedayeen:



50X1

50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

27 February 1971

.49

*Top Secret*

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

27 February 1971

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Evidence is mounting that Hanoi will attempt to inflict a major setback on the South Vietnamese Army in Laos, even if the cost proves high. (Page 1)

Enemy ground activity has slackened off in northern Laos but evidence continues to suggest that pressure will soon be renewed against Long Tieng. (Page 2)

Pakistani military officers appear to be increasingly restless as the attempt continues to establish a civilian government. (Page 3)

In Colombia, a national state of siege has been declared following violence yesterday in Cali. (Page 4)

Libya's demands on the oil companies amount to three times the increase obtained by the Persian Gulf countries. (Page 4)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## Operation LAM SON 719 Situation Map

 General location of ARVN forces



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**VIETNAM-LAOS**

*Evidence is mounting that Hanoi will attempt to inflict a major setback on the South Vietnamese Army in Laos, even if the cost proves high. The North Vietnamese have moved substantial forces into the area, and they seem to have shelved the cautious style of fighting that has been their hallmark for most of the past two years.*

50X1

50X1  
50X1  
50X1  
50X1

50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

LAOS

Enemy moves and supply preparations in north Laos continue to suggest pressure will soon be renewed against Long Tieng. For the moment, however, Communist ground activity has slackened off.

50X1

several Communist units west of the Plaine des Jarres are suffering from heavy casualties and shortages of supplies and ammunition. Units of the North Vietnamese 316th Division that launched the major rocket and mortar attack on Long Tieng on 14 February apparently are being withdrawn from the area.

50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**PAKISTAN**

There is a growing conviction among military officers that the attempt to establish a civilian government is a mistake, [redacted]

50X1  
50X1

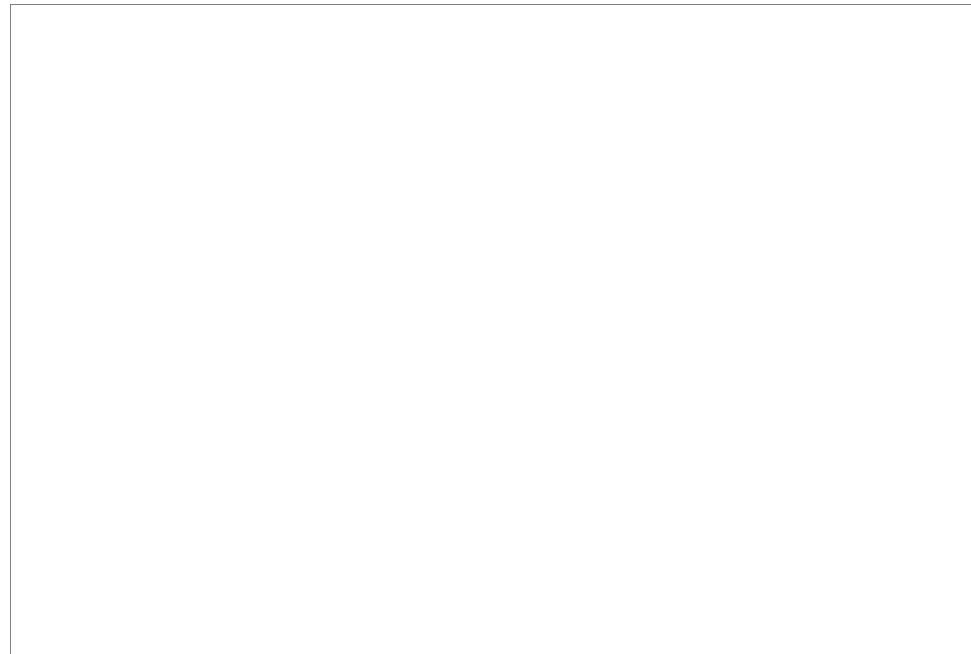
[redacted] These officers believe that President Yahya was "taken in" by East Pakistani leader Mujibur Rahman's professed moderation before last December's elections, and that it would have been better to have imposed stricter martial law last year. They are now concerned over East Pakistani demands for provincial autonomy, and over land reform and nationalization programs advocated by West Pakistani civilian leaders.

A measure of restlessness among military officers was to be expected. Although some of them appeared more relaxed after the constituent assembly elections went off smoothly in December, they have been edgy from the outset about Yahya's attempts to establish civilian government.

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

50X1



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Colombia: President Pastrana has declared a state of siege following violence yesterday in Cali, a southern provincial capital. A total of 15 were killed and 47 injured in the incidents which climaxed three weeks of student demonstrations. Further disturbances are likely as the government grapples with numerous problems stemming in part from increasing inflation and a high rate of unemployment. The student agitation has coincided with widespread occupation of private land by campesinos, a national teachers' strike, and plans for a general work stoppage on 8 March.

Libya: The government's demands on the oil companies--including an increase of \$1.20 per barrel in the posted price of crude oil--would double Libya's current revenue. This is three times the increase recently obtained by the Persian Gulf countries. Libya also is seeking the deposit in Libyan banks of 25 cents on every barrel of oil produced to be used for "general investments," as well as a speedup of income tax and royalty payments. Despite indications that certain of the demands are negotiable the package is so extreme that the oil companies may well be unable to work out a compromise within the two-week deadline.

Southern Yemen - Saudi Arabia: [redacted]

50X50X1

[redacted]  
[redacted] 50X1

(continued)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

Italy: The smallest member of Prime Minister Colombo's four-party coalition, the Italian Republican Party, has decided to withdraw formally from the cabinet. Republican leader LaMalfa claims that the government is overextending its financial capabilities in recent agreements to meet certain worker demands for social reforms. The three remaining parties would still have a solid majority in parliament, 50X1 and key leaders of the major parties apparently believe that Republican withdrawal will not provoke the government's resignation.

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*