



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*1 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

1 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**



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In Chile, the Communist Party has publicly boasted of its important role in the Allende government.  
(Page 2)

Laotian troops in the Ban Ban area have thus far met little enemy resistance. (Page 3)

The explosion at the embassy in Phnom Penh is the first terrorist action directed against the US presence. (Page 3)

Brezhnev is expected in East Berlin today for talks with the East Germans in advance of the impending Warsaw Pact summit. (Page 3)

The Soviet missile destroyer, believed to be en route to Guinea, is now south of the Canary Islands.  
(Page 3)



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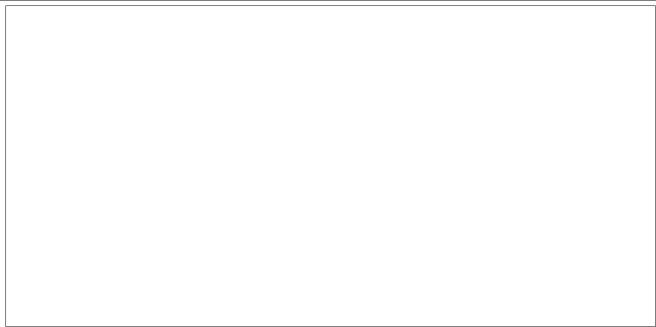
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JORDAN

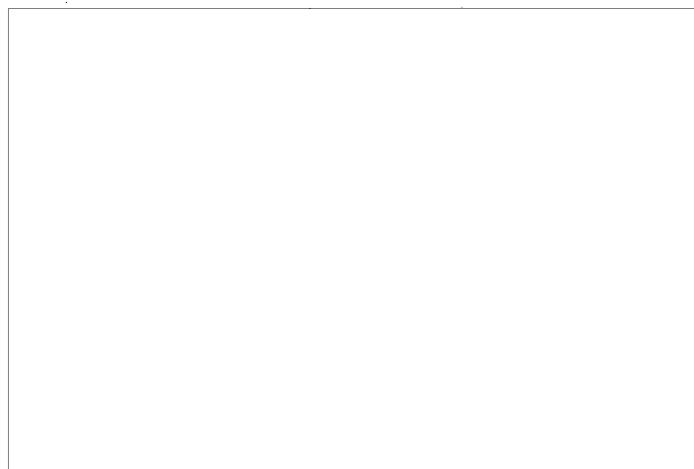
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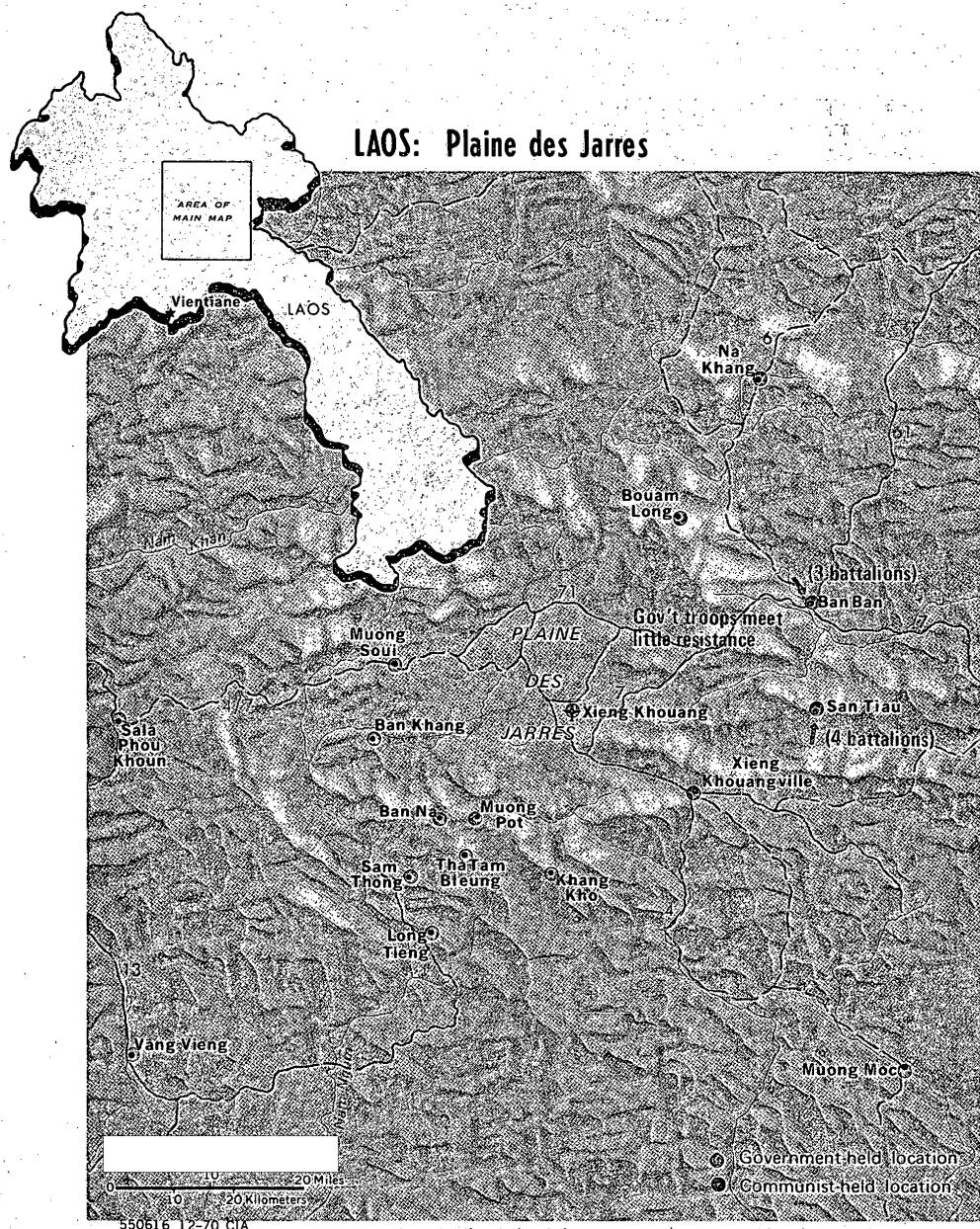
**CHILE**

In a speech to last week's plenum of the Chilean Communist Party, Secretary General Luis Corvalan emphasized the compatibility between the policies adopted by Allende's coalition government and the Communist Party's position. He cited economic and other measures already taken as proof that the new administration is "of and for the masses." Welcoming Allende to the plenum, Corvalan indicated that the party relies on him to carry out the revolution that will transfer Chile into a "people's state." Allende told the plenum he would submit legislation this week to nationalize the copper industry, private banks, and insurance companies, and to end monopolies.

*Corvalan's speech suggests that Communist Party leaders have become confident that anti-Communist forces in Chile are so weak that an obvious assumption of political influence by the party no longer entails serious risks. In claiming some credit for Allende's initial successes the party seeks to improve its competitive position in the municipal elections next April.*

*Pravda's account of Corvalan's speech marks a slight shift in Soviet press commentary on the Allende government. In contrast to the previous depiction of the Chilean Communist Party as a reasonable partner in a coalition having wide appeal, Pravda now portrays the party in a more militant and revolutionary light. This suggests that Moscow is less worried than before about possible US and internal Chilean reactions to greater Soviet attention to the Chilean party.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



***FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*****NOTES**

Laos: Seven battalions of government troops are now operating in the Ban Ban area, and thus far they have met little enemy resistance. The four-battalion irregular force totaling 1,000 men which was airlifted into positions south of Ban Ban on 27 and 28 November has advanced to within two miles of its immediate objective at San Tieu, but is moving slowly because of poor weather. An additional three battalions of 850 troops from Bouam Long have moved into positions about four miles north of the Ban Ban valley and have had only scattered contact with enemy forces. Like the four units to the south, these three battalions intend to attack Communist logistic assets in the Ban Ban area, but will be withdrawn after their primary missions have been accomplished.

Cambodia: The explosion in the US Embassy early today is the first terrorist action in Phnom Penh targeted against the American presence. It could signal an intensified Communist terrorist campaign in the capital. No US personnel were injured in the blast, which was caused by a large plastic charge possibly planted by a local laborer in a section of the embassy now being renovated.

USSR - East Germany - Warsaw Pact: Soviet party chief Brezhnev is expected in East Berlin today for the impending Warsaw Pact summit meeting. This would give him time for private talks with the East Germans before the full summit, which TASS announced yesterday would take place some time this week in East Berlin. The meeting is expected to deal with the coordination of bloc policy toward Bonn, a matter which most directly affects the interests of East Germany and the USSR.

USSR-Guinea: A Soviet missile destroyer which left the Gibraltar area on 26 November is now south of the Canary Islands, and we believe it is en route to Guinea as a demonstration of Moscow's support for Sekou Toure.

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[redacted] It could reach Conakry about 4 December. Sekou Toure has requested similar support from other nations, but has withdrawn his request to the US.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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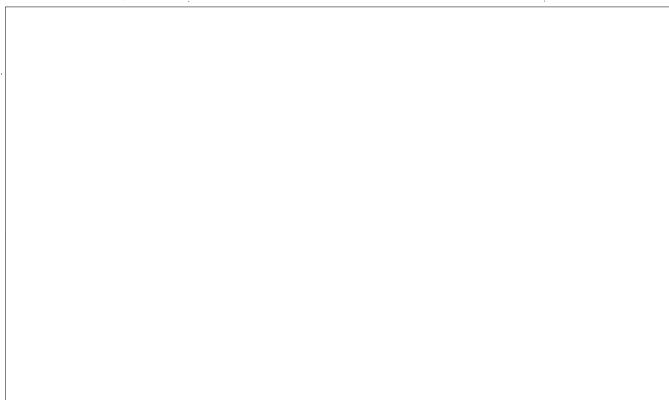
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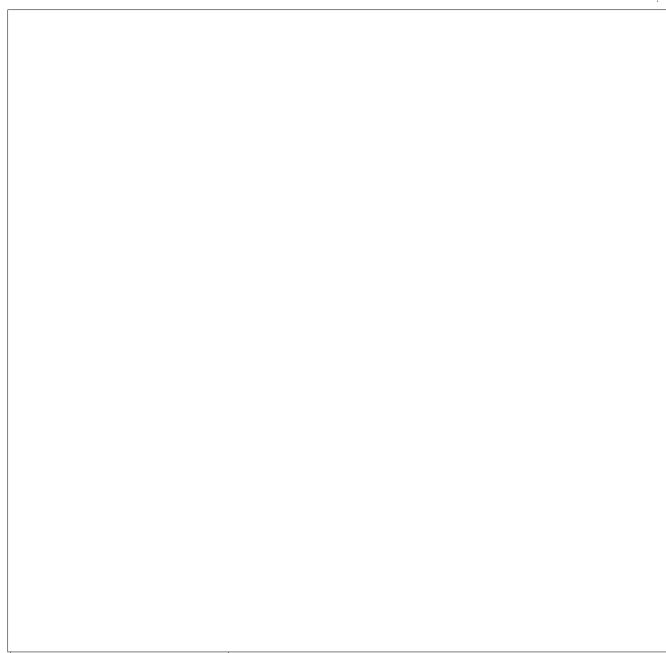
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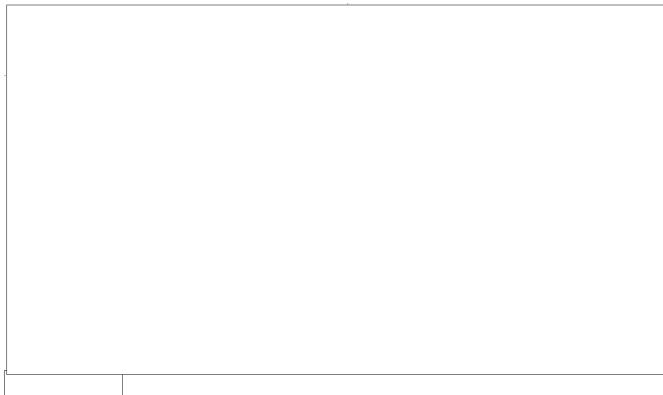
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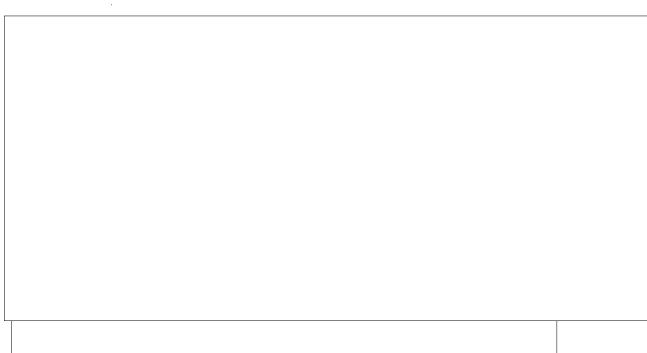


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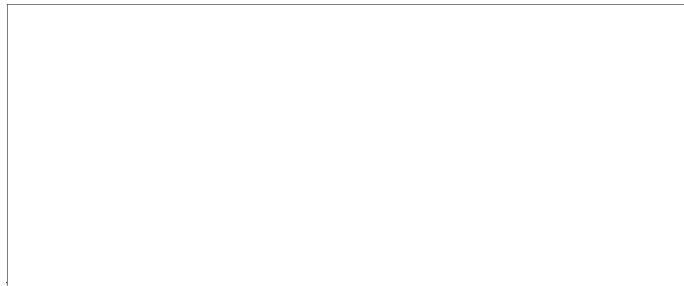
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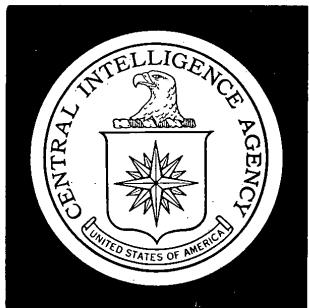


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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*2 December 1970*

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**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

**2 December 1970**

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

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At the SALT talks Semonov proposed a separate agreement for ABM systems. (Page 3)

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The latest report on the Ban Ban operation appears on Page 6.

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NORTH VIETNAM - THAILAND



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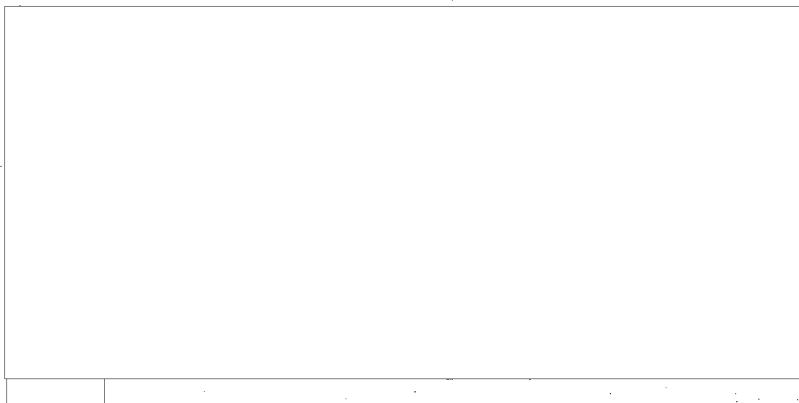
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NORTH VIETNAM



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SALT**

In yesterday's meeting, Semenov proposed that ABM systems be singled out for a separate agreement "in the immediate future." He said that the details of the Soviet proposal would be provided at Friday's meeting. Semenov stated that a separate agreement on ABMs would not preclude further negotiations on strategic offensive weapons, but might, in fact, serve as a "substantial impetus" for reaching subsequent agreements on offensive systems. He cited the difficulties the latter have posed so far in the negotiations as justification for the new proposal. And in an apparent allusion to US plans for Safeguard, he contended that failure to act soon on Moscow's initiative might further complicate the problem of reaching an ABM accord.

*Soviet officials have been dropping hints about a limited agreement for some time, but their motives in advancing the ABM proposal at this time are not entirely clear. The Soviets are undoubtedly concerned about US plans for the Safeguard system. In the face of US resistance to consideration of forward-based systems, they may also see their proposal as a means of advancing the pace of negotiations. On the other hand, they have received no encouragement on this score in their informal probes of US delegates, and should anticipate a cool response. By tabling a limited agreement on ABMs now, the Soviets may simply be trying to put the US on the defensive through the remainder of SALT III.*

Israel

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**ISRAEL-CONGO-SUDAN**



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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COMMUNIST CHINA



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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**NOTES**

Laos: Government forces in the vicinity of Ban Ban are continuing to make slow progress toward their objectives; the enemy has yet to counterattack. The four-battalion force moving toward Ban Ban from the south has reached the perimeter of the San Tiau airstrip, having pushed aside two small enemy units.

Mexico: Echeverria's cabinet appointees apparently do not include even the token "anti-Yankee" in ministries involved with US relations, which was a feature of recent cabinets. The new foreign minister is Emilio Rabasa, the current ambassador to the US and a close friend of Echeverria. Rabasa's predecessor in Washington, Hugo Margain, was retained as minister of finance. The only long-term holdover is Attorney General Sanchez Vargas, who has worked closely with the US in the fight to control narcotics.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**Chinese**

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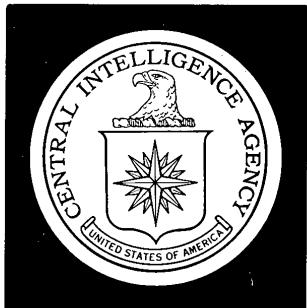


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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*3 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 December 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Laotian troops are continuing to advance on Ban Ban with little enemy opposition. (Page 1)

East German harassment of access routes to West Berlin has continued as Warsaw Pact leaders held a one-day summit meeting in East Berlin. (Page 2)

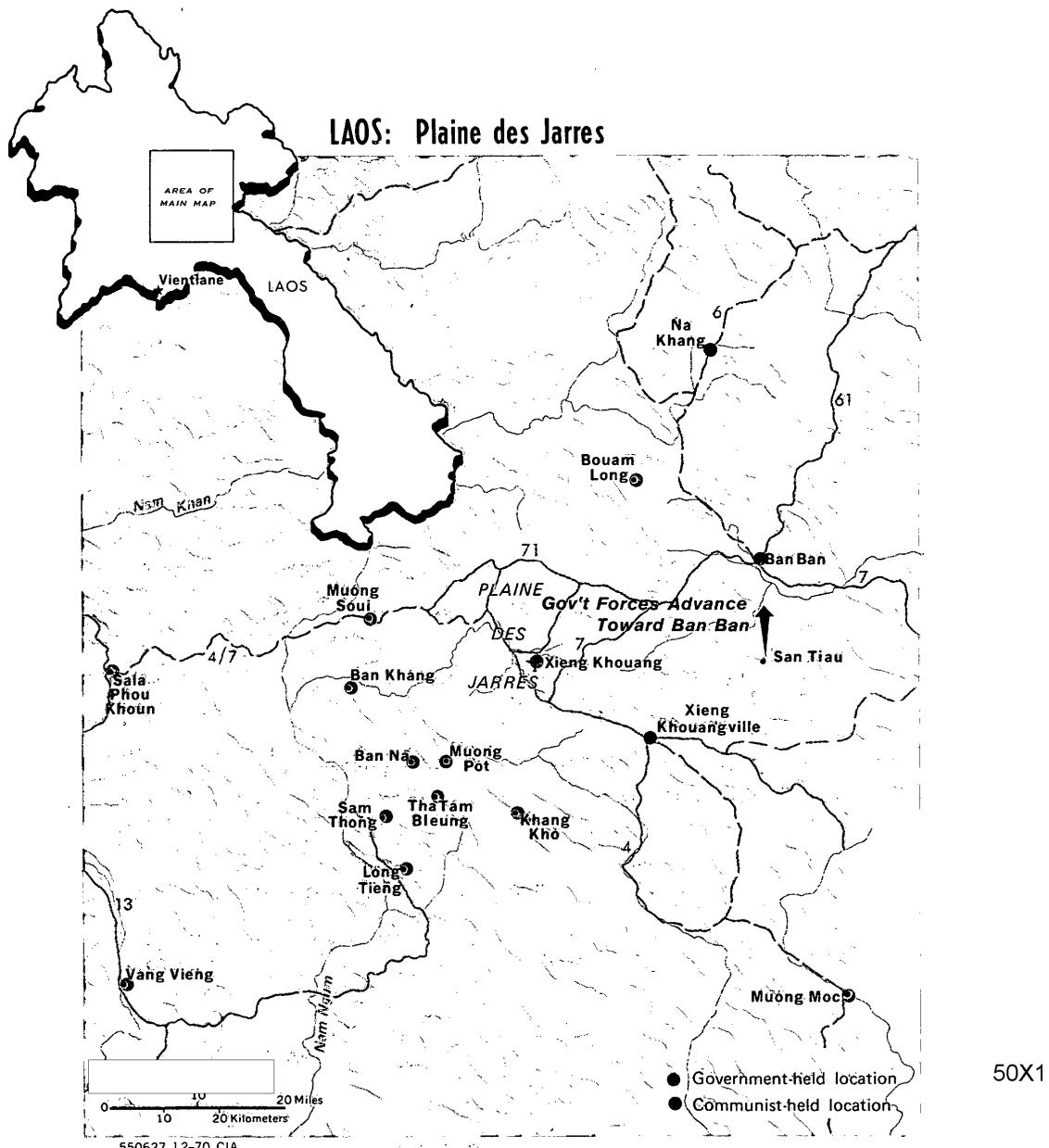
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In northwest Laos, the Chinese may be resuming road construction southwest of Muong Sai toward the Mekong. (Page 4)

The major Soviet naval vessels that have been in Caribbean waters are now headed out into the Atlantic. (Page 5)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS

Government irregulars advancing toward Ban Ban from the south secured their initial objective, the San Tiau airstrip, on 1 December. So far, they have encountered little opposition and have had minimal casualties. An additional 350 troops have been flown into San Tiau, raising government strength in this area to 1,310.

*The enemy appears to be relying only on local defense forces to oppose the government advance. Elements of two North Vietnamese regiments located on the eastern edge of the Plaine des Jarres could be moved to the Ban Ban area, however, as the fighting develops.*

Communist forces to the southwest of the Plaine have stepped up mortar and artillery fire around Ban Na and Khang Kho in the past two days.

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**WARSAW PACT - BERLIN**

The communique issued following the one-day Warsaw Pact summit meeting in East Berlin yesterday avoided any mention of specific problems. Cited first in the list of topics discussed was the question of "strengthening the security and the development of peaceful cooperation in Europe." The communique also stated that the meeting took place in an atmosphere of "complete unanimity."

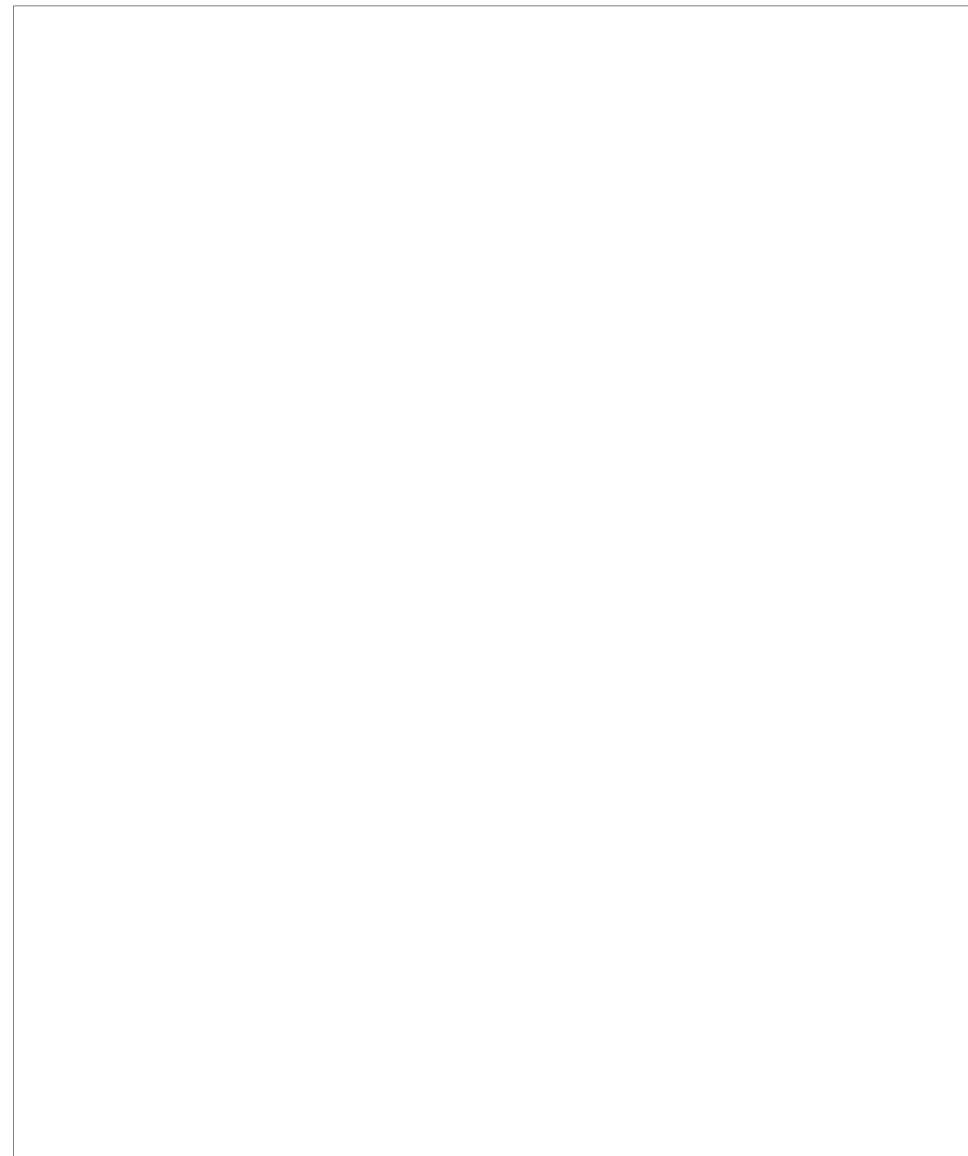
The East Germans continue to harass access routes to West Berlin although the severity of the traffic slowdowns has fluctuated. The meeting in West Berlin of representatives of the Federal Republic's Christian Democratic Party--initially cited as the cause of the harassment--is over, but East German officials at two checkpoints indicated that the harassment would continue until 6 December, the date of a meeting of the rightist National Democratic Party in West Berlin. The harassment may even continue into 6-8 December when Federal Republic President Heinemann plans to visit Berlin.

*Ulbricht appears to be dramatizing his regime's capabilities at a time when the Warsaw Pact countries have been discussing anew the apparent differences that most of them have with Pankow over relations with Bonn.*

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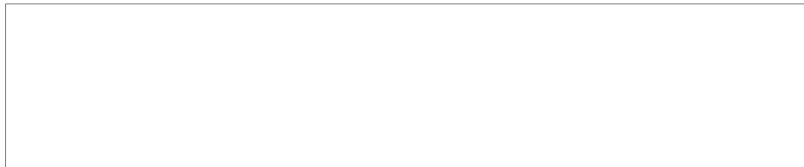
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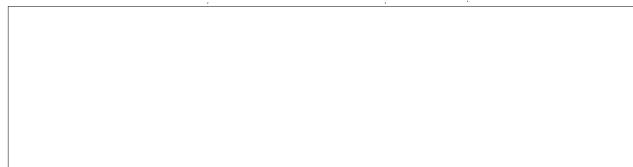


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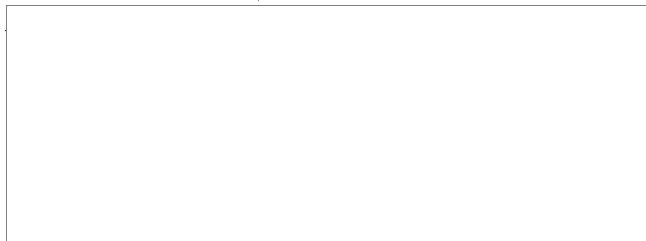
USSR-EGYPT



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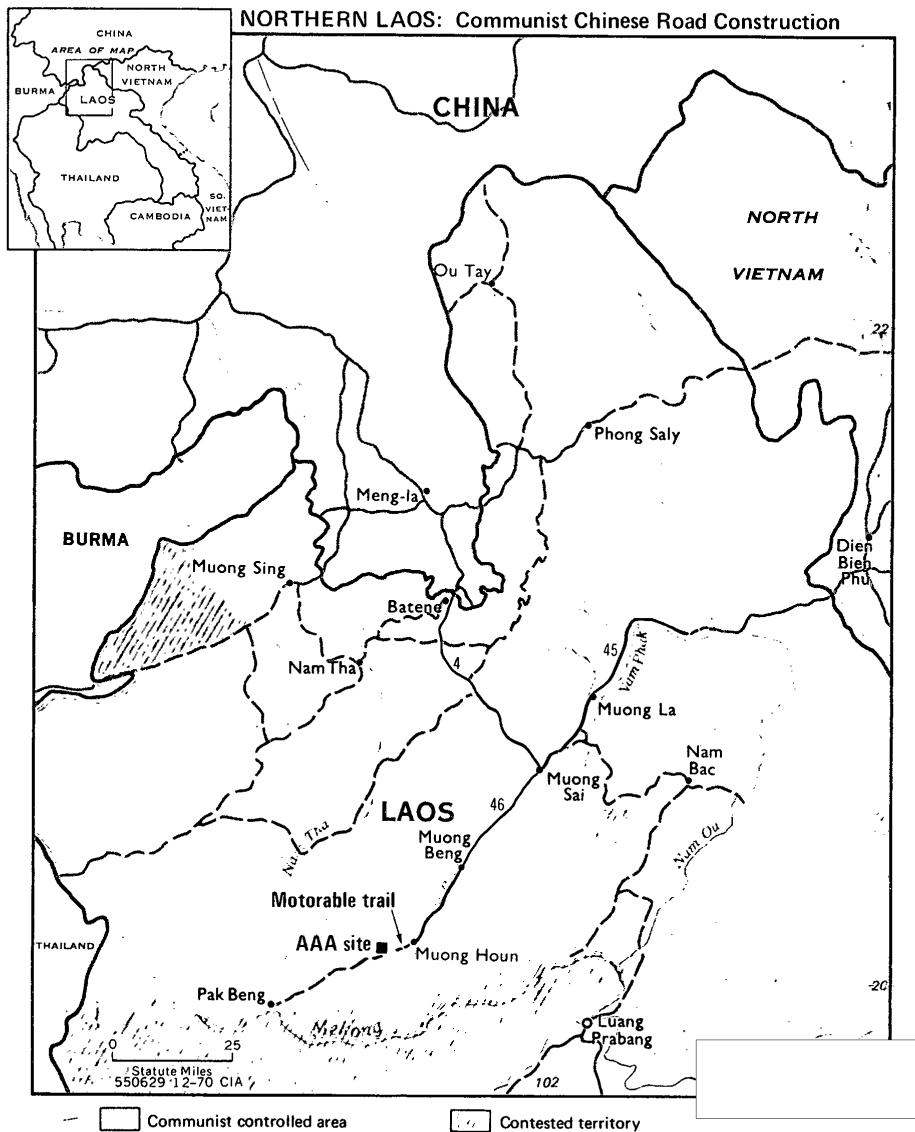


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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**COMMUNIST CHINA - LAOS**

Recent photography of the Muong Houn area, where Chinese road construction southwest of Muong Sai was terminated last February, shows that a motorable trail has been extended six miles farther southwest down the Nam Beng River valley. In addition, work is under way on two new bridges in the Muong Houn area.

*The new trail follows a logical route toward Pak Beng on the Mekong. At present it leads to an antiaircraft position. A Laotian civil aircraft was damaged in this area by antiaircraft fire on 26 November.*

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Similar buildups have occurred during the past two years when extensions of the road network have increased the manpower requirements for defense and maintenance. The estimated strength of Chinese forces in Laos is some 10-14,000 troops.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTE

USSR-Cuba: All major Soviet naval units that have been in the Caribbean are headed out into the Atlantic, but there is no evidence as yet as to their ultimate destination. The Soviet submarine tender exited into the Atlantic on 1 December. A guided-missile frigate and a naval oiler that had entered Caribbean waters on 30 November have reversed their course and entered the Atlantic yesterday. A nuclear-powered C-class attack submarine may be with the frigate. The two support barges are still in Cienfuegos but the exact location of the rescue tug, which has left the port, has not yet been determined.

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*4 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

4 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The southbound flow of North Vietnamese troops is examined on *Page 1*.

The Warsaw Pact renewed its commitment to a Berlin settlement in a statement following the summit meeting. (*Page 2*)

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The military situation in Laos is discussed on

*Page 5*.

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A Canadian journalist is in North Vietnam [redacted]

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[redacted] (*Page 7*)

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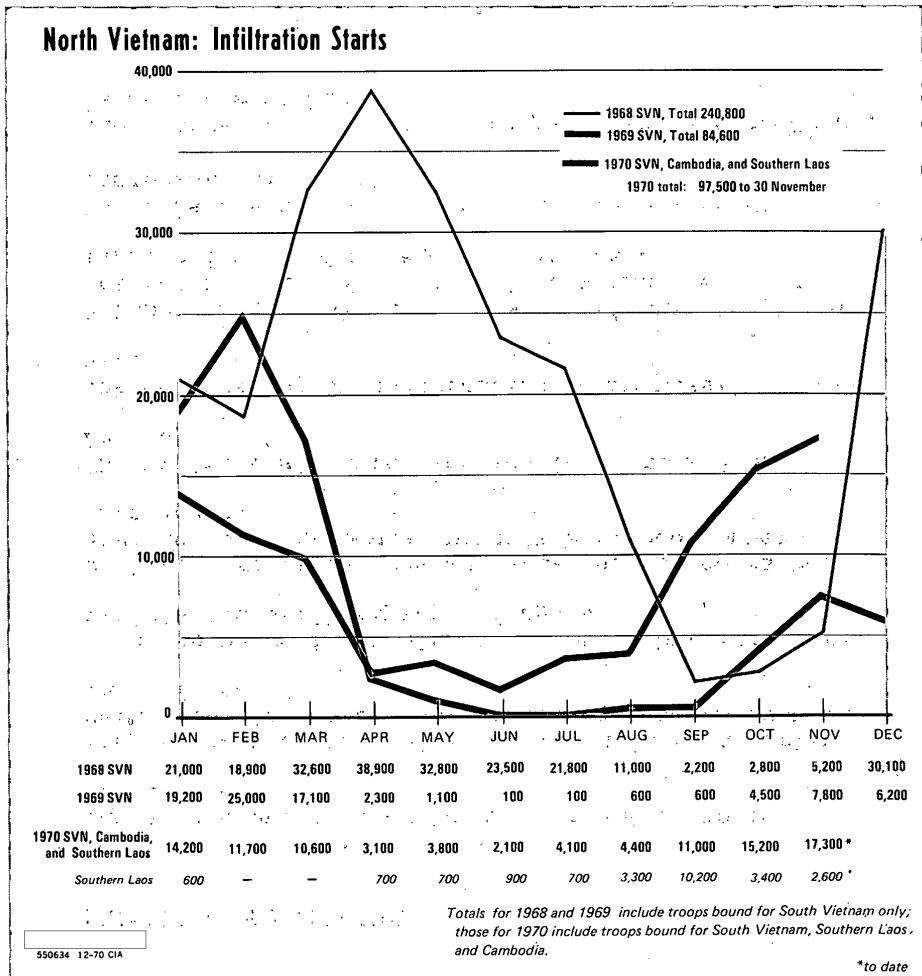
Chile is moving toward diplomatic relations with

Communist China. (*Page 8*)

The status of Soviet naval units in and around Cuba

is reported on *Page 9*.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

About 17,300 North Vietnamese troops started south in November, the highest monthly total since February 1969.

More than 10,000 of the infiltrators detected were earmarked for COSVN, which commands Communist activities in Cambodia and southern South Vietnam. An additional 4,400 are headed for northern South Vietnam. About 2,600, including what seems to be a regiment of North Vietnamese Army regulars, are believed to be en route to southern Laos.

Continuing deployments of regular North Vietnamese units in and around the infiltration corridor reflect the priority Hanoi has placed on securing its supply lines through Laos. The 48th and 52nd regiments of the 320th Division, for example, have arrived in southern Laos and are committed to the defense of the infiltration corridor. The 88th Regiment of the 308th Division, which recently was located just north of the DMZ, may also be bound for security duty in Laos. Headquarters elements of both the 320th and 308th divisions have moved southward in North Vietnam and other elements subordinate to them may follow. In addition, major elements of the 24th Regiment of the 304th Division--a division which normally rotates its units in and out of the DMZ area--seem to have remained in southern Laos.

Farther down the infiltration corridor, elements of the North Vietnamese 2nd Division that were pulled out of South Vietnam last summer are moving south through Saravane Province of southern Laos. The available evidence suggests they are headed back to South Vietnam. Still farther south, elements of two regiments which normally are targeted against the western highlands of South Vietnam appear to be helping expand and defend the Communist supply lines running south through the Laos-Cambodia border area.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**WARSAW PACT**

Warsaw Pact leaders announced their support for a mutually acceptable agreement on West Berlin in a statement released a day after their summit meeting in East Berlin. The statement said such an agreement should meet the interests of detente in central Europe, as well as the requirements of the people of West Berlin and the lawful interests and sovereign rights of East Germany.

*The statement appears to be a reiteration of the goals of detente in central Europe without providing any clues on how this is to be accomplished. These tactics have the advantage of creating the impression of forward movement on East-West negotiations on Europe without chipping away at East Germany's sovereignty. Nevertheless, the statement does nothing to assuage Ulbricht's unhappiness over his allies' eager responses to Bonn's Ostpolitik, and the statement's support for Czechoslovak negotiations with West Germany indicates that the next bilateral agreement could be a Bonn-Prague affair.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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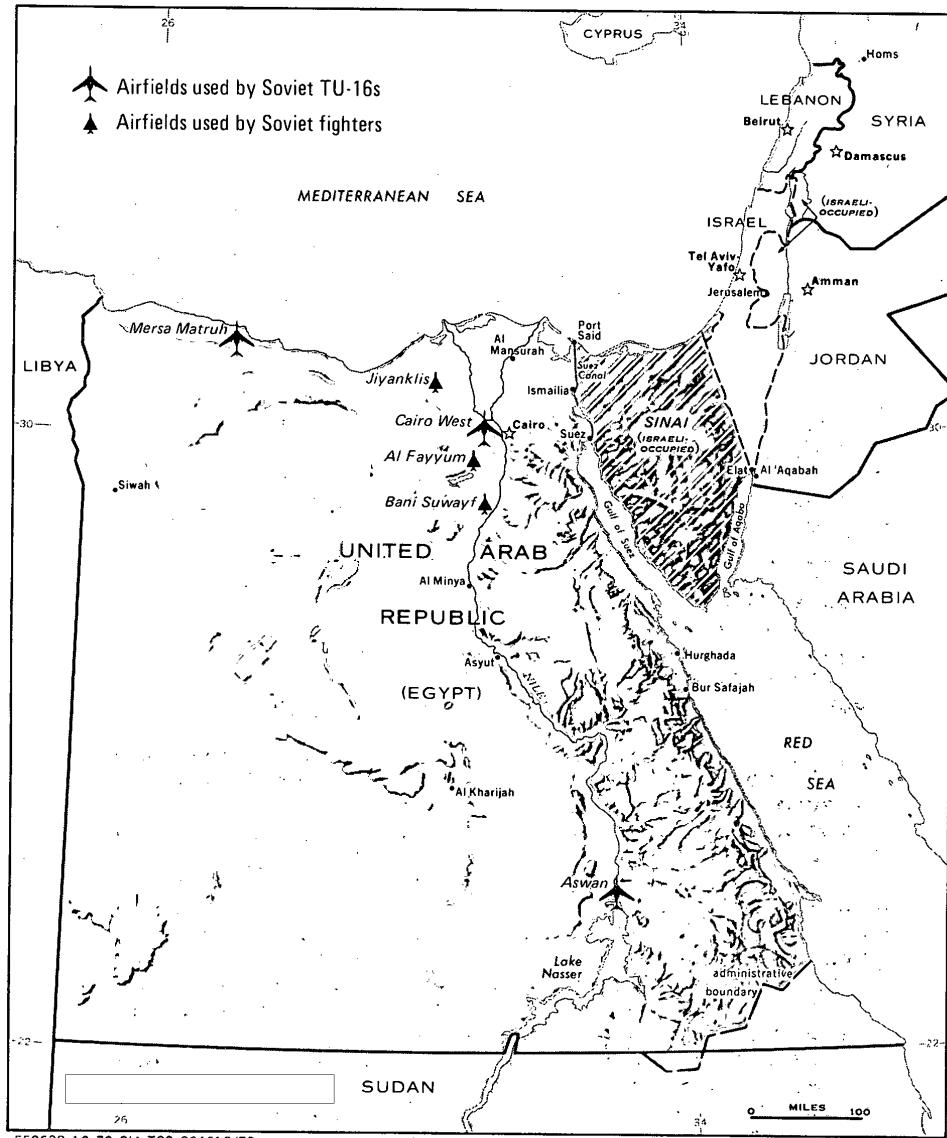
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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**USSR-EGYPT**

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Satellite photography in June and August showed at least eight Egyptian-marked TU-16s at Severomorsk and Malyavr naval air stations in northwestern USSR. Six of them carried air-to-surface missiles (ASM). In July, four TU-16s arrived at Aswan, and were exchanged for others that had been there since April.

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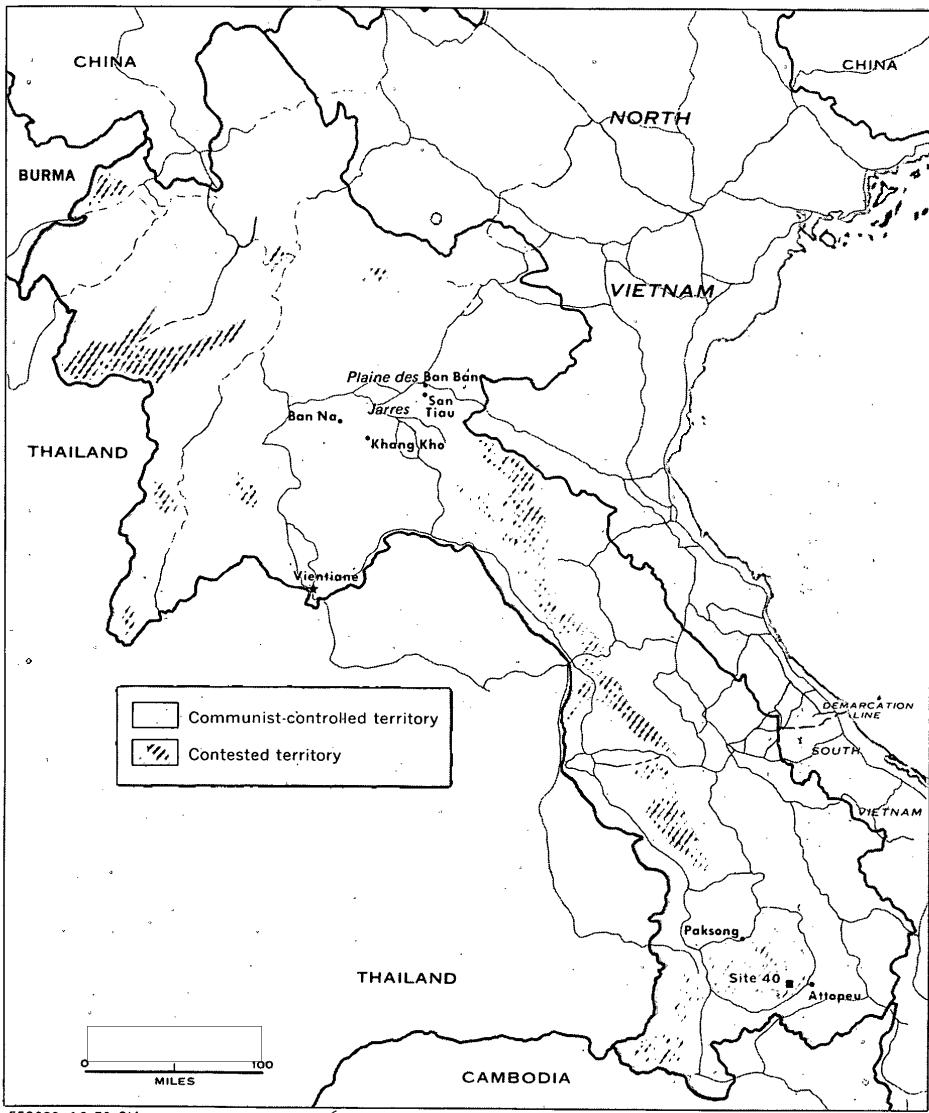
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### LAOS: Current Situation



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS

Government forces are still encountering no significant opposition as they move closer to the Communist supply lines in the Ban Ban valley. Elements of the 850-man force closing on Ban Ban from the north got close enough to Routes 61 and 7 on 2 December to observe enemy truck traffic. The 1,300 irregulars moving north from San Tiau captured two high ground positions on 2 December against only token resistance.

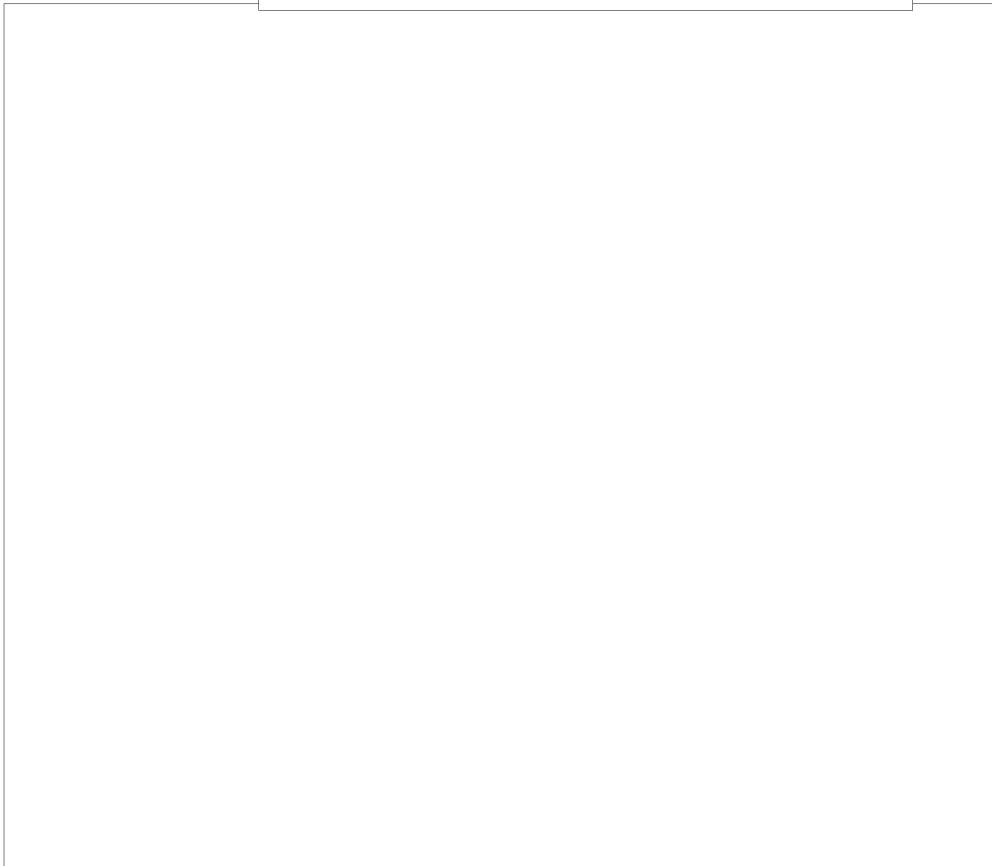
On the western edge of the Plaine, Communist forces kept up their shelling of government positions near Khang Kho and Ban Na, but no ground contacts were reported. Intercepts indicate that elements of the NVA 148th Regiment, which have been carrying out these attacks, are involved in some redispositioning of their forces and are having difficulty in evacuating their wounded.

In southern Laos, the government force which has been sweeping the area north of Paksong to determine the enemy presence in this area continued to report no contact. Farther to the southeast, on the edge of the Bolovens Plateau, North Vietnamese units seized the government position at Site 40 on 2 December.

**Communist China:** [redacted]

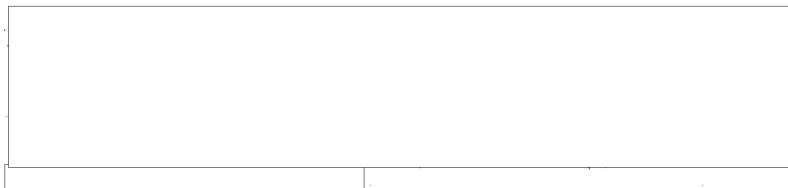
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COMMUNIST CHINA



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**NORTH VIETNAM**

A fairly prominent Canadian journalist, Michael Macleer, is in North Vietnam for a visit of several weeks. He is representing Canadian television and The New York Times. [redacted]

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Last year Macleer produced lengthy film reports that presented Hanoi's position in a favorable light. They were shown widely on Western television. [redacted]

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CHILE**

The government has announced that discussions  
on opening relations with Communist China are under  
way in Paris.

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Allende is continuing his effort to carry  
out rapidly his campaign promise to establish  
diplomatic relations with all Communist  
countries. Chile set the stage for  
the move toward China at the UN this fall  
by becoming the first country in Latin  
America, other than Cuba, to vote for the  
Albanian resolution.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet missile frigate and submarine tender have rendezvoused north of Puerto Rico. A conventionally powered F-class submarine surfaced in the same area yesterday and apparently is operating with the frigate and tender. The report in yesterday's Daily Brief that the Soviet rescue tug had left Cienfuegos was based on an erroneous radio direction signal. The tug is still in port.

Also yesterday, two Soviet TU-95 naval reconnaissance aircraft flew from the USSR to Havana. Last spring three pairs of TU-95s flew to Cuba but returned to the USSR within several days without conducting operations with Soviet naval units then in the Caribbean.

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*5 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

5 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

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Enemy harassing attacks continue to stymie Cambodian Government efforts to reopen Routes 6 and 7. (Page 5)

Gomulka's speech on Thursday has thrown light on developments at the East Berlin summit meeting. (Page 6)

On Monday, Pakistan will hold its first nationwide direct election since independence. (Page 8)

At the SALT talks, Semenov has elaborated on his proposal for a separate ABM agreement. (Page 9)

The increasing number of incidents along the border may soon provoke Israeli action against Fatah bases in Lebanon. (Page 9)

The Soviet submarine tender and missile frigate that rendezvoused north of Puerto Rico were refueled yesterday by an oiler. (Page 9)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

USSR

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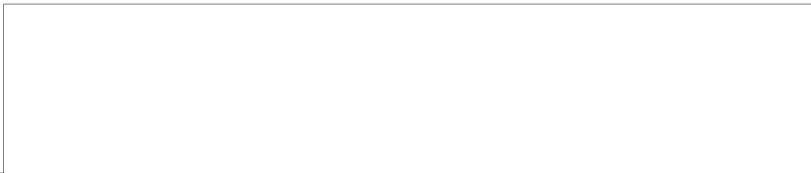
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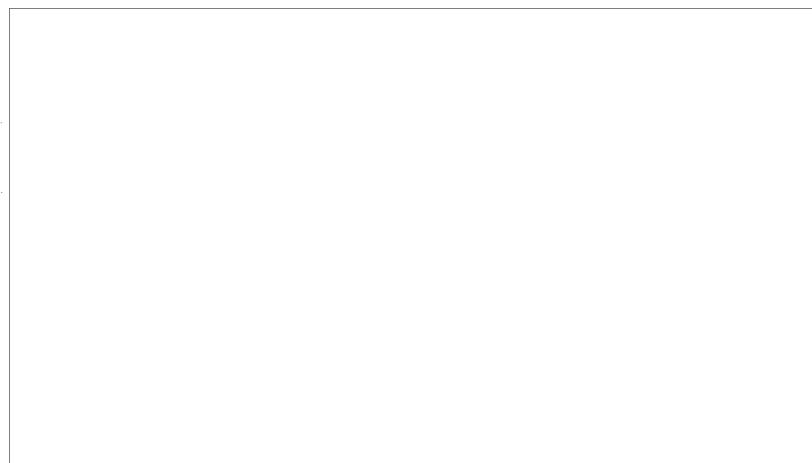
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JORDAN - EGYPT - SAUDI ARABIA

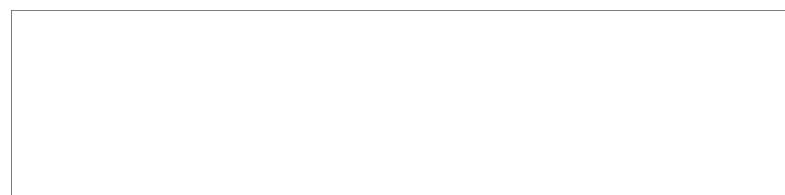


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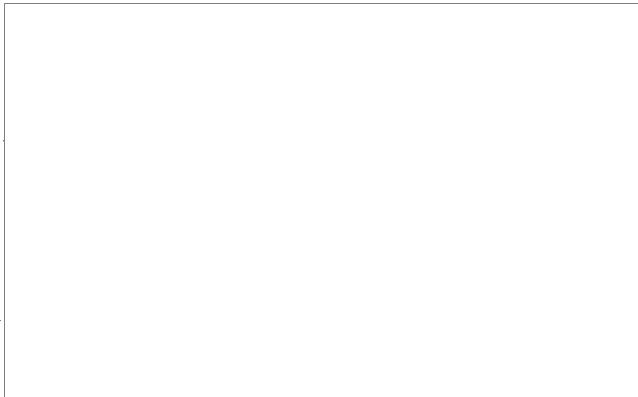


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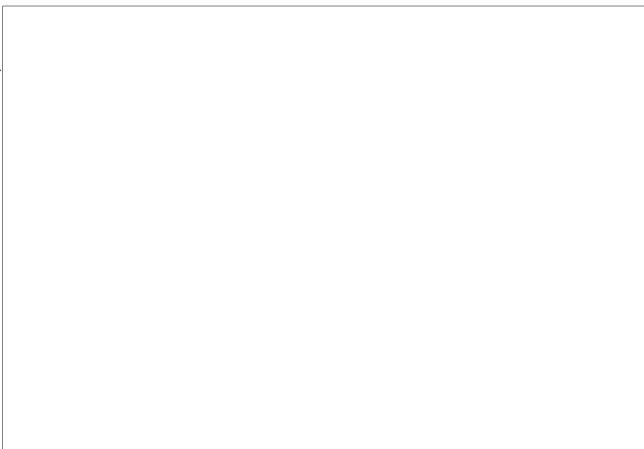
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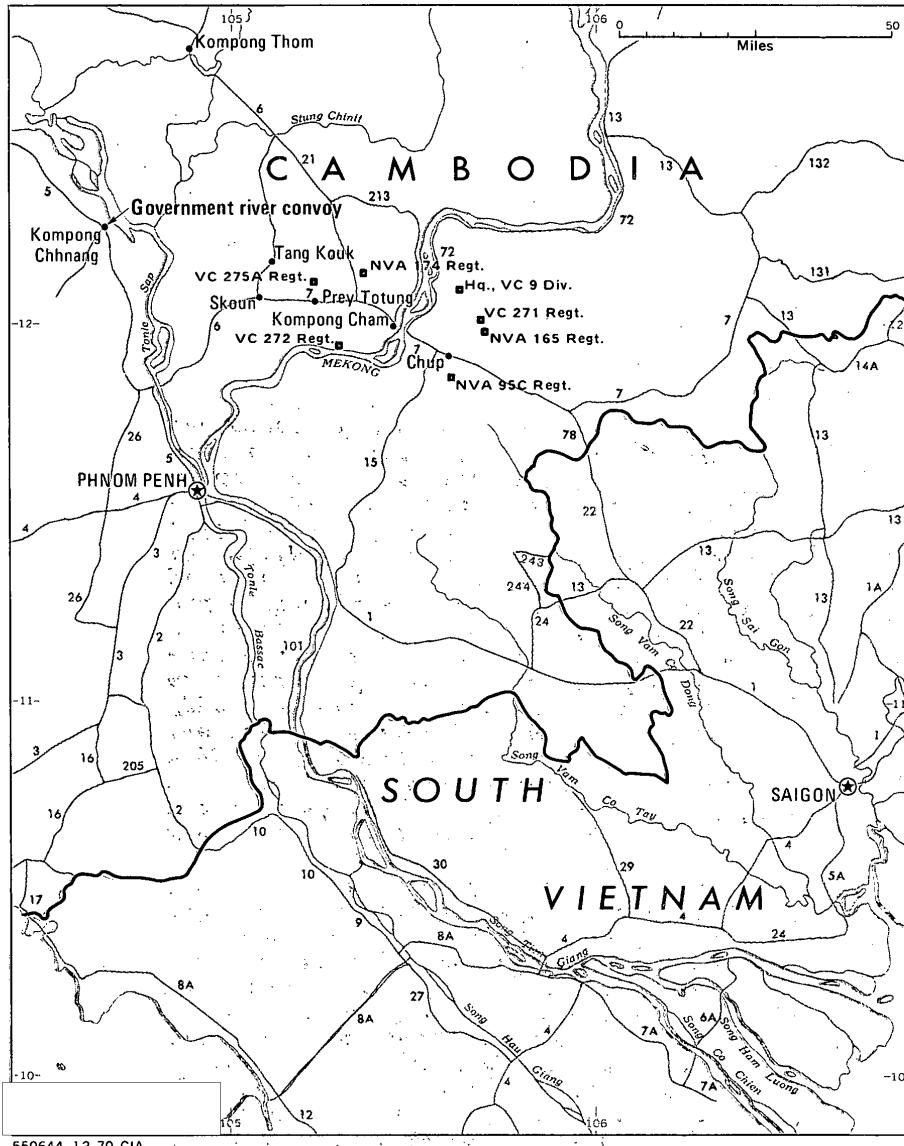
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Numerous harassing attacks during the week continued to stymie government efforts to reopen Route 6, southwest of Skoun, and Route 7, between Prey Tung and Kompong Cham city. These actions have forced the Cambodians to divert several battalions from the "Chenla" task force that has been stalled between Skoun and Tang Kouk for three months. The government's military commitment in the area now exceeds 30 battalions.

*The Communists have managed to keep this force on the defensive with about six main-force battalions subordinate to the VC 275A Regiment and the NVA 174th Regiment, and a smaller number of Cambodian Communist units. This force was augmented several days ago by elements of the VC 272nd Regiment which moved to the west bank of the Mekong River, where they are in a position to contest riverine resupply of Kompong Cham city.*

Although the recent movement of elements of the 272nd Regiment west of the Mekong increases the Communists' capability against numerically superior government troops, there is no evidence that the Communists are ready to abandon their economy-of-force tactics. The Communists' failure to mount major ground assaults against the well-motivated but inexperienced Cambodian units evidently reflects a decision to keep losses to a minimum. It may also indicate supply shortages and a decision to husband resources until later in the dry season, when stockpiles may be replenished from the Laotian infiltration corridor.

Under present circumstances, the Communists find it difficult to take ground from the Cambodians, and government forces find it as hard to make inroads into Communist-held territory.

East of Kompong Cham city, the headquarters of the VC 9th Division and those of three of its subordinate regiments remain located near the Chup rubber plantation.

*The task of these units apparently is still to serve as a defensive shield against possible South Vietnamese Army incursions against enemy base and supply lines in this area.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WARSAW PACT

In a speech Thursday, one day after the East Berlin summit, Polish leader Gomulka said that the two main concerns at the meeting were formulating a united policy on negotiations with West Germany and ratification of the Soviet and Polish treaties with the Federal Republic. He asserted that the Pact leaders had taken a "very positive attitude toward a sensible normalization of relations" with West Germany, and indicated there is no reason the East Germans cannot follow the example of Moscow and Warsaw.

Gomulka also made clear that as far as he is concerned Pankow does not have a veto over his relations with Bonn. He said that he wanted ratification by the Bundestag of the Polish and Soviet treaties and seemed to imply acceptance of the West German position that ratification was conditional on substantial progress in the four-power Berlin talks and related East-West negotiations.

*Gomulka appears to be apprehensive that the East Germans could block progress in the Berlin talks, and thus hold up his treaty and his plans to enter into normal relations with Bonn.*

*Gomulka has good reasons for his attitude. According to one of the Eastern European ambassadors in Moscow, Ulbricht opposed the idea of holding a summit meeting until after the East - West German and quadripartite Berlin talks were completed. Had this position been accepted, it is likely that there would have been no progress in either forum, since Pankow's demands on West Germany are clearly unacceptable to Bonn. It is possible that the extended harassment of West German autobahn traffic to and from West Berlin prior to the East Berlin summit was an East German attempt to check Moscow's and Warsaw's rapprochements with Bonn, as well as a coordinated attack on the West German presence in Berlin.*

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Gomulka's revelations on the East Berlin meeting do not suggest that the course of East-West negotiations will become any easier. Tactically, the Communists may believe it necessary to take a tough position in order to make it clear they are not dealing from weakness. For example, the East Germans might harass access to Berlin during President Heinemann's visit to the western sector of the city early next week. Pankow's Foreign Ministry already has formally protested the visit.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

On Monday, Pakistanis will select members of a constituent assembly in the first nationwide direct election since independence in 1947. President Yahya—who took over from Ayub Khan in the coup of March 1969—called for the election a year ago as a step toward restoring Pakistan to civilian rule. The 313-member assembly has been charged with drafting a new constitution within 120 days and submitting it to Yahya for approval.

*Despite apprehension in the military and sporadic violence during the election campaign, Yahya has remained committed to holding elections and they should occur without serious incident.*

*The Awami League, which advocates greater autonomy for East Pakistan, should win a large majority of the seats in this more heavily populated wing of the country and thus obtain the largest voting bloc in the assembly. West Pakistan's vote is likely to be split among a potpourri of leftist, moderate and religious conservative parties.*

*Mere holding a nationwide direct election is an achievement in Pakistan, but the performance of the constituent assembly is a more difficult test if the country is to return to civilian rule. The assembly could degenerate into petty haggling in the absence of a dominant national political party. East Pakistan's demand for greater autonomy will likely be the most difficult issue. Although some West Pakistani politicians are now willing to make concessions on this, the issue may become entangled in demands for greater autonomy for some of the provinces of West Pakistan.*

*Yahya has said he will call new elections if this assembly fails to produce an acceptable constitution. The military, which remains the most cohesive force in the country, might convince Yahya to act earlier to dissolve the assembly, if it reaches an impasse or if it appears to be significantly weakening the present powers of the central government.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

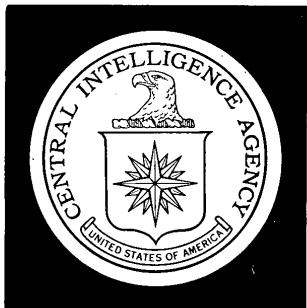
SALT: Yesterday, as expected, Semenov elaborated on his 1 December proposal for a separate ABM agreement and repeated his earlier contention that this would facilitate the conclusion of a broader agreement. Except for two key provisions, the Soviet draft follows the general lines of the NCA-level alternative of Option E. Semenov labeled as superfluous the restrictions on radars and on SAM upgrade which were part of the US proposal. In keeping with Soviet practice, no numbers were given. Ambassador Smith's response reiterated the US position on the inter-relationship between strategic defensive and strategic offensive systems.

Israel-Lebanon: The increasing number of incidents along the border may soon provoke Israeli action against Fatah bases in Lebanon. Israeli Chief of Staff Bar-Lev yesterday complained to the US ambassador that terrorist acts had been averaging about one a day for the last three weeks. Bar-Lev said that the Lebanese had informed the Israelis that the Lebanese Army was controlling the border west of the Hasbani River in southern Lebanon, but had no forces east of the river where Fatah elements were located. Bar-Lev said that if the rate of incidents continued to rise, Israel would have to react.

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet submarine tender and missile frigate that rendezvoused north of Puerto Rico were refueled yesterday by an oiler. In addition to the Soviet F-class diesel submarine that has surfaced near the group, there may be a second one in the area, as these submarines usually travel in pairs. There have been no further reports on the whereabouts of the rescue tug which had been in Cienfuegos and its status is unclear.

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*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 December 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists are renewing their efforts to drive Lao government forces from the Bolovens Plateau.  
(Page 1)

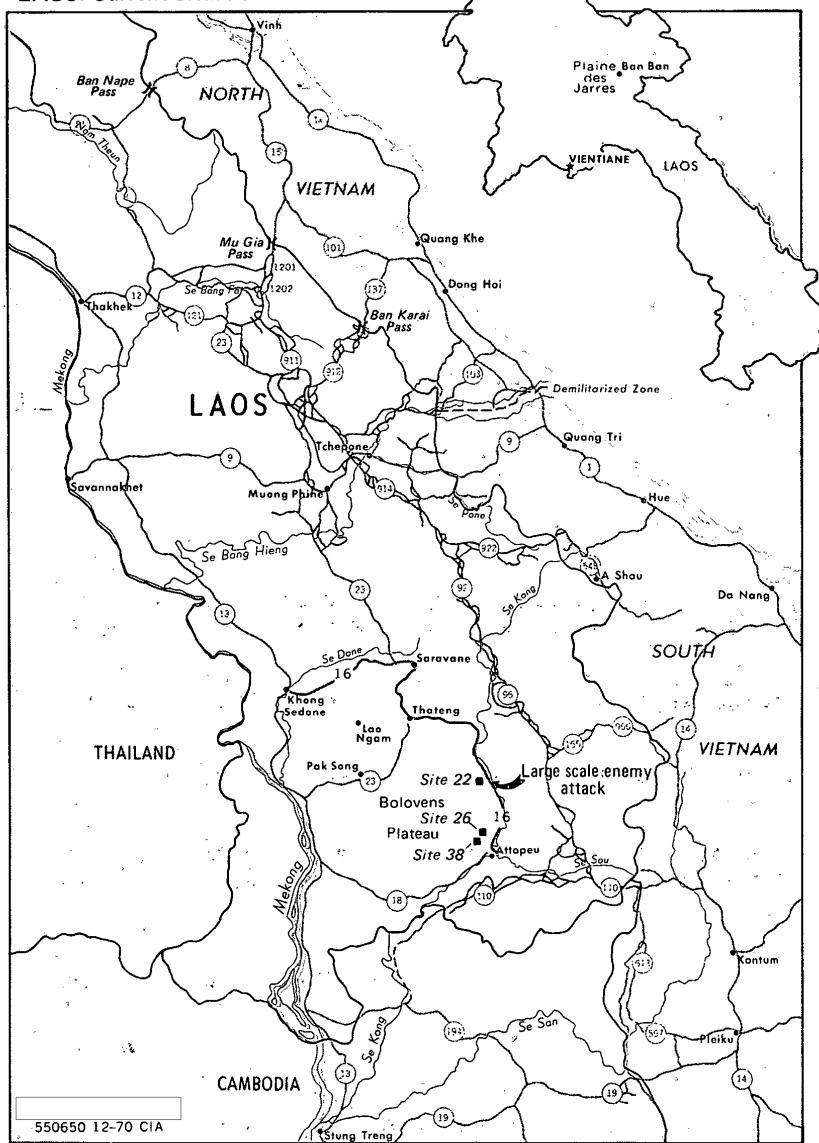
The Soviet naval task group is moving toward Cuba.  
(Page 2)

Fedayeen distrust of the government is disrupting the quiet in Jordan. (Page 3)

On Page 4, we discuss some possible effects of the Polish-West German treaty on Polish-Vatican relations.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Site 22, the last major government base on the eastern rim of the Bolovens Plateau, was attacked on 5 December by a North Vietnamese force estimated at one to three battalions. Heavy fighting at the site persisted throughout the weekend but tapered off this morning with the position still in government hands, although enemy units remain nearby. Enemy activity was also reported during the weekend around several smaller government sites, and one camp was abandoned.

*The Communist campaign in the eastern Bolovens, which began during the summer, picked up again two weeks ago when the enemy successfully attacked two key government bases, Sites 26 and 38. This area of the plateau commands the Se Kong River and Route 16 which have taken on increased importance for the Communists this year--especially during the present dry season--as they try to expand their infiltration complex through southern Laos.*

Communist activity also appears to have stepped up along the northern Bolovens. The three battalions of government irregulars that have been sweeping to the north of Pak Song reported contacts with the enemy over the weekend near Thateng.

*There have been several reports of large enemy forces moving into the area southwest of Saravane. Recent enemy intercepts indicate that most of the North Vietnamese 9th Regiment has moved south from Muong Phine in the last month and is now between Thateng and Lao Ngam. Low-level reports claim that these forces will attack Pak Song in the near future, but they could also strike at targets to the west along Route 16, perhaps around Khong Sedone where the enemy appears to have been moving large quantities of ammunition.*

In northern Laos, government forces east of the Plaine des Jarres are still moving toward Ban Ban without significant resistance. On the Plaine's western perimeter, no important fighting has been reported in recent days.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**USSR-CUBA**

The Soviet naval task group composed of a guided-missile frigate, an F-class diesel submarine, a submarine tender, and an oiler is headed toward Cuba. The latest position reports place the task group about 180 nautical miles north of Haiti.

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[redacted] The two naval TU-95 reconnaissance aircraft that flew to Cuba from the northwestern USSR on 3 December are still in Havana.

*The Soviet ships are too far at sea to reach either Havana or Cienfuegos today, as announced by Havana Radio, but they could arrive on Tuesday.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

The fedayeen have walked out of the Arab peace-keeping committee as new clashes have erupted in northern Jordan. The walkout by the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) occurred on Saturday while the PLO Central Committee charged separately that the Jordanian Army was preparing to attack the fedayeen in the northern cities of Jarash and Irbid. There are press reports, however, that the fedayeen are asking the truce committee chairman, former Tunisian premier Bahi Ladgham, to return to Jordan from a holiday.

The origin of the weekend clashes is not fully clear.

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Intermittent  
but heavy fighting continued in Jarash yesterday  
until evening

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This is the first time during the tenuous truce that clashes between the fedayeen and the army have continued into a second day. Until now, the peacekeeping committee has been generally effective in cooling off local incidents before they could spread, but fedayeen indiscipline and distrust of the Jordanian Army's intentions have been growing, particularly with King Husayn's absence. With the fedayeen out of the truce mechanism, incidents could well increase in number and in severity. There are indications that today's fighting may be heavier.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

POLAND - VATICAN - WEST GERMANY

Bonn's Ostpolitik has ever-widening ramifications. The successful negotiation of the Polish - West German treaty opens the possibility that Poland and the Vatican can settle the vexing question of ecclesiastical administration of German territory ceded to Poland following World War II. The Vatican has held that in the absence of a peace treaty it cannot give de jure recognition to Polish church administration of dioceses in western Poland; these dioceses have been run by apostolic administrators who report directly to Rome.

Within the past year, however, the Holy See has indicated that an "international agreement" between Poland and West Germany might be a sufficient precondition for it to change its attitude. We think the Vatican would require that the treaty be ratified first, but two recent events suggest a thaw in Polish-Vatican relations.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

8 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The search for a stable cease-fire continues in Amman today. (Page 1)

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The military situation in Cambodia is discussed on Page 4.

Cuba is negotiating new long-term credits in Moscow. (Page 5)

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**JORDAN**

The situation in northern Jordan remains tense, but no new fighting was reported last night. Jordanian authorities report the army now controls Jarash and the main highway between Amman and the northern city of Irbid. Former Tunisian premier and chairman of the Higher Arab Committee, Bahi Ladgham, will leave Tunis today for Amman to help reorganize the cease-fire. Egyptian President Sadat encouraged Ladgham's trip

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Small scattered clashes may continue in some of the more isolated villages in the north, however, where it is difficult to restore calm even with the cooperation of fedayeen leaders; once the fighting has been set in motion. The return of Ladgham should have a quieting effect, but his impact may be short-lived.

Ladgham told Ambassador Calhoun in Tunis yesterday that he does not intend to stay in Jordan more than ten days and considers this his last official visit. Ladgham said he plans to disengage from Jordanian problems and added if a continuing authority is needed in Jordan to help the cease-fire, leaders of the Arab states would have to create a new organization.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

LAOS



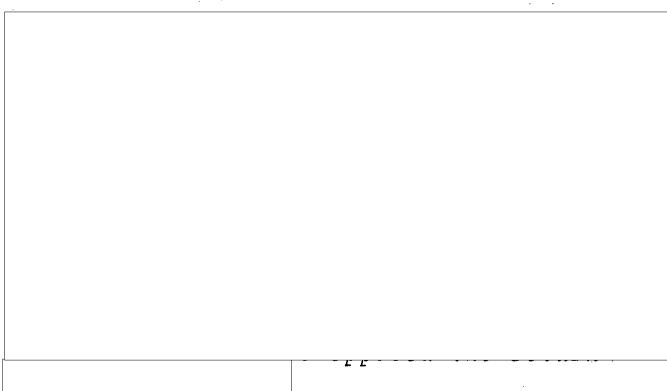
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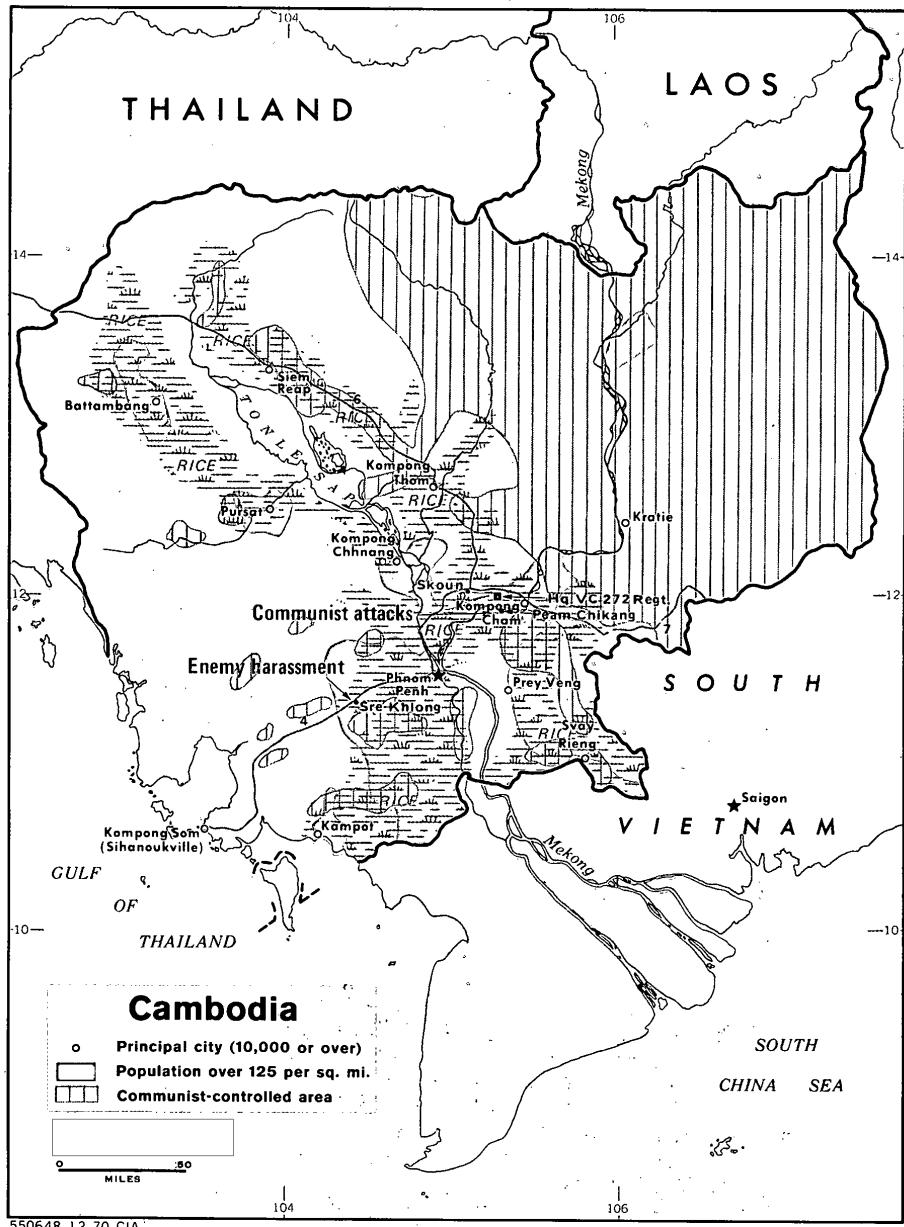


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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

## Current Situation



## CAMBODIA

The Communists on 6 December routed three government battalions clustered at Peam Chikang, a district headquarters town some ten miles southwest of Kompong Cham. Before losing radio contact, the government commander at Peam Chikang claimed he had over 100 troops wounded, plus unknown numbers killed or missing. A senior Cambodian Army officer at Kompong Cham subsequently reported that more than 100 government soldiers had been killed in the fighting.

*Cambodian losses appear to be the heaviest incurred since the enemy began to step up military activity last month. The attacks are believed to have been spearheaded by elements of the Viet Cong 272nd Regiment which recently moved to positions west of the Mekong in the vicinity of Peam Chikang. The government units engaged are among the more than 30 battalions trying to open Routes 6 and 7 northeast of Phnom Penh.*

The enemy is retaining the initiative on several other fronts, disrupting government efforts to reoccupy positions along major roadways. Communist harassing attacks are preventing government troops both from reopening Route 7 between Skoun and Kompong Cham city and from advancing beyond Sre Khlong on Route 4.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

### **USSR-CUBA**

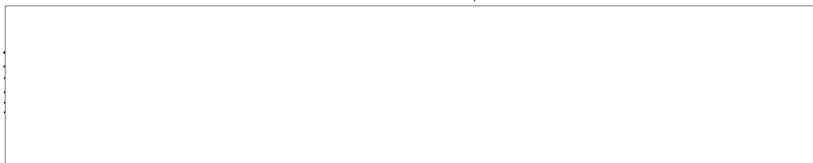
A Cuban delegation headed by one of Castro's closest advisers is in Moscow for talks on economic agreements covering the next five years. Two long-term agreements--the basic five-year trade agreement, and a separate one covering sugar purchases--are due for renewal.

*The basic trade agreement was first signed in 1960 and renewed in 1965. The current sugar agreement, signed in 1964, committed the USSR to purchase five million tons of Cuban sugar annually.*

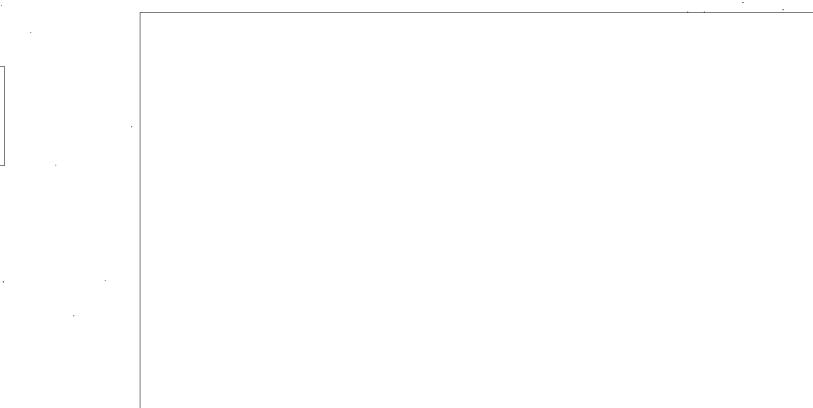
*The Cubans may also make a pitch for new long-term Soviet credits. Cuba used up \$300 million in Soviet credits during 1970, raising its total economic aid debt to the USSR to approximately \$2.7 billion. The 1971 sugar harvest is not expected to match this year's record output and will force Havana to continue its reliance on significant deliveries of Soviet aid.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

BRAZIL



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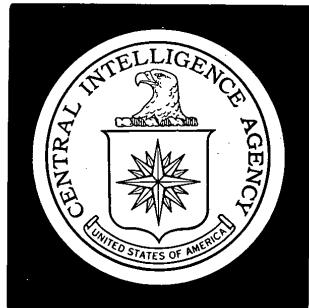
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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# *The President's Daily Brief*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

9 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Published reports show no increase in the 1971 Soviet defense budget but do indicate continued growth in military research and development. (Page 1)

Semenov pulled out all stops at yesterday's SALT meeting in arguing for an early, separate agreement on limiting ABM. (Page 2)

[redacted]

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The situation in Jordan is discussed on Page 4.

Pakistan's election results will jolt the country's military. (Page 5)

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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The Soviets are increasing economic ties with Yugoslavia in the aftermath of President Nixon's visit. (Page 7)

The latest on Soviet naval [redacted] activity in the Caribbean is reported on Page 8.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY****USSR**

At yesterday's meeting of the Supreme Soviet, Finance Minister Garbuzov announced a defense budget of 17.9 billion rubles for 1971, the first year since 1965 that the Soviets have not announced an increase in military appropriations. The declared intention of holding to last year's level is consistent with the image of moderation which the Soviets are trying to project at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. Garbuzov's claim that the 1971 budget is one "of peaceful economic and cultural development" fits the theme.

The published defense budget, however, excludes most spending for military research and development and the space program. Yesterday's reports referred only to a growth rate of 8.3 percent for "overall state expenditures on research."

We estimate that the total Soviet defense expenditures in 1971, including military R&D and space, will be the equivalent of about \$68 billion in US costs--an increase of between one and two percent over 1970. Most of the increase we attribute to expanded military research and development.

Soviet planners have proposed a growth rate of 6.9 percent for industrial production in 1971, considerably less than the annual average of 8.6 percent planned for 1968-70. Agricultural production is expected to grow by only 5.5 percent in 1971 compared with this year's target of 8.5 percent. The 1971 goals for industry and agriculture reflect a relatively sober assessment of the potential of the economy which has disappointed the leadership in recent years.

For the fourth consecutive year, the production of consumer goods is slated to grow at a higher rate than producers' goods in 1971. This target, in conjunction with a modest rate of growth planned for wages, indicates an attempt to ease inflationary pressures. The Supreme Soviet was given no information on the forthcoming five-year (1971-75) plan but it was said that the plan will be ready for presentation at the 24th Party Congress next March.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SALT**

At yesterday's SALT meeting, Semenov pulled out all the stops in arguing for an early, separate agreement on limiting ABM. He embellished on the familiar theme that since there already exists a "definite closeness" in the positions of the two sides on ABM, it would be "irrational and unwarranted" to miss the opportunity for a separate agreement.

Semenov tried to bait the hook by leaving the clear impression that, if the US showed itself willing to give serious consideration to the Soviet proposal, he would come across with concrete details, including "appropriate numerical values." Soviet delegate Grinevsky was even more explicit in promising after yesterday's formal session that--if the US would listen--the Russians were prepared to present "numerical limitations in full detail."

Semenov again displayed sharp sensitivity over prospects for Safeguard. He warned against any extensive deployment of ABM systems as a tactic to gain advantage in the talks, and pointed out sharply that any such move would "seriously complicate" SALT. Semenov singled out for criticism the contention that extensive ABM deployment would present no great problems inasmuch as a system could subsequently be dismantled, and claimed that this reasoning "cannot be taken seriously."

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

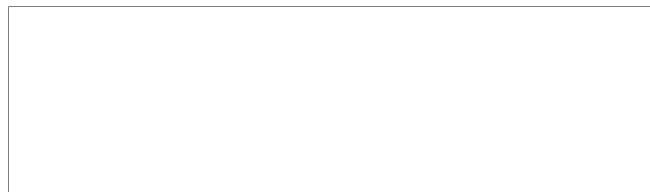
COMMUNIST CHINA



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**JORDAN**

Fighting in Jordan has diminished for now to a few small skirmishes. Jarash is reported to be completely under army control with many troops evident in the city. Small clashes occurred west of Jarash yesterday, but none appeared to be serious. The arrival of truce supervisor Bahi Ladgham today should help the Higher Arab Supervisory Committee in restoring the cease-fire. Late yesterday afternoon, the Higher Military Committee agreed to draw up a timetable to complete implementation of the several cease-fire agreements.

Fedayeen propaganda organs continue to accuse the army of waging a war of extermination against the commandos, and there is growing evidence that some army officers may be pushing a hard line on the fedayeen.

that the procrastination and moderation of the Jordanian Army General Staff in handling the fedayeen has caused a number of unit commanders to take action against the commandos on their own initiative, particularly in the Jarash area. At the same time, the Popular Resistance, the Jordanian militia that acts as a local guard unit in villages, is becoming increasingly belligerent in its behavior toward the commandos and has been responsible for some clashes.

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*New fighting is still a possibility at any time. The fedayeen are likely to resist, at least in some areas, as the Jordanian Army slowly tightens its grip on the countryside. The danger of an explosion will increase if the commandos are convinced that the army is determined to destroy their organizations.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

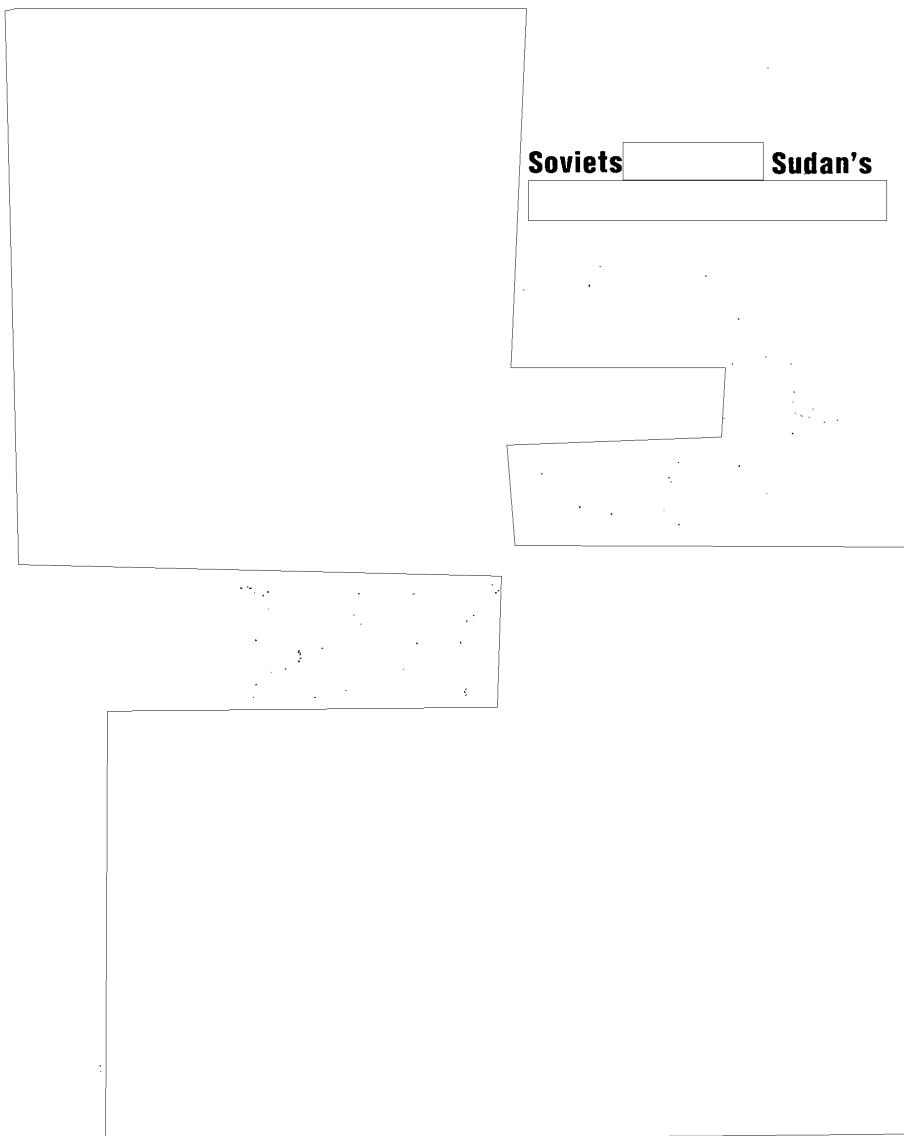
**PAKISTAN**

The Awami League, which advocates greater autonomy for East Pakistan, seems likely to win an absolute majority of the seats in the election held Monday for Pakistan's 313-member constituent assembly. When all returns are in, it may have swept almost all seats in the country's more populous east wing. Former foreign minister Ali Bhutto's left-wing Pakistan People's Party will apparently hold over 80 of the 144 seats allocated to West Pakistan.

*Such sweeping victories in Pakistan's first direct election would constitute a striking mandate for provincial autonomy and for radical economic and social change.*

*The results will jolt Pakistan's military, however, which has been apprehensive about the elections since President Yahya decided to take this step toward civilian government a year ago. The moderate and conservative religious parties that the military hoped might obstruct radical change during the assembly have won only a scattering of seats and will have little influence. Military leaders will fear both Awami League attempts to weaken central government authority and radical economic reform advocated by Bhutto.*

*The military would be reluctant to risk popular reaction that might follow any overt interference and may thus be willing to let the assembly proceed. The League and Bhutto's party may attempt to cooperate at the beginning--there are no serious disputes between the two at this stage--but the military will be watching for evidence that the sessions are bogging down, giving it a pretext for stepping in and dissolving the assembly.*



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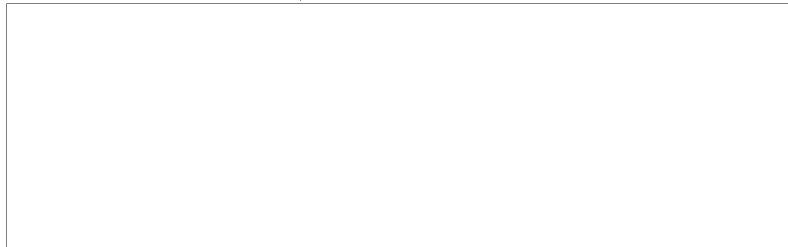
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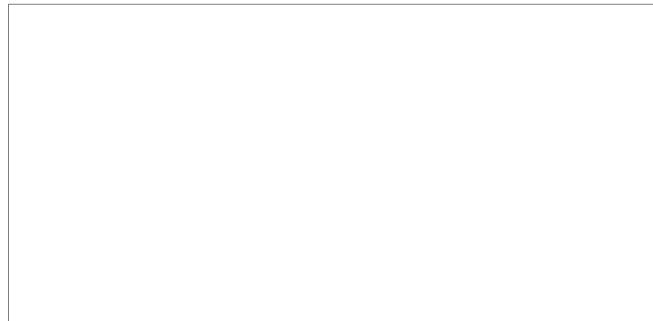
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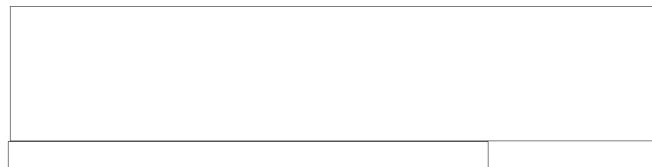
**USSR-SUDAN**



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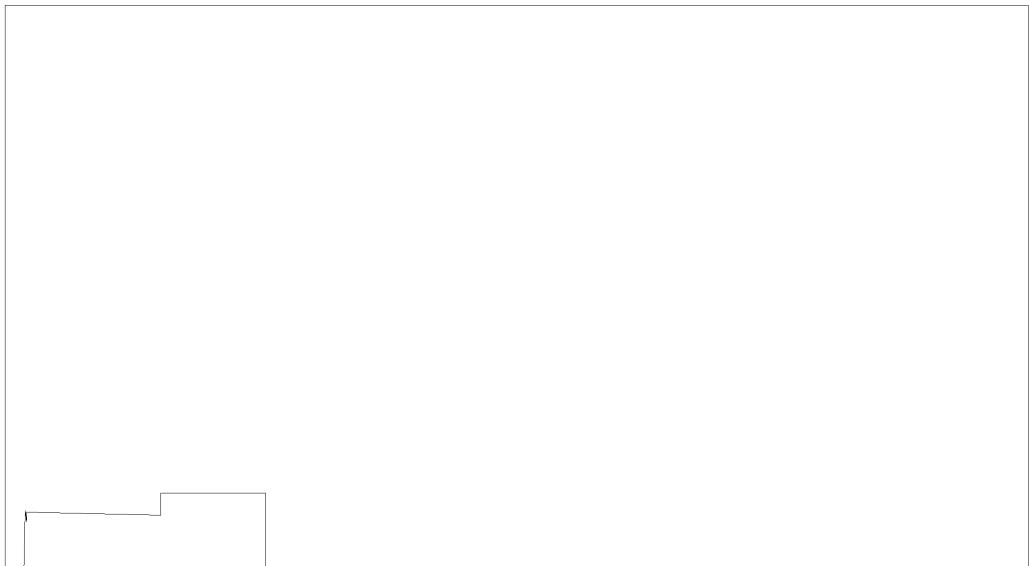
## YUGOSLAVIA

Premier Ribicic told Secretary Hardin last Friday that Belgrade had reaped an unexpected dividend from President Nixon's visit to Yugoslavia: Moscow apparently decided it could not afford to lag behind the US in economic ties with the Yugoslavs, and has suddenly become more accommodating in all commercial matters.

*In the past two months Belgrade has received a flurry of Soviet delegations promoting cooperation on scientific and technical matters, manufacturing projects, and other economic concerns. Belgrade announced yesterday that final negotiations on a new five-year trade agreement with the USSR would begin on 14 December, with signature expected soon.*

On political matters, on the other hand, Ribicic told Hardin that his government saw no change in Soviet policy toward Yugoslavia and remains suspicious of the Kremlin's intentions. For example, Ribicic said Moscow had approved Bulgaria's renewal of its claim to Yugoslav Macedonia.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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NOTE

USSR-Cuba:

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One of the Soviet submarines is having engine problems and has pulled into Antilla in northeastern Cuba. Three Soviet surface ships also arrived at Antilla yesterday--the submarine tender which has been in or near Cuban waters since September, a guided missile frigate, and an oiler.

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*10 December 1970*

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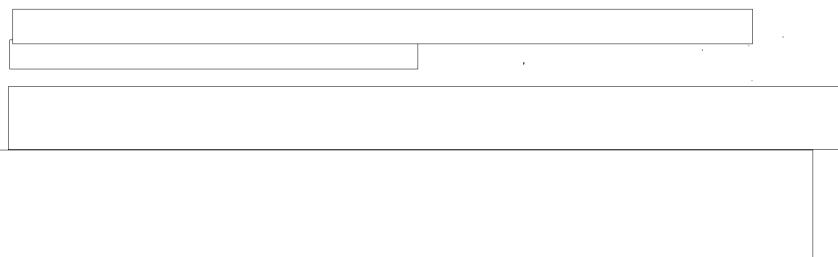
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

10 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The continued blocking of Cambodia's Route 4 has seriously reduced petroleum stocks in Phnom Penh.  
*(Page 1)*



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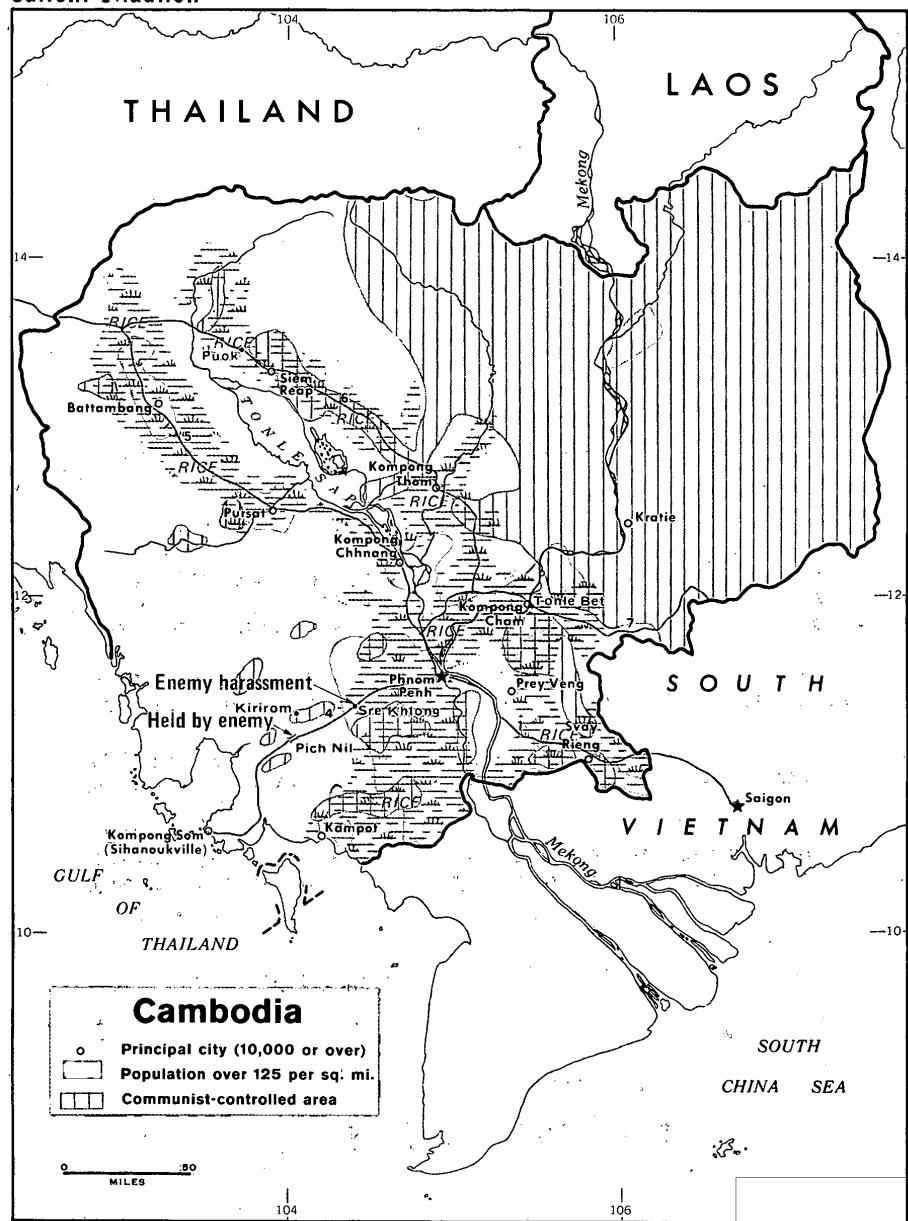
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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Current Situation



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CAMBODIA**

Route 4 has now been blocked by the enemy since 20 November, disrupting the shipment of petroleum supplies from the coastal refinery at Kompong Som (Sihanoukville) to Phnom Penh. The embassy reports that stocks of gasoline and kerosene for both military and civilian use are expected to run out in mid-December. The Cambodians have asked Saigon for emergency petroleum supplies by truck convoy over Route 1 and by shipments up the Mekong River.

*Although the Vietnamese are said to be willing to do all they can, it may already be too late to prevent at least some fuel restrictions.*

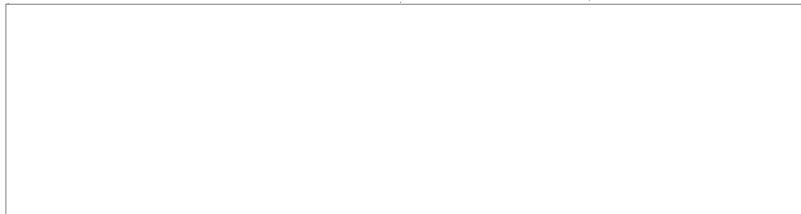
*Communist forces remain solidly entrenched along Route 4 at the Pich Nil pass. Enemy harassing attacks against the town of Sre Khlong, near a rear base camp for government troops assigned to retake the pass, have thus far frustrated any Cambodian counter-offensive.*

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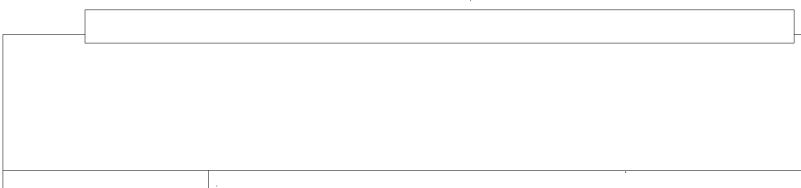
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LAOS



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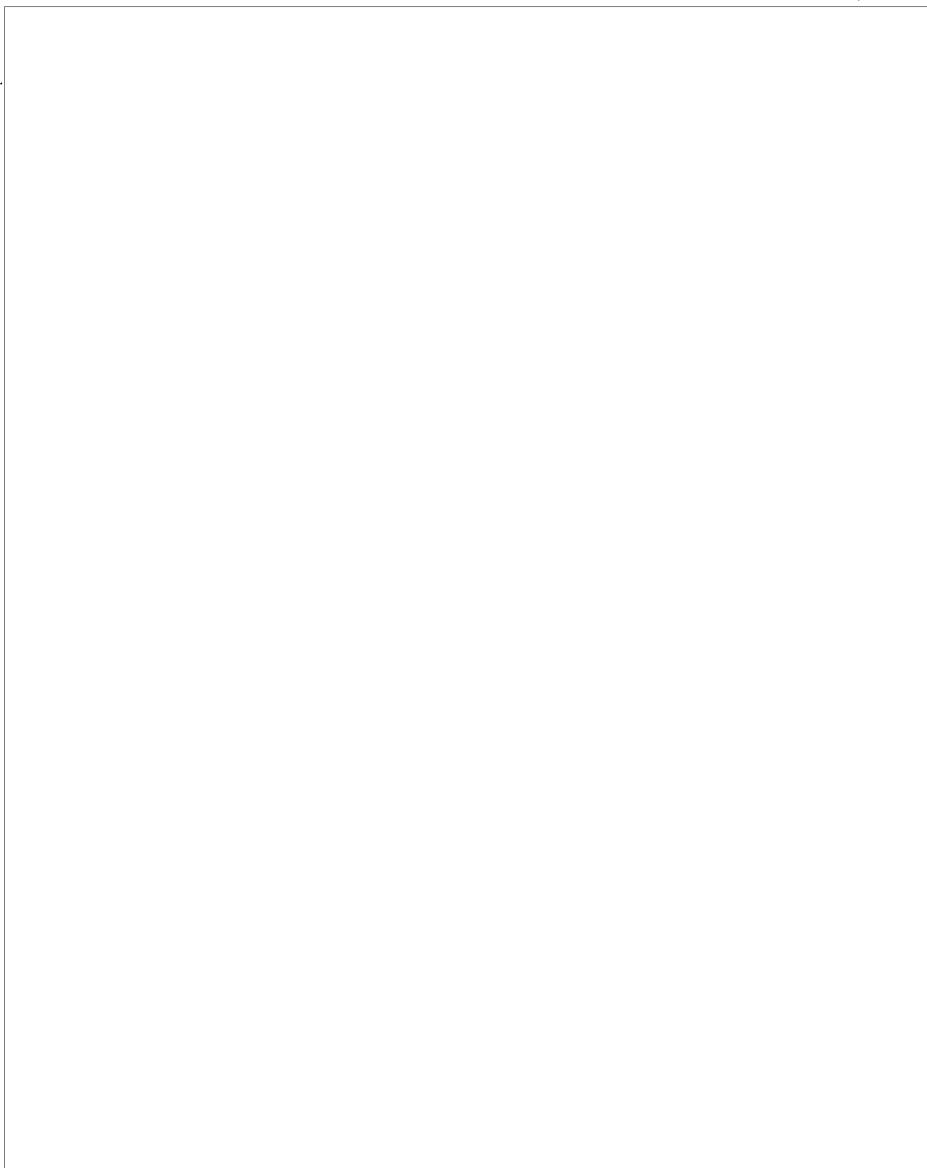


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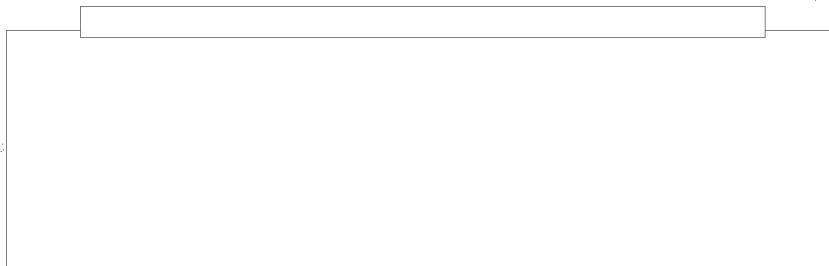
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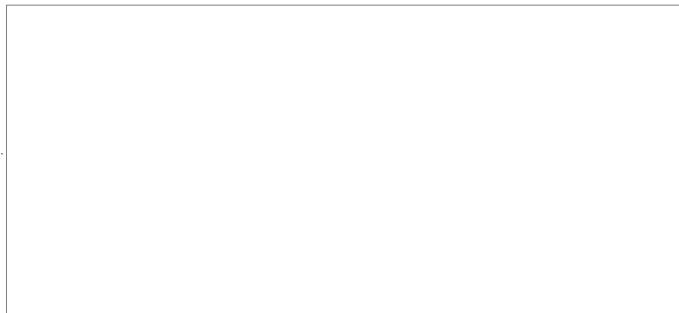
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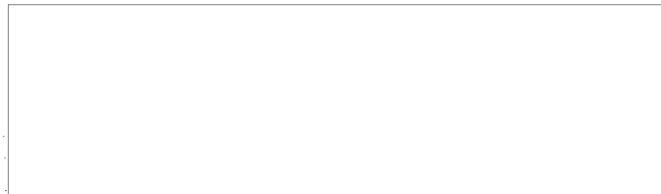
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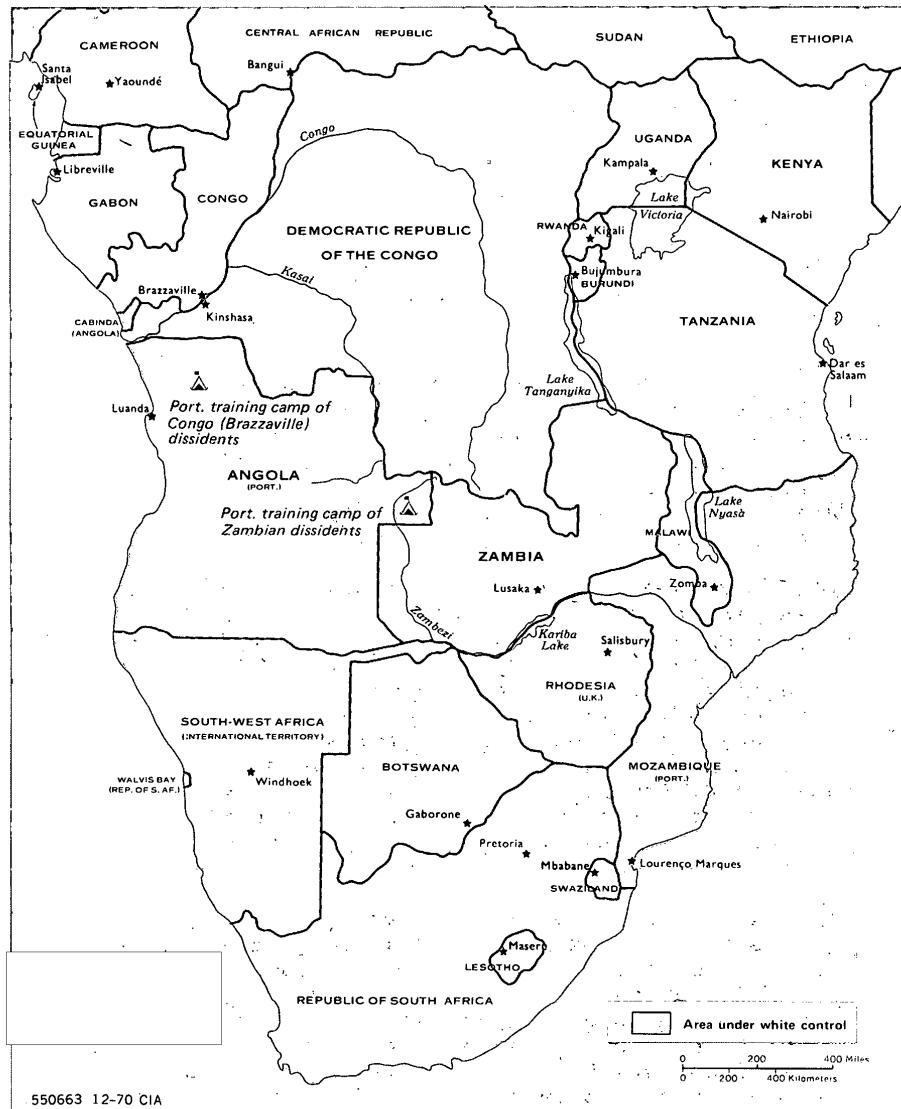


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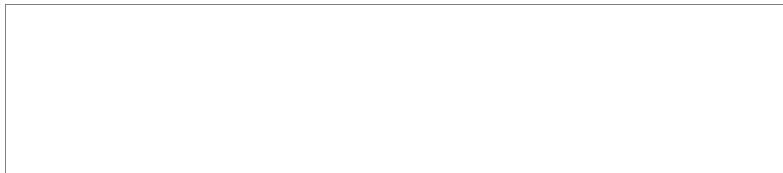
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550663 12-70 CIA

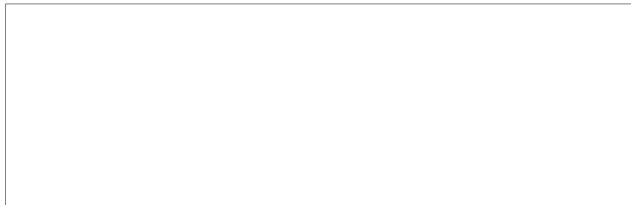
PORUGAL-ZAMBIA



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTE**

Brazil: The government has asked for and received the names of the 70 prisoners whom the terrorists want released as part of their price for freeing the Swiss ambassador.

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The government seems to be stalling for time to try to locate the ambassador and his captors, however, by requesting additional proof that he is all right.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*Top Secret*



# *The President's Daily Brief*

*11 December 1970*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

11 December 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Lon Nol has requested and Saigon has approved a greater Vietnamese role in trying to reopen major roads leading to Phnom Penh. (Page 1)

North Vietnam is taking increased precautions in apparent anticipation of further raids on its territory. (Page 3)

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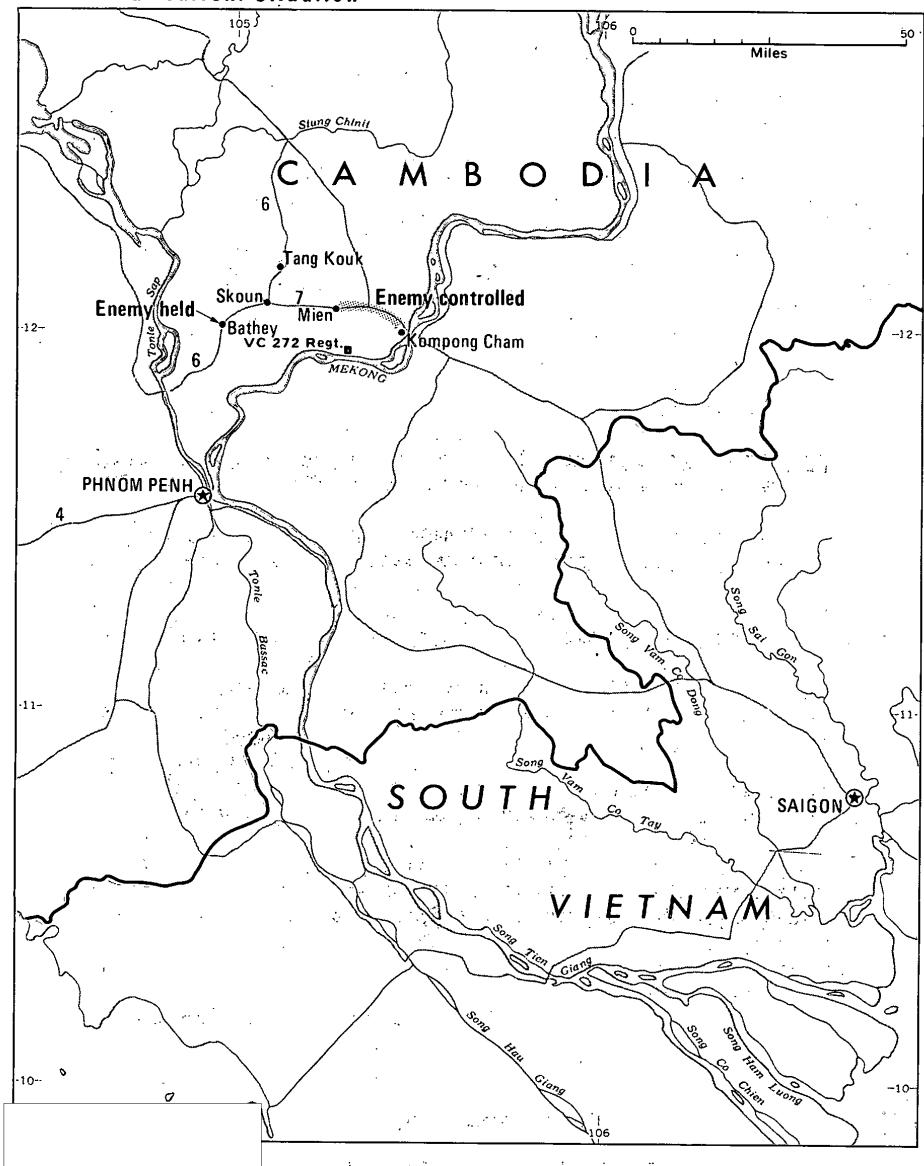
[Redacted]  
Developments at the SALT talks are discussed on Page 5.

On Page 6, we comment on Ulbricht's speech to the East German central committee.

An imminent rightist coup against the Vientiane government seems to have been thwarted. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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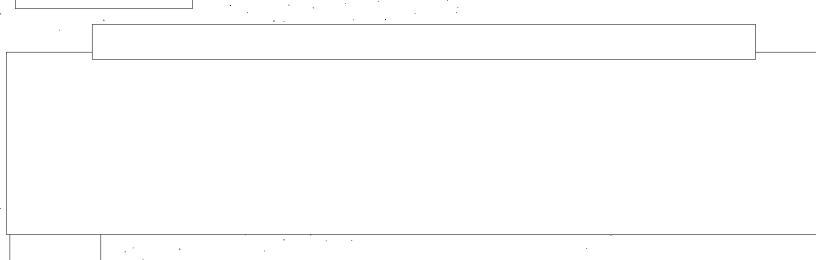
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

Prime Minister Lon Nol told a US Embassy officer on 9 December that he had asked the South Vietnamese to send troops and helicopters for use in re-opening vital lines of communication southwest and northeast of Phnom Penh. Under his plan the Vietnamese would help clear Communist blocking positions along Route 4 and along Routes 6 and 7 in the Skoun - Kompong Cham area.



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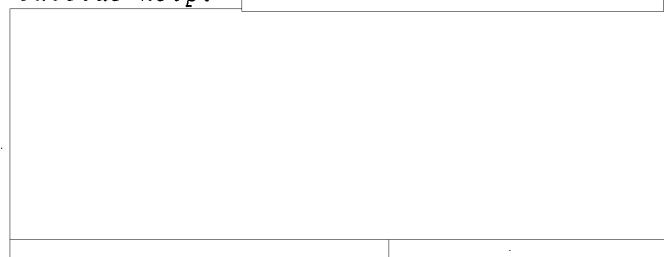


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*Lon Nol's appeal to Saigon indicates that he now believes that Cambodian troops are incapable of rectifying the situations around Kompong Cham and on Route 4 without outside help.*



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(continued)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

No major new Communist troop movements have been detected since the Viet Cong 272nd Regiment moved to the west bank of the Mekong last week. Previous Communist performance suggests that they are not likely to oppose South Vietnamese troops head on if the latter move to clear Route 7 between Kompong Cham and Skoun.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NORTH VIETNAM**

[redacted] special  
precautions are being taken throughout the country  
against the possibility of more US raids.

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[redacted]  
the North Vietnamese press  
has been full of articles about increased defense  
readiness, particularly in the southern provinces.

On 10 December the government and the Communist  
Party central committee issued an extraordinary  
joint statement warning that North Vietnam faces  
new US attacks and calling for even greater pre-  
paredness.

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The current alarm goes well beyond the  
tightening up we saw in the immediate  
aftermath of the Son Tay raid. It is  
also at a higher pitch than the air de-  
fense precautions taken in the spring of  
1969 when the North Vietnamese expected  
retaliatory US air strikes to follow a  
new Communist offensive in South Vietnam.  
The current measures strongly suggest  
that Hanoi genuinely expects fresh air  
and ground raids at any time, especially  
in the southern portions of North Vietnam  
and Laos.

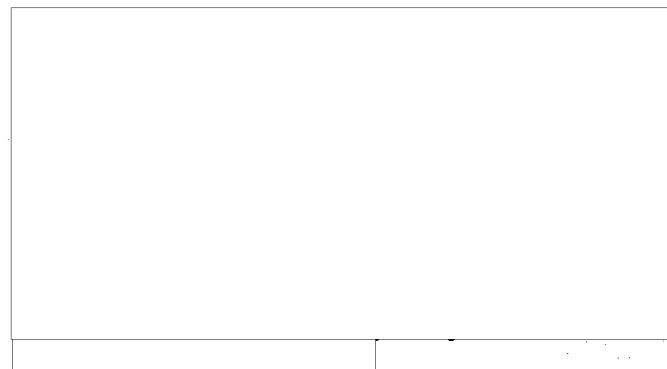
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

JORDAN



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SALT

At yesterday's meeting Semenov reverted to the Soviet argument on forward-based systems, repeating the "radical" solution and tabling the "partial" solution. The latter entails a reduction in FBS but also a cut in US intercontinental systems. In addition, he reaffirmed Moscow's position on bomber limitations and explicitly rejected the US formula limiting silo modification.

In discussing "modernization," Semenov asserted that national means of verification permit a distinction as to which missiles--light or heavy--are deployed in existing, modernized, or new silos. The US delegation suggests that this statement may have implied Soviet readiness to accept a separate numerical limit on modern, large missile launchers. The next session, which may be the last formal exchange, will be held on 16 December.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**EAST GERMANY**

In a speech before the East German central committee this week, Ulbricht claimed he is ready for additional movement in East-West negotiations on Europe, but he did not make any new proposals to further this movement. On Berlin, Ulbricht said an agreement on reciprocal transit traffic would be possible only if Bonn ceased its "unlawful" interference in West Berlin. Ulbricht also said his Warsaw Pact allies fully support his demand that relations with West Germany be established on "the basis of international law" and several times ridiculed Bonn's position that a "special relationship" should exist between the two Germanies. He flatly stated that he is suspicious of Brandt's motives and believes that West Germany intends to subvert the Communist world through the popularization of social democratic ideas.

*Ulbricht's remarks show he is not entirely pleased with the Warsaw Pact policy to which he is committed. His stand against social democracy in Western Europe, for example, pits him against Soviet ideologists, who have promulgated a doctrine of renewed cooperation between Communists and socialists in the West. Ulbricht also seemed bitter about the West German-Polish treaty and particularly about Brandt's warm reception in Poland.*

*His vague reference to West German activities in West Berlin may mean that East Germany will not insist on a complete withdrawal of the West German presence from West Berlin. Instead, the East Germans may be prepared to settle for a promise that West Germans will not conduct official or semiofficial political business in the city. It could also mean that Ulbricht wants Bonn's agreement to unhindered transit of East German travelers and goods to the West.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

Laos: An imminent move by antigovernment conspirators to gain control of Savannakhet appears to have been thwarted by the arrest in Thailand last night of former Lao colonel Bounleut Saycocie.

[redacted] prior to the arrest a number of Bounleut's cohorts had infiltrated Savannakhet from nearby points in Thailand, but that tightened security imposed by forewarned Lao officials has kept them from taking any action. Although the current tension in Laos is now likely to ease somewhat, it is still not clear whether the erratic Bounleut was plotting a coup largely on his own or was acting to further the political designs of more powerful Lao rightists.

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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# *The President's Daily Brief*

*12 December 1970*

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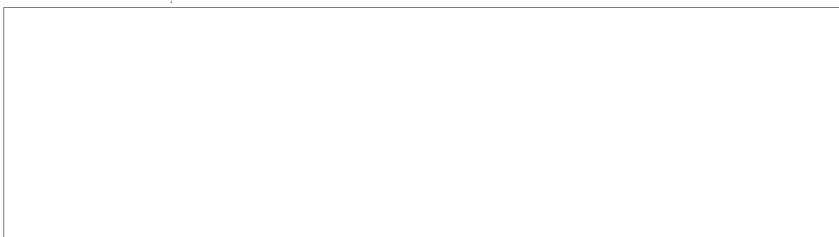
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

12 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**



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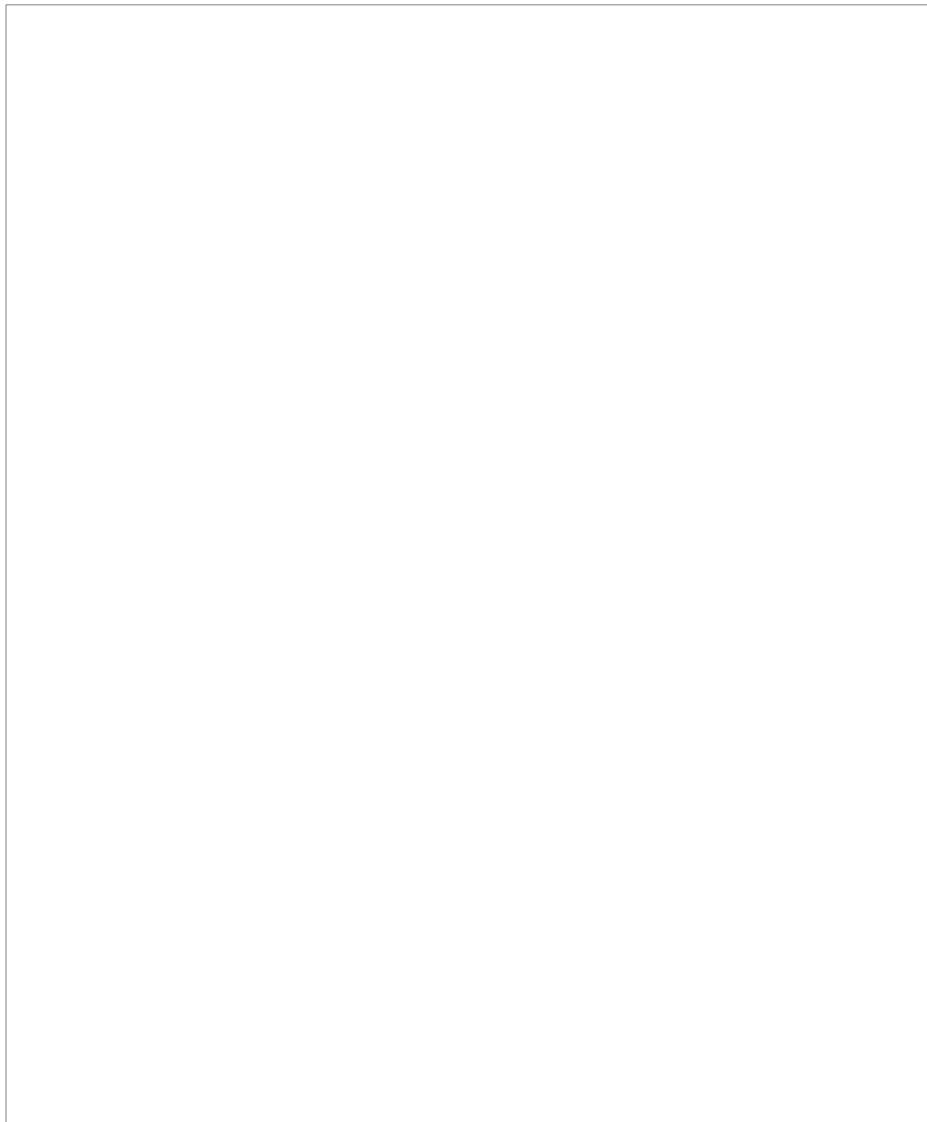
Military activity in Laos remains at a low level.  
(Page 3)

The Soviets will host several high-level Arab delegations this month. (Page 3)

The Berlin talks continue to be deadlocked because the four powers are unable to agree on establishing guidelines for substantive negotiations between the two Germanies. (Page 3)

The Portuguese may be preparing a raid against Zambia.  
(Page 4)

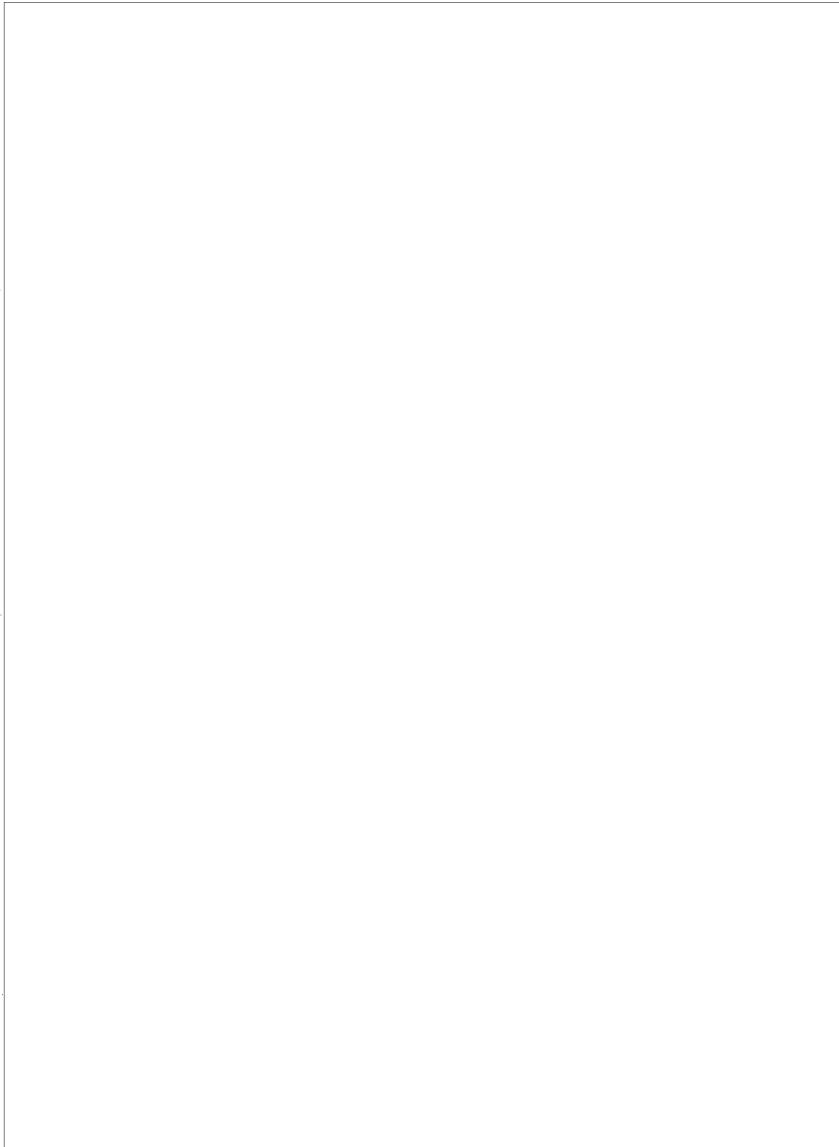
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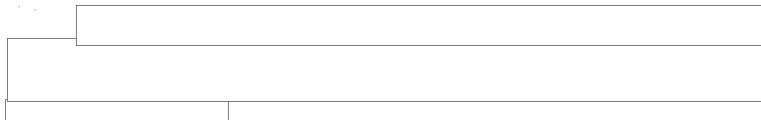


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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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**LEBANON**

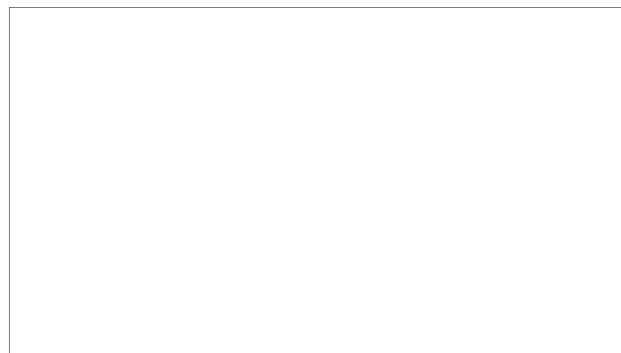


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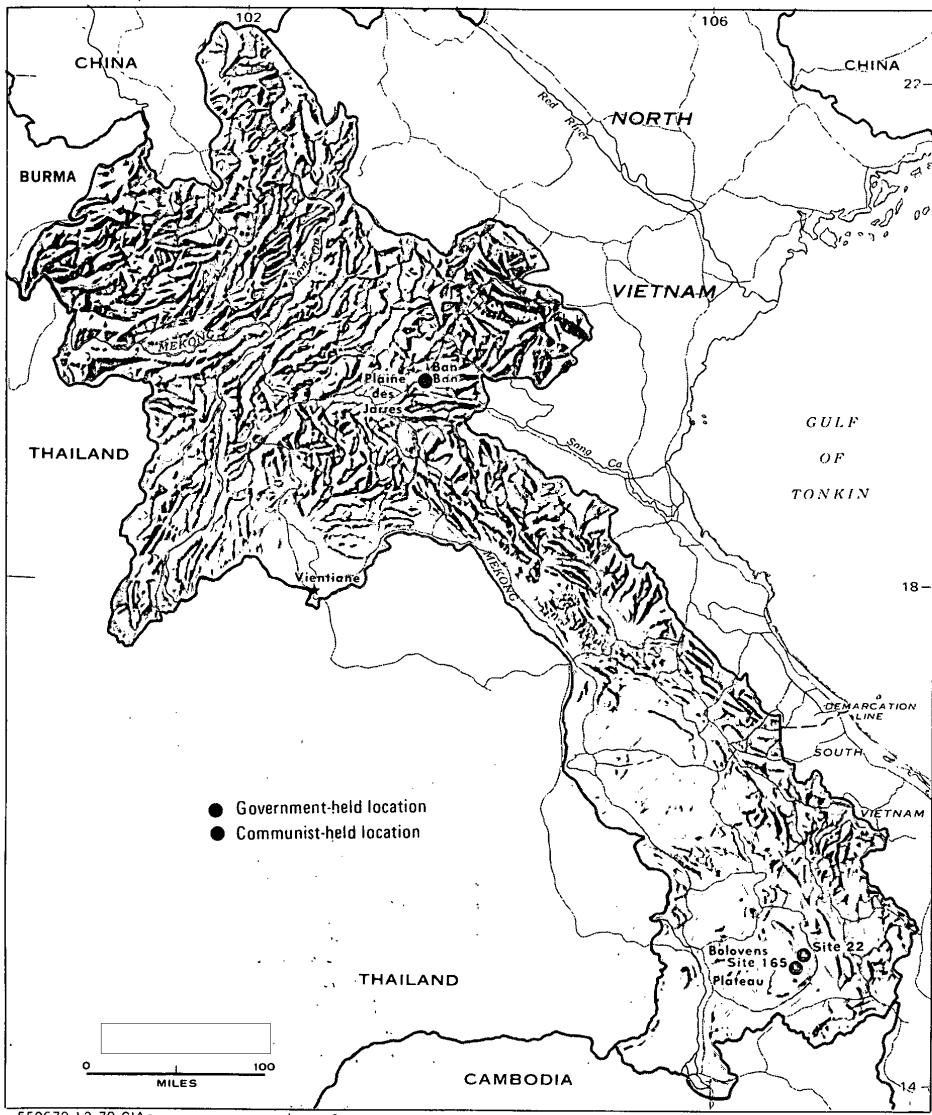
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### LAOS: Current Situation



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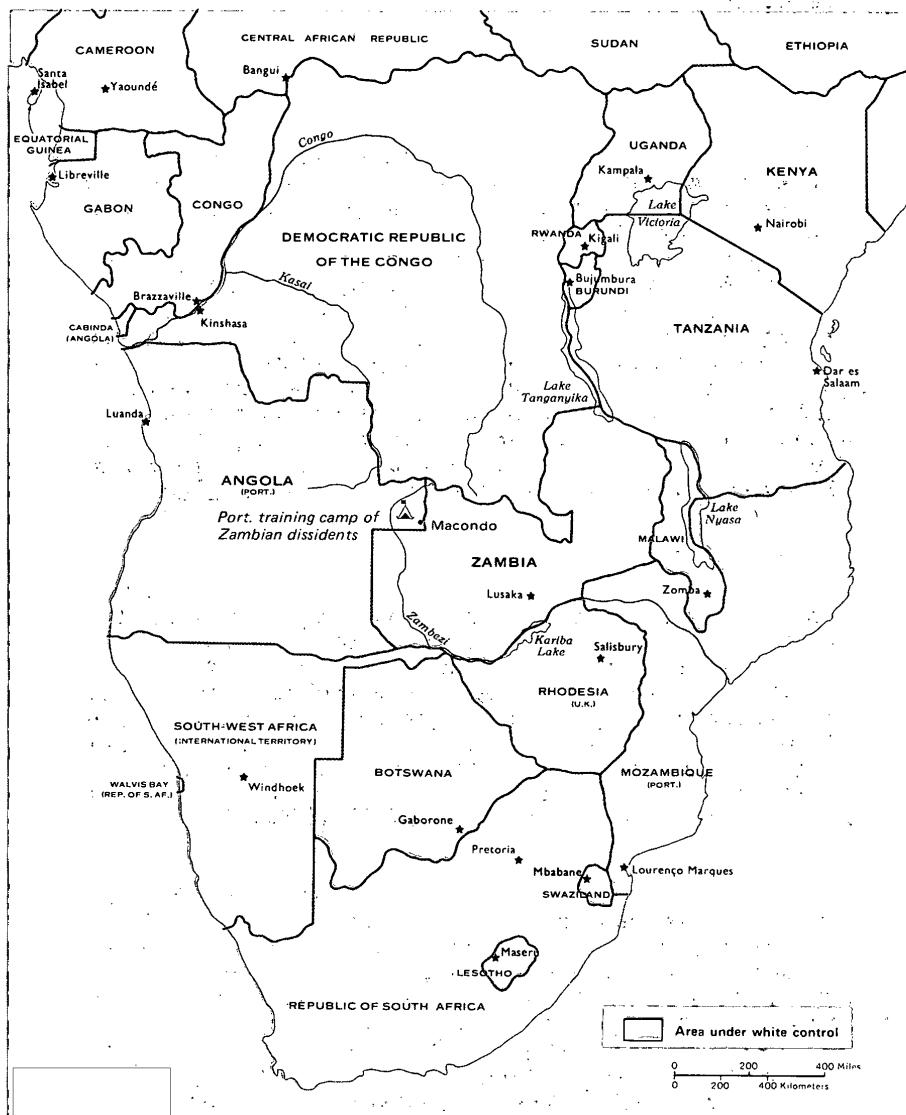
**NOTES**

Laos: Military activity in both the north and the south has remained relatively low since the government's successful defense last weekend of Site 22 on the eastern rim of the Bolovens Plateau. Communist probes and rocket attacks have continued both there and at nearby Site 165, but tactical air strikes have been generally successful in keeping the enemy off balance. In the north, the government harassing operation directed at the Communist logistic base at Ban Ban is moving along slowly because of poor weather and sporadic skirmishing with local North Vietnamese forces. Enemy activity west of the Plaine des Jarres also has been limited.

USSR - Middle East: Sudanese Defense Minister Abbas is visiting Moscow and will be followed by Egyptian Vice President Ali Sabri and possibly by Libyan Chief of State Qaddafi. Qaddafi reportedly will arrive on 15 December, and Sabri, accompanied by senior Egyptian military and diplomatic officials, is scheduled to arrive two days later. These visits suggest talks will center on the supply of additional arms for each of the three countries.

USSR-Berlin: Moscow is still trying to bring about direct talks on Berlin between Bonn and Pankow. At the latest four power session on 10 December, Abrasimov again proposed that the four powers instruct the Germans to begin such talks immediately without any detailed guidelines, a formulation that has been rejected by the Western ambassadors before. The Soviets undoubtedly knew their proposal would not be accepted, but they may be attempting to establish allied recalcitrance for the record. Meanwhile, the Soviets may be hoping that a solution on access will evolve from the working-level exchanges between East and West Germany which will resume later this month.

(continued)



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Portugal-Zambia: We have received some further indications of a forthcoming Portuguese-sponsored military operation against Zambia that we first noted [redacted] 10 December. A Portuguese police message from a training base in Angola for Zambian dissidents places a special group of these dissidents in the border town of Macondo. The message also suggests that the leader of the dissidents will be flown from the base to the border today. These insurgents are capable of conducting a limited paramilitary operation via helicopter against Zambian border posts and staging bases of anti-Portuguese guerrillas.

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*14 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

14 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Cambodian Government positions on Route 7 came under heavy Communist pressure over the weekend. (Page 1)

In Laos, the Communists appear to be planning action against the government drive on Ban Ban. (Page 2)

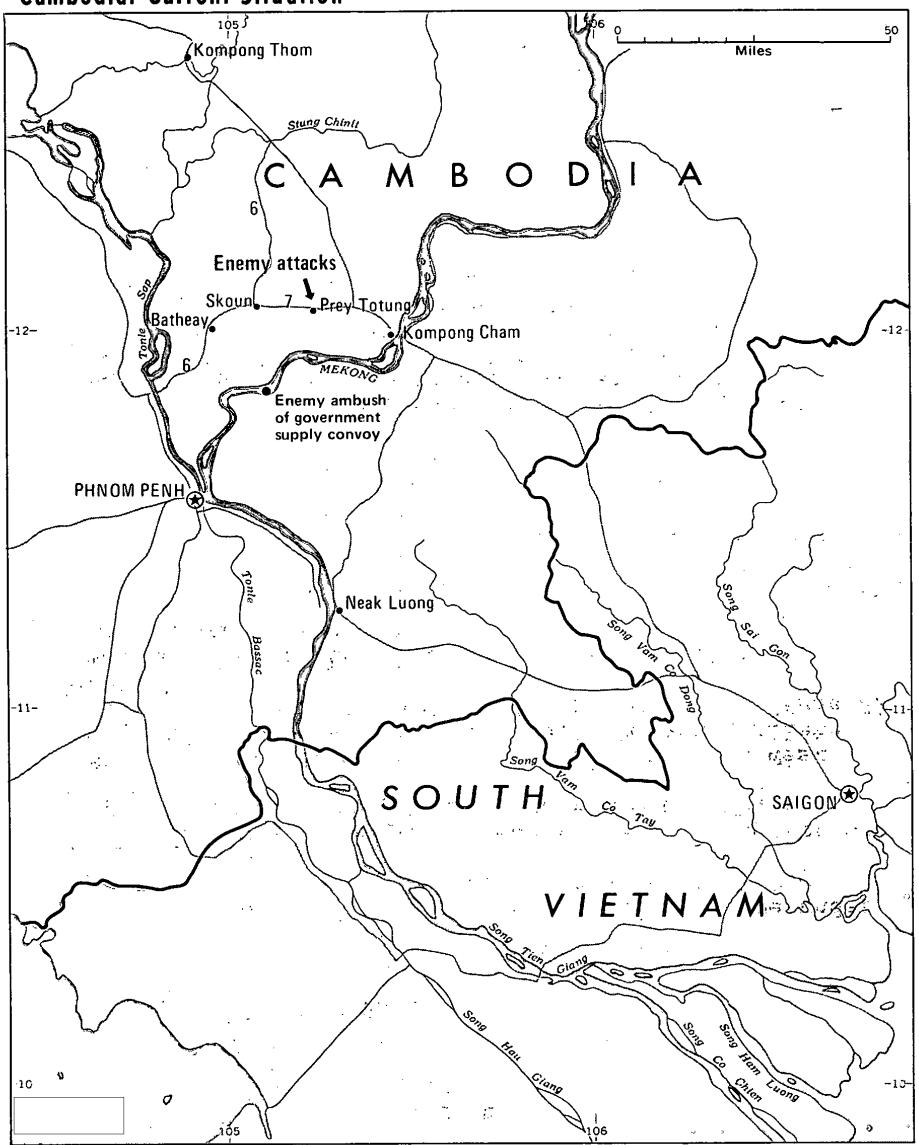
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The four Soviet ships are moving from Antilla toward Havana. (Page 4)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### Cambodia: Current Situation



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550684 12-70 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

Government positions on Route 7 were struck over the weekend by a series of Communist attacks centered on the town of Prey Totung. The attacks began early on 12 December against the town's outlying defenses on the east, and fighting seesawed between this area and the town throughout the weekend, with fairly heavy casualties on both sides. As of late yesterday the Communists were reported to be holding some parts of Prey Totung.

[redacted] South Vietnamese forces are scheduled to begin their planned clearing operation along Route 7 today, in conjunction with Cambodian troops. Three Vietnamese airborne battalions and three artillery batteries--possibly to be joined later by two Marine battalions already stationed at Neak Luong--are to land at Kompong Cham airfield and begin moving westward on the highway into enemy-controlled areas. Six Cambodian battalions are to move eastward from Skoun and effect a link-up with the South Vietnamese.

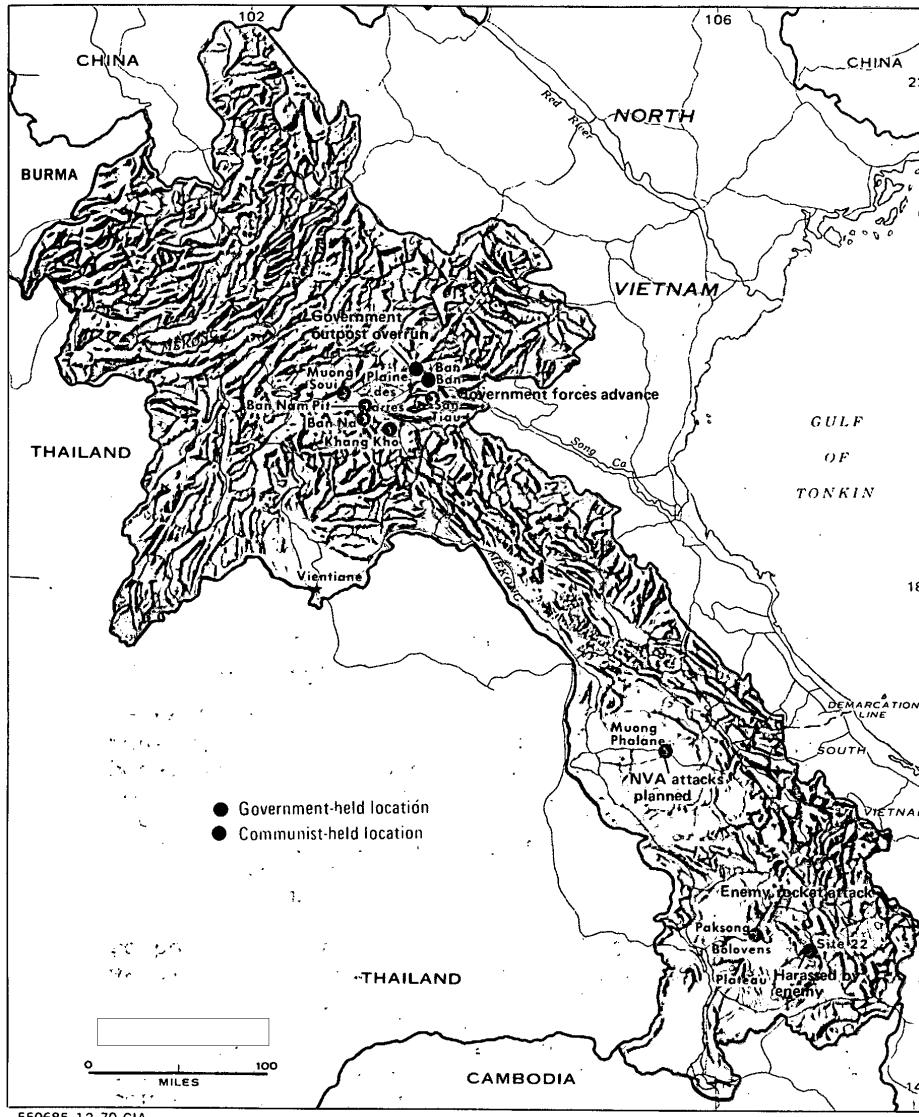
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*As many as six Communist main force regiments are believed to be in the general Kompong Cham - Skoun area. The Cambodian Government has committed about 30 battalions to this area, including those in the Chenla road operation north of Skoun.*

In other actions over the weekend, a government force retook the town of Batheay on Route 6. On the other hand, an 18-boat convoy, carrying 75 tons of rice, fuel, and ammunition to resupply Kompong Cham city, was ambushed on the Mekong 25 miles north of Phnom Penh and forced to turn back.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## LAOS: Current Situation



550685 12-70 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**LAOS**

Recent North Vietnamese intercepts suggest that the Communists are preparing counterattacks against the government irregulars moving on their supply base at Ban Ban from the north. The messages report extensively on the irregulars' movements and contain orders to bring in weapons "to strike the enemy."

*Until now, government guerrillas converging on Ban Ban from both the north and the south have encountered almost no significant resistance. An irregular outpost about nine miles northwest of Ban Ban was overrun late last week, however, in what may have been the opening move in enemy plans to stiffen opposition. Two columns of the irregulars moving from the south are now within about ten miles of their objective.*

West of the Plaine des Jarres, messages from elements of the North Vietnamese 174th Regiment talk of challenging government control at Muong Soui, which irregulars took about two months ago. Other intercepts passed by elements of the 174 southwest of the Plaine refer to planned mortar attacks on one of the outposts blocking access to the government guerrilla base at Ban Na, and to impending attacks around Khang Kho, a guerrilla staging area.

In the panhandle, North Vietnamese messages have referred to possible attacks on government positions in the Muong Phalane area to occur on 18 and 19 December. The town of Paksong, farther south, was the target during the weekend of enemy rockets for the first time since early spring.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**USSR-BERLIN**



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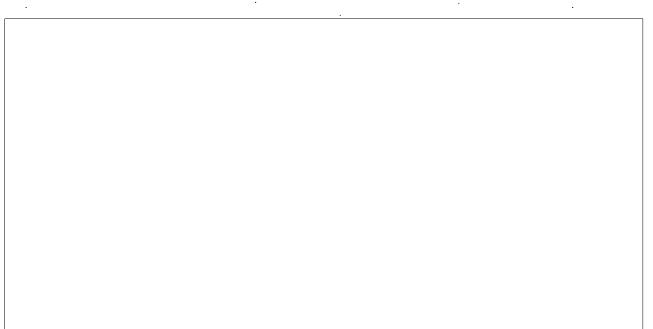
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

USSR-Cuba: The Soviet guided-missile frigate, F-class diesel submarine, submarine tender, and oiler left Antilla in northeastern Cuba on Saturday

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

The two nuclear submarine support barges and rescue tug in Cienfuegos were joined last week by a small Nyryat-class diving tender. A unit of this type had arrived in Havana from the USSR in late November.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

*15 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

15 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Satellite photography has uncovered an apparent new missile site under construction in China. (Page 1)

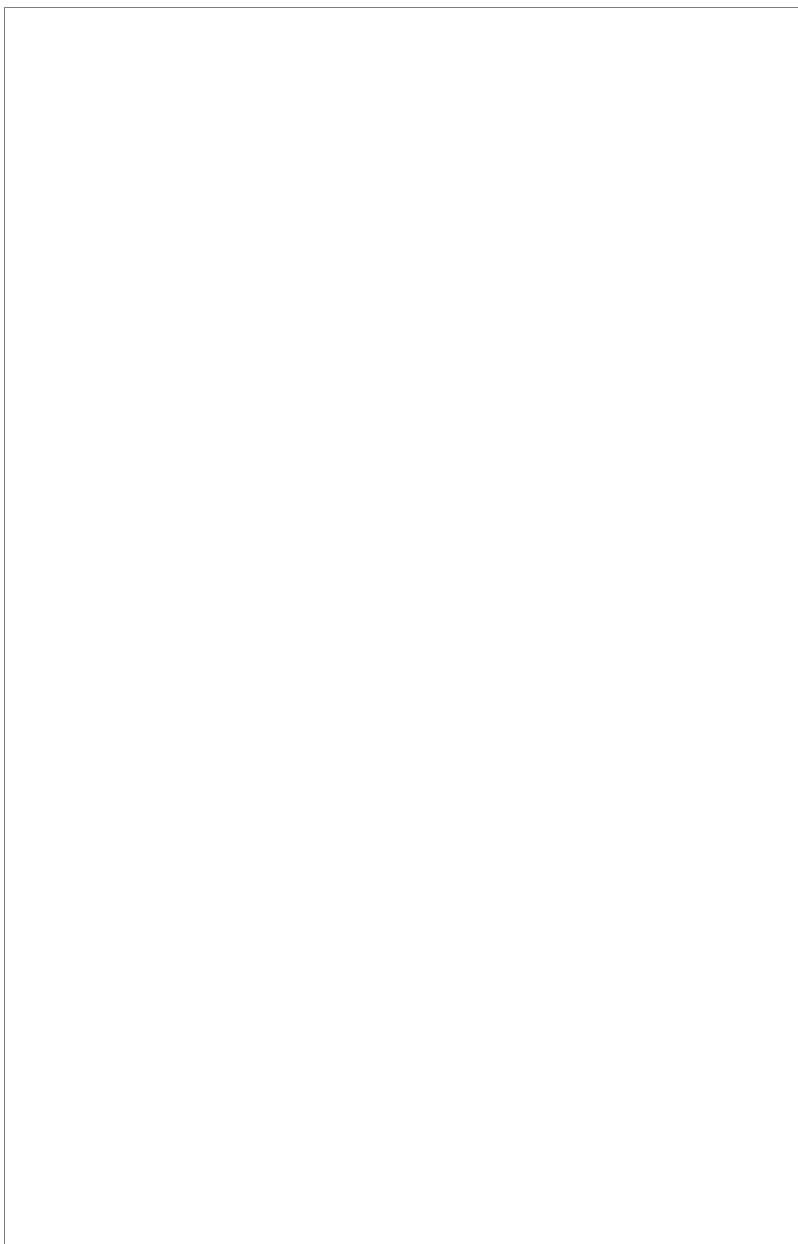
The prolonged fighting in the Kompong Cham area has caused a rift to appear within Cambodia's leadership. (Page 2)

[Redacted Box]

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Thai Communist insurgents are reacting to the government's relocation of former Chinese Nationalist irregulars into insurgent areas. (Page 4)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**COMMUNIST CHINA**

Satellite photography [redacted] shows what we believe is a new strategic missile site under construction in mountainous terrain at Yen-tou, about 150 miles west of Peking. An oval-shaped clearing on top of a ridgeline and three nearby support areas have been identified.

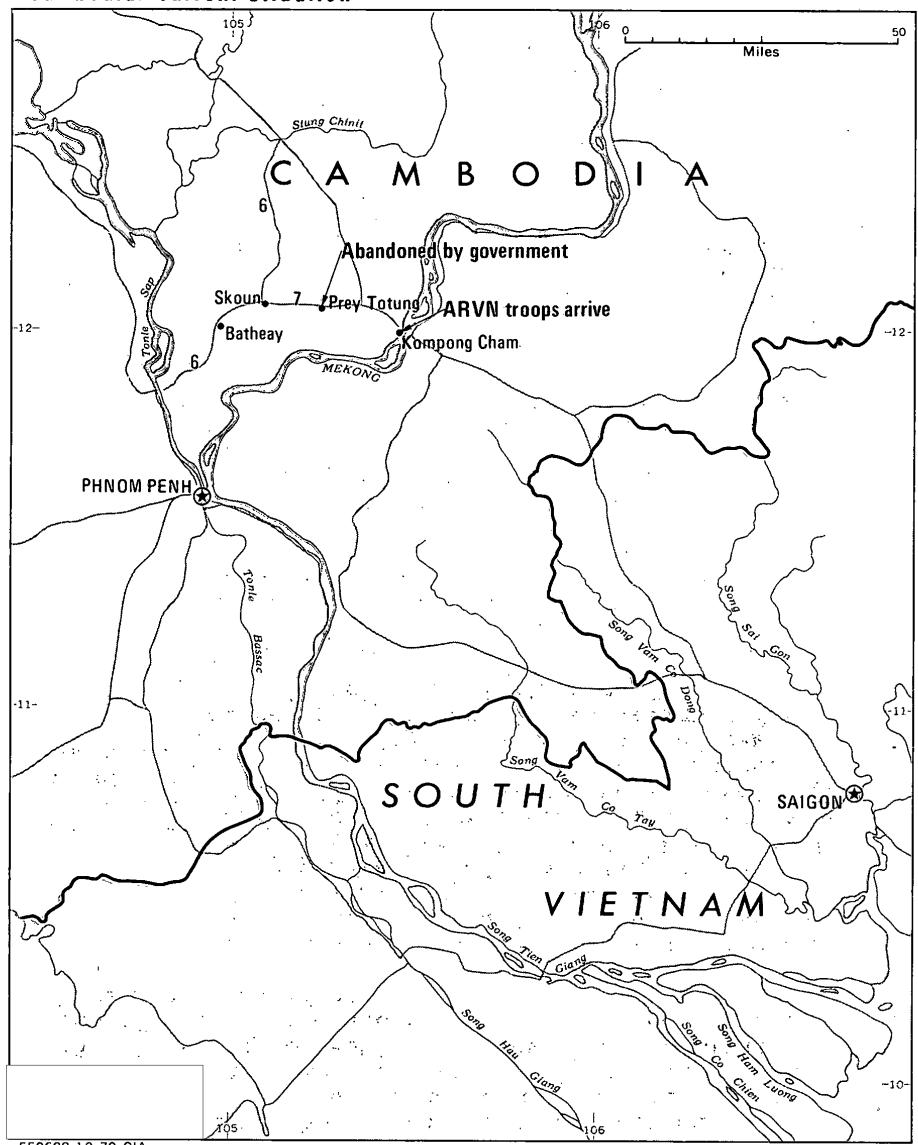
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### Cambodia: Current Situation



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550688 12-70 CIA

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA:

Government troops have abandoned Prey Totung, the town on Route 7 that was under attack all weekend, and have taken up new positions to the southwest. Supplies have been airdropped to the troops, but a substantial portion is believed to have fallen into enemy hands.

Farther to the west, the situation around the village of Batheay on Route 6 south of Skoun remains fluid. Government forces appear to have the upper hand at present.

[redacted] a rift within Cambodia's leadership has developed over the military situation in Kompong Cham. The governor of Kompong Cham Province, In Tam, tendered his resignation to Lon Nol last week, apparently because of the government's failure to reopen Route 7 or to get supplies into Kompong Cham city.

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There has been no public reference to In Tam's resignation, presumably because Lon Nol is sitting on it in hopes that Tam will reconsider. Tam is one of Cambodia's top political leaders; his departure could cause considerable embarrassment since it would mark the first time that an important official has openly challenged the regime's conduct of the war.

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In Tam's protests and his desire to resign seem to have been important factors in Lon Nol's appeal to Saigon for troops to help open Route 7. The arrival of South Vietnamese forces in Kompong Cham yesterday could persuade In Tam to change his mind.

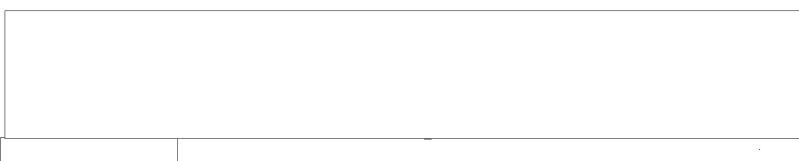
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**TURKEY**



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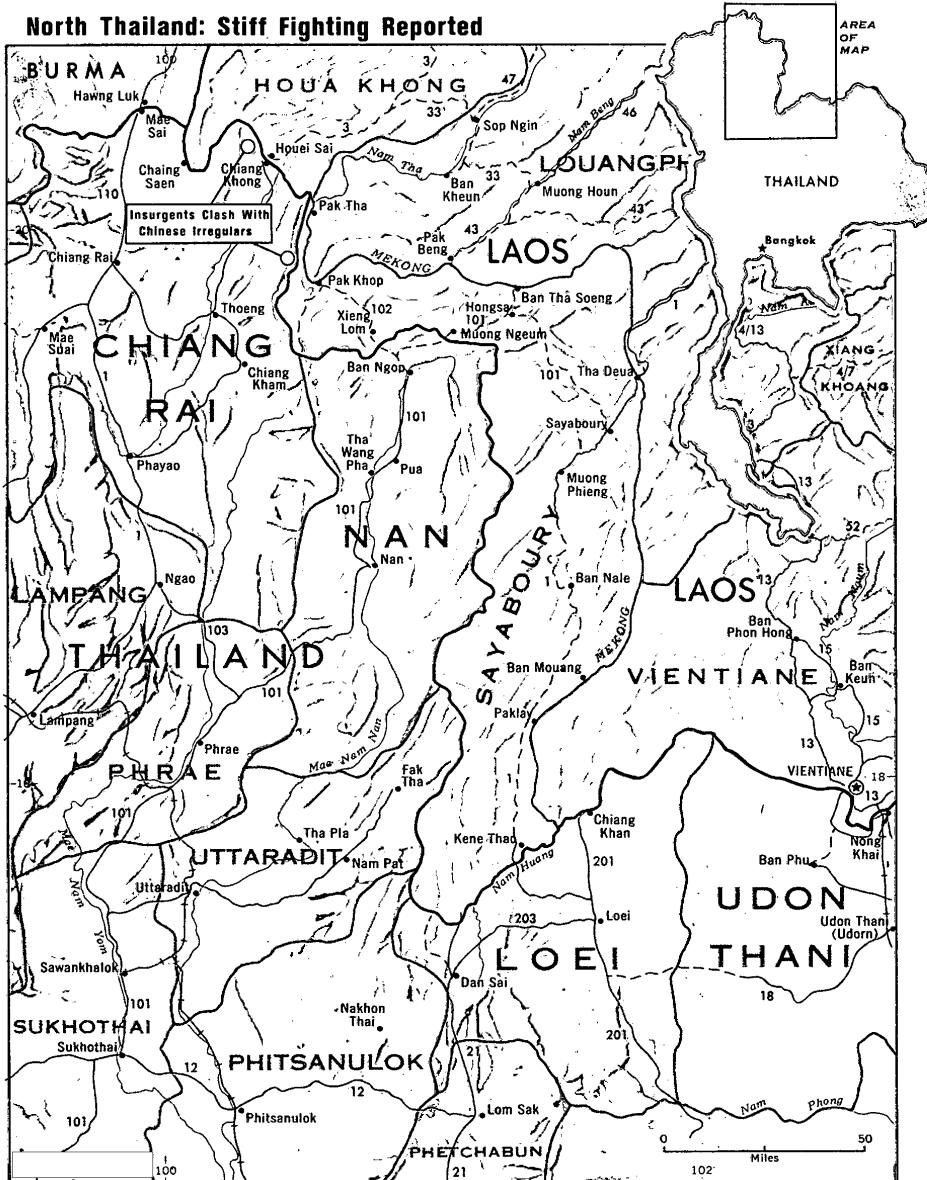
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**North Thailand: Stiff Fighting Reported**



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550690 12-70 CIA

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THAILAND**

Communist insurgents along the Thai-Lao border in northern Chiang Rai Province have reacted strongly to Bangkok's recent movement of more than 700 former Chinese Nationalist irregulars into their operating territory. Bangkok press reports claim that eight Chinese have been killed and 28 wounded since the deployment began several days ago [redacted]

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[redacted]

*The Chinese irregulars are remnants of forces driven from China by the Communists about 20 years ago. Bangkok's decision to move the Chinese from the Burmese border region to the insurgency area is part of a long-standing effort to impose tighter control on the irregulars and to use their experience to help the Thais in their efforts against the insurgents.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

Jordan: The Arab truce committee has succeeded in negotiating some additional measures designed to strengthen implementation of the cease-fire. They are aimed at restraining the fedayeen militia and the Jordanian Popular Resistance, two auxiliary organizations which have been notoriously irresponsible and have frequently broken the cease-fire. The new measures seek to force these groups to spread their forces more thinly and to put their weapons into supervised caches.

USSR: The Soviet Venus probe, launched in August, entered the planet's atmosphere early this morning, but the results of its attempt at a soft landing are not yet clear. We believe the probe was designed structurally to improve prospects for withstanding the extremes of pressure and temperatures that disabled the last three probes during descent through the planet's atmosphere.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*16 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

16 December 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Cambodia, South Vietnamese troops have begun their clearing operation along Route 7

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(Page 1)

North Vietnamese troops are entering the infiltration system in December at a rate that will approximate the infiltration starts of the last two months.

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(Page 2)

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Mrs. Gandhi may take advantage of her current popularity and schedule elections early next year. (Page 5)

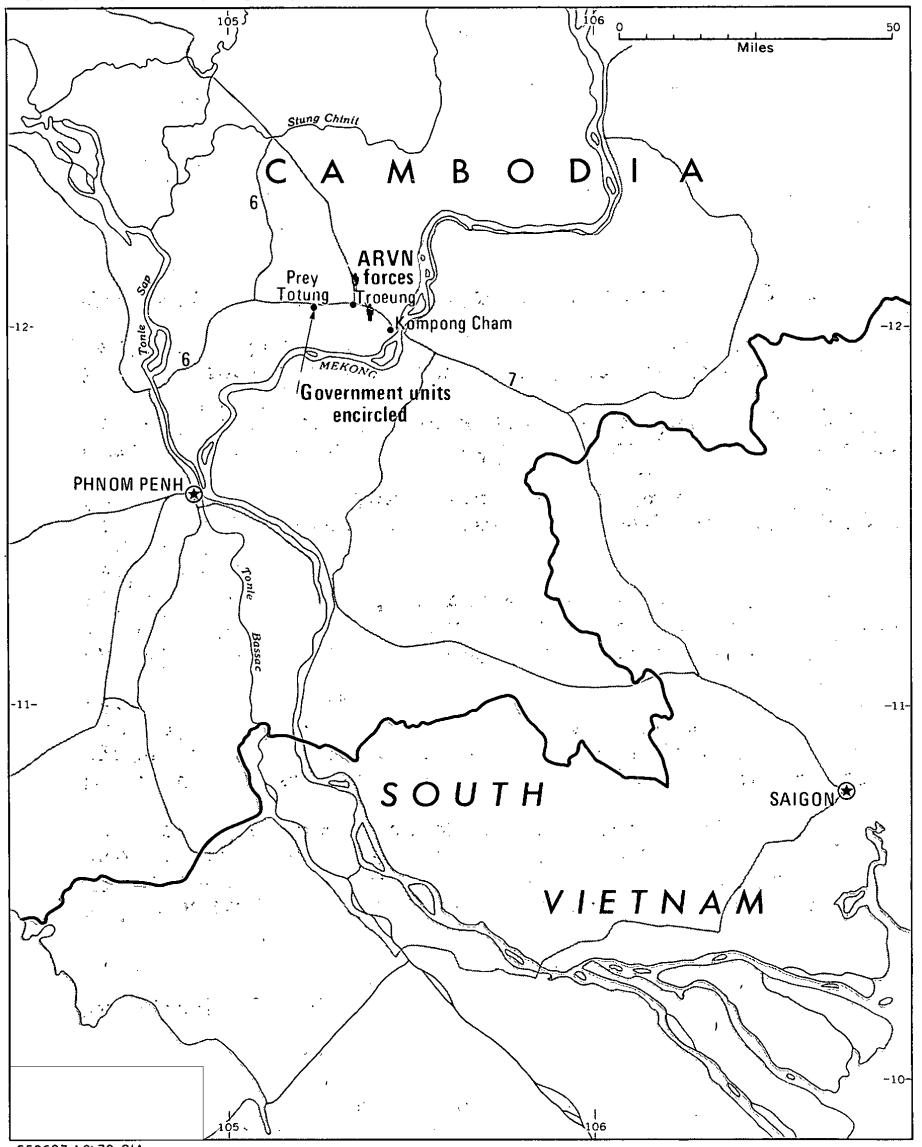
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The military situation in Laos is noted on Page 6.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

Cambodia: Current Situation



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550697 12-70 CIA

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CAMBODIA - SOUTH VIETNAM**

Two ARVN paratroop battalions are meeting only light resistance as they advance west on Route 7 from Kompong Cham toward the Communist-held village of Troeung. A third South Vietnamese battalion was airlifted into position north of Troeung to link up with the other two battalions. The remainder of the 2,400-man ARVN task force is conducting perimeter clearing operations around Kompong Cham city.

Farther west on Route 7, two Cambodian Army battalions, including a Khmer Krom battalion, are surrounded on the outskirts of Prey Totung, and three government paratroop battalions are encircled southwest of the town. The bulk of the Cambodian forces involved in the joint operation are supposed to be proceeding east on Route 7 to join ARVN forces between Prey Totung and Kompong Cham.



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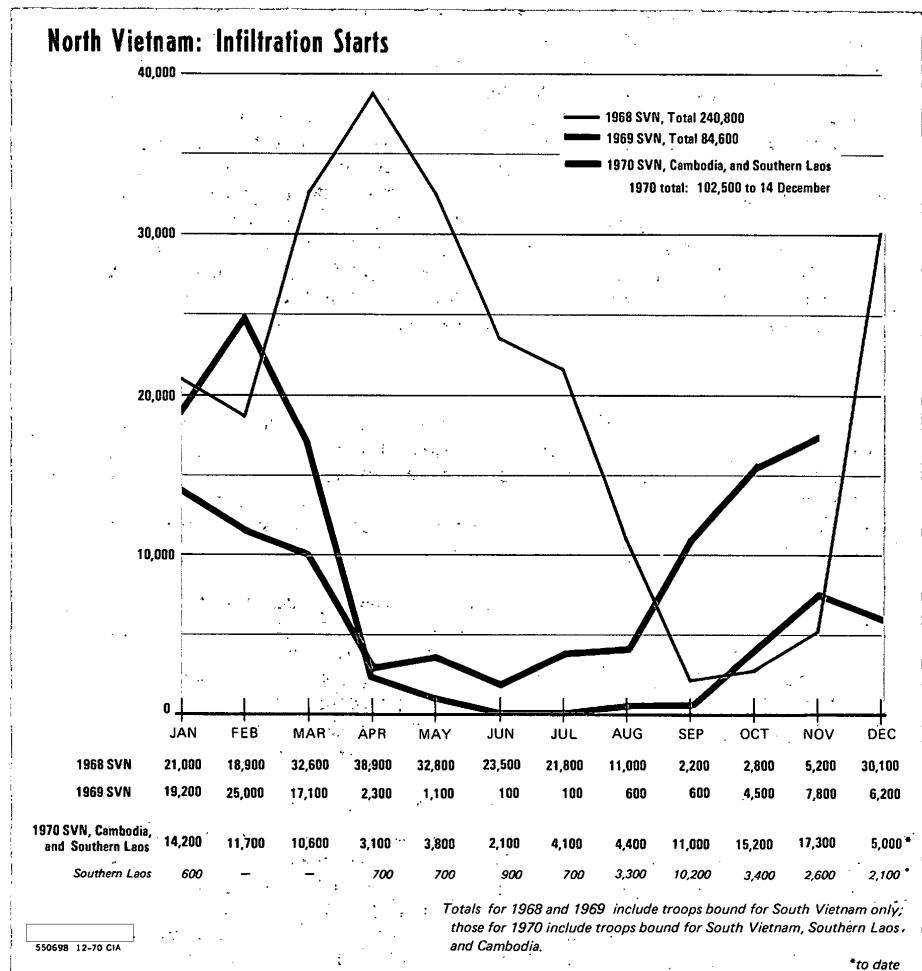
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NORTH VIETNAM**

About 5,000 North Vietnamese troops have started south thus far in December. All of these have been detected in the last week, following a lull of about ten days. The new input is in line with a recent Communist message saying that groups were to enter the system regularly beginning 7 December.

*If this rate of flow is maintained, December's total will be about the same as those for October and November--between 15,000 and 17,000.*

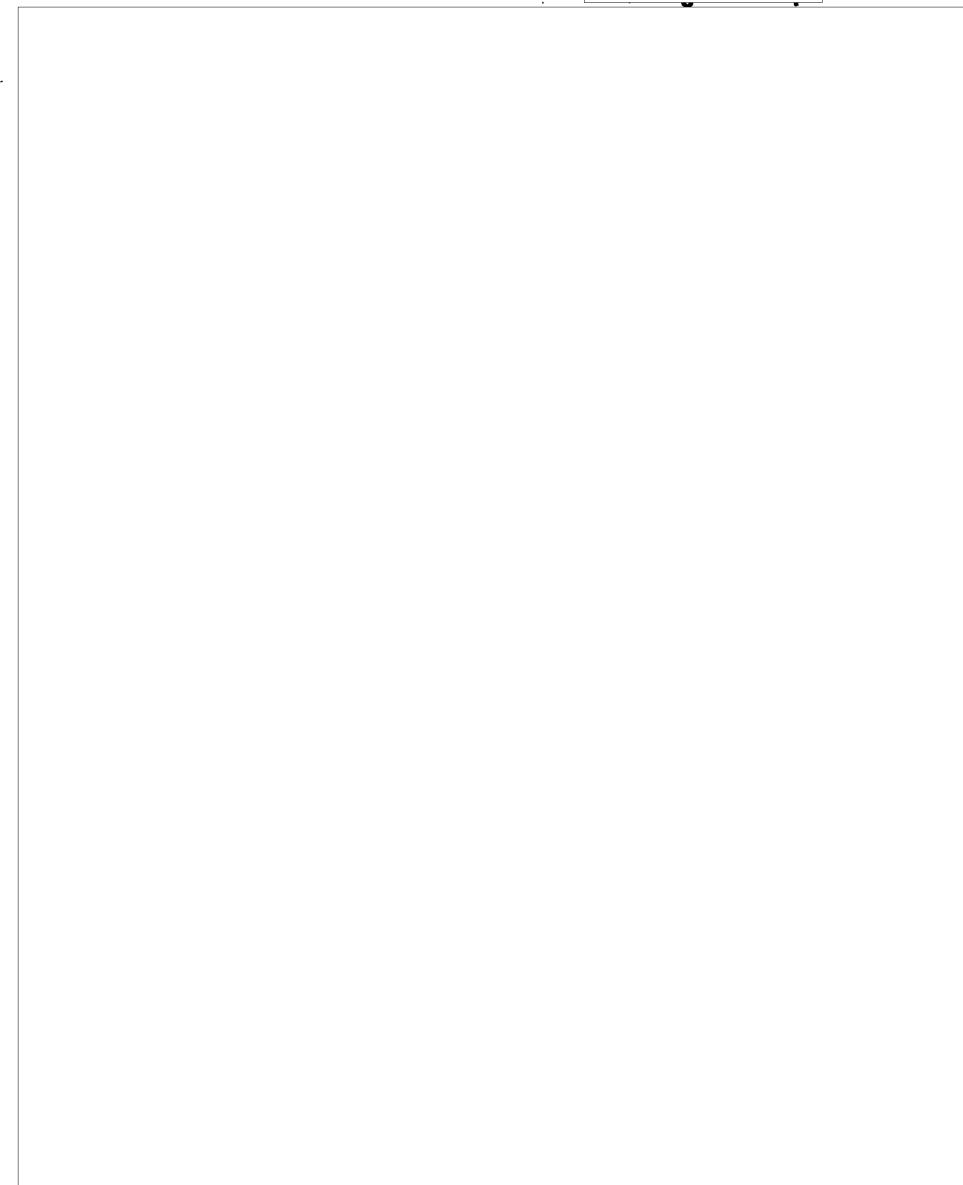
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Israelis



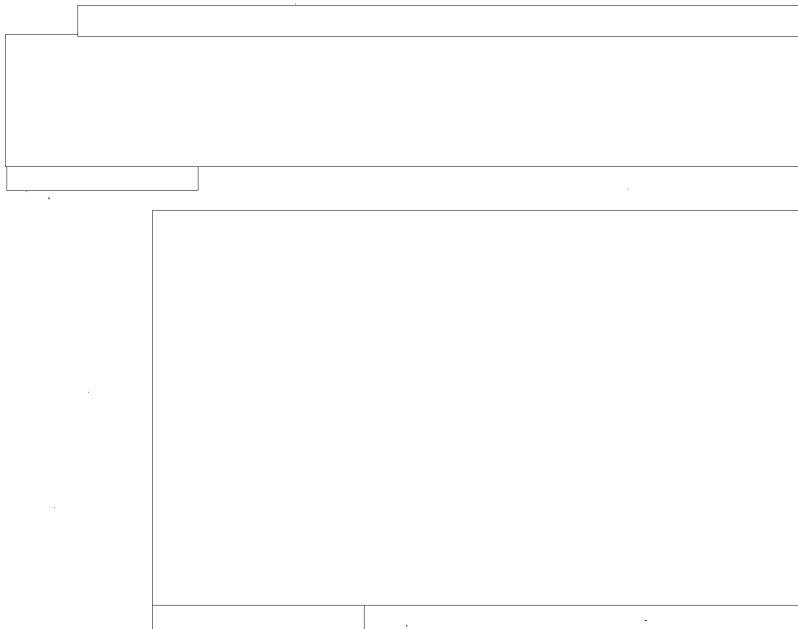
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

ISRAEL - SAUDI ARABIA



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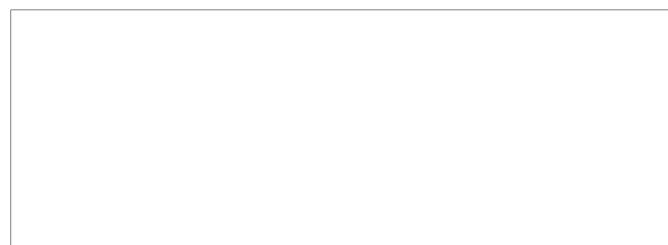
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

BALKANS - COMMUNIST CHINA



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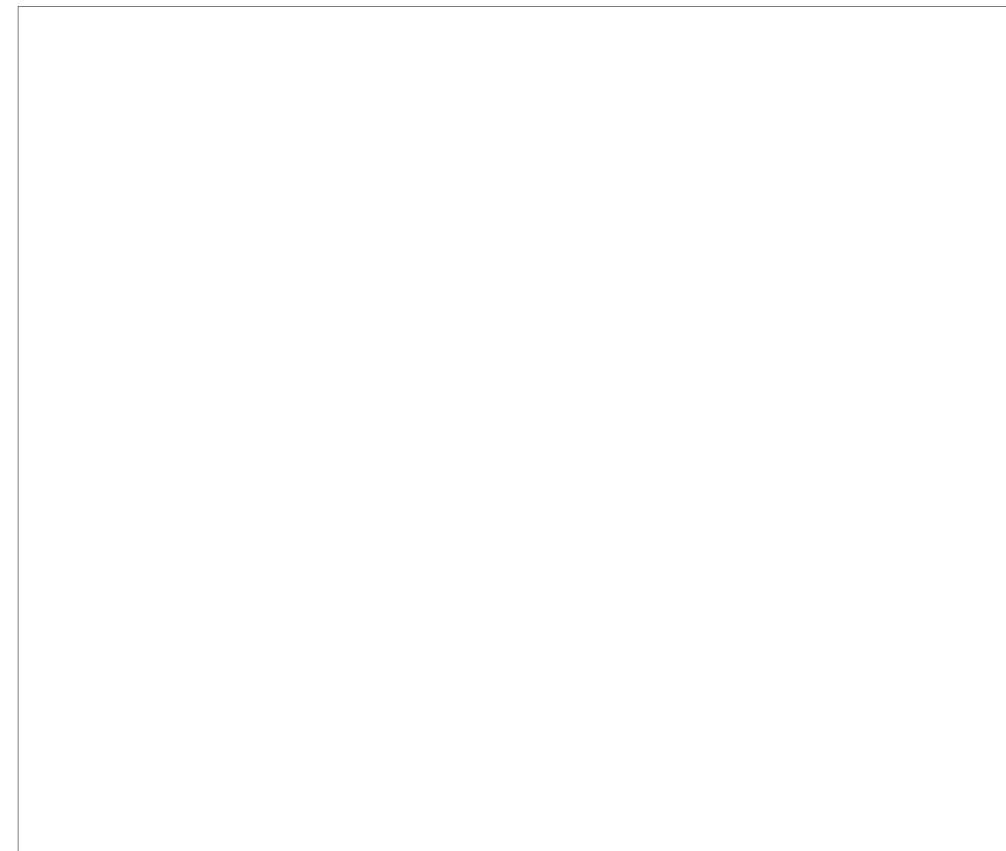
## INDIA

Speculation is growing in Indian political and press circles that Prime Minister Gandhi will dissolve parliament this week and schedule new elections for early 1971. Mrs. Gandhi was handed a popular issue yesterday when the Supreme Court invalidated her government's recent abolition of payments and privileges granted former rulers of India's princely states. She may use this as the pretext for an early election.

*Under its constitution, India's next general election could be held as late as February 1972, but it is increasingly doubtful that Mrs. Gandhi will wait that long. Her popularity is high, and the moderate and conservative parties that oppose her are in increasing disarray. The prime minister--who now leads a minority government--could almost certainly win a majority in parliament if an election were held soon. By delaying, she would risk having to cope with a variety of problems--a poor harvest in 1971, an increase in inflation, or serious new urban or rural disorders--that could erode her present strong position.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Communist China:

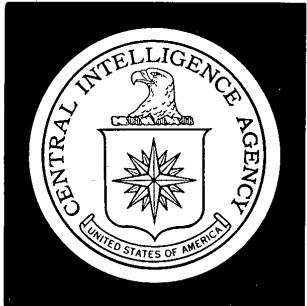
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LAOS: An element of the three-battalion irregular force moving toward Ban Ban from the north was attacked Monday by Communist troops about nine miles northwest of the base; radio contact was lost and no other details are available. Early this morning the North Vietnamese overran a government outpost about ten miles south of Ban Ban. Irregular outposts southwest of the Plaine des Jarres were harassed, but no casualties were sustained.

Poland: Last weekend police intervention was necessary in Poznań to quell a workers' protest against a recent hike in the price of some consumer items. The government claims the price increases were necessary because consumer demand, especially for food, could not be satisfied. The populace is not likely to be appeased by this type of rationale. Unconfirmed press reports this morning indicate that there have been riots in Gdansk, Gdynia, and Sopot on the Baltic seacoast.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

*17 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

17 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Polish authorities have apparently restored order following two days of severe rioting and street fighting. (Page 1)

Yesterday's SALT meeting is discussed on Page 2.

The status of the Laotian Government's operation against Ban Ban is discussed on Page 3.

South Vietnamese and Cambodian battalions are continuing to move unopposed along Route 7. (Page 4)

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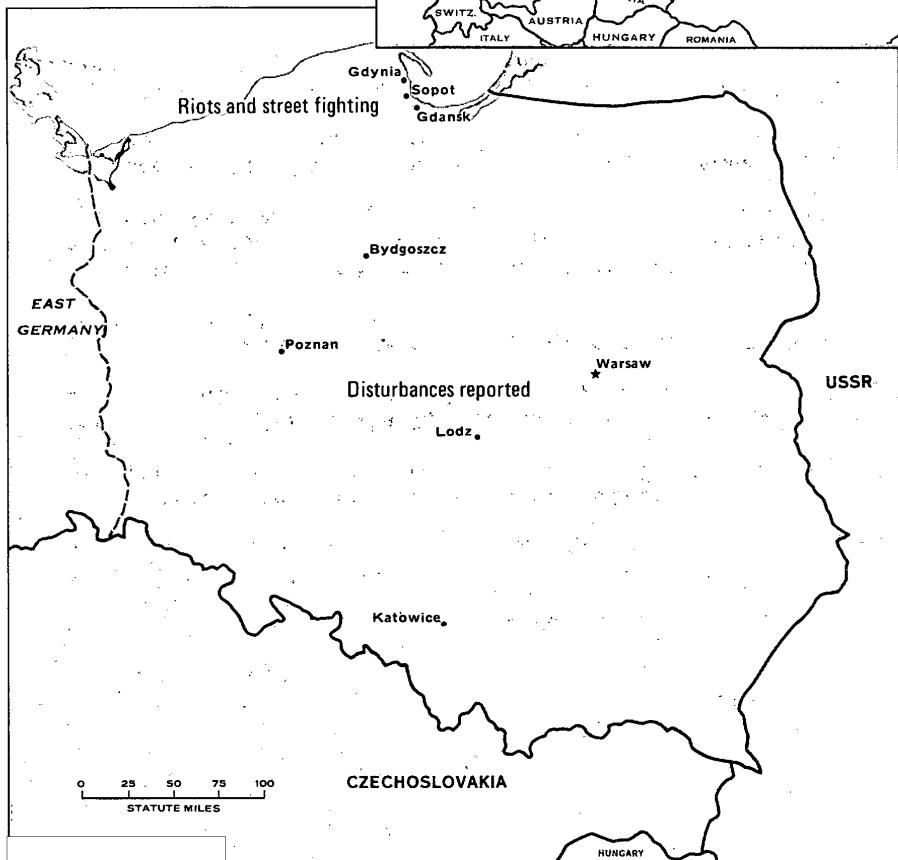
An accelerated logistics program is again underway in the Laotian panhandle. (Page 8)

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**Disturbances in Poland  
14-15 December 1970**



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

POLAND

Authorities used severe measures to stop the rioting and street fighting in three coastal cities and to quell lesser disturbances in other urban areas. An official Polish radio statement acknowledged that police fired on mobs engaged in looting, arson, and destruction of public buildings in Gdansk, Gdynia, and Sopot. Troop reinforcements were sent from Warsaw

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[redacted] Six persons are reported dead and 300 people, including 150 policemen injured.

A dusk to dawn curfew has been instituted in the coastal areas. The county government chief yesterday began urging people to return to work and decreed that shops should be opened during daylight hours.

All reports indicate that the riots stem from dissatisfaction with the recent government price changes designed to reorient spending away from food items, especially meat, which are in short supply. Despite the reaction, the regime is unlikely to back off appreciably, primarily because the meat shortage is as real as the people's wrath.

Order appears restored, and strong security measures plus the usual stocking of stores with special Christmas foodstuffs should keep things under control for now. Tension will continue, however, at least until mid-1971. Until then, food supplies, especially meat, will remain in short supply. In these circumstances, small sparks could set off a repetition of the disturbances.

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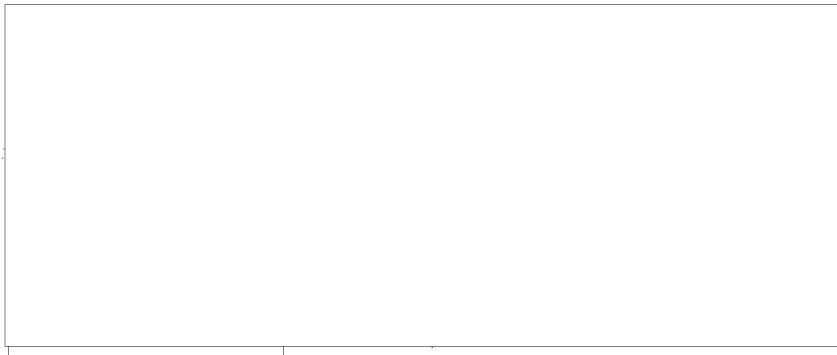
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SALT

At yesterday's meeting, Ambassador Smith tabled the US's formal rejection of Moscow's position on forward based systems (FBS) and the Soviet proposal for an ABM-only agreement. Semenov's presentation was essentially a rehash of Moscow's views on these topics, and contained no new substantive elements. The next and final plenary meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow morning. Smith and Semenov agreed to resume the talks on 15 March in Vienna, after the upcoming break.

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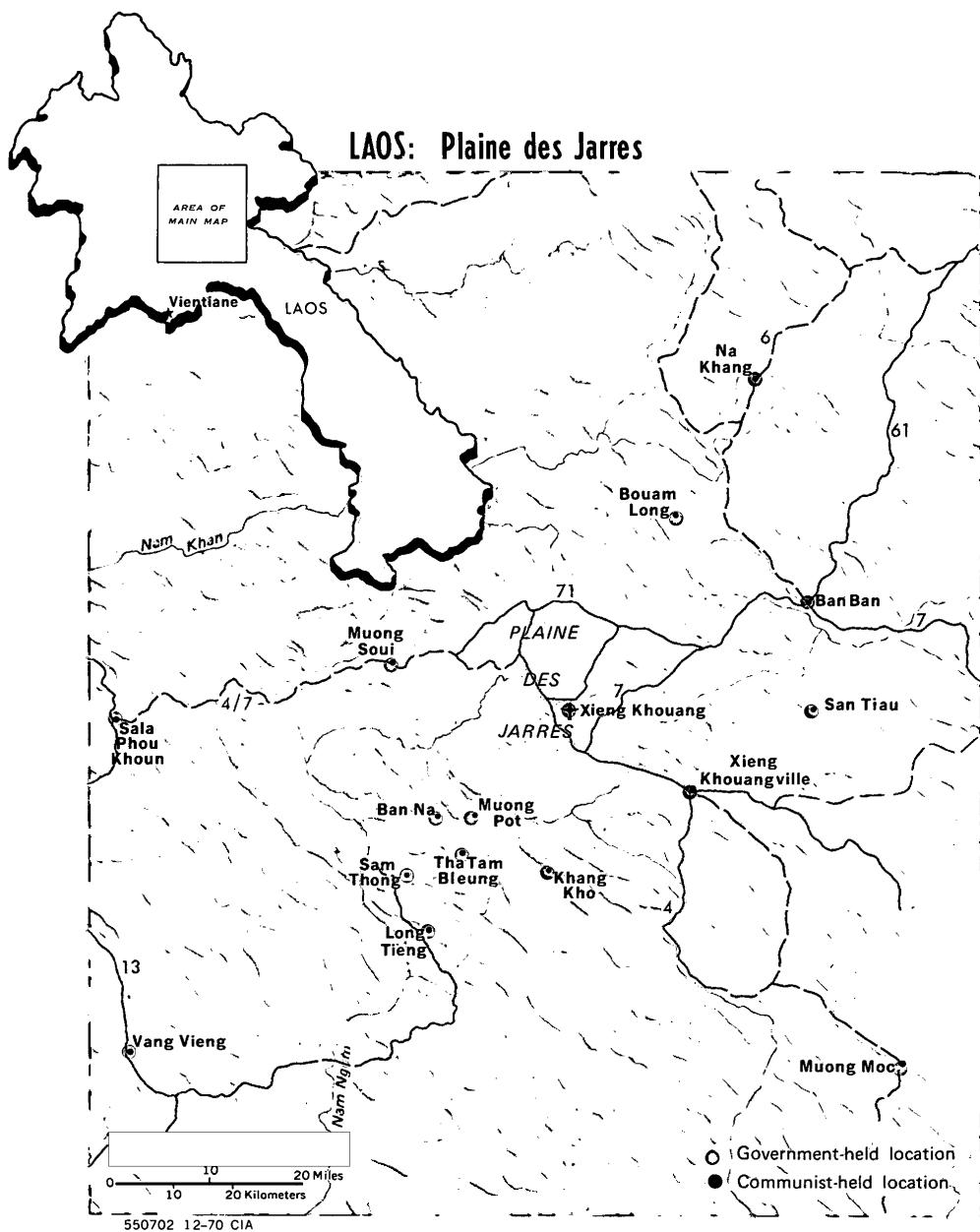
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Since the government's operation against the Communists' logistic base at Ban Ban began on 27 November, more than 2,000 irregulars have succeeded in establishing positions about ten miles north and south of Ban Ban and have gained control of the airstrip at San Tieu. The government's forces have harassed North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao units in the area and have ambushed trucks on Route 61.

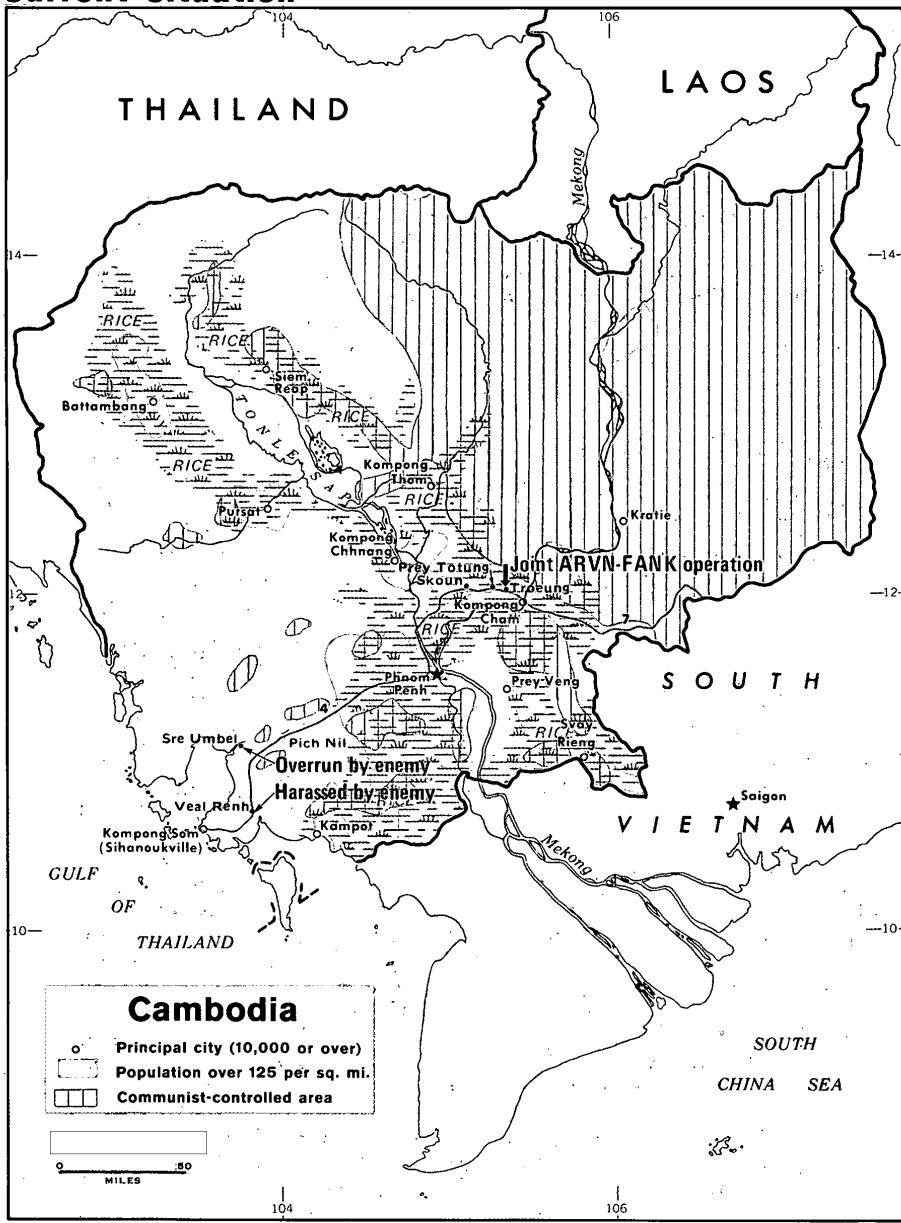
Thus far, however, they have been unable to generate sustained drives toward the Ban Ban valley, through which flow the bulk of the supplies sustaining Communist units in the Plaine des Jarres area. Progress has been slowed by bad weather, which limits effective air support, and by sporadic skirmishes with enemy units. The Communists have recently intensified their opposition, scattering a 76-man government force northwest of Ban Ban and overrunning an outpost east of San Tieu.

The size of the Communist forces opposing the irregulars is not known, but they appear to consist largely of local security troops, logistics personnel, and artillery units. There is no evidence that the enemy has yet brought in major reinforcements, although small elements of the NVA 148th and 766th regiments may have been introduced.

Additional units of the 148th Regiment may be committed to the Ban Ban area in the coming weeks. Elements of this unit have been withdrawing from the western edge of the Plaine des Jarres, where they have been heavily engaged since last spring. Although the troops may have been pulled off the front line because of morale and supply problems, they could still be used against government forces in the Ban Ban area.

The pullback of the 148th has not greatly diminished the enemy threat west of the Plaine des Jarres, as elements of the 866th NVA Regiment have been sent in as replacements. During the transition, however, the Communists have been unable to exploit the reduction in government strength there brought about by the Ban Ban operation.

## Current Situation



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

The three South Vietnamese paratroop battalions and several Cambodian battalions moved unopposed through the village of Troeung on 15 December, and are continuing to close the seven-mile gap between Troeung and Prey Totung. Simultaneously, six Cambodian battalions from Skoun are also converging on Prey Totung. The status of the five Cambodian battalions that were surrounded near Prey Totung is still not clear.

*Logistics problems may partially account for the Communists' failure to contest the South Vietnamese operations. One enemy message indicates that the Viet Cong 272nd Regiment, which participated in the fighting around Prey Totung, is having ammunition problems. Communist main force units remain within striking distance of Route 7, however.*

In the southwest, the Communists are continuing operations against government positions in the vicinity of Route 4. For the first time, enemy probing attacks have been reported against Veal Rinh, west of the Pich Nil Pass. Last week the Communists overran Sre Umbel, north of Route 4, and dispersed a nearby Cambodian battalion.

*This is the westernmost area of Communist operations to date against Route 4, which has now been closed for almost a month. Although Lon Nol has talked of a flanking operation against Communist units in the Pich Nil Pass area, there is no sign that the government plans an early move to re-open the road.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

WEST GERMANY - BERLIN



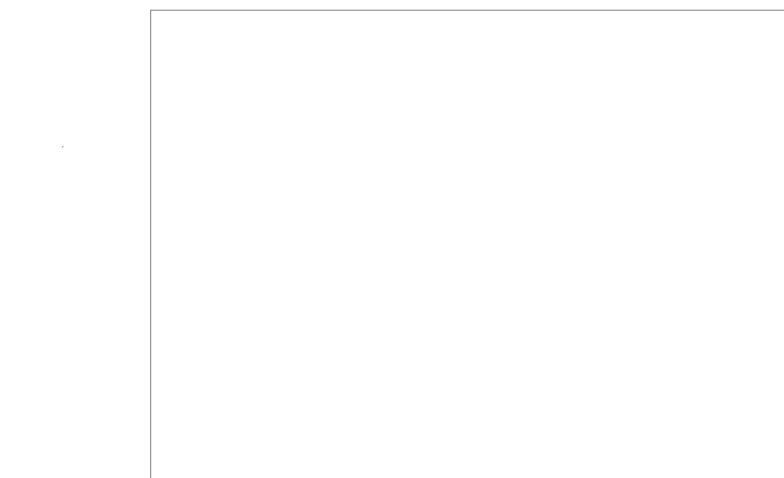
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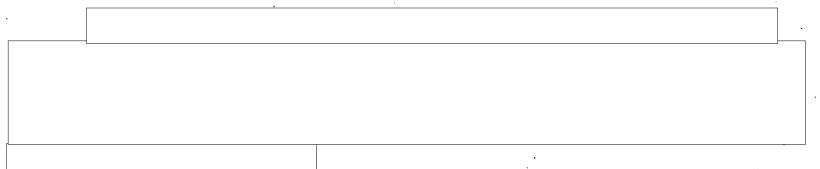


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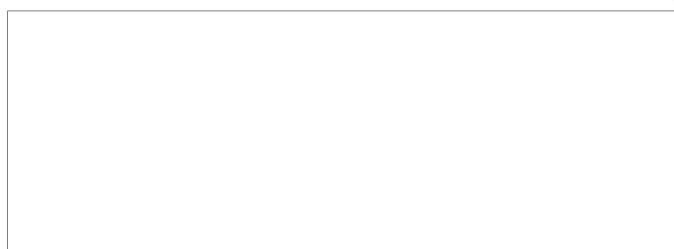
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

TURKEY



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

SOUTH AFRICA - RHODESIA - ZAMBIA



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Laos - South Vietnam: Intercepts indicate a heavy flow of southbound truck traffic in the Laotian panhandle. One important logistics unit in the southern panhandle has received as much as 400 tons of supplies in just two nights of transport activity. Most of the cargoes appear to be foodstuffs, explosives, and gasoline. Much of this initial flow is likely to be used in the panhandle to support logistics operations. The destination of the remainder is as yet unclear. This accelerated logistics program began on 5 December; as in past years, similar programs are likely to recur throughout the dry season.

Brazil: [redacted]

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*18 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

**18 December 1970**

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

In Poland, new disturbances have broken out in Szczecin on the East German border, and disorders resumed last night in Gdansk. (Page 1) 50X1

The combined Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation along Route 7 has linked up at Prey Totung. (Page 3) 50X1

South Vietnam

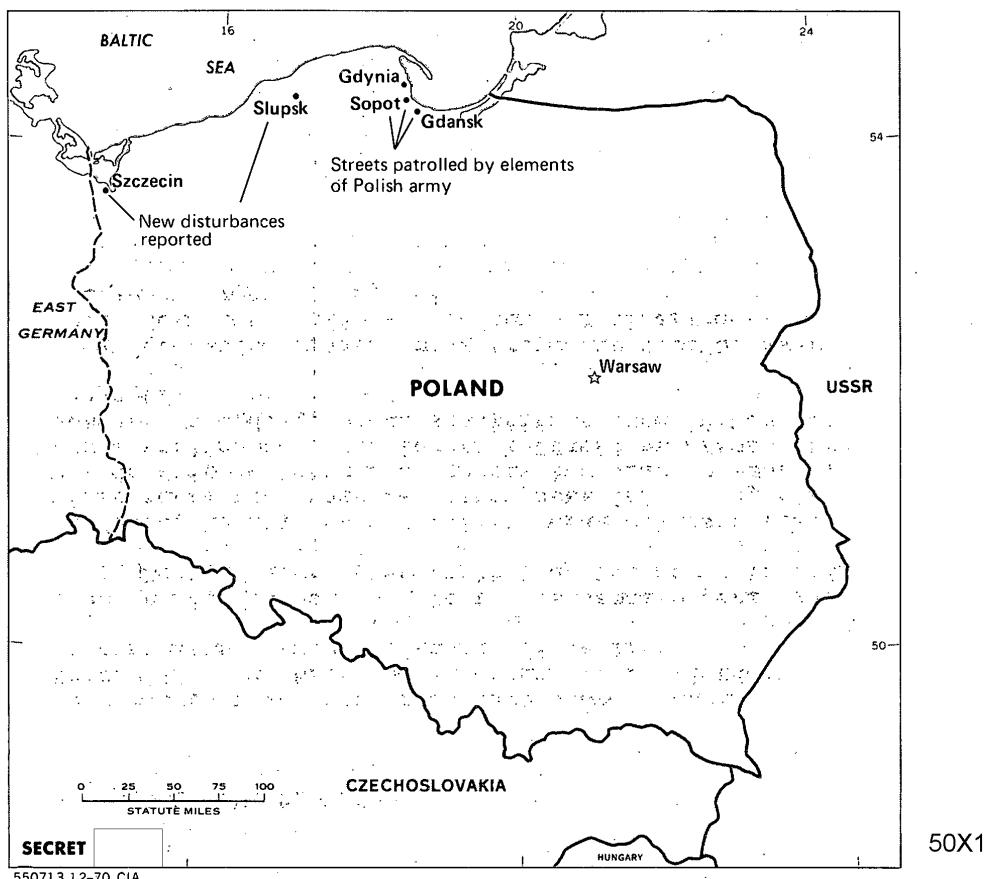
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**POLAND**

Street fighting and rioting broke out yesterday in the major port city of Szczecin (formerly Stettin) on the German border and according to press reports in Slupsk to the east. The Szczecin radio, in appealing for a restoration of order, stated that the city had "met with a great disaster." A dusk-to-dawn curfew has been imposed and public meetings banned.

In the Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot area, workers are still on strike. Last night disorders led by youths resumed in Gdansk, where Polish army regulars have augmented police and security forces. Tactical air surveillance is also being provided. Warsaw appears to have escaped riots so far, although a bomb exploded behind the Soviet Embassy last night, according to press reports.

Yesterday Premier Cyrankiewicz, appealing for order in a nationwide television address, admitted that more than a dozen had been killed and hundreds wounded, including both militiamen and civilians. He warned that further outbursts might endanger the treaty just signed with West Germany and obliquely advised against antagonizing the Soviets.

Poland's Communist neighbors are alarmed and watchful.

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[redacted] internal security forces of the Warsaw Pact states have instituted a 24-hour communications alert.

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Moscow apparently is intent on avoiding any direct involvement. There is no evidence yet that the two Soviet divisions stationed in Poland have reacted to the disturbances. Soviet news media, like those in other Communist countries, have published only the sparse initial Polish announcement of the riots and refrained

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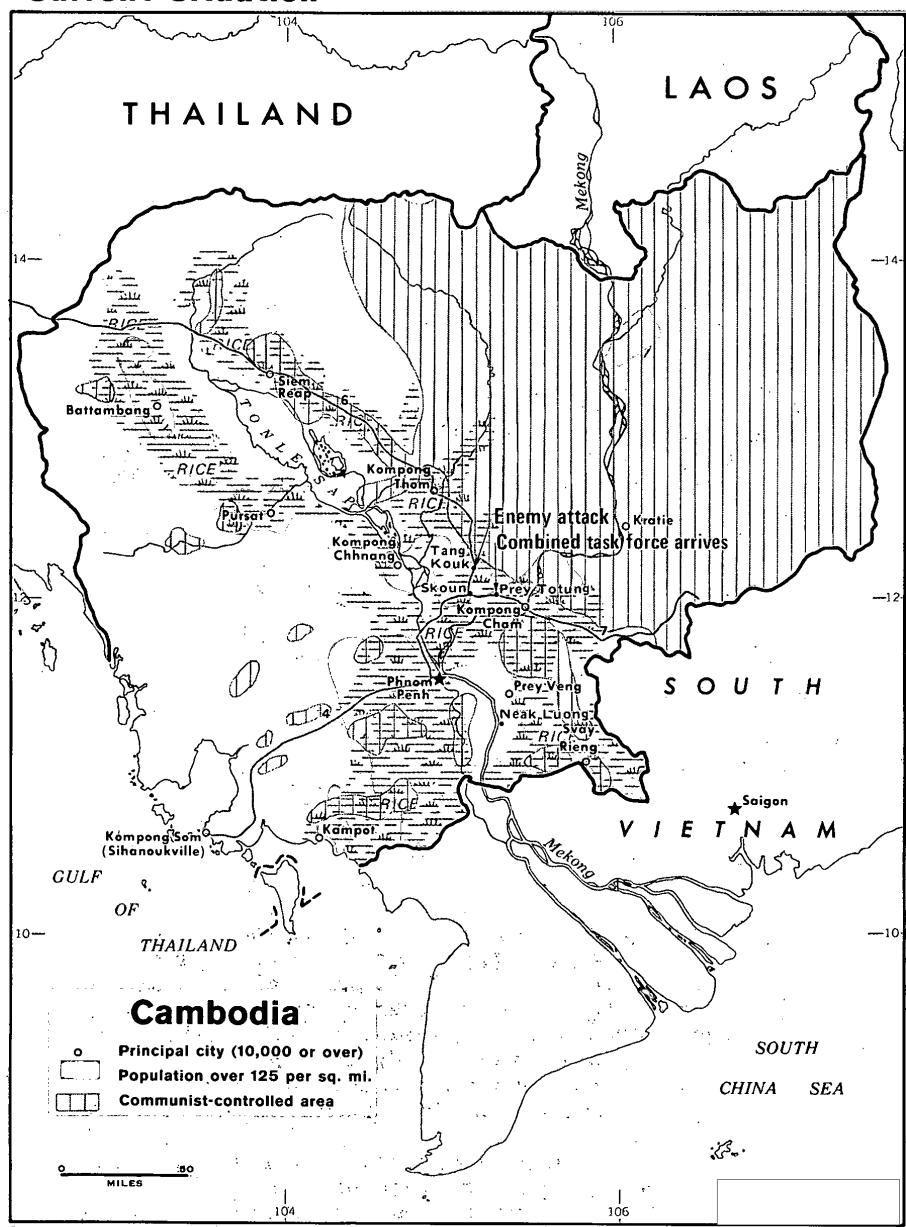
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

from any comment. The Soviets almost certainly will continue to remain aloof unless events get completely beyond the control of the Polish security forces.

Although outbreaks of dissidence could continue for some time, the Polish Government apparently has enough cohesion and repressive apparatus to put down the workers, and it appears determined to do so. Large numbers of troops garrisoned in riot areas are available, and help is not likely to be sought from outsiders.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## Current Situation



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CAMBODIA**

The combined Cambodian - South Vietnamese task force moving west from Kompong Cham city reached the deserted village of Prey Totung yesterday without meeting any serious opposition. The six government battalions from Skoun have also arrived in Prey Totung, according to press reports. Contact has been re-established with elements of two of the Cambodian battalions that had been surrounded in the Prey Totung area. Three other government battalions that had also been boxed in are now moving toward the village. The Communists have made no attacks on Route 7 since the clearing operation began.

*Future plans for the South Vietnamese forces are not known as yet.*

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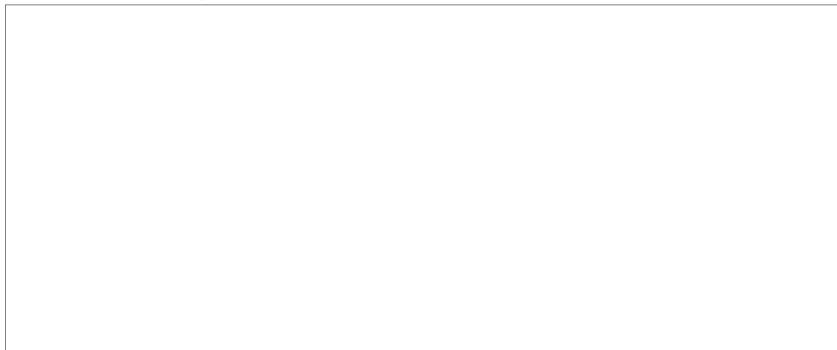
*Once the Vietnamese troops depart, the Cambodians will be hard pressed to keep Route 7 open by themselves.*

On Route 6, meanwhile, the Communists have stepped up their harassment of the Chenla column, which supplied some of the government forces for the Route 7 campaign. On 15 December, in one of their strongest attacks in the Tang Kouk area in several weeks, they killed 17 government soldiers.

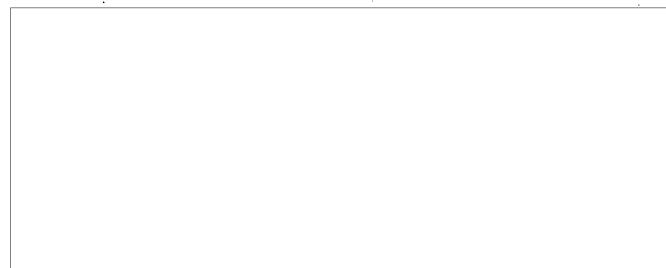
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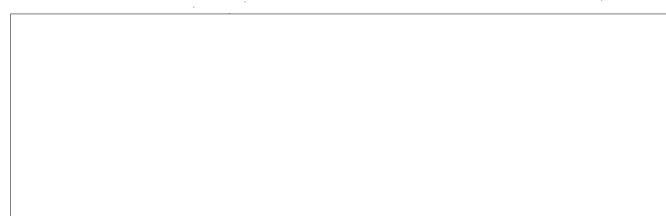
SOUTH VIETNAM



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The recent rash of terrorist incidents and scattered shellings in the southern half of South Vietnam apparently marks the beginning of the Communists' "winter" campaign. In addition to bombing attacks against allied billets in Saigon, there have been intensified mortar and rocket bombardments in the surrounding provinces and unusually heavy casualties from terrorist incidents in the delta. There are also indications that the Communists are completing preparations for action in the northern half of the country, where their units are in better shape than those in the south and could mount operations of somewhat greater magnitude.

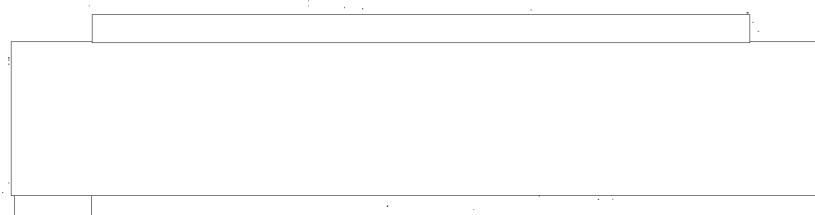
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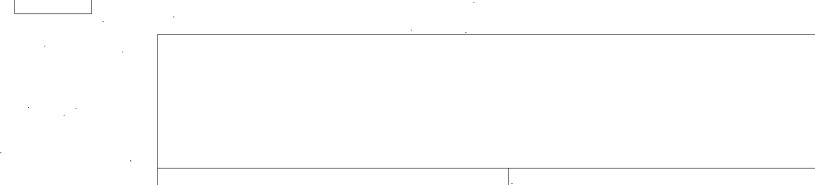
SOUTH VIETNAM



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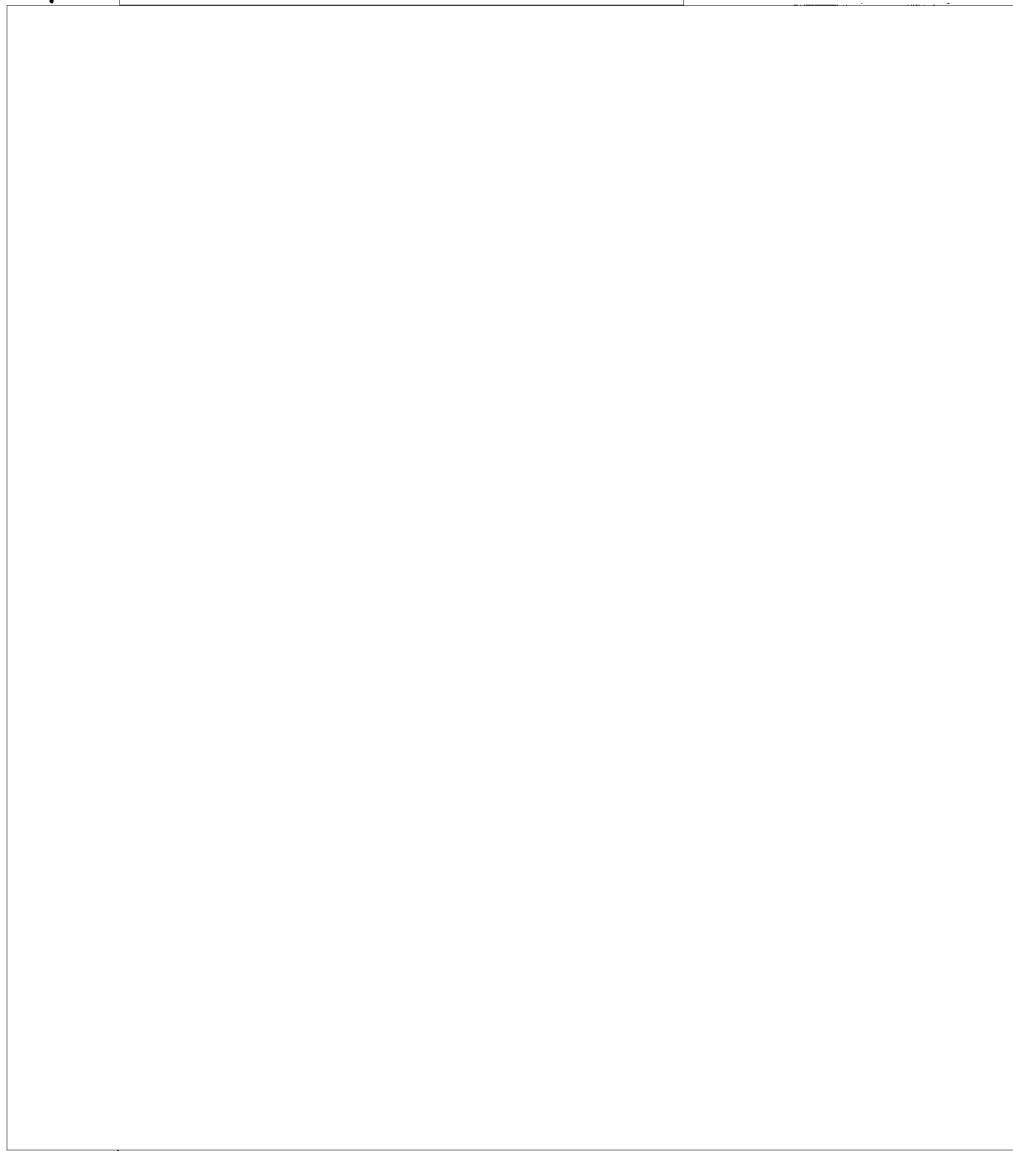
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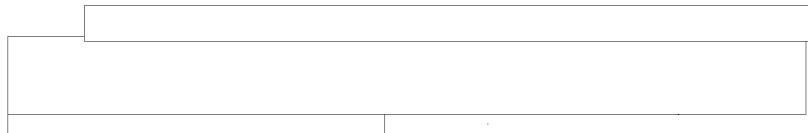
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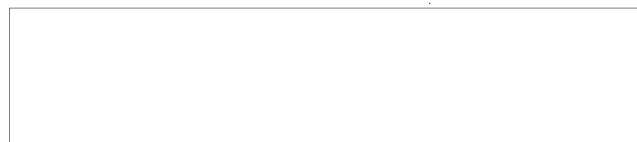


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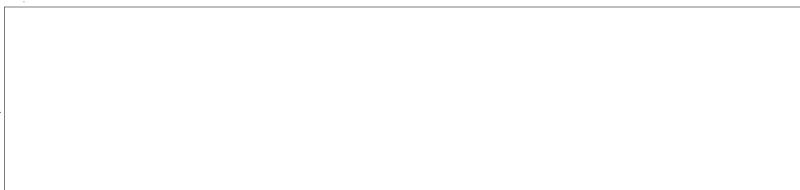
COMMUNIST CHINA



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**NOTE**

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

19 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

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

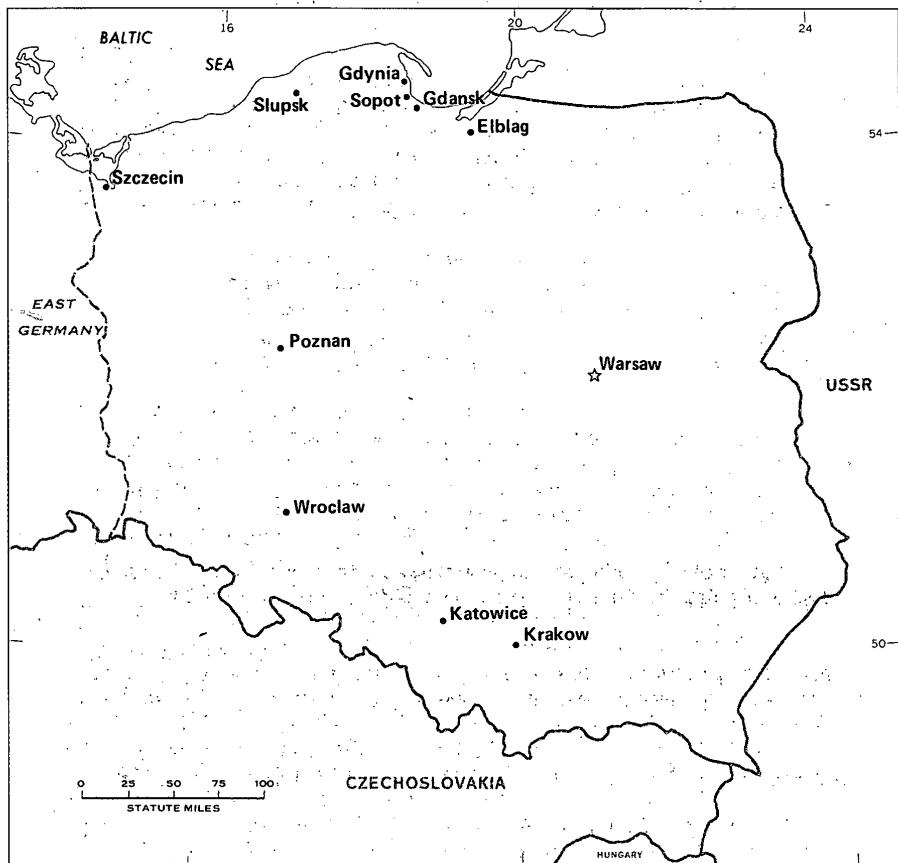
Highlights of the concluding Helsinki phase of SALT are reported on *Page 3*.

On *Page 4*, we discuss a Vietnamese Communist article which advocates a return to a more conventional warfare strategy.

The Egyptians are continuing to improve their radar coverage west of Port Said and along the canal.  
(*Page 6*)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

LOCATIONS OF DISTURBANCES IN POLAND



550722.12-70

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

The trouble that broke out in Szczecin two days ago is not completely over, but there have been hints in local broadcasts that the curfew in the city might be lifted this morning. Gangs of youths were still roaming the city streets as of mid-afternoon yesterday and a Swedish correspondent had reported in the morning that tanks and armored cars were used to disperse local crowds.

To the east, the cities of Gdynia and Sopot apparently were quiet throughout the day yesterday and the rioting of the previous night in Gdansk seems to have abated with daylight. Many workers in the tri-city area are still staying away from their jobs, however, and normality has not yet been fully restored.

New unrest was reported yesterday in Slupsk and looting in Elblag was witnessed by a traveler. Sit-down strikes occurred in two of Warsaw's largest plants and in the firm that prints the main Communist Party daily, Trybuna Ludu. Disturbances or strikes in Silesia were also suggested by the cancellation of flights to the area, by a break in telecommunications with Katowice, and by an East German intercept; some Polish troops in the area were put on alert on 17 December.

*Previously, Silesia has not been much affected by the riots in the north. The region, however, has been the scene of several protests in recent months against the regime's wage policies.*

In addition, flights were canceled yesterday to the cities of Poznan and Krakow, and the main squares of Krakow and Wroclaw were cordoned off, presumably to keep crowds from forming. College students throughout the country are also being dismissed today, three days early, for the Christmas holidays.

*Although young people have been seen in the vanguard of looters and arsonists, there has been little evidence of student*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*involvement in the protests and riots.  
The regime, however, is obviously taking  
no chances.*

*So far, there has been no indication that  
factional differences in the party have  
been a factor in the disruptions. If  
trouble is prolonged, however, there will  
be increased likelihood of factionalism  
and of a search for scapegoats.*

*There is still no evidence that Soviet  
forces in either Poland, East Germany or  
the USSR have gone on alert. Adjacent  
areas of East Germany were also reported  
quiet yesterday by local officials.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SALT**

The second Helsinki phase of SALT ended yesterday with little to show in the way of tangible progress, but with the Soviets doing their best to head off any impression that the talks are stalemated. In his final statement, Semenov cited "points of contact" between the two sides as well as remaining differences, and voiced the view that Helsinki II marked a "useful stage" in SALT.

At the last senior advisers' meeting, which took place on 17 December, the Soviet adviser noted that he saw "movement" in Ambassador Smith's formula of the previous day concerning forward-based systems (FBS). In an informal discussion after the 16 December plenary, one Soviet delegate said he did not consider Smith's formal statement to be a final rejection of the Soviet ABM-only proposal.

At the 17 December advisers' meeting, the Soviets suggested that during the upcoming Vienna round the two sides focus on individual offensive systems. In this connection, a US adviser tried in vain to elicit Russian comment on the status of SS-9 deployment. The most he could extract was one Soviet remark that they may have something to say on this at Vienna.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VIETNAM

An article recently broadcast by the Viet Cong radio and published in the Hanoi press on 16 December contains the first call in more than two years for large-unit, quasi-conventional military operations of the kind that Hanoi pursued in the mid-60s and that culminated in the Communist offensives of 1968. This theme, once commonplace, has been muted since that time as the Communists in South Vietnam adopted lower profile tactics. The new call comes from the commander of Communist forces in the South, a general officer who goes by the pseudonym Tran Nam Trung.

Trung argues that large-unit pressure--particularly the Tet offensive of 1968--was instrumental in starting the US on the path of disengagement, and that more such pressure will be needed if the Communists are to bring the war to a favorable conclusion. He seems to be saying that the time is growing ripe to accelerate big-unit warfare while maintaining guerrilla and subversive action, both because allied ranks are being thinned as a result of the widened Indochina battlefield and the US withdrawals and because the Communists have gained "new allies" in Laos and Cambodia. Trung's article, unlike other recent Vietnamese Communist military commentaries, does not dwell on the need to preserve and rebuild local assets as the base for a gradual return to large-scale combat. Instead, it argues that increased military action will improve the climate for recruitment and for both political and guerrilla activity.

We are not certain what this sudden call for a shift in strategy may indicate about Hanoi's intentions. It could be one more sign that Hanoi plans an intensified drive

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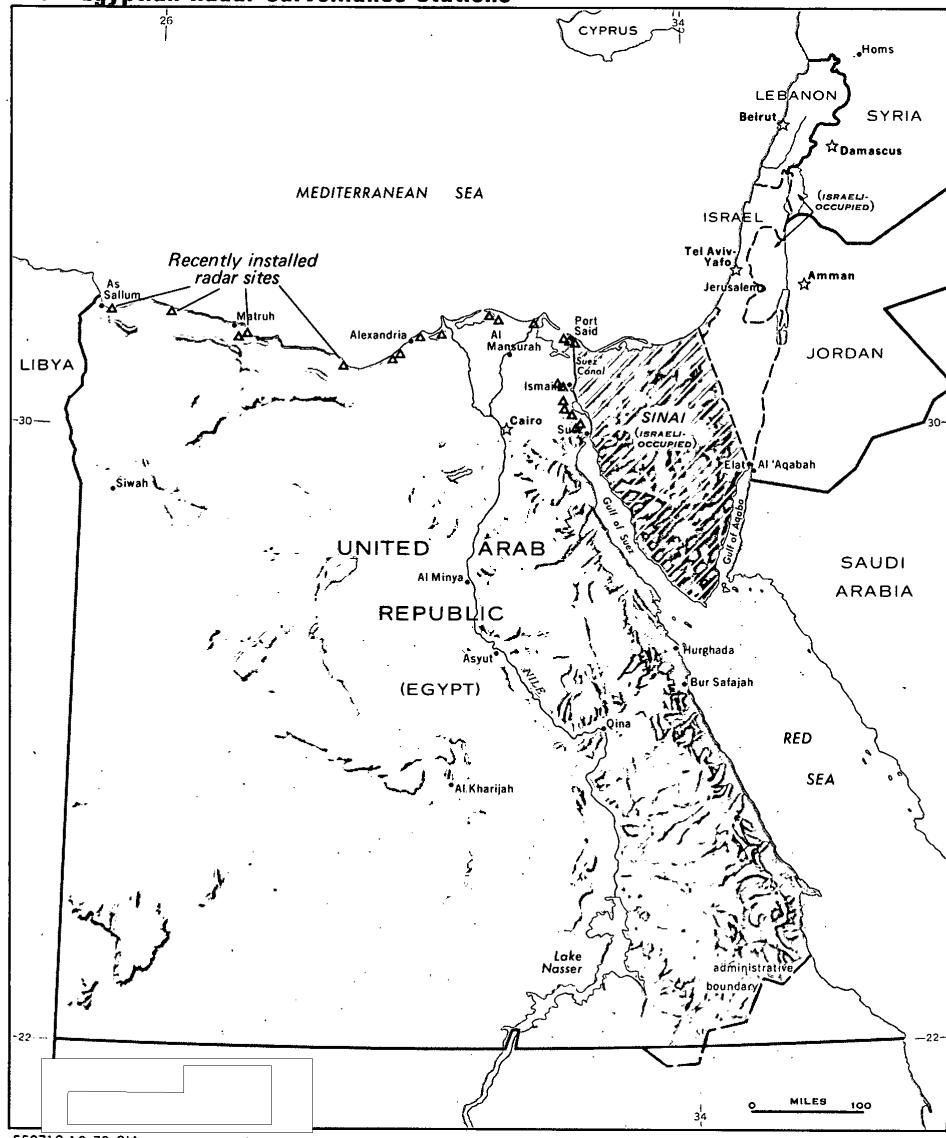
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

in Cambodia where much of the Communist main force strength once targeted against South Vietnam currently is based. Most evidence suggests that the Communists will focus their principal effort in Cambodia for the next several months.

On the other hand, the Trung article is cast largely in terms of the war in South Vietnam, and it may mean that Hanoi has decided it must pump more troops into the South if the stronger allied position there is to be reversed. The article could, therefore, be intended to serve notice on Communist commanders in the South that a shift is in the wind. Before big-unit warfare could be stepped up, however, the Communists would need from several months to a year to re-establish their supply lines to the far south and to move down more troops and supplies from the North.

A third possibility, and one we are inclined to weigh more heavily than the others, is that Trung's article represents an opening shot in a renewed debate within the Vietnamese Communist leadership over the proper tactics for carrying on the war at its present stage. In the past, similar disagreements have often been reflected in the Communist press, especially in the mid-60s when the issues were how many North Vietnamese troops should be committed and how they should be used. If the Trung article is indicative of renewed high-level debate, it may not necessarily indicate the prevailing view in Hanoi, and we may before long see in the press more conservative articles about how the war should be fought.

New Egyptian Radar Surveillance Stations



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**EGYPT-USSR**

The Egyptians are continuing to improve their early warning radar coverage between Port Said and Alexandria, and have extended this for the first time to the Libyan border by installing a series of air surveillance radars between Alexandria and As Sallum.

*This effort apparently is designed to prevent the Israelis from circumventing the Egyptian radar screen, as they did in 1967, by flying over the Mediterranean and approaching Cairo from the west.*

In the Suez area, the Egyptians have erected a line of at least seven low altitude surveillance radars parallel to the canal and about eight miles apart.

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*The function of these radars evidently is to detect Israeli penetrations at low altitudes--a favored Israeli tactic.*

*The Egyptians are able to play a major role in setting up and operating these radars, but the Soviets are almost certainly providing advice and technical aid as well as the equipment itself.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

USSR-Cuba: The four Soviet vessels that arrived in Havana earlier this week left port yesterday. The guided-missile frigate and F-class diesel submarine departed in the morning and headed west; the submarine tender and oiler followed later in the afternoon. The four ships have joined up and at last report were proceeding on a westerly heading about 50 nautical miles northwest of Havana.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



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*21 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

21 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The change in the Polish leadership is discussed on  
*Page 1.*

A new COSVN directive summarizes plans for the Communists' 1970-71 winter-spring campaign. (Page 3)

The South Vietnamese Army has a contingency plan to intervene if Lon Nol's government appears in serious jeopardy. (Page 4)

Moscow and Peking concluded their annual river navigation talks on Saturday. (Page 5)

Allende plans to take a step today toward completing the process of nationalizing the copper companies. (Page 6)

Pankow's latest harassment of autobahn traffic will probably end today, but it is likely to occur periodically between now and West Berlin elections in March. (Page 7)

In Brazil, the government is softening its "no-negotiation" approach on the kidnaping. (Page 7)

The Soviet vessels that left Havana Friday are now southwest of Cienfuegos. (Page 7)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



**Władysław Gomułka**

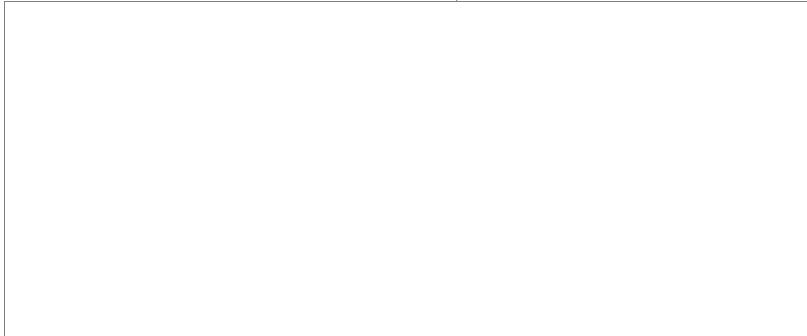


**Edward Gierek**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

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*These remarks suggest that both the Soviets and Gierek believed concessions were necessary and that Gomulka may have been eased out after trying to hold the line.*

*Gierek, as party leader in Silesia the last 13 years, is probably not well known personally to some of the Soviet leaders but he is thought to have a good reputation in Moscow and the Soviets most likely welcome his appointment. He is a moderate, pragmatic leader who compiled a solid record of achievement in Silesia, winning considerable popularity in the process. In any case, Moscow will be pleased by the choice of some of the other new leaders, including the defense minister, who are strongly pro-Soviet. Gierek leads a politburo that seems to embrace all shades of party opinion, but the pressing current need for unity is likely to hold any tendency toward factionalism in check for the moment.*

*In his speech yesterday, Gierek did not rescind the consumer price increases which touched off the disturbances last week but he promised early assistance for families with the lowest earnings and a large number of children. He undertook to re-examine the 1971 economic plan and the new five-year plan as well. While blaming "badly thought out conceptions in economic policy" for current troubles, he warned that resources for improving the consumer's lot were sharply limited.*

(continued)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*There are no indications of how the Polish population has reacted to the speech or to the changes in party leadership. Port workers in Szczecin, the last center of disorders, are apparently back to work, and shipyard employees have agreed to return today. Yesterday, even before the political changes, the country was generally quiet.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**INDOCHINA**

A [redacted]  
directive issued by the Central Office for South Vietnam (COSVN) in mid-October summarizing plans for the 1970-71 winter-spring campaign. For South Vietnam it reiterates orders that have been in effect for over two years: to strengthen the party's political and paramilitary apparatus, to step up guerrilla warfare, and to destroy the allied pacification effort. The directive orders Communist military units to avoid costly, large-scale engagements but to keep up smaller attacks. No prospect is offered of achieving significant results any time soon.

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[redacted]

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The directive almost ignores Cambodia, even though COSVN is responsible for most military operations there. [redacted]

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[redacted] the Viet Cong are not aiming for a quick triumph in Cambodia either. South Vietnam, [redacted] will be liberated first, apparently because the Cambodian Communists would be too weak to govern their country if Vietnamese and Cambodian Communist troops conquered it. The directive nevertheless states that half the main force units in the COSVN area are to be used in Cambodia.

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The directive confirms other indications that the Communists expect further allied actions against their supply lines from North Vietnam. It predicts that during the current dry season the US and the South Vietnamese will launch an offensive in the Laos - Cambodia - South Vietnam triborder area that will be larger than the allied operations last spring. Breaking up this offensive is one of the priority tasks enumerated.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA**

The South Vietnamese Army,

50X1

[redacted] has developed a contingency plan to intervene in Cambodia if the government there is threatened seriously by Communist troops or if the Cambodians--under heavy pressure--begin moving toward some kind of accommodation with the Communists.

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[redacted] Saigon does not think the Cambodian situation is on the verge of serious deterioration, but it wants to prepare for the worst. Saigon is said to believe that the viability of Lon Nol's government rests on outside support, mainly US, and it is uncertain how much aid will be forthcoming and for how long.

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President Thieu, by all accounts, is still wary of becoming overcommitted in Cambodia and wants the Cambodians to maintain the burden of fighting there. The delays and soul-searching in Saigon before troops were sent across the Mekong to help defend Kompong Cham city bears this out. Saigon nevertheless appears to have decided that the Communists must be stopped in Cambodia, and is preparing to back up this decision with considerable force if necessary.

\* \* \*

In Cambodia, government forces continued over the weekend to consolidate defensive positions on Route 7. They were harassed by scattered enemy attacks, but on Saturday a 22-truck convoy carrying supplies from Phnom Penh to Kompong Cham city reached Prey Totung without incident.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**USSR-CHINA**

Moscow announced Saturday that the annual Sino-Soviet river navigation talks had ended. The only agreement reported was to meet again next year.

Statements by Soviet diplomats [redacted] indicate that the normally technical talks were prolonged by injection of the territorial dispute, particularly the question of ownership of certain islands. This year's session took five months, in contrast to only several weeks last year when the talks resumed after a year's hiatus.

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It is possible that some technical agreement was reached as a part of recent mutual efforts to prevent more fundamental differences from interfering in normal state-to-state relations. In the Peking political talks, however, Moscow and Peking have failed to make any progress toward resolving the border dispute. These talks apparently have been in recess since 5 December when the two top Soviet diplomats returned home.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**CHILE**

In a public rally this evening, Allende plans to sign a proposal that will be sent to Congress for amending the constitution to permit completion of the process of nationalizing the copper companies. Initial notification of further nationalization was presented to Anaconda's Chilean subsidiaries Friday. The US Embassy has noted that the amendment is vague and confusing, particularly with respect to compensation.

According to Senator Volodia Teitelboim, a top Communist Party leader, Allende will use the same occasion to announce plans to nationalize steel, nitrate, and the mining industry in general, as well as banks, insurance companies, and foreign commerce. At least some of the nationalization will be retroactive to 3 November, the day of Allende's inauguration.

Teitelboim also predicts that Chile will establish relations with Communist China, East Germany, North Vietnam, and North Korea before the end of the year.

*Early this month Santiago announced that discussions were under way in Paris on opening relations with Communist China. Dealings with the other states mentioned have centered on commercial ties, but negotiations on diplomatic links as well are known to be proceeding with East Germany and North Korea, and arrangements could well be surfaced in the next 10 days.*

SOVIETS CONTINUE PORT VISITS IN CUBA



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

Berlin: East German harassment of West German autobahn traffic--apparently being done with Soviet backing--is likely to end when the Social Democratic Party meeting in the city concludes today. Harassment may occur periodically, however, between now and the West Berlin elections in March as Pankow reacts to the increasing number of West German politicians and groups that will visit the city to campaign. Bonn fears the increased political activity may help the East Germans undermine the Berlin talks, but West German leaders continue to be reluctant to intervene with the political parties to have them curtail their activities.

Brazil: The government has decided--in principle--to exchange prisoners for Swiss Ambassador Bucher, following the kidnappers' decision to drop all demands except the release of 70 prisoners.

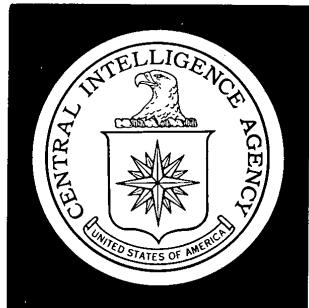
[redacted]  
the softening of the government's "no-negotiation" approach was brought about largely by pressure from the Foreign and Justice ministers, the two civilian cabinet members involved in the case.

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USSR-Cuba: The four Soviet vessels that left Havana Friday--a guided missile frigate, an F-class diesel attack submarine, a submarine tender, and a naval oiler--are currently operating southwest of Cienfuegos. The force appears to be continuing the round of port visits that Radio Havana announced earlier this month would occur between 7 and 23 December. Soviet naval units, some of which have been in Cuban waters since September, have also visited Mariel, Antilla, and Casilda. Recent U-2 photography showed that the Soviet rescue tug and two nuclear submarine support barges were still in Cienfuegos.

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

*22 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

22 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Moscow has made a strong show of support for Poland's Gierek, who faces some continuing unrest in the northern cities. (Page 1)

Sunday's riots on Okinawa have touched off demands on the Japanese Government to secure redress of Okinawan grievances. (Page 2)

Turkish Prime Minister Demirel's position has eroded further. (Page 3)

Moscow has resumed relief flights to East Pakistan. (Page 3).

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

The Soviet party has made a strong show of support for new Polish leader Gierek.

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*The Soviets may well wish to head off speculation that Moscow is unhappy with the changes. Moscow clearly feels that its interests lie in restoration of stability in Poland; in all likelihood the new regime can be sure of Soviet support as long as its policies work in this direction.*

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In Poland itself, the people appear to have accepted the party leadership changes calmly, but some unrest persists in the north. Yesterday Radio Szczecin corrected its report of Sunday that shipyard workers had returned to work, and indicated that negotiations were still going on at the yards and at other local plants. Warsaw broadcasts yesterday stated that only 80 percent of the workers in the Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot area had returned to work, and this figure may be somewhat exaggerated.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**OKINAWA-JAPAN**

Sunday's riots, touched off by the injury of an Okinawan pedestrian by a car driven by an American serviceman, have sparked a wave of criticism in both Japan and Okinawa against the Japanese Government as well as against the US. Tokyo is accused of tolerating a "disregard for basic human rights" on the island. Japanese opposition parties are demanding that judicial authority in Okinawa be transferred to Japan even before reversion in 1972.

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Okinawan emotions have been rising as a result of a number of recent incidents, including the acquittal of a US serviceman accused of the hit-and-run killing of an Okinawan woman. Delay in the removal of chemical weapons is another contributing factor. With racial overtones increasingly evident in Okinawan reactions, any additional incidents involving US military personnel could well provoke even more serious disturbances and add to pressure on Tokyo to redress Okinawan grievances.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Turkey: Defections from Prime Minister Demirel's Justice Party in the past few days have left him with a majority of only one in the lower house, including several who are unreliable. The US Embassy reports that further defections are generally expected, and Demirel could be forced to resign in the next two weeks. The formation of a new Democratic Party on Sunday by former Justice Party adherents appears to be accelerating the trend.

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USSR-Pakistan: Moscow has resumed relief flights to East Pakistan after briefly suspending them when an AN-22 transport aircraft crashed in India with the loss of all 17 personnel aboard. This is the second AN-22 to have crashed on a relief mission. The first went down in July near Iceland while carrying aid to survivors of last May's earthquake in Peru. The AN-22, a turboprop plane, is the largest Soviet cargo aircraft and has two thirds the payload of the C-5A. Moscow now has about six of them in military service.

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*



## *The President's Daily Brief*

*23 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

23 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The situation in Poland is discussed on *Page 1*, and Chinese depiction of that situation as a crisis over Soviet "revisionist imperialism" is discussed on *Page 2*.

North Vietnamese infiltration, although still at a relatively high rate, has slackened somewhat this month. (*Page 3*)

Debate over China policy is intensifying in Tokyo. (*Page 4*)

[redacted] the Soviets may have offered the Sudan increased military aid to combat its rebels in the south. (*Page 5*)

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[redacted] 50X1

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

Wide publicity is being given to Gierek's meetings with delegations of loyal factory workers. Nevertheless, many workers in Szczecin, as well as some in the tri-city area, have not returned to work. Szczecin authorities have referred a long list of worker demands to Warsaw for decision. Prices and wages are first on the list.

The central press has begun a withering criticism of the old regime's economic policies. Gomulka is not mentioned by name, but the articles implicitly accuse him of ruling autocratically, ignoring reality, and being out of touch with the people. For the new regime to attack past "economic remedies," which often meant more austerity for the workers, will be a welcome development for most Poles. We have no evidence yet, however, on future policies or the timing of changes in the government's leadership.

*Labor dissatisfaction will continue despite the facade of labor support presented in the press. Now that communications have been restored, the severity of last week's violence is becoming more widely known. This is likely to complicate Gierek's efforts to restore calm and move ahead with his program.*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

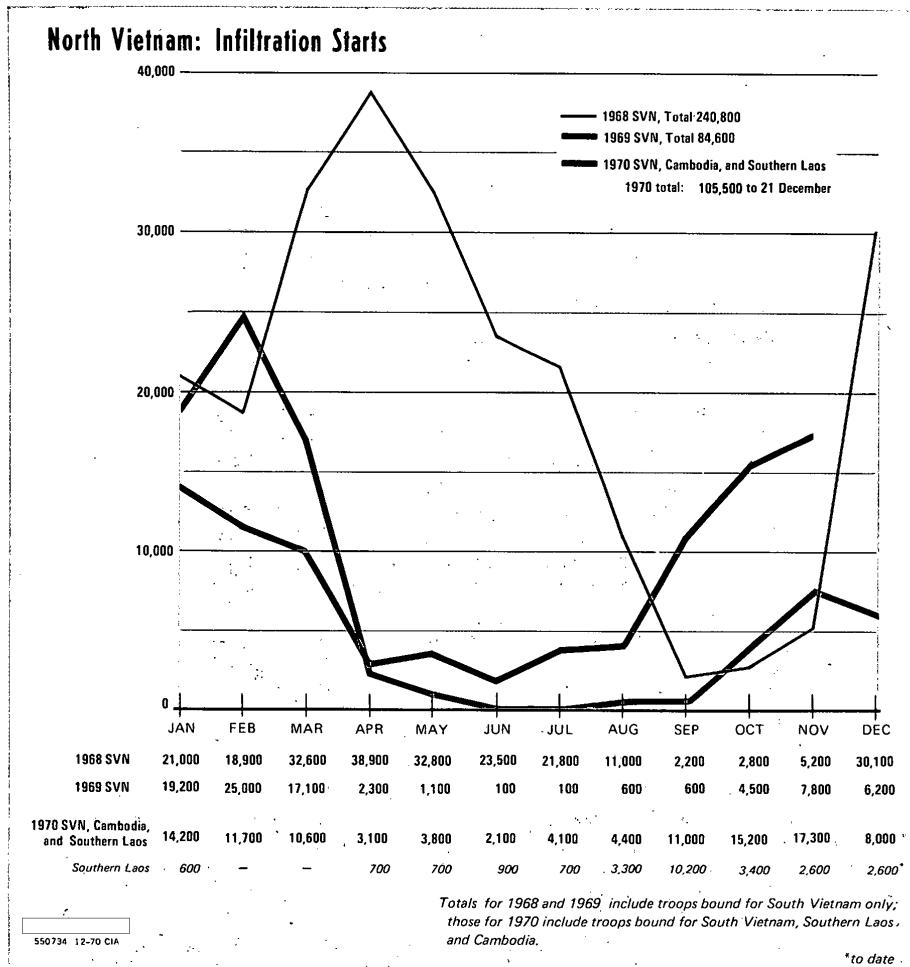
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**COMMUNIST CHINA - USSR - POLAND**

An article in China's authoritative People's Daily yesterday portrayed the Polish riots as a manifestation of the crisis in Eastern Europe over "Soviet revisionist imperialism." It applauded the fall of the Gomulka regime but charged his successors with the same revisionist sins. The article claimed Moscow "began deploying troops" but stopped short of accusing the Soviets of actually intervening in Poland.

*This diatribe is a rare break in China's year-long stand-down of polemics against the USSR. While crude and unconvincing, Peking's commentary has the value of keeping alive the specter of Soviet intervention in other areas of Eastern Europe. On the other hand, it writes off any chance of establishing a better rapport with the new Polish leadership.*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NORTH VIETNAM**

So far in December, some 8,000 troops have been detected entering the infiltration system. Around 3,300 are heading for northern South Vietnam, 2,600 for southern Laos, and only 2,100 for COSVN which controls Communist activities in Cambodia and southern South Vietnam. The infiltration pace has slackened somewhat this month, and unless departures increase rapidly in the next week, the total will be substantially less than the 17,000 registered in November.

*Nevertheless, there has been a relatively high rate of infiltration since September, which we believe is related to North Vietnam's drive to enlarge its armed forces. In The President's Daily Brief of 2 November we discussed North Vietnamese press statements which called for additional mobilization and recruitment.*

*Cumulative analysis of internal North Vietnamese messages suggests that the military call-up got under way soon after the fall of Sihanouk last March. An increase since then in the number of messages dealing with induction problems suggests that twice as many men will be drafted in 1970 as were called up in 1969.*

*There is no sign, however, that the call-up is as massive as in 1967, when Hanoi was preparing for the offensives of 1968. Nor is there any indication so far of a substantial build-up of Communist combat forces in either South Vietnam or Cambodia.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**JAPAN - COMMUNIST CHINA**

Domestic pressures are mounting on the Japanese Government to take a stand more independent of the US on the China issue, a theme which is getting heavy emphasis from opposition groups and from the media. Some dissident Diet members within Prime Minister Sato's own party are seeking to expedite the restoration of relations with mainland China.

Officials in the Foreign Office are actively debating a number of proposed policy changes. Some prefer to await the outcome of next year's UN debate on Chinese representation, while others insist that the international current is running against Taiwan, and that the Sato government will be at a serious political disadvantage if it waits too long to change its present policy. Sato, however, is not prepared to act hastily and believes that consultation with Washington should precede any decision.

*Although Tokyo continues publicly to embrace a "China-is-one" approach, there is also considerable sentiment in government and business circles for pursuing more openly its de facto "two-China" policy, partly because of Japan's large economic stake in Taiwan.*

*For this reason, as well as China's attitude toward the present Japanese leadership, Tokyo is not sanguine over the prospects for normalizing relations with Peking in the near future. With Upper House elections approaching in June, however, Sato may wish to make some well-publicized overture to Peking regardless of its chances of acceptance.*

\* \* \*

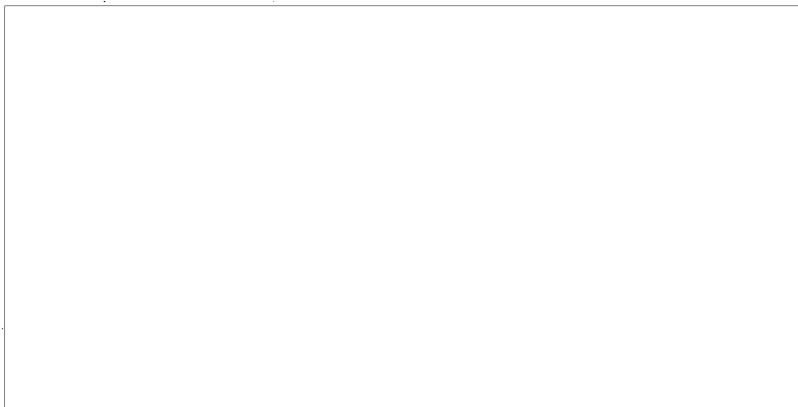


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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-SUDAN



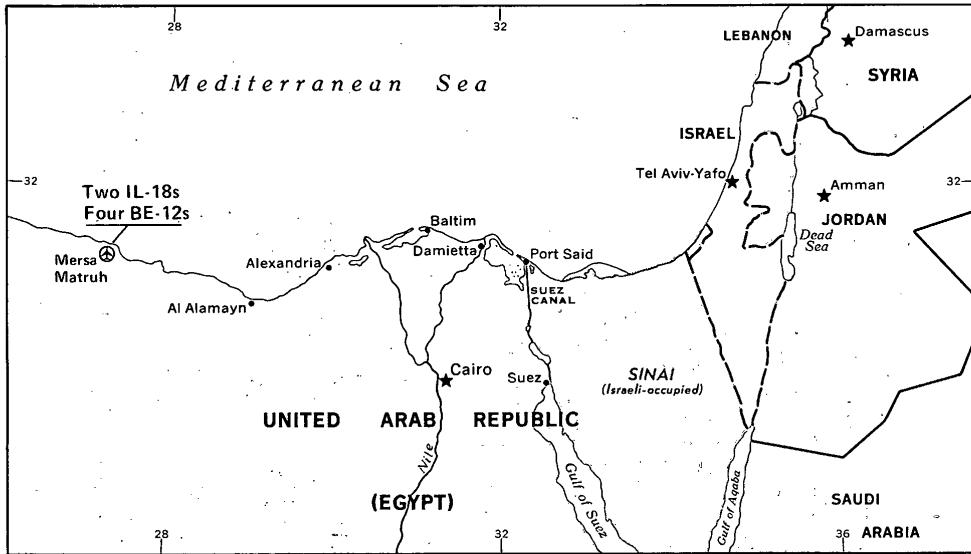
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[Redacted] Moscow may have decided to provide additional equipment to the Sudanese to use against rebels in southern Sudan. The Soviets have already provided considerable equipment suitable for counterinsurgency operations, and the number of Soviet advisers in the Sudan increased during 1970 from 200 to an estimated 400.

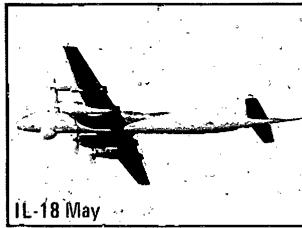
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Khartoum also has received more sophisticated weapons from the Soviet Union. Under the terms of an arms agreement initialed in 1968 and renegotiated after the coup in May 1969, Moscow agreed to establish an air defense system around Port Sudan. This included MIG-21 jet interceptors, of which 24 were delivered almost a year ago, and an SA-2 system.

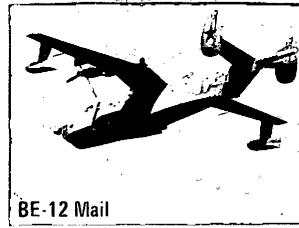
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



Wing span .....	123 ft .....	98 ft
Length .....	132 ft .....	99 ft
Radius .....	1,700 nm .....	1,150 nm
Cruising speed .....	320 kts .....	270 kts



IL-18 May



BE-12 Mail



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

USSR-Egypt: The Soviets deployed two IL-18 antisubmarine warfare (ASW) aircraft to Mersa Matruh airfield in Egypt on 19 December. The only other Soviet land-based ASW aircraft in the Mediterranean are four BE-12 amphibians at Mersa Matruh. The IL-18 has greater range, can stay on station longer and is equipped with more ASW sensors than the BE-12.

South Vietnam: The Communists' self-proclaimed three-day Christmas cease-fire begins at noon today, Washington time, and the allied 24-hour stand-down goes into effect tomorrow morning. Enemy intercepts indicate that the Communists will try as usual to take advantage of the cease-fires to resupply and reposition, as well as to recruit and propagandize among government troops returning to their villages on leave. Scattered violations and firefights are likely throughout the period. There are also indications that the Communists plan intensified shell-ing and harassment during the period between the Christmas and New Year holidays.

USSR: [REDACTED]

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Nigeria: [REDACTED]

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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JAPAN



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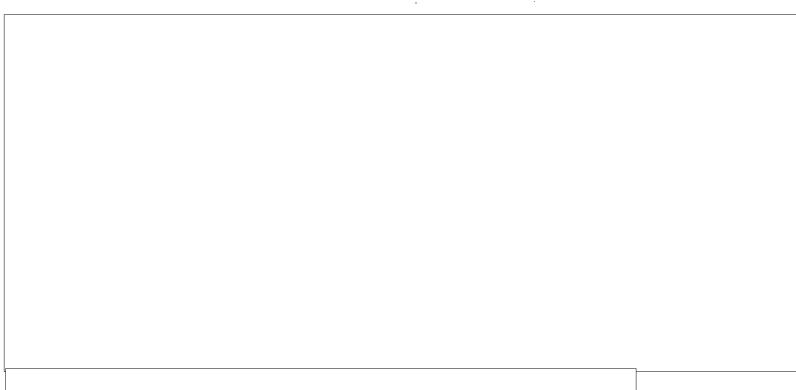
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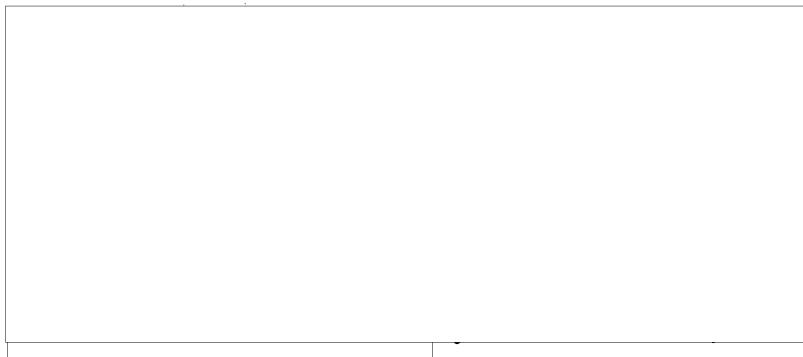
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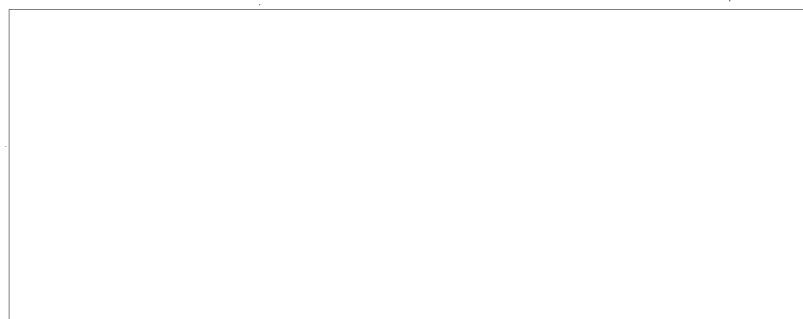
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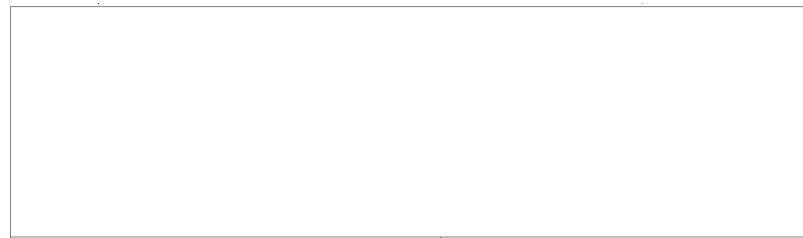


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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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# *The President's Daily Brief*

*24 December 1970*

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

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

24 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The joint Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation has not met any significant enemy resistance.  
*(Page 1)*

Poland's new leaders announced some new domestic policies yesterday that should win them a measure of popular support. *(Page 2)*

[Redacted]

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The military situation in Laos is discussed on  
*Page 4.*

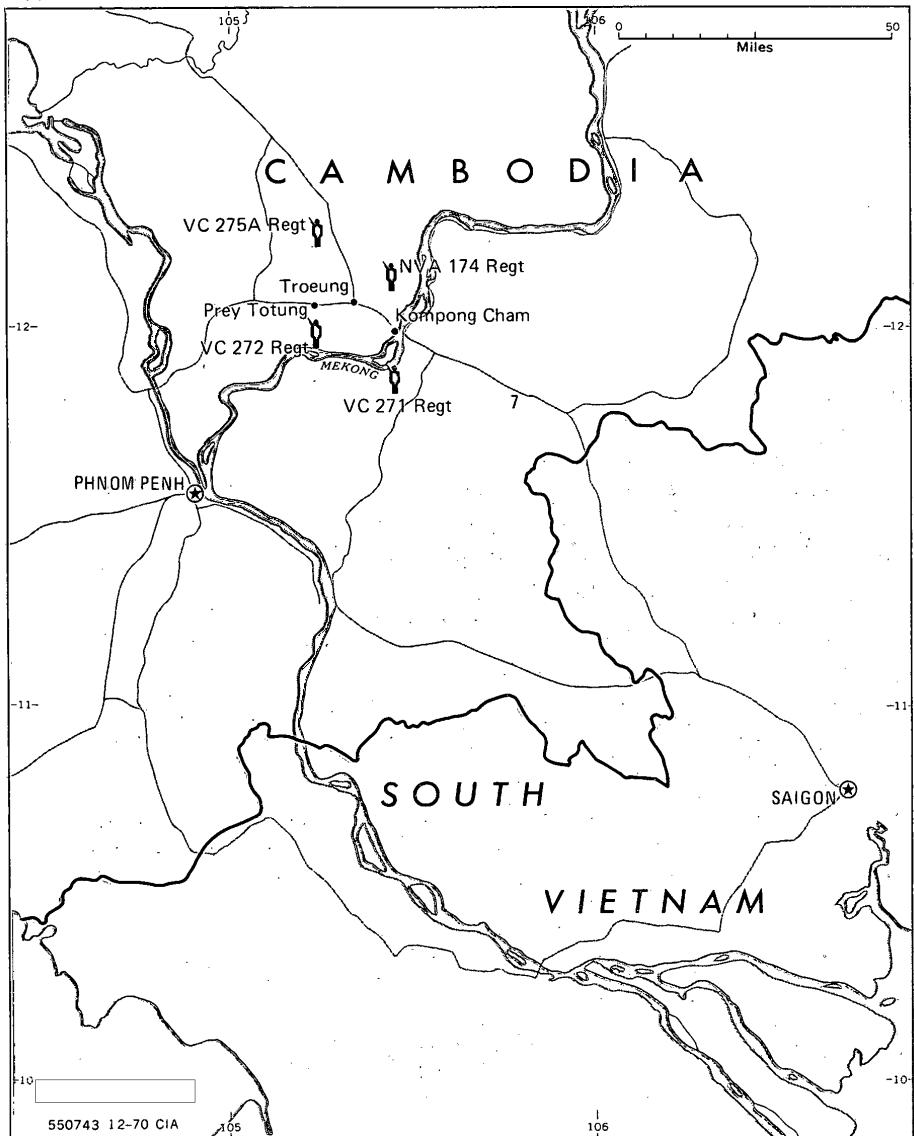
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

Cambodia: Current Situation



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

Elements of the three South Vietnamese airborne battalions that spearheaded the push west from Kompong Cham city are still moving into areas north of Route 7 and have reached a point some 11 miles north of Troeung. The Cambodians have committed some 18 battalions to securing the road between Prey Totung and Kompong Cham city.

These clearing operations continue to meet only light enemy resistance. Elements of the three Vietnamese Communist regiments that have been west of the Mekong for the past month are still avoiding contact with ARVN and Cambodian forces. The VC [redacted] Regiment has moved somewhat closer to the Mekong, but there are no signs that it is moving to contest the South Vietnamese operation, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of this month.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



Jozef Cyrankiewicz  
Chairman of State Council  
(Head of State- President)



Piotr Jaroszewicz  
Chairman of Council of Ministers  
(Premier)

**POLAND**  
550744 12-70

**POLISH GOVERNMENT CHANGES**  
23 December 1970

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
Head of State	Marian Spychalski (retires)	Jozef Cyrankiewicz (P)
Premier	Jozef Cyrankiewicz (P)	Piotr Jaroszewicz (P)
Deputy Premier	Piotr Jaroszewicz (P) (promoted to Premier)	Franciszek Kaim (former Minister Heavy Industry)
Deputy Premier	Stanislaw Kocielek (P) (recalled to full time party work)	Jan Mitrega (retains Ministry of Mining and Power)

Five other deputy premiers retained

**Ministries:**

Engineering Industry	Janusz Hrynkiewicz	Tadeusz Wrzaszczyk
Heavy Industry	Franciszek Kaim	Wladzimir Lejczak

25 remaining portfolios not affected

(P) - Party politburo member



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**POLAND**

*The reshuffle of Poland's governmental leadership yesterday reflects party boss Gierek's recognition that a change is needed in economic and social policies. The new premier, Piotr Jaroszewicz, who has been czar of Poland's heavy industry for the past 18 years, will bring to the post toughness, an impatience with weakness or failure, and a pragmatic bent.*

*There are no signs that foreign or defense policies will be altered. Gierek and Jaroszewicz, in their speeches before the parliament yesterday, announced some domestic policies that are calculated to win popular support.*

Gierek, for example, announced that nearly all food prices would be frozen for the next two years, and that the cost of durable consumer goods would be lowered further as soon as production costs go down. He kept his promise made last Sunday, and said \$300 million would be assigned by the government to improve the lot of families with the lowest incomes. Jaroszewicz' announcement that his government will aim for full normalization of relations with the Roman Catholic Church will be very favorably received by Poland's peasantry.

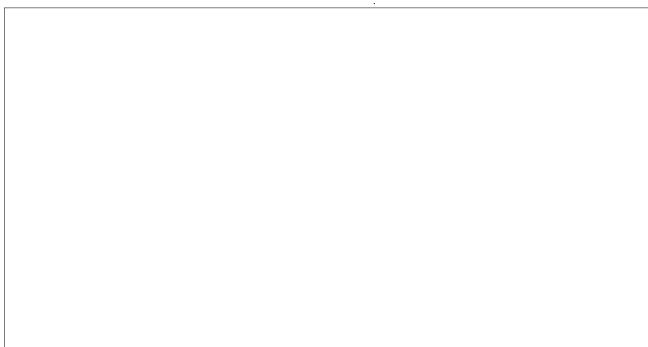
**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

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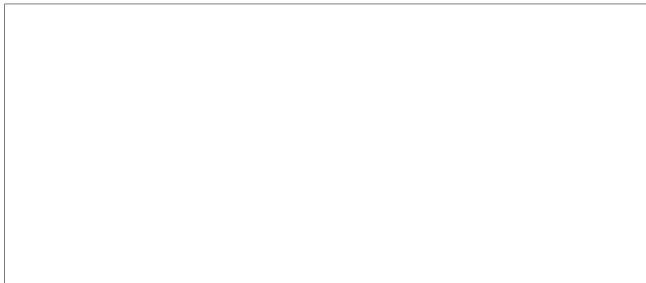
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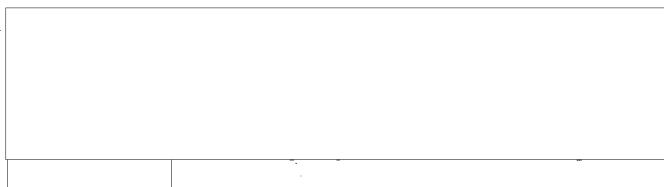


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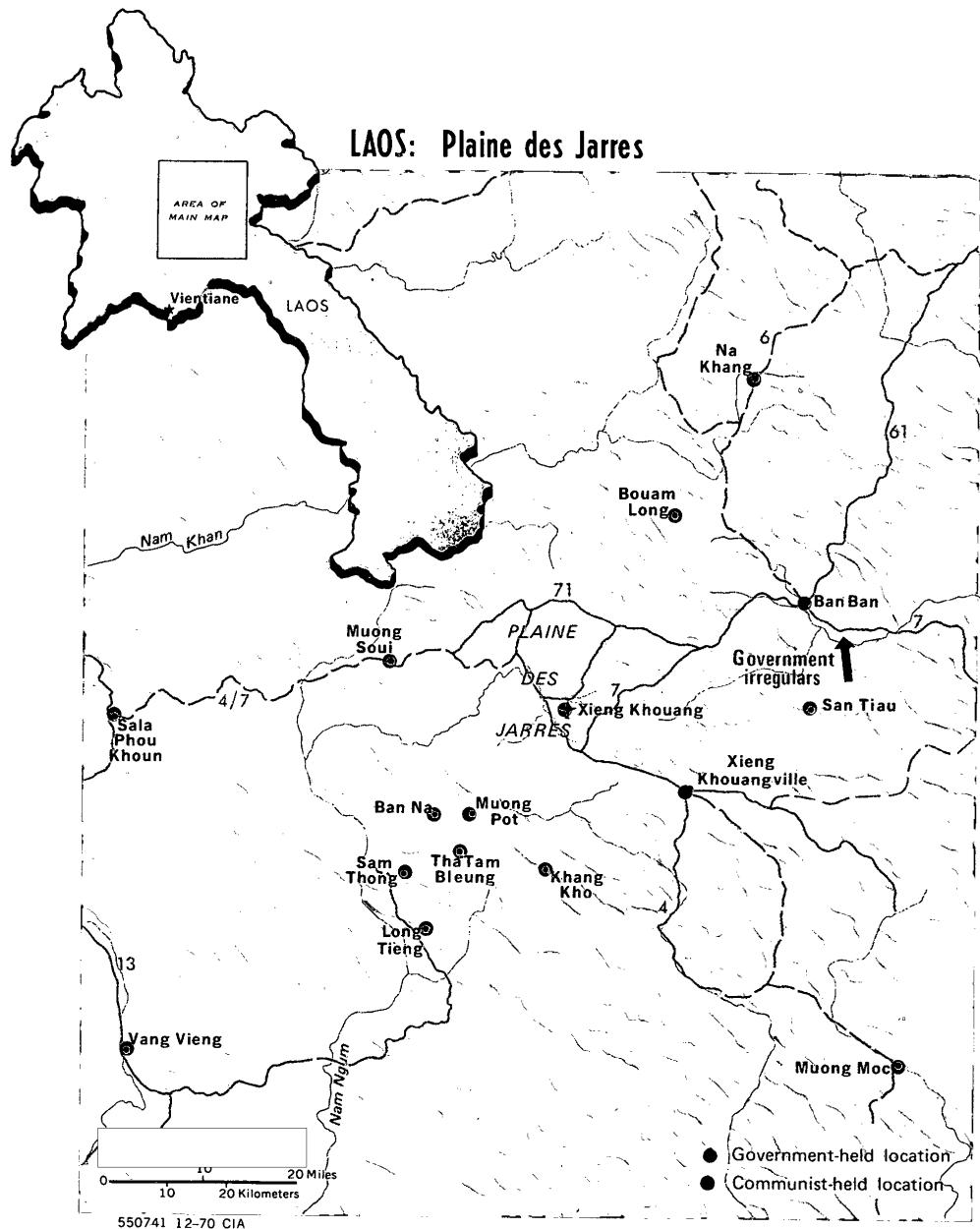
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**NOTES**

Laos: The government's harassing operation against the Communist logistic base at Ban Ban is again moving forward. Two irregular battalions have reached positions just south of Route 7, some five miles southeast of Ban Ban, where they have successfully countered some stiff opposition.

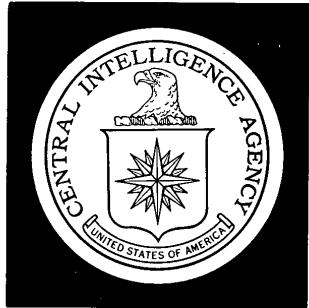
Elsewhere in Laos, enemy activity has been light. Communist forces around Ban Na in the north and the Bolovens Plateau in the south continue to plan attacks aimed at driving government forces from those areas.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

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# *The President's Daily Brief*

*26 December 1970*

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

26 December 1970

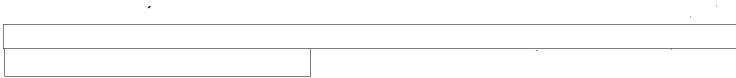
**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The Communists in Cambodia have stepped up harassment of government positions in the northwest, with serious implications for prospects for marketing this year's rice crop. (Page 1)

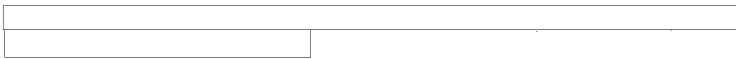
In Jordan, the fedayeen have found the going rough since their clash with the army in Jarash early this month. (Page 2)



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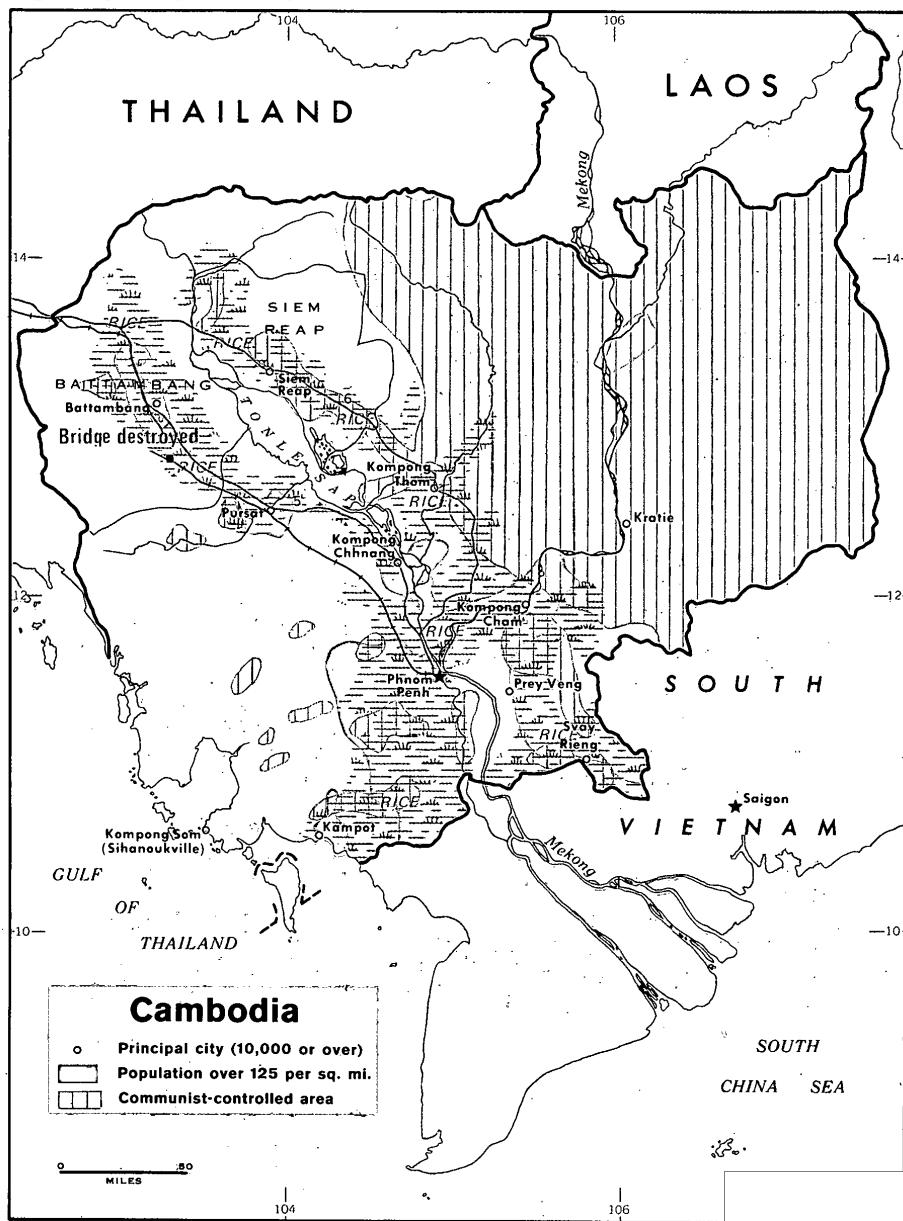


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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

## Current Situation



**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**CAMBODIA**

The Communists have stepped up harassment of government positions along Route 5 in the past week and have destroyed a bridge and station on the Battambang railroad. They also have been active in the countryside in the west. There is one report that Pursat city, one of the few provincial capitals that has not been attacked, was the target of harassing fire.

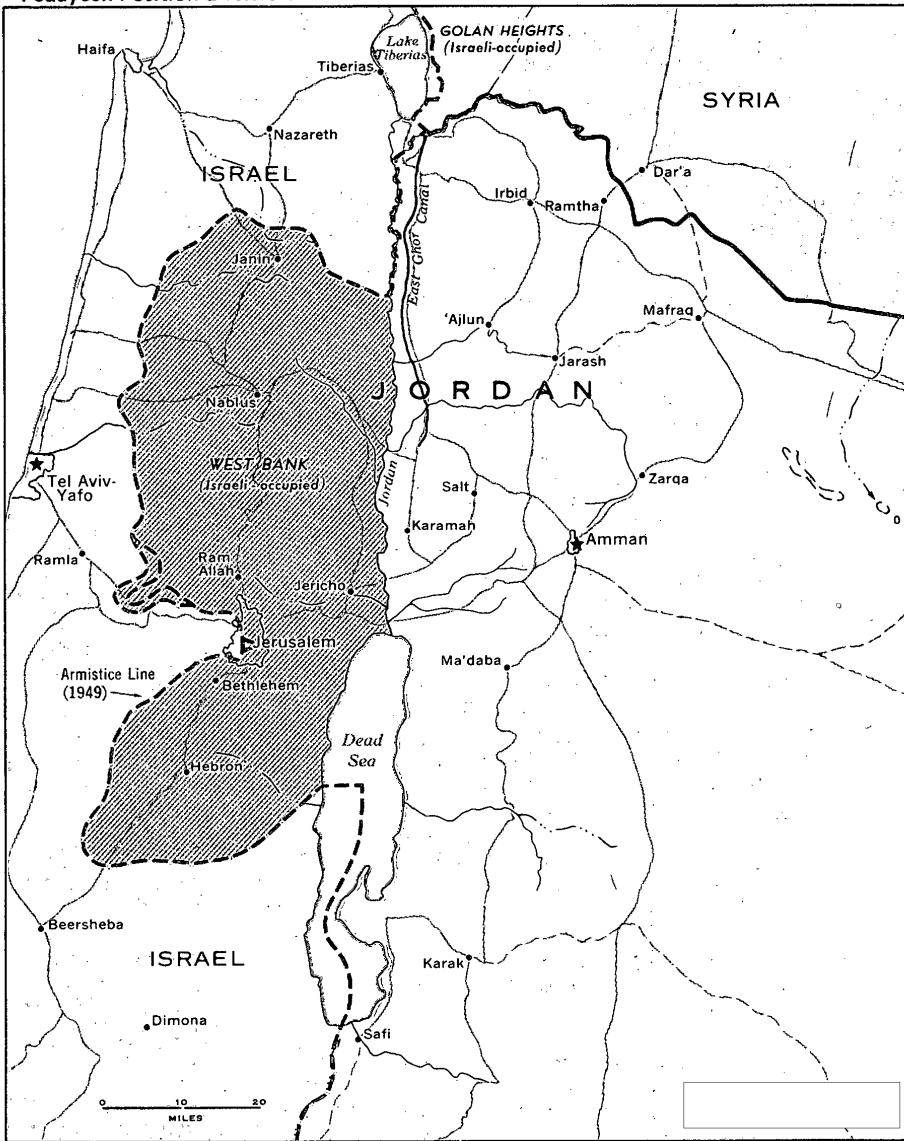
The government has placed five battalions north of Battambang city to block the movement of enemy troops into the area. These forces are also to secure Routes 5 and 6 in the Battambang - Siem Reap provincial border area. They ran into stiff opposition on 22 December, but so far casualties on both sides have been light.

*Fresh fighting in the west will further complicate the harvesting and marketing of what promises to be a bumper rice crop. In Battambang, the major rice producing province, growing insecurity and Cambodian Army recruiting have cut sharply into the seasonal influx of labor needed for the harvest. Even if there is a good harvest, little of it may be available for export. Warehouses are nearly full with last year's surpluses because of the lack of civilian transport and enemy road and rail interdictions. Prices now being offered to farmers are one third below last year's level.*

*Failure to solve these problems could force the government to default on its export commitments and lead to the loss of foreign exchange. The government is seeking alternatives to sending export rice out through the main port of Kompong Som, currently cut off by Communist forces.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

Fedayeen Position Deteriorates in Jordan



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

## JORDAN-FEDAYEEN

Since the clash in Jarash between the army and the fedayeen on 7 December, most of the guerrilla units that had been in the city have been forced to camp out in wooded areas near there and Ajlun.

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[redacted] Facilities are said to be minimal, food scarce, and morale low. Defections and desertions have risen sharply and as winter sets in are expected to go even higher. Most other urban areas have also been cleared of fedayeen.

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Several entrenched enclaves of fedayeen remain in Amman, but the army is confident that the remaining positions could be wiped out without much difficulty.

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A US Mission officer who traveled through northern Jordan on 22 December confirms much of this. He says the army was in full control of Jarash, Irbid, Mafraq, and Zarqa. No fedayeen checkpoints were encountered during his trip and no uniformed fedayeen were seen in Jarash or Zarqa. Although Iraqi Army elements remain in the Mafraq area, Crown Prince Hassan told Ambassador Brown on 23 December that the Iraqis have been slowly withdrawing and he hoped that they would soon be down to a division or less.

*The weakness of the fedayeen's military dispositions could tempt the army to try for a quick and decisive clean-up of fedayeen concentrations in the north and possibly in Amman as well. Prince Hassan told Ambassador Brown that the fedayeen "will get a real bloody nose" if they do not have their weapons in storage by 26 December, as required by the latest agreement between the fedayeen and the government. The army might want to move in the next few days during the absence of the King, who has been restraining the military.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

Germany: [redacted]

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[redacted]  
[redacted]  
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USSR: A Galosh ABM interceptor was launched from Sary Shagan on 24 December.

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[redacted] This was the 23rd firing of the Galosh detected since August 1968 and the eighth this year.

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## *The President's Daily Brief*

*28 December 1970*

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

28 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The military situation in Cambodia and Laos is discussed on *Pages 1 and 2* respectively.

The fedayeen exchanged fire with elements of the Jordanian Army over the weekend in several areas.  
(*Page 3*)

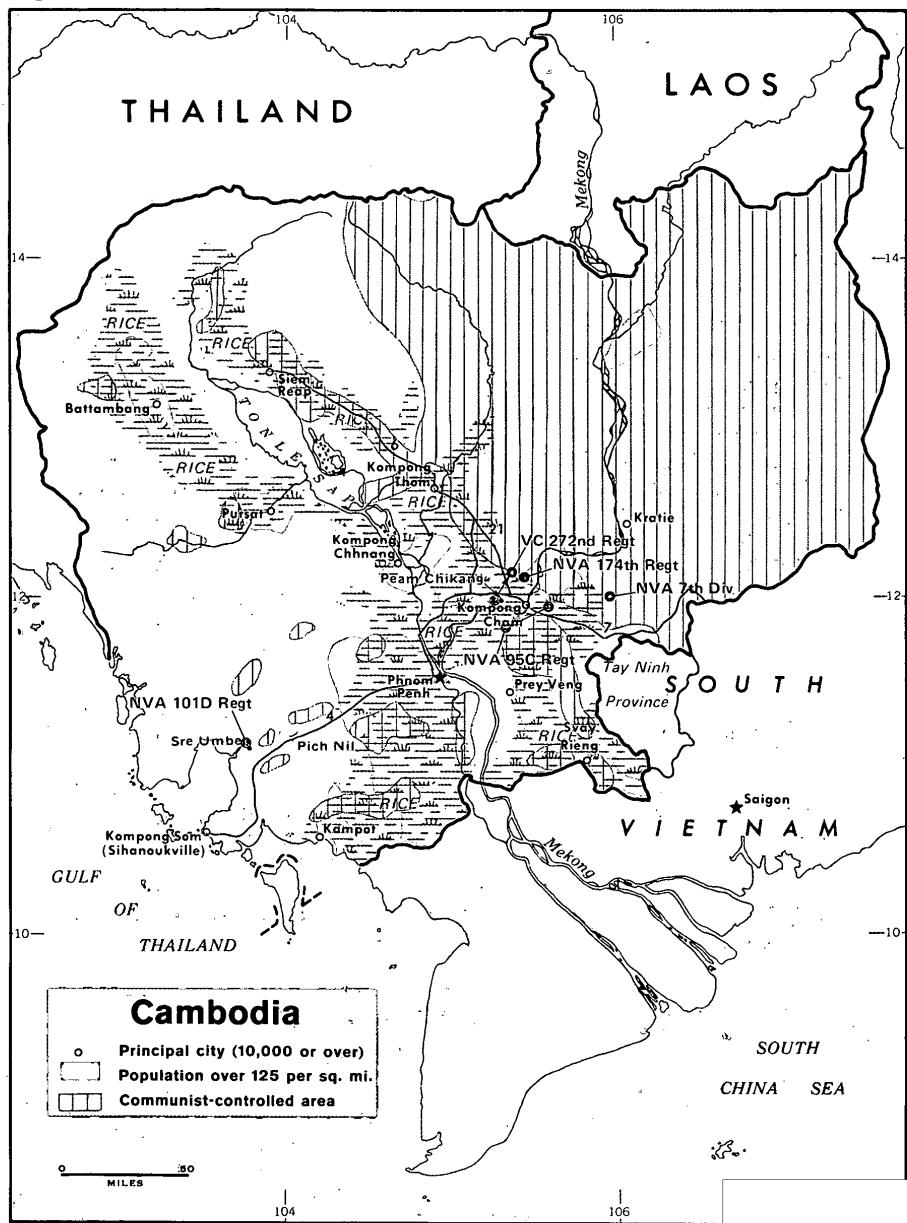
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The reasons for Mrs. Gandhi's call for national elections are noted on *Page 3*.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## Current Situation



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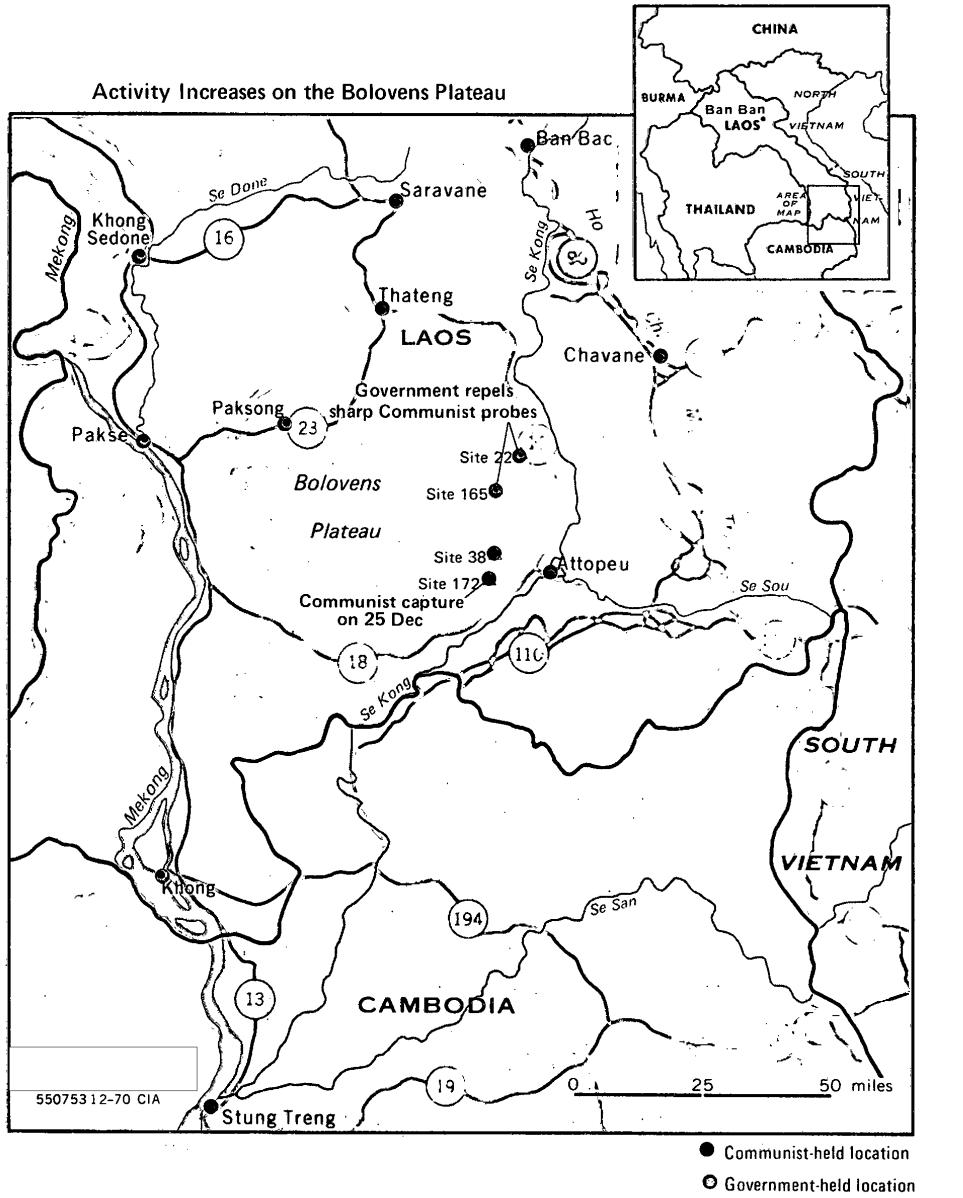
**CAMBODIA**

Kompong Cham city was hit by a long-range rocket attack on 23 December, and the enemy probed several government positions in one of the heaviest harassments of a major urban area in recent weeks. The Communists also continued to shell Cambodian positions along Routes 6 and 7, but government casualties were light. A joint Cambodian - South Vietnamese (ARVN) sweep operation is continuing south of Route 7 near Peam Chikang. A preliminary assessment of the latest communications intelligence indicates the VC 272nd Regiment, which had been in this area, has moved north of Route 7.

*It is not clear whether the 272nd moved to avoid contact with the allied forces or to reinforce the NVA 174th Regiment against a possible allied thrust northward along Route 21. In a possible related development, the NVA 95C Regiment has moved westward toward the Mekong River where it is in a position to send reinforcements to the 272nd or 174th.*

In the south, Route 4 linking Phnom Penh with Kompong Som remains closed. Desultory Cambodian efforts to clear the Communists from the Pich Nil pass and other strongholds near the road are making no progress. A government battalion was routed near Sre Umbel on 24 December while elements of still other battalions nearby appear to have been encircled. The Cambodians have asked that ARVN forces help with clearing operations along Route 4, but we have no information on Saigon's reaction to the request.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



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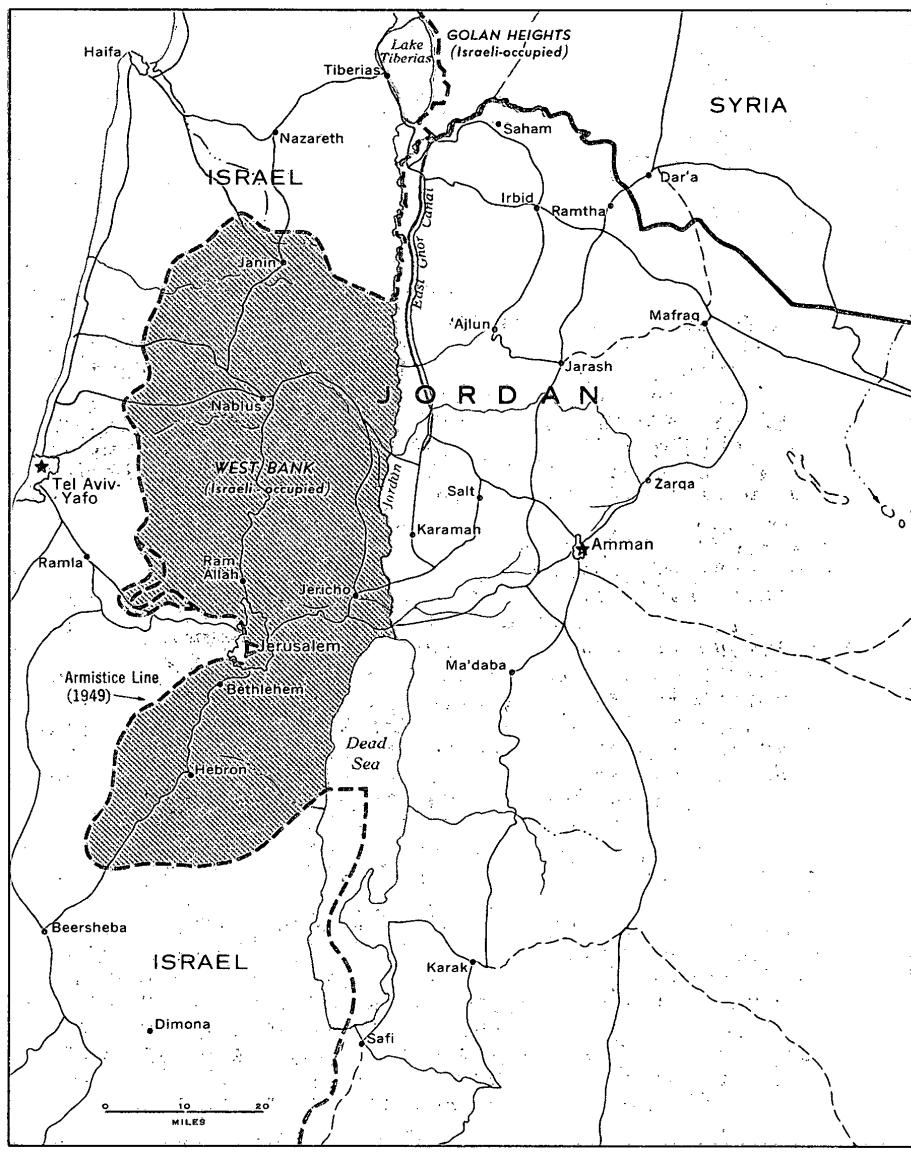
**LAOS**

Two battalions of government irregulars were driven from the Site 172 area on the southeastern rim of the Bolovens Plateau on 25 December by North Vietnamese troops. Sharp Communist probes were repulsed at Site 165 and at Site 22, the last major government base in the eastern portion of the plateau. Some minor skirmishing was also reported in the northern reaches of the plateau.

*The Communists apparently want control of the Bolovens to facilitate the opening of a major westerly infiltration route into Cambodia, but so far they have been thwarted. The recent southward deployments of the 9th and the 52nd NVA regiments and the stockpiling of supplies in the area indicates that the enemy may make a more concerted drive on the Bolovens. At a minimum, we expect the Communists to maintain pressure on the Bolovens to divert government irregulars from conducting harassing raids against the main Communist infiltration corridor to the east.*

In north Laos, the government's operation in the Ban Ban valley has not made any significant forward progress. Government troops have managed to destroy a 100-ton rice cache and some ammunition east of the valley.

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTES**

Jordan: Two days of intermittent fighting between the fedayeen and army elements near Salt ended Saturday. New clashes broke out yesterday, however, near the Wahdat refugee camp in Amman and in the Syrian border area near Saham. The Arab Truce Committee has restored an uneasy peace in all areas.

USSR: [redacted]

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USSR: [redacted]

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India: Prime Minister Gandhi has decided to call for early national elections in an attempt to parlay her personal popularity--apparently at an unprecedented high level--into a parliamentary majority. She wanted to act while the opposition parties were in disarray and at a time when the economy was comparatively strong. Mrs. Gandhi's Ruling Congress Party, which now has 222 members in the lower house, will have to capture 262 of the 523 seats to win a majority.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

29 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Some Communist main force regiments have moved from Cambodia into the border area north of Saigon where they appear to be targeted against allied positions.  
(Page 1)

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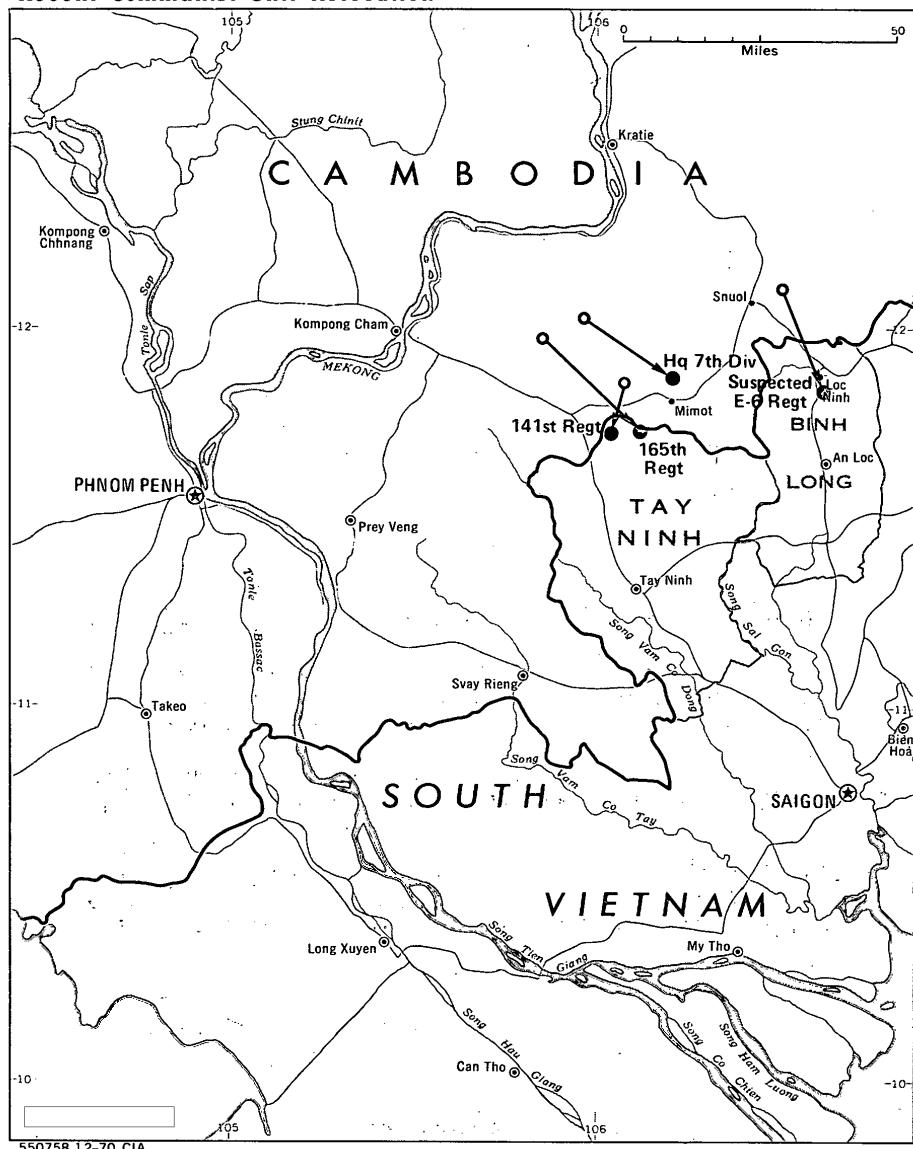
[redacted]  
[redacted]  
The conduct of the Basque trial confirms at least a temporary shift in favor of the most conservative forces in Spain. (Page 3)

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All six SAM sites in eastern Cuba have been deactivated. (Page 4)

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

### Recent Communist Unit Relocation



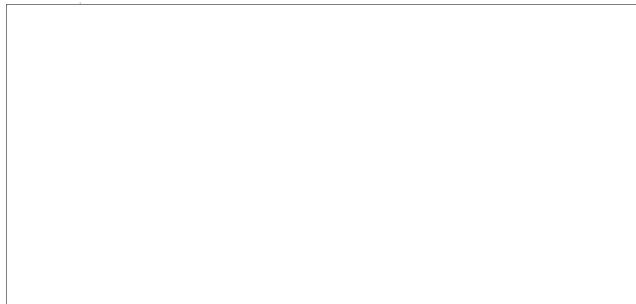
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA**

The 141st and 165th regiments of the North Vietnamese 7th Division have moved from Cambodia and are now situated just inside northern Tay Ninh Province, probably under the control of the division headquarters, which is nearby. A suspected regiment of the Communist 5th Division, which itself remains well to the west in Cambodia, is close to Loc Ninh town in northern Binh Long Province. Shellings in northern Tay Ninh Province and an appreciable increase in enemy hostilities near Loc Ninh suggest that these units are targeted against allied positions inside South Vietnam.

*These main force regiments could be used to tie down South Vietnamese regulars in the border regions by harassing South Vietnamese positions and ambushing convoys along several key roads in the border area. If these tactics disrupted planned South Vietnamese dry-season operations into Cambodia, the Communists would gain valuable time to rebuild their supply network there.*

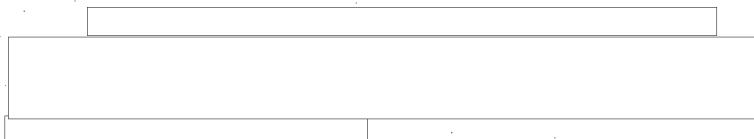


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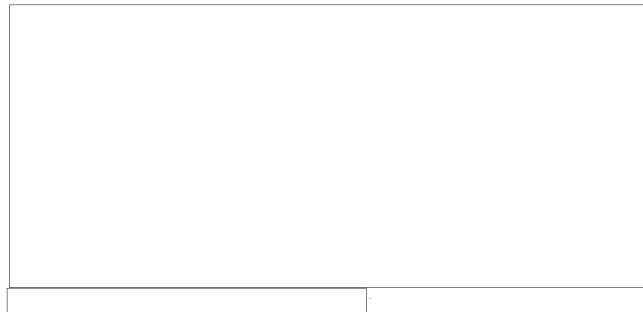
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**SPAIN**

The conduct of the trial of Basque nationalists, which yesterday resulted in death sentences for six handed down by a military court, confirms at least a temporary shift in favor of the most conservative forces in Spain. These groups--notably the Falange, Spain's only legal political movement, and the senior military--have exploited the trial to recover much of the ground lost a year ago. At that time cabinet shifts gave ascendancy to the Opus Dei group--also politically conservative but interested in greater economic liberalism.

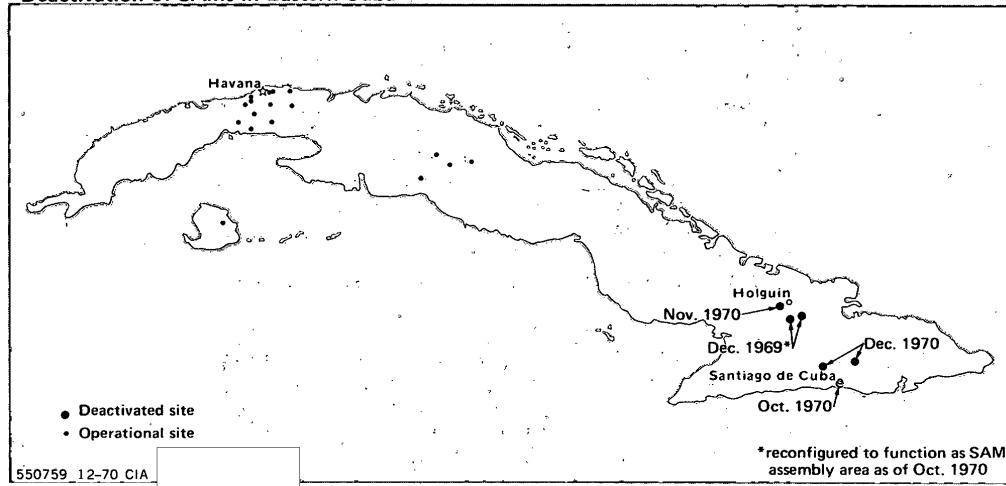
In the past few weeks adherents of the Falange and the military have used the idea of solidarity with Franco and the army to organize massive pro-Franco rallies throughout Spain, against the wishes of the cabinet. The military now appears to have reaffirmed its role as arbiter of Spain's politics.

Franco has the prerogative of commuting the death sentences, if the regional army commander confirms them. He has always been reluctant to make concessions when under pressure--as in 1963 when he refused to commute a death sentence despite considerable adverse international comment.

However, differences within the army, [redacted] over [redacted] the advisability of the death penalty for the Basques may give him more flexibility in this case.

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Deactivation of SAMs in Eastern Cuba



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**NOTE**

Cuba: Recent U-2 photography shows that all six SAM sites in eastern Cuba have been deactivated. Removal of equipment from two of the sites had begun by December 1969, and from the remainder by last October. SAM sites and their equipment from time to time have been shifted, but never before has so large an area been left uncovered. Photography [redacted] suggest that some of the equipment from the east has been moved to Havana, but no new sites are known to have been activated.

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

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**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The last of the South Vietnamese troops used to clear Cambodia's Route 7 have returned home; the situation along Route 4 in southwestern Cambodia continues to deteriorate. (Page 1)

The North Vietnamese are stepping up their supply shipments into the Laotian panhandle, while the flow of men southward continues at a rate much below that of last month. (Page 2)

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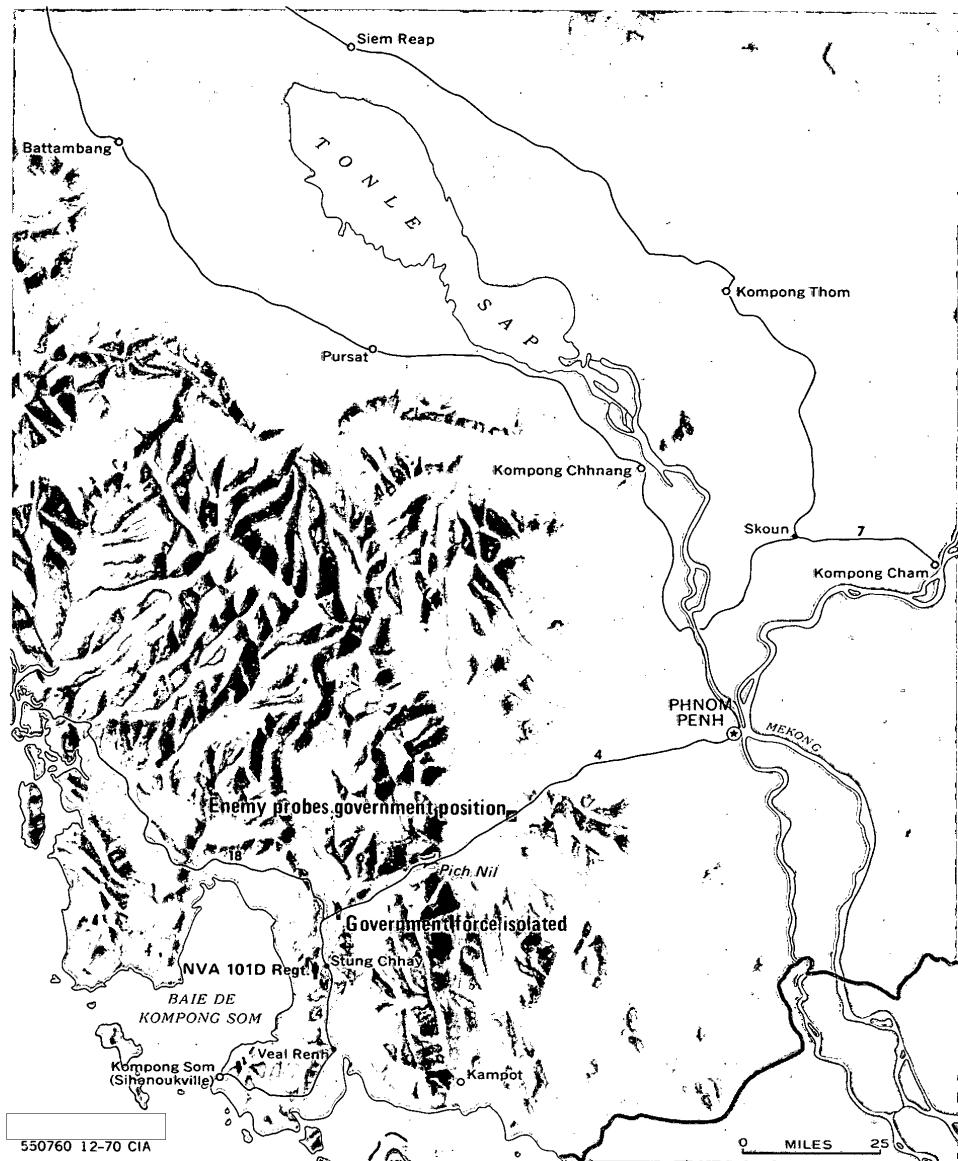
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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## CAMBODIA: Current Situation



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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

## CAMBODIA

The last of the South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) troops used to reopen Route 7 west of Kompong Cham city have been airlifted back to South Vietnam.

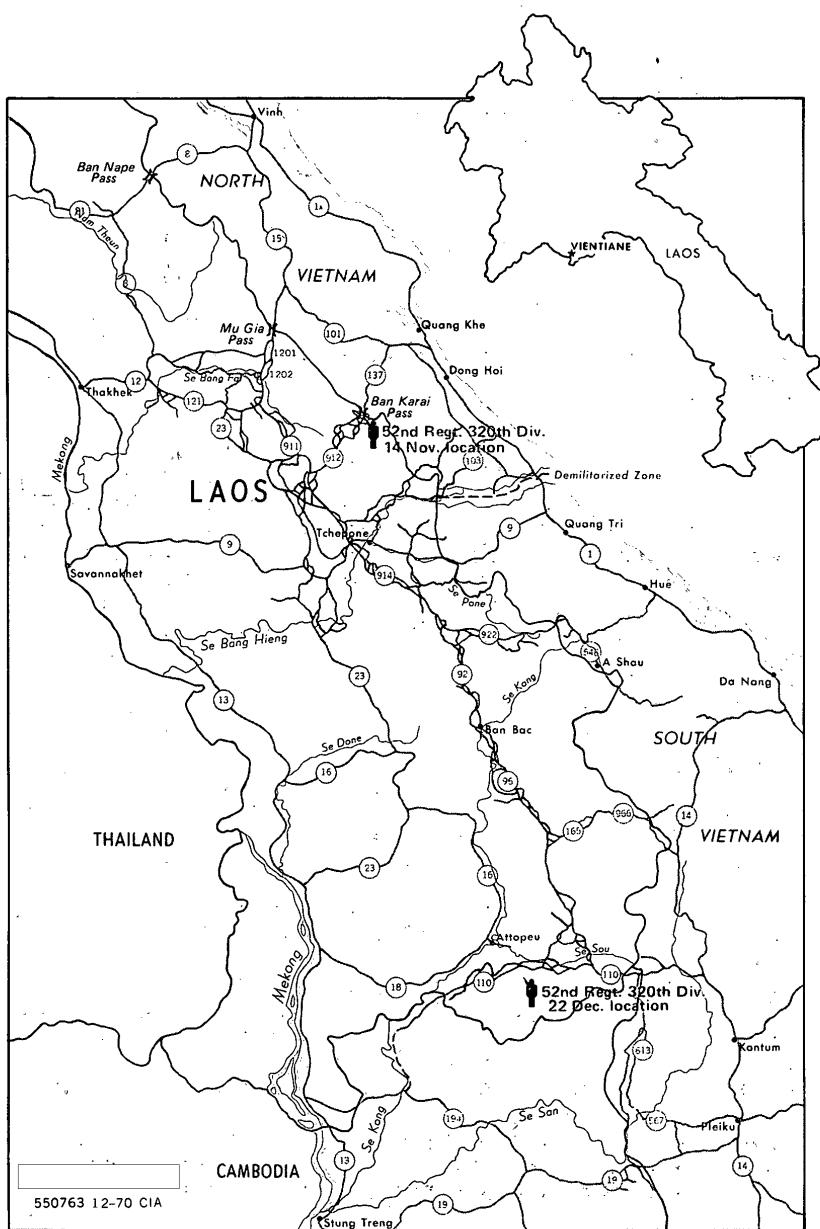
*The fact that these forces met no significant resistance during their two-week operation demonstrates that the Communists once again preferred to take evasive action rather than risk heavy casualties.*

*Despite the growing capability of the Cambodian Army, there is some evidence that it is still not up to the job of keeping Route 7 clear. The US defense attaché reports, for example, that government positions along the road between Skoun and Kompong Cham appear to be poorly constructed and located. Several Cambodian units apparently have made no attempt to set up defensive positions and are simply living in nearby villages.*

In southwestern Cambodia, the situation along Route 4 continues to deteriorate. The Communists probed government positions east of the Pich Nil pass yesterday, and elements of several government battalions southwest of the pass remain isolated. Enemy troops now control another section of Route 4, from its junction with Route 18 southward to Stung Chhay.

Intercepts show that the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment is now located just west of Stung Chhay. Elements of this unit appear to be spearheading a drive farther south along Route 4.

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## INDOCHINA

An accelerated North Vietnamese logistics effort is under way. Intercepts show that during the first 20 days of December about 2,500 tons of supplies were delivered from North Vietnam to an important logistics unit in the central Laotian panhandle. However, bombings of a major Communist supply depot in the Ban Bac area of southern Laos damaged or destroyed supplies estimated to be as much as 900 tons.

The flow of men southward during December is continuing at a rate substantially below that of November. Since last week 1,400 additional North Vietnamese troops have been detected entering the infiltration pipeline.

*The total for December is now 9,400 compared with 17,300 in November. Of those detected this month, 4,100 are headed for northern South Vietnam, 2,700 for southern Laos, and 2,600 for COSVN.*

The 52nd Regiment of the 320th Division, which has been moving through the system from North Vietnam since September, was located last week just above the Cambodian border southeast of Attopeu. Recently the regiment communicated with COSVN authorities, raising the possibility it may move on into Cambodia.

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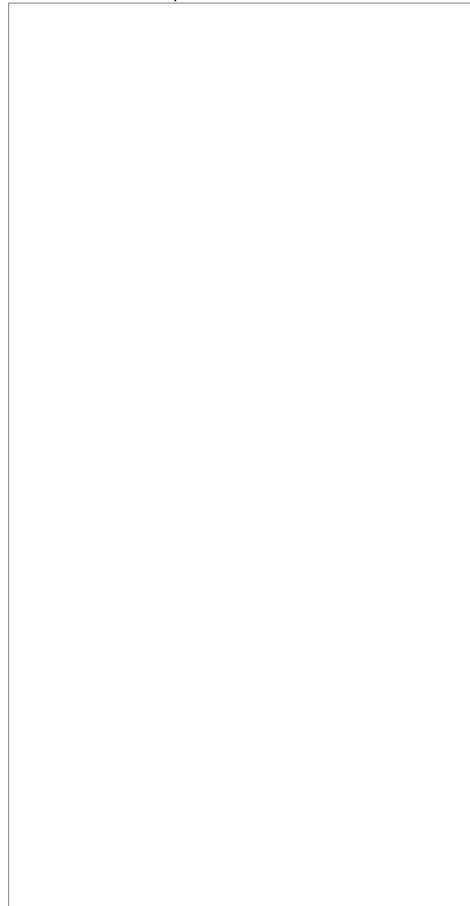
**Chinese**



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COMMUNIST CHINA



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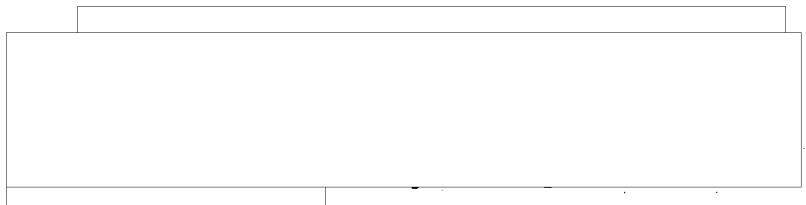
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CUBA-BOLIVIA-CHILE



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**NOTES**

South Vietnam: The Communists' self-imposed three-day New Year cease-fire begins at noon today, Washington time, and the allied 24-hour military standdown will begin early tomorrow morning. The Communists are likely to abide in general by their announced cease-fire, as they did at Christmas, when there were fewer minor violations than in previous years. There are continuing signs, however, that enemy units will be more active following the holiday truces.

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USSR-Cuba:

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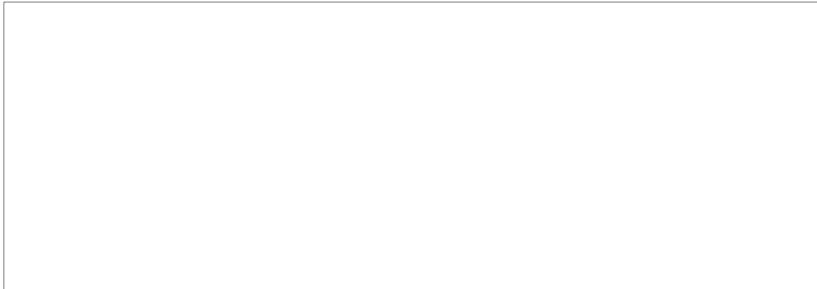
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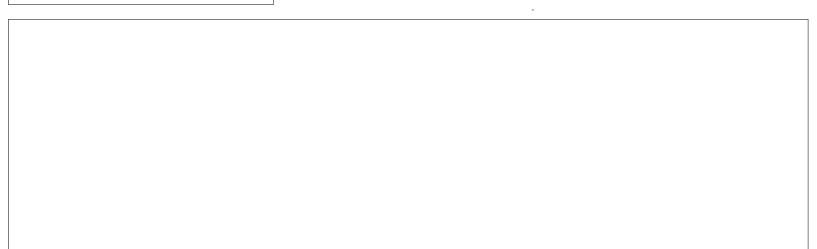
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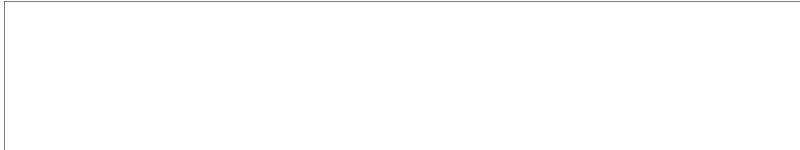
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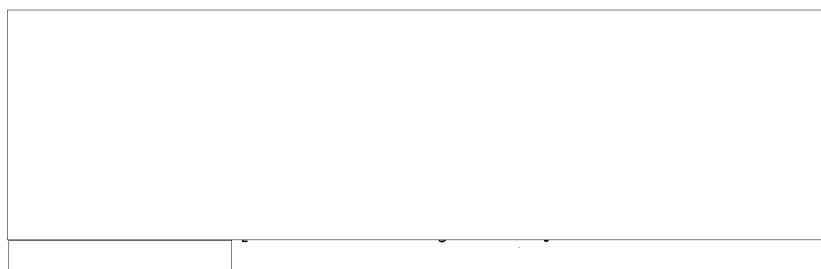
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**THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF**

31 December 1970

**PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS**

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[Redacted]

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Foreign Minister Thanat is continuing to promote the idea of closer Thai relations with Communist countries. (Page 3)

Indonesia is planning informal talks on defense cooperation with several Far Eastern governments. (Page 4)

At Annex, we discuss some of the threats faced by the new government of President Torres in Bolivia.

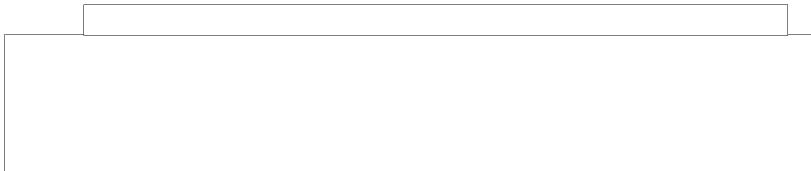
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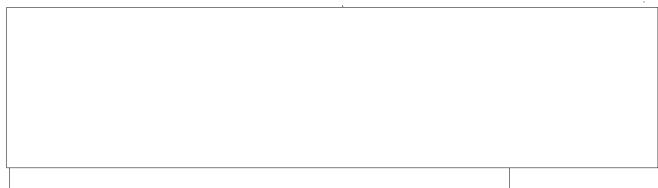
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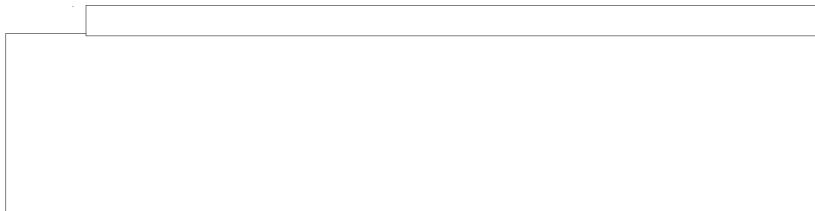


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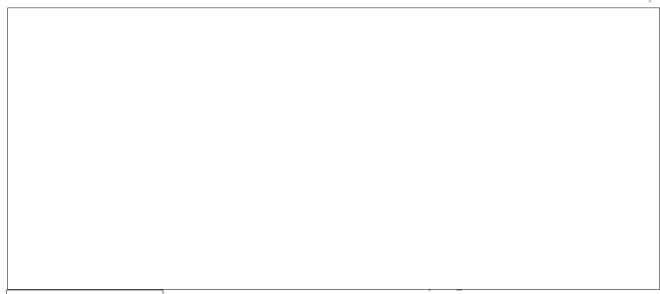
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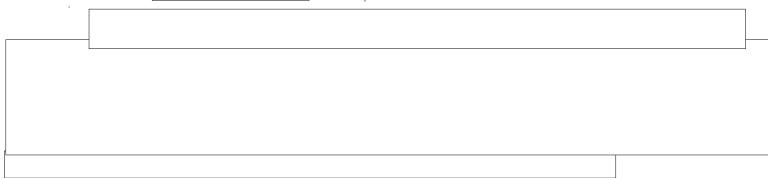
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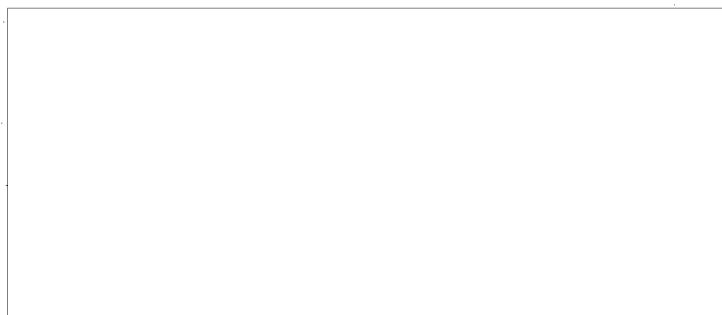
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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

**THAILAND**

Foreign Minister Thanat used the occasion of the recent signing of the Thai-Soviet trade agreement to play up Bangkok's interest in an accommodation with Moscow. He also took advantage of several year-end foreign policy reviews with the Bangkok press corps to reaffirm his desire for better relations with Communist China and North Vietnam. For the first time he publicly characterized North Vietnam's dispatch of a delegation to Thailand to discuss refugee repatriation as a favorable development in Hanoi's foreign policy, and Bangkok's acceptance of the delegation as a "sign of our goodwill."

Thanat's statements about improving relations with the Communists have been accompanied by expressions of concern over the steadfastness of the US commitment to Thailand. He told the press, for example, that there had been some deterioration in US-Thai relations over the past year, and implied that the fault lay in Washington.



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*Some of Thanat's public statements are probably calculated to give Bangkok additional leverage with the US. He recognizes that Thailand remains dependent on the US for its security as long as it faces a credible Communist threat and is incapable of defending its territory with its own resources. In addition, it is questionable that there is much support from the military leadership for Thanat's idea of important changes in the country's foreign policy.*

**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

## INDONESIA

General Sumitro, Indonesia's top internal security officer who has also undertaken diplomatic tasks for President Suharto, expects to begin a month-long tour on 2 January to Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, Australia, and Japan. Sumitro wants to discuss Indonesia's "strategic thinking" on the "potential threat to Southeast Asia" and to explore defense and security cooperation "of a nonpact character."

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[redacted]  
seminars on common Asian problems.

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[redacted] Indonesia has devised a ten-year strategic plan to meet Chinese Communist subversion in Southeast Asia. The plan includes regional cooperation and Indonesian assistance--mainly advice and training--to individual governments. The Sumitro talks are a step in this direction.

*Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines are members with Indonesia in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.*

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[redacted]  
*Australia and Japan are included in Sumitro's tour presumably because Indonesia considers them potential sources of economic assistance and diplomatic support.*

*Indonesia continues to insist that it is not interested in a regional defense pact and is carefully avoiding any such implication in the upcoming talks. Djakarta is highly interested in area security, however, and is ambitious for an active area role as well. For example, last May it sponsored a regional conference to look into a solution of the Cambodian problem.*

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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## BOLIVIA

President Torres seized power last October with the backing, though not the full support, of several disparate groups. This support in some instances was conditioned on the acceptance of various demands that have since been sidestepped for the most part by Torres. As a result these special interest groups have become restless and are increasingly resorting to force to achieve their objectives. In the coming months Torres will face a major threat to the existence of his government, and Bolivia could be thrown into anarchy and bloodshed.

Torres' takeover was possible because the military group which overthrew President Ovando could not consolidate its power. The basic institutional unity of the military was damaged in those tumultuous days and they have not regrouped behind Torres. [redacted]

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Bolivian leftists are dissatisfied with Torres because he has not acted on any of his vaguely stated "revolutionary" programs, especially the progressive nationalization of foreign companies. The backing of leftist student and labor leaders was another critical element that allowed Torres to declare himself President. In return these groups expected some prestigious portfolios in the government, the scheduling of free elections, wage increases, and other concessions. These concessions have not materialized, however, and the attitudes of labor and students now range from wary suspicion to outright opposition.

Businessmen, too, are dissatisfied that the government has not enunciated any clear statement of its economic policies. They complain that it has been spineless in the face of leftist seizures of the largest cattle ranch in the country, the leading La Paz newspaper, and other private property. Even the limited support Torres had from the peasantry has dissolved and most of the campesinos have reverted to their normal apathy.

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*For maintaining power in the short run Torres must depend on the disorganization of his opposition. At present, no opposition group has the strength, organization and determination to replace him with a strong regime.* [redacted]

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