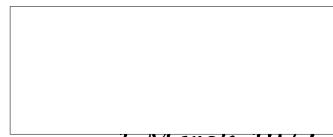


The President's Daily Brief

25X1



1 March 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

1 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Chinese leaders have made clear to the Chinese population that they are generally pleased with President Nixon's visit. (Page 1)

The Lebanese president is moving to curtail the fedayeen. (Page 2)

[redacted] 25X1

Jordanian officials claim UN mediator Jarring found the Egyptians "conciliatory" during recent talks in Cairo; no flexibility was seen in Jerusalem, however. (Page 4)

[redacted] 25X1

Venezuelan President Caldera has been increasing pressure on US oil companies. (Page 5)

At Annex

[redacted] Soviet and Chinese [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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COMMUNIST CHINA

Peking has underlined for its own population its endorsement of President Nixon's visit. A crowd of 5,000 was on hand at Peking airport to greet Chou En-lai on his return from Shanghai yesterday--an exceptional turnout for such an occasion. The official account of this greeting set the scene firmly in an atmosphere of unity. It noted that virtually all active members of the Politburo resident in Peking were on hand and stressed that "commanders and fighters of the People's Liberation Army" were present.

The account also made the unusual point that all members of the Politburo--including Mao's wife and ideologist Yao Wen-yuan, who were deeply involved in Red Guard excesses during the Cultural Revolution--"warmly" shook hands with Chou and his party. The account stressed that all present "expressed warm support for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs and their resolve to carry it out."

Such treatment of what would normally be a routine domestic flight by the Premier back to the capital after seeing off a foreign dignitary serves several purposes. It makes clear that the Chinese leaders are generally pleased with the Presidential visit as a whole. It provides an indirect endorsement by the military establishment and by Mao himself of the joint communiqué. It also underlines the strong position of Chou En-lai in the present structure of power in Peking. Indeed, the generally favorable atmosphere produced by the President's visit may have strengthened Chou's hand.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LEBANON-FEDAYEEN

President Franjiyah is moving to curtail fedayeen activity within Lebanon. According to the US Embassy in Beirut, the president has the support of the army and has warned the major politicians that there is a serious possibility that Israel will permanently occupy Lebanese territory unless the fedayeen are brought under control. As part of Franjiyah's action, the Lebanese Army moved into the Mt. Hermon border area to replace the fedayeen on Monday evening.

The fedayeen are organizing demonstrations against the government. The first occurred yesterday evening when an estimated 15,000 people participated in the funeral service for seven fedayeen killed in the clashes with the Israelis.

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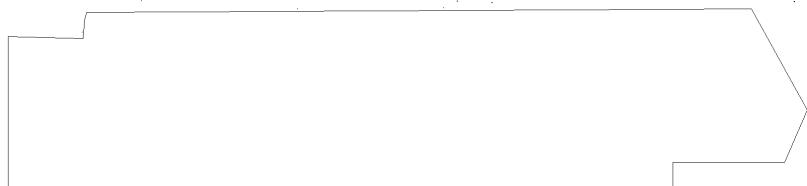
Israeli Army units, meanwhile, remained in the Mt. Hermon area yesterday. Director of Military Intelligence General Yariv last night told US officials in Tel Aviv that most Israeli forces had been withdrawn from Lebanon by Monday evening, but that "small, light forces" had been left behind to man observation posts. These, he explained, would be necessary until the Israelis were satisfied that all the fedayeen there had been replaced by the Lebanese Army.

Lebanese Commander in Chief Ghanim has told US officials that the Israelis withdrew their road-building equipment yesterday afternoon, but said that he would order Lebanese troops to fire on the Israelis should they return today.

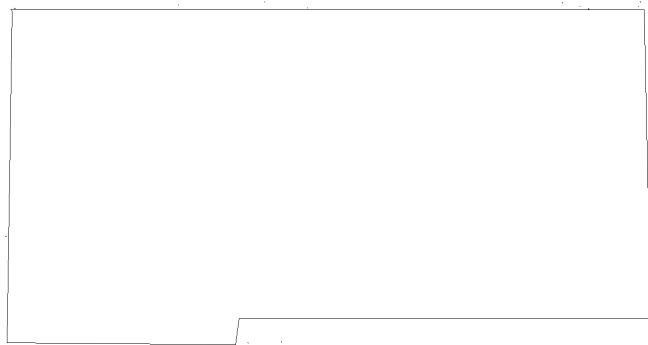
The Lebanese are well aware that they would come off second best in any battle with the Israelis and can be expected to avoid any such action if possible. Nevertheless, the presence of Israeli "observers" in Lebanon could touch off a clash.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

GREECE-CYPRUS



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MIDDLE EAST - UN

Jordanian officials in Amman have told Ambassador Brown that UN mediator Jarring, during his talks in Cairo from 18 to 20 February, found Egyptian Foreign Minister Ghalib "conciliatory" and ready to resume talks under Jarring's auspices if Israel showed signs of flexibility. Ghalib also expressed a willingness to see continued US efforts to open proximity talks, although his stated preference was for Jarring as the proximity talks mediator. Ghalib indicated further that Egypt could accept an informal Israeli response to Jarring's memorandum of February 1971 that would encompass something similar to the non-annexation formula suggested by the OAU mission. He asked Jarring to probe the Israeli position for signs of flexibility.

No such signs emerged from Jarring's visit to Jerusalem and, indeed, his round of visits to three Middle East capitals accomplished little beyond reassuring Jordan that it had not been forgotten. While Ghalib indicated some flexibility on the Israeli response to Jarring's memorandum--the principal stumbling block to continued Jarring talks--neither Egypt nor Israel indicated any give on the key issues which separate them. The most significant impression to emerge from the trip is Egypt's continuing interest in proximity talks and its failure to veto a US role in them.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

VENEZUELA

Since last summer President Caldera has been increasing pressure against the US oil companies. Last July a "reversion law" gave the state all installations and equipment when the companies' concessions expire (in most cases 1983) and required the firms to deposit up to ten percent of their annual depreciation write-offs at the Venezuelan central bank. In December the government imposed minimum export quotas on the companies. Most of the companies are trying to work out a compromise, but Creole, which is the largest, refuses to comply. Caracas rejects Creole's explanation that its declining production results from market conditions and regards its cutbacks as an assault on national sovereignty. Other recent manifestations of Caldera's growing nationalism include his government's denunciation of the US-Venezuelan trade agreement and proposals for new restrictive codes for foreign investment.

Additional measures against the oil companies may be in the offing as the government sees its revenues decreasing along with production. Caldera apparently believes that the companies are crying "wolf" and that they can still make a profit under the new controls. He argues that the US need for Venezuelan oil is so important that some accommodation is assured. His state of the union message tomorrow will provide additional clues to his future course.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

Israel-Syria: The Israelis this morning hit fedayeen bases in Syria with aircraft and artillery, apparently in an effort to demonstrate that fedayeen attacks from Syria are just as unacceptable as those from Lebanon. Terrorist activity along the Israeli-Syrian cease-fire line in the Golan Heights had increased following Israel's punitive strikes into Lebanon.

USSR-Bangladesh: Prime Minister Mujibur Rahman's current visit to Moscow may lead to an economic aid agreement. A Soviet delegation is currently in Dacca studying possible aid projects. An aid agreement could involve the resumption of projects undertaken before the war in what was then East Pakistan. The US Embassy in New Delhi believes India has become somewhat displeased at Moscow's cultivation of Bangladesh and speculates that Indian Policy Planning Chief Dhar, also currently in Moscow, may be trying to secure better Soviet-Indian coordination of relations with Bangladesh.

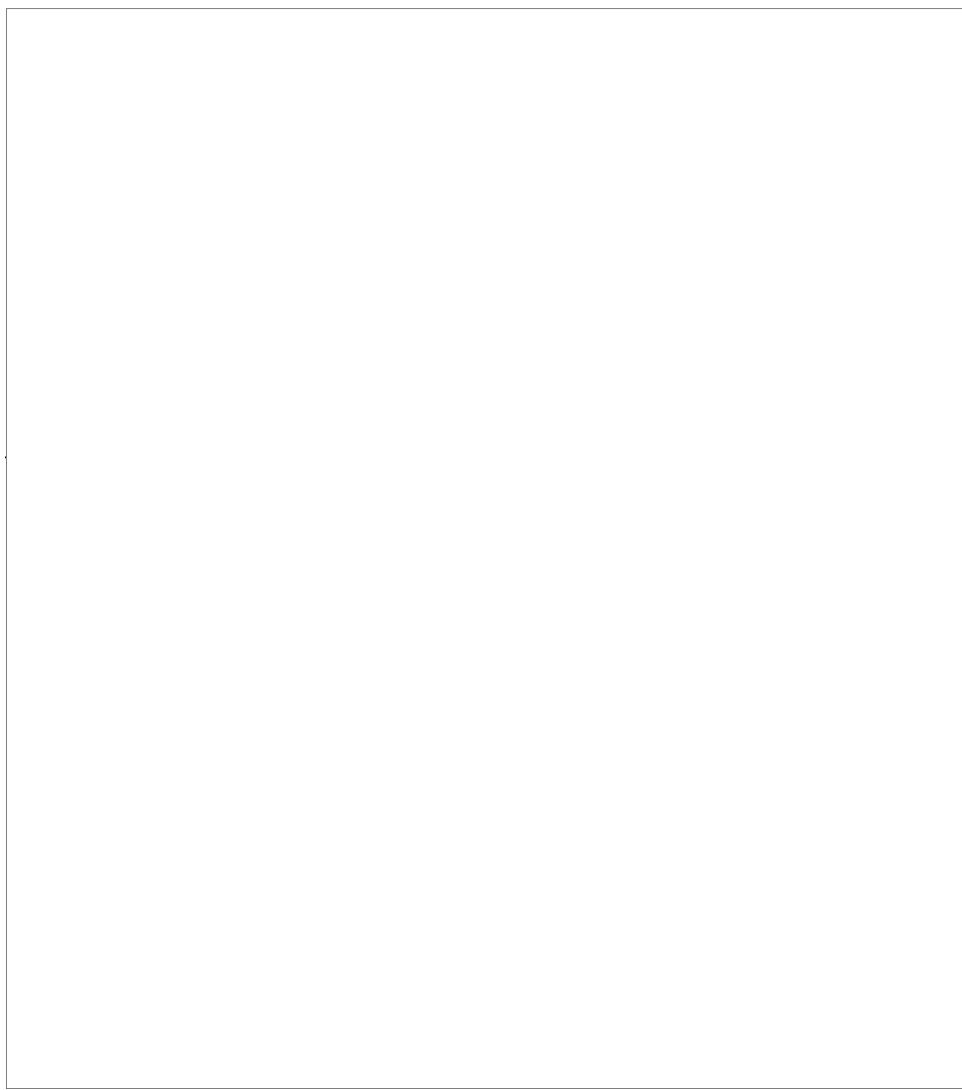
Panama: The government has given no indication that it is about to change from its tough position on a new canal treaty as the negotiations resume in Washington next week.

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Uruguay:

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SOVIET AND CHINESE

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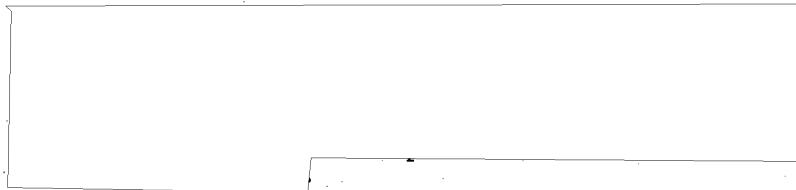
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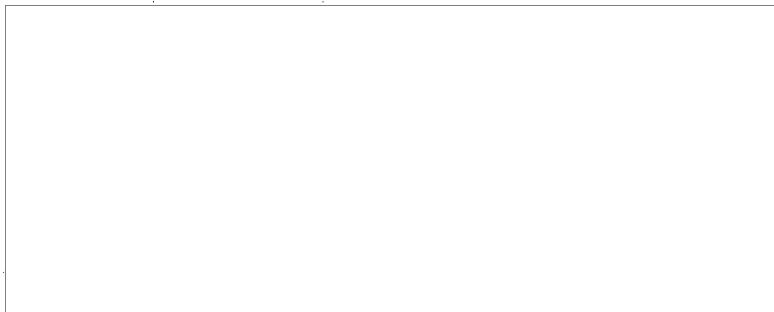
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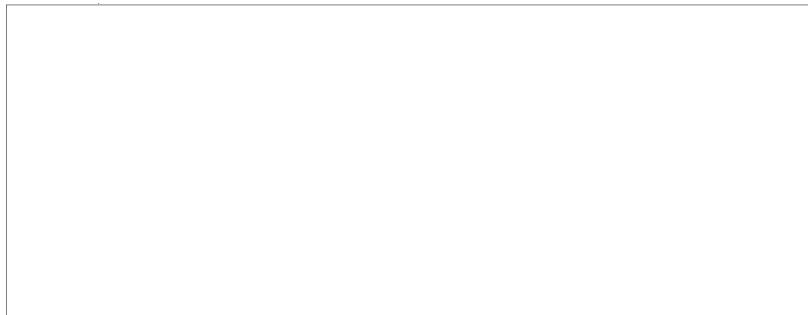
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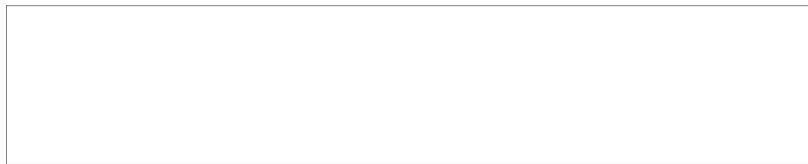
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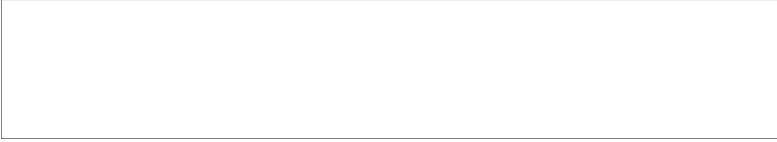
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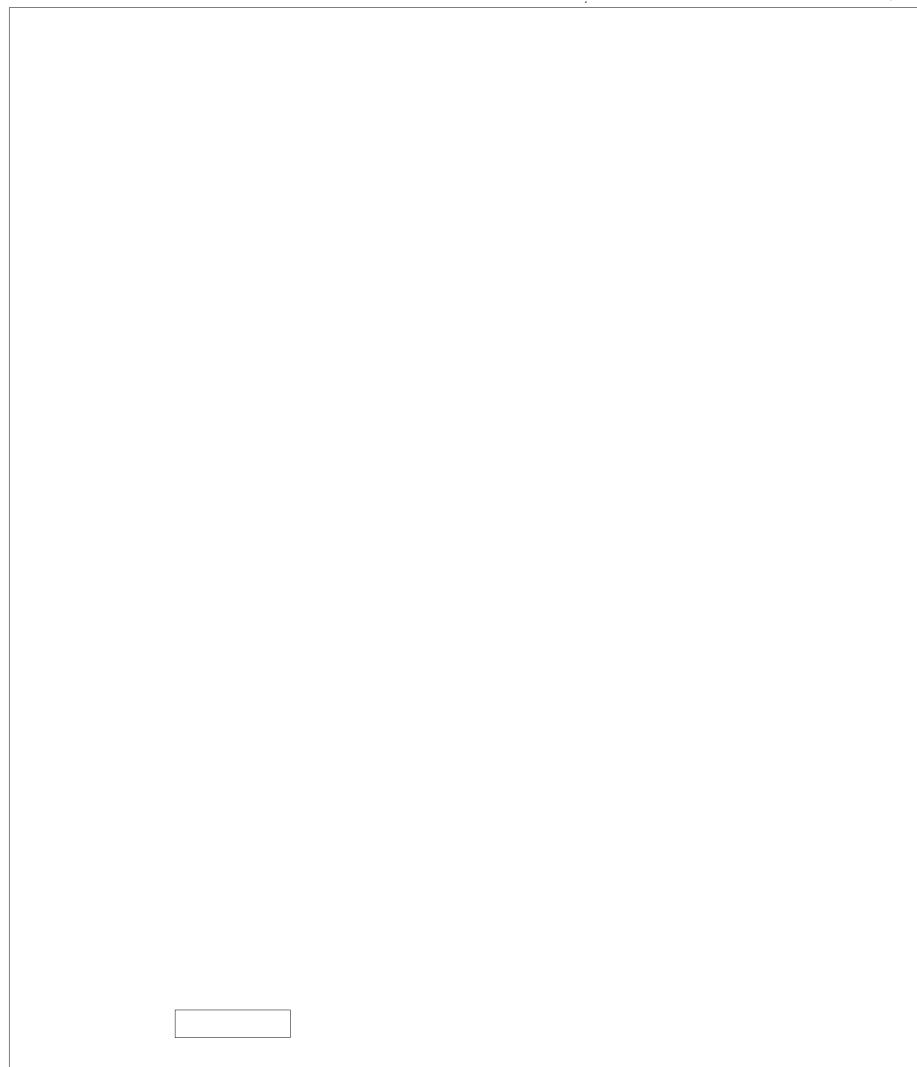
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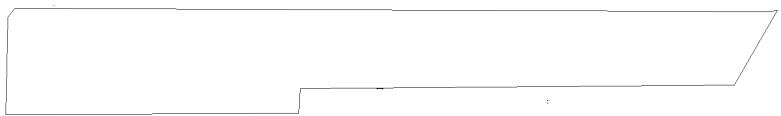


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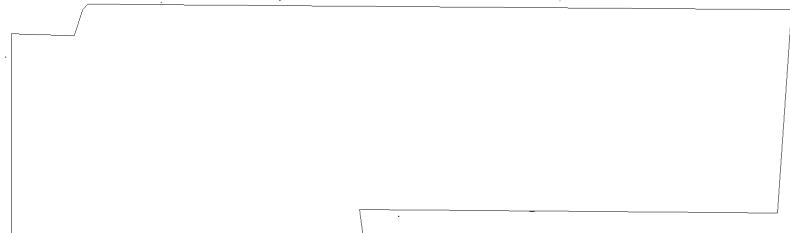
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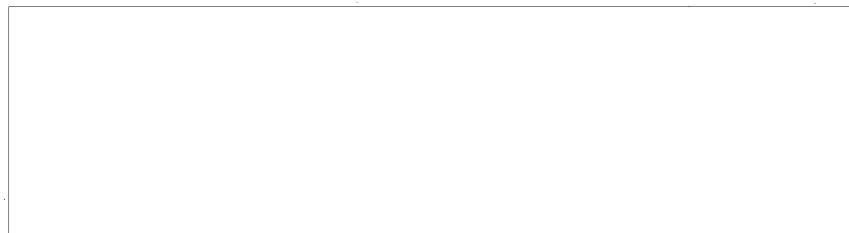
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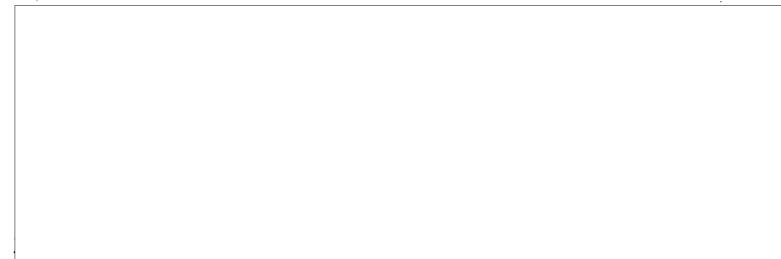
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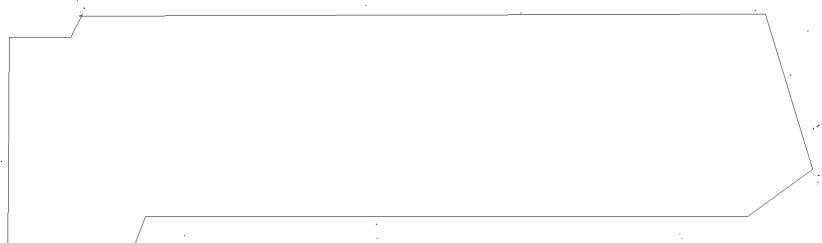
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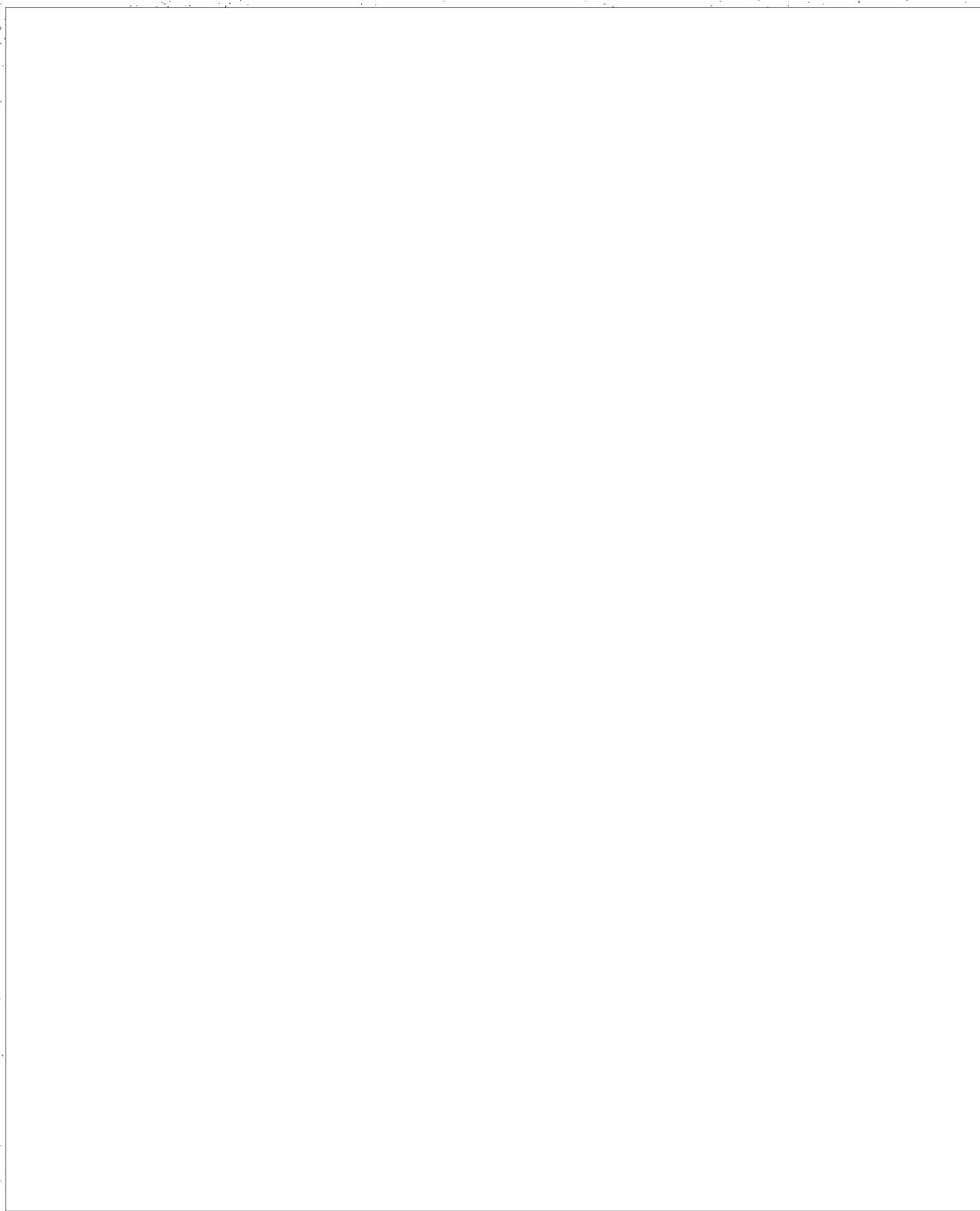


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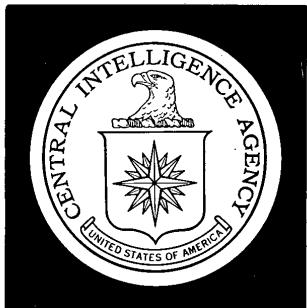
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2 March 1972



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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

2 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Japan

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(Page 1)

/Laos.

Chinese

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(Page 2)

More of Vang Pao's irregulars are now pulling back from the Plaine des Jarres area. (Page 3)

Cambodia

(Page 4)

25X1

Syrian air strikes in the Golan Heights area yesterday seem likely to provoke further Israeli retaliation. (Page 5)

Jordan

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(Page 6)

Some dissatisfaction is surfacing in Bangladesh over the Mujib government's lack of headway against its mounting problems. (Page 8)

Soviets

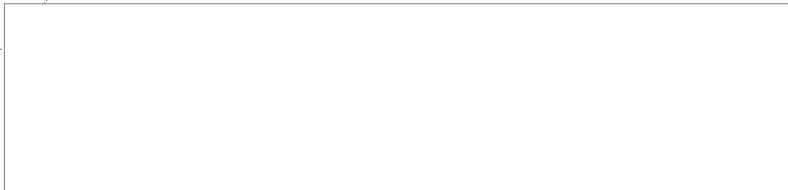
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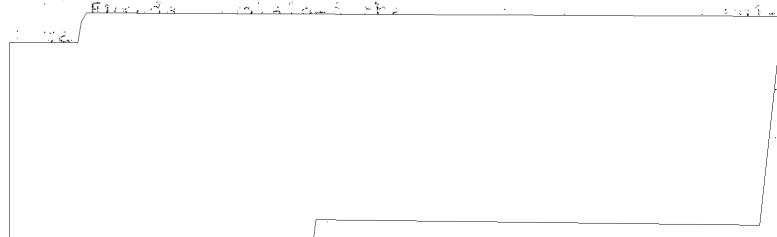
JAPAN



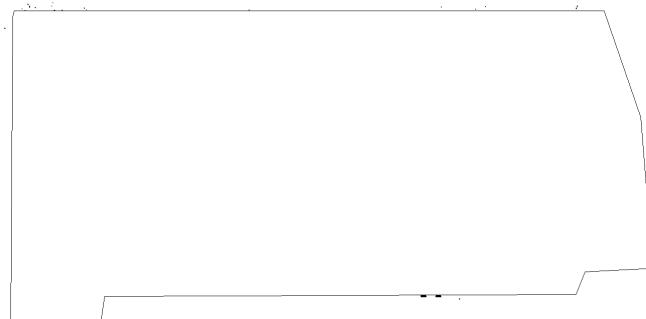
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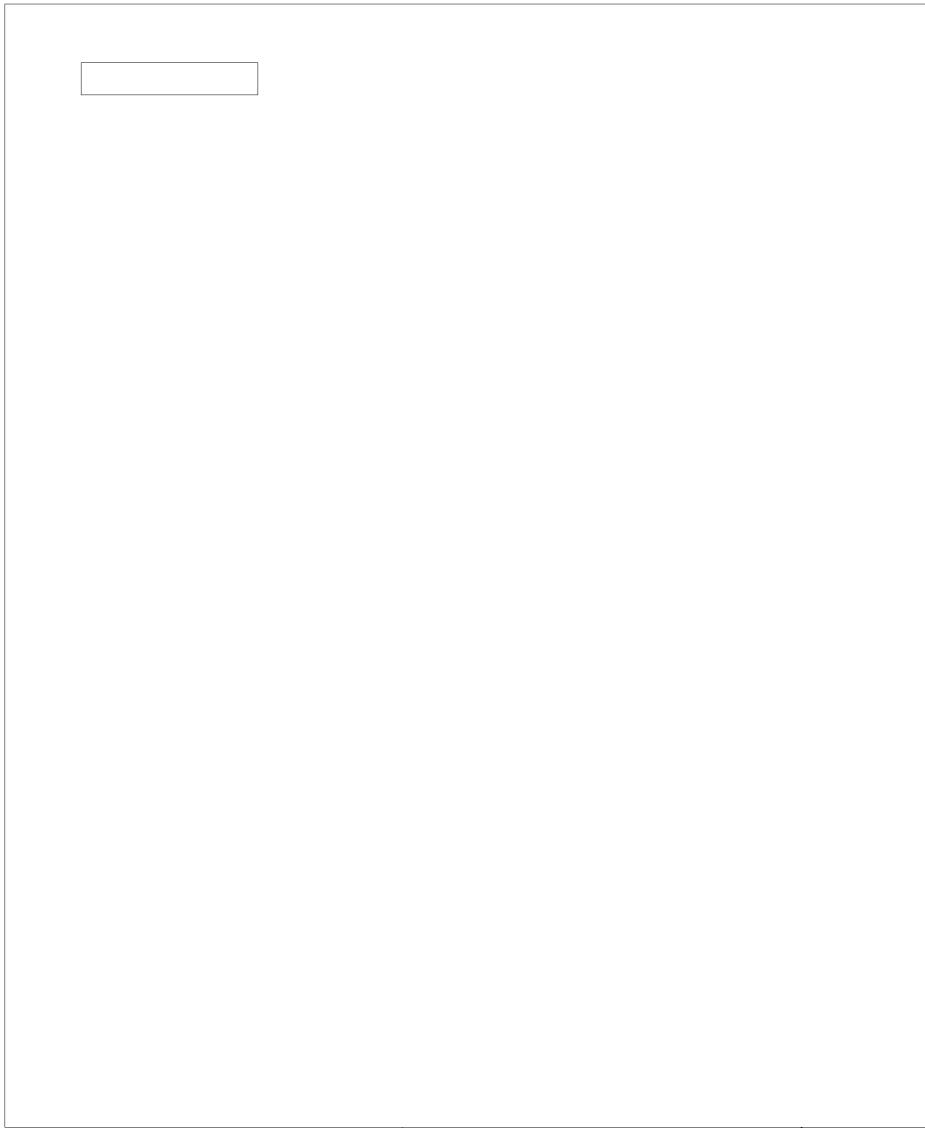


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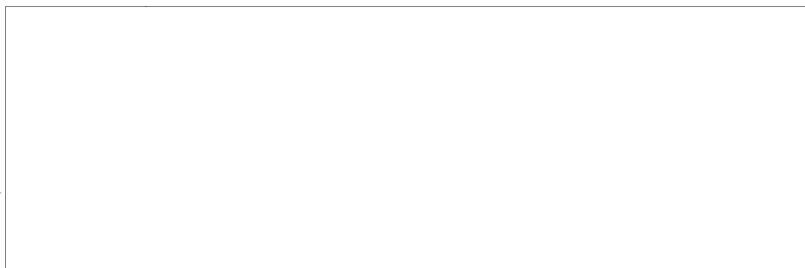


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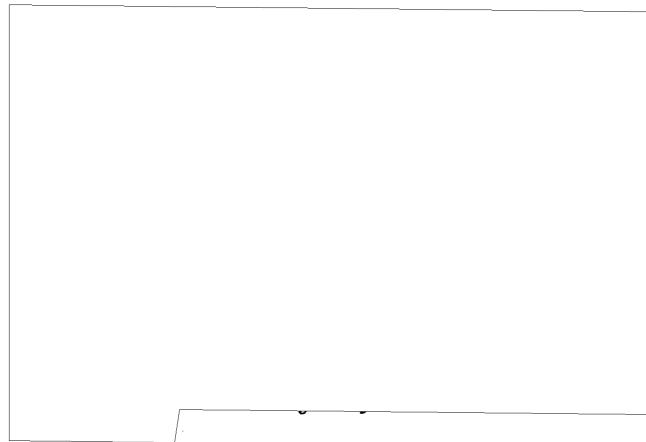
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LAOS-CHINA



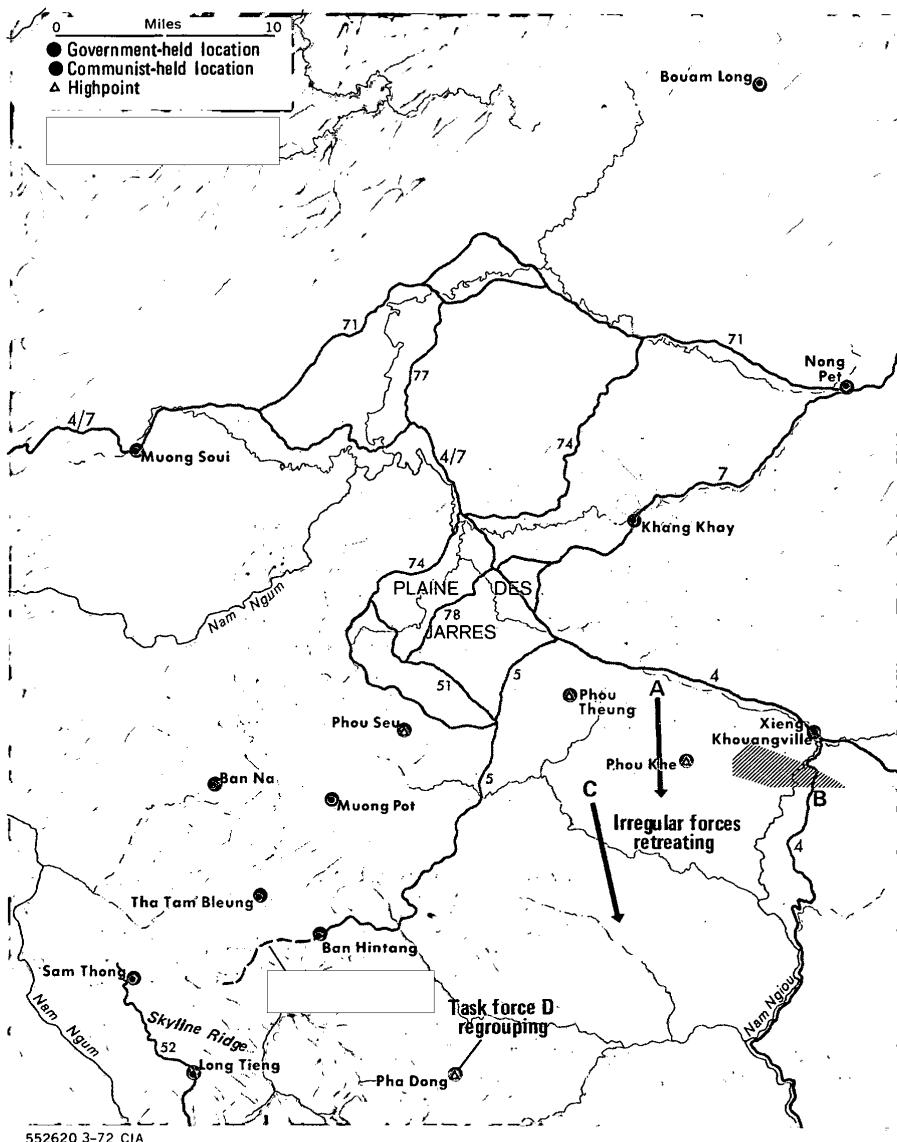
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



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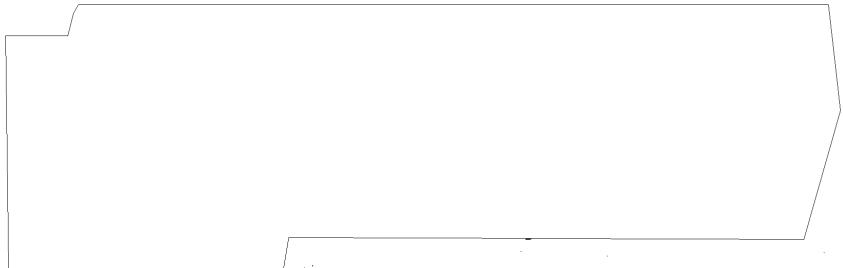
LAOS

The North Vietnamese on Tuesday overran Vang Pao's task force that had been in the southeastern foothills of the Plaine des Jarres, and the irregulars now are moving south toward Pha Dong. Elements of a second task force dispersed by North Vietnamese attacks last weekend are already regrouping at Pha Dong. A third force, which had been operating east of Phou Theung, has been ordered back to the south. The fourth force is still in the hills between Phou Khe and Xieng Khouangville.

In the Long Tieng and Sam Thong areas, the evidence continues to suggest that the North Vietnamese may be preparing for another push. They are still moving large quantities of supplies into storage areas near Long Tieng. Trucks are using the new road from the southern edge of the Plaine to Ban Hintang, and recent photography indicates that the road is being extended to a point some five miles north of Long Tieng. Air observers report that anti-aircraft fire along the eastern portion of the road has recently become extremely heavy.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA



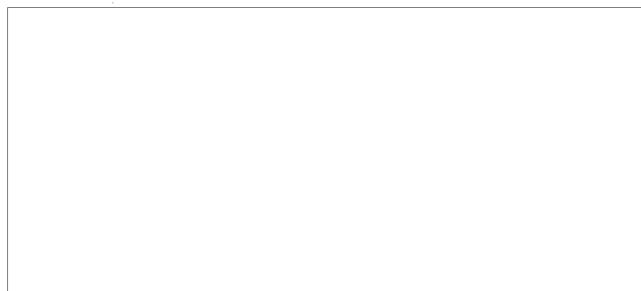
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SYRIAN AIR STRIKES IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS



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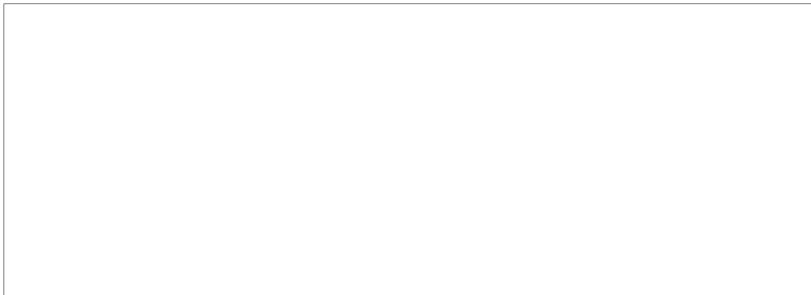
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL - ARAB STATES

Jerusalem Radio has confirmed that Syrian planes flew over the Golan Heights late yesterday afternoon and dropped bombs near two settlements, but the Israelis claim no damage resulted. Israeli anti-aircraft fired at the planes and Israeli aircraft tried to intercept them but made no contact. The Syrians say their strikes were in retaliation for the Israeli air attacks earlier in the day against fedayeen bases in Syria.

The Syrians may have acted under pressure from pro-fedayeen elements in the country and perhaps inside the government. Their strikes are almost certain to provoke further Israeli retaliation.

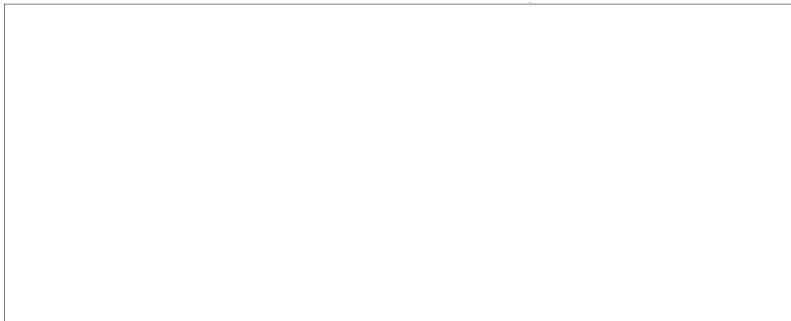
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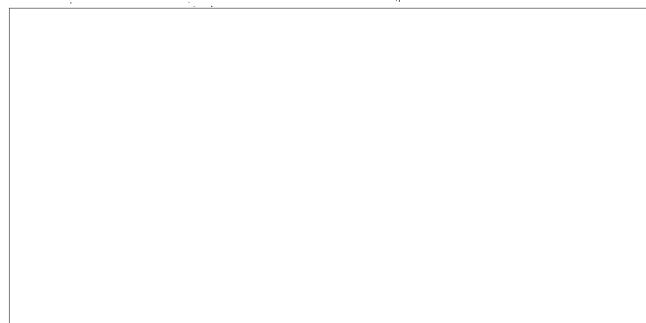
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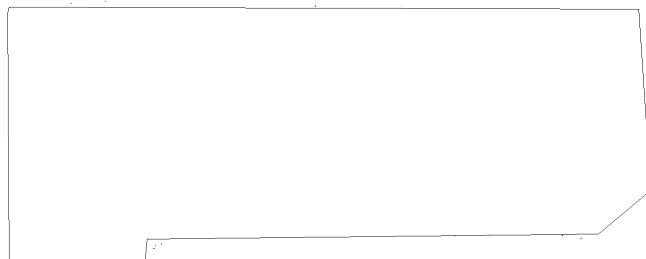
JORDAN



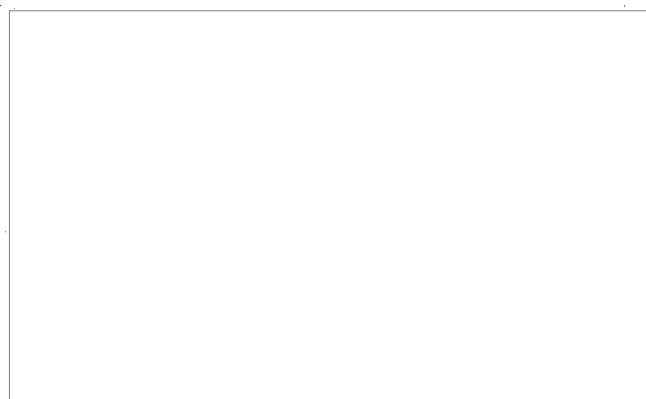
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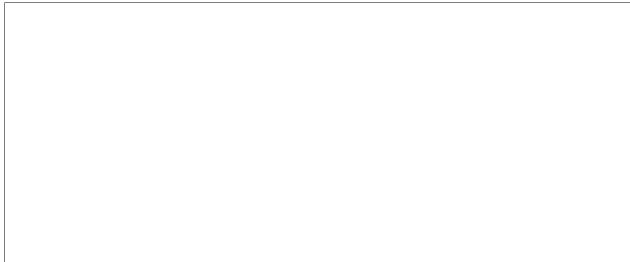
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BANGLADESH

The post-independence euphoria surrounding Prime Minister Mujib's government is beginning to wane, and the country's problems are continuing to mount.

--In the second half of February, at least four clashes erupted in various parts of the country between government security forces and groups of armed hooligans or ex-guerrillas.

--Unemployment is widespread, while industrial enterprises formerly owned by West Pakistanis are idle and prices are rising.

--Men fruitlessly seeking jobs are flowing into the cities, and shantytowns are spreading.

--Food supply and food distribution are still holding up, but a fuel shortage threatens both the shaky transportation system and crop irrigation equipment.

--There are indications that jute--the country's main foreign exchange earner--is being smuggled to India in substantial quantities by profiteers.

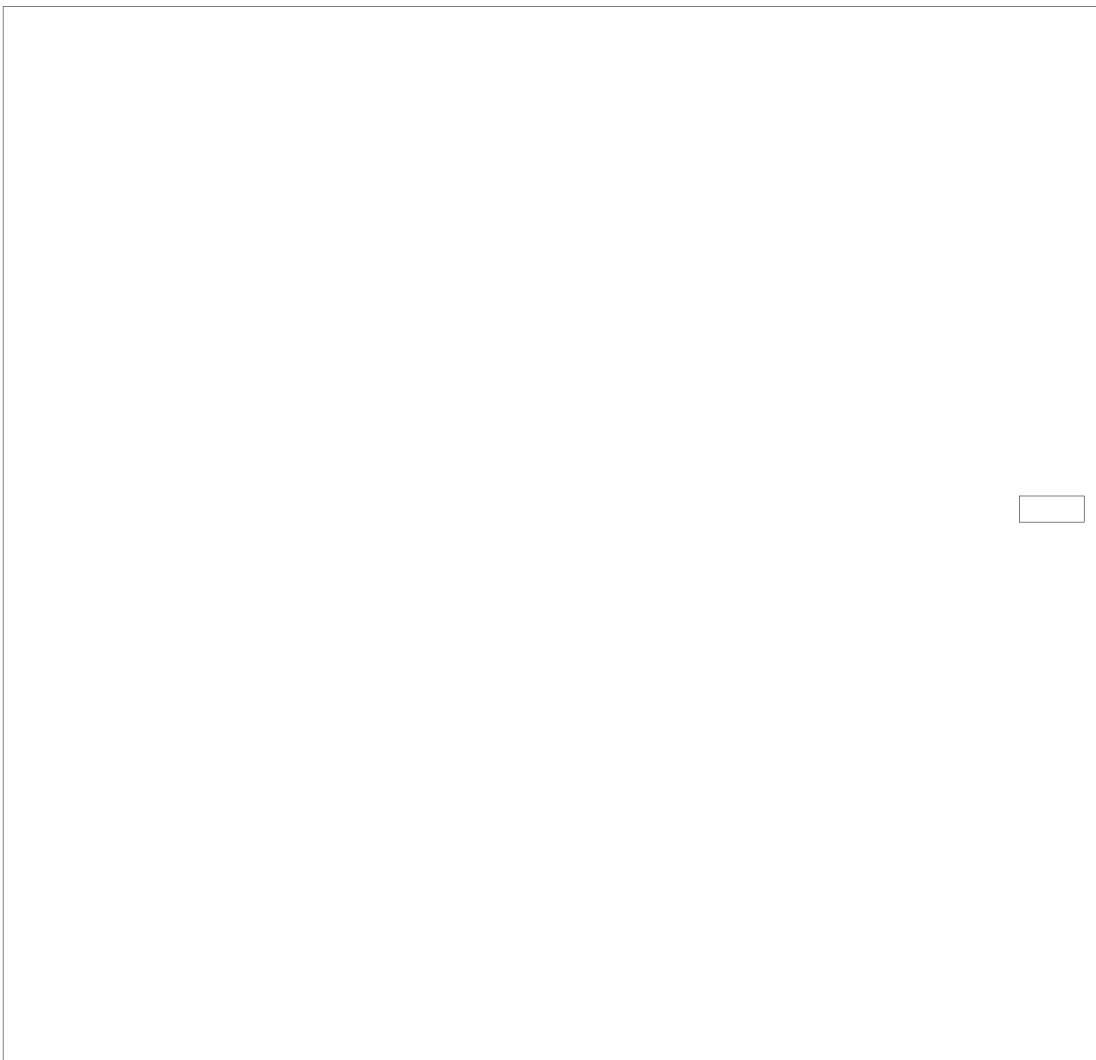
So far, no organized large-scale opposition to Mujib seems to be developing, but disaffection with his government is becoming more open. Recently a statement by the vice president of the Dacca Chamber of Commerce criticizing the government's performance appeared in the local press.

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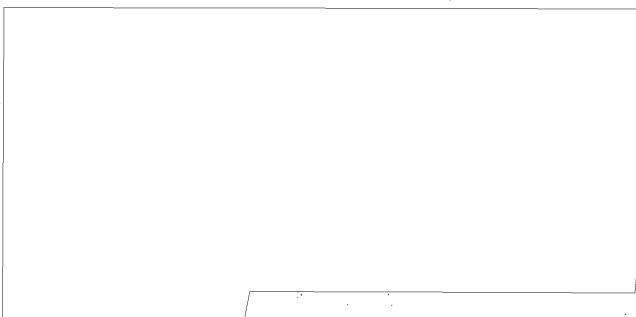
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USSR

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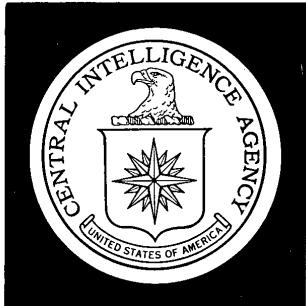


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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

We have received our first indication of North Vietnam's reaction to the Sino-US communique. (Page 1)

The presence of fedayeen in border areas of southern Lebanon increases the possibility of renewed Israeli-fedayeen clashes. (Page 2)

The Cypriot bishops are demanding that Archbishop Makarios resign as president of Cyprus. (Page 3)

Libya is asking the Mediterranean riparian countries to join in a plan for neutralizing Malta. (Page 4)

Sudan's relations with the USSR remain badly strained. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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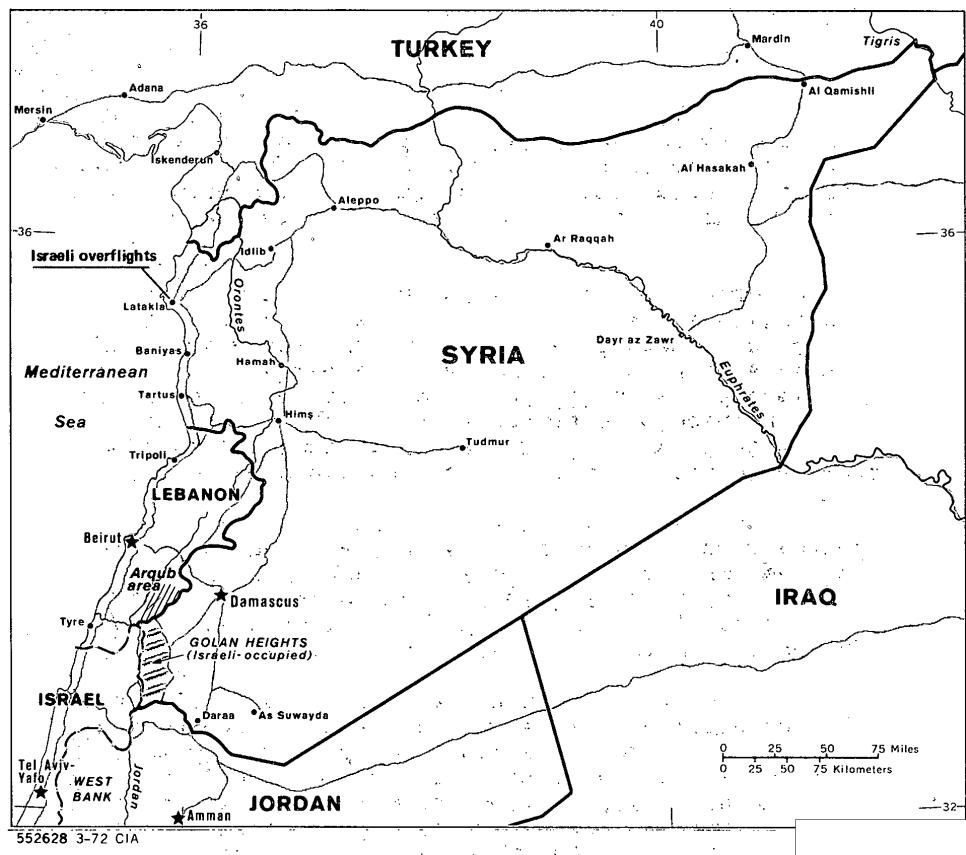
NORTH VIETNAM

The first indication of North Vietnam's reaction to the Sino-US communiqué has come in a dispatch from the Hanoi correspondent of the French Communist paper L'Humanité. The article quotes "observers" in the North Vietnamese capital as complaining that China's statements on Laos and Cambodia were evasive and "juggled" the Pathet Lao and Cambodian Communist negotiating positions. The sources also criticized the section of the document dealing with force withdrawals for not adequately distinguishing between the "aggressor and the victim of aggression." The communiqué's call for total withdrawal of forces from the region was characterized as "hypocrisy" since it made no mention of a time frame for the action. This failure to set a deadline, said the observers, could lead to reinforcement of "puppet regimes" in Indochina under the guise of self-determination.

While the authenticity of a Communist correspondent's report is open to question, the criticisms and complaints surfaced in this dispatch center on issues about which we believe the North Vietnamese are sensitive.

The North Vietnamese Government has yet to make any official statement concerning the President's talks in China, but its concern has also been reflected in the media blackout of all news and commentary from Peking until after the President's departure for home. During this period, Radio Hanoi devoted many broadcasts to replaying earlier vitriolic press attacks on the US and President Nixon personally.

In contrast to the media blackout, Communist party communications links carried some news of the President's trip, mostly from foreign sources, to cadres in the countryside. "Elite" cadres were ultimately sent a copy of the final communiqué.



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-LEBANON-SYRIA

The presence of fedayeen in border areas of southern Lebanon increases the possibility of renewed Israeli-fedayeen clashes, which would most likely involve Lebanese forces.

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[redacted] the Lebanese Army has been unable to prevent the return of some 1,500 fedayeen to the Arqub--the area of southern Lebanon opposite the Golan Heights.

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Meanwhile, demonstrations planned by the fedayeen and their leftist supporters in southern Lebanon yesterday did not take place. Elements of the local population who fled the area during the height of this week's fighting have now returned and are described by Lebanese officials as pleased to see the army occupying positions in the towns and villages. Some anti-government demonstrations did occur in Beirut, but they were brief and without incident.

Israel has not retaliated for Syria's air strike on Tuesday, but did conduct overflights yesterday of northern Syria including the port city of Latakia. Tel Aviv has made it clear that future incidents will draw an Israeli response.

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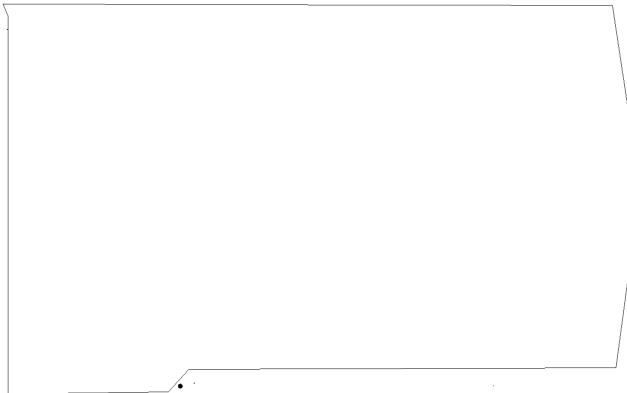
CYPRUS

Yesterday Archbishop Makarios was formally asked to resign as president of Cyprus by the three other bishops of the Cypriot church--ostensibly because his exercise of temporal authority conflicts with his spiritual role.

[redacted] the bishops acted under pressure from Athens. Makarios has asked for time to consider the request and has called an immediate emergency meeting of his cabinet.

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In past confrontations with the bishops, who under canon law could strip Makarios of his ecclesiastical functions, the archbishop has had no trouble in outmaneuvering them. As a first step, he is most likely to stir up popular sentiment against the bishops and mass demonstrations in support of Makarios are planned in Nicosia today. He might eventually resort to a resignation and a plebiscite in full confidence that he retains the support of most of the Greek Cypriots.

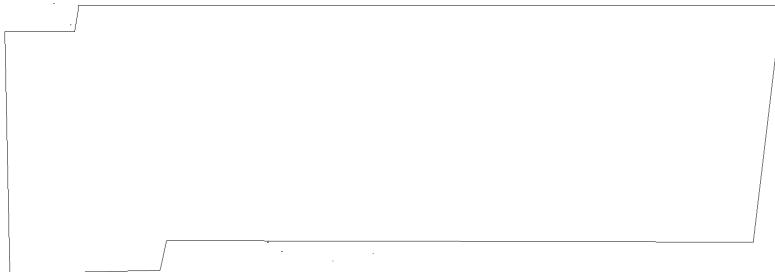
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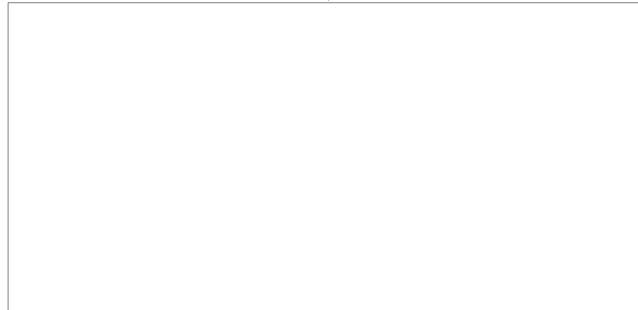
LIBYA-MALTA

Libya is asking the Mediterranean riparian countries to join in a plan for neutralizing Malta and "ridding it of foreign bases." The Libyans are soliciting both political and financial support for such an effort and are planning to call a conference to get things going if reactions are favorable.

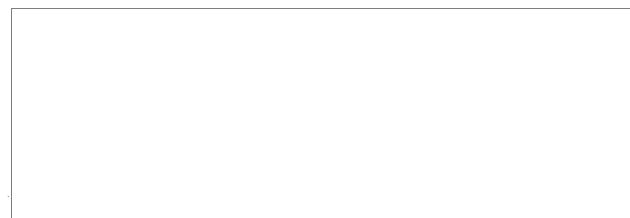
The only response of which we are aware thus far is from France. The French reported to NATO yesterday that they had recently been sounded out by the Libyans and noted that Paris was replying negatively.



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NOTES

Sudan-USSR: President Numayri's characterization of relations with the USSR as "very bad" in a press interview yesterday indicates that recent Egyptian efforts to mediate between the two have failed. Numayri is angry that the USSR has delivered no arms to Sudan since the coup in July; he threatened that he would scrap what weapons he has if the Soviets fail to deliver spare parts. Numayri is still resisting the posting of a Soviet ambassador to Sudan, even though on 11 February TASS announced that a new one had been appointed and implied that he would soon arrive on station.

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Pakistan: President Bhutto has announced a new program that will reduce the amount of land any single individual can own by 70 percent. The government will transfer excess holdings without charge to tenant farmers and small plot holders. Bhutto may reap some political advantage by this seemingly radical move, but because the ceilings apply only to individuals, many large family holdings are likely to go untouched. The million acres estimated to be involved will by no means satisfy the needs of the three to five million landless farmers.

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4 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Japan]

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(Page 1)

There is a distinct possibility of trouble between Guatemala and British Honduras now that London has decided to augment its garrison in Belize. (Page 2)

Archbishop Makarios has demonstrated his strong support among Cypriots. (Page 3)

Pakistani President Bhutto is attempting to bring the country's military chiefs under control. (Page 4)

Egypt [] (Page 5)

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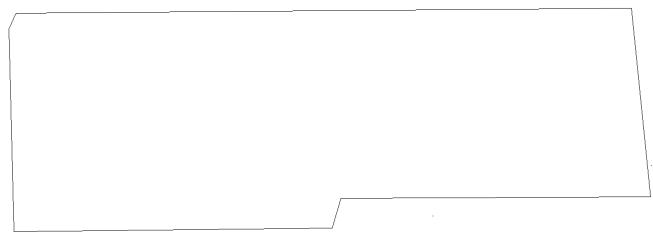
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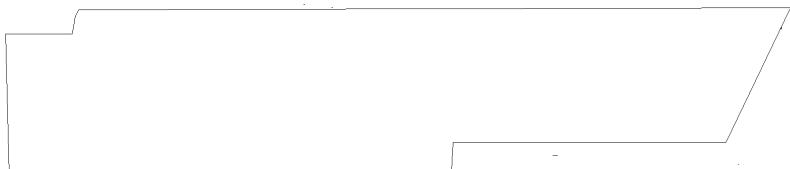
JAPAN-CHINA



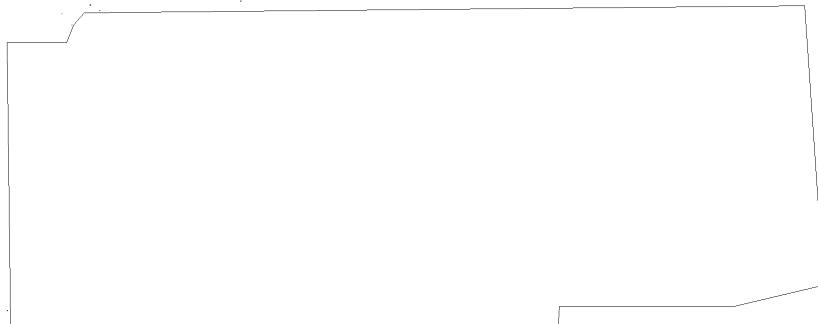
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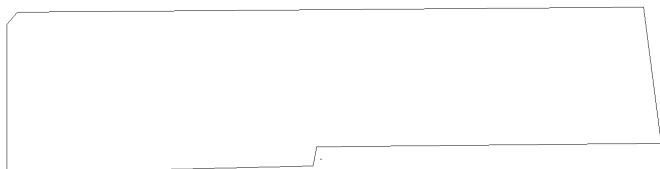
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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UNITED KINGDOM - GUATEMALA

The British have informed the Guatemalan Government that they intend permanently to raise the strength of their garrison and install anti-aircraft weapons in neighboring British Honduras.

Until recently, the garrison consisted of one company of infantry, about 250 men. When the British thought they detected a desire on the part of the Guatemalans to satisfy their claims to British Honduras through the use of force, however, a battalion of grenadier guards was sent to the territory, ostensibly for military exercises. The British now plan gradually to replace the guards with companies of Gurkha infantry, apparently believing that a stronger military position will help in negotiations with Guatemala.

The Guatemalans have reacted sharply to the British decision, characterizing it as a provocation. Foreign Minister Herrera told Ambassador Bowdler on Thursday that his country cannot negotiate with a "gun at its head," and was particularly upset that the British intend to publicize their move, probably on Monday. He claimed publicity would put his government in an extremely difficult position vis-a-vis its hotheaded nationalists. President Arana yesterday called his cabinet into emergency session to plan Guatemala's strategy.

The Guatemalans are jumpy because despite London's denials, they tend to interpret the augmentation of British forces as preparatory to granting independence to British Honduras. They fear such a move could imperil satisfaction of Guatemala's territorial claims. Rather than becoming more amenable to negotiation of its claims, the Guatemalan Government may now find it necessary for domestic political reasons to adopt a more belligerent stance than heretofore. This could well include military moves that could heighten, rather than lessen tensions.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CYPRUS

Large numbers of Greek Cypriots demonstrated yesterday in support of President Makarios, and the three bishops who called for his resignation appear to be in some physical danger. The Cypriot House of Representatives yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution calling on Makarios to continue as president.

These demonstrations of support would seem to counter, at least for the present, this latest move to unseat Makarios. The greatest danger for the Archbishop now is that the popular reaction will get out of hand, giving the Greeks an excuse to intervene militarily. According to a UN official on Cyprus, the 950-man Greek military contingent there is in "a high state of readiness."

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

Yesterday President Bhutto dismissed his army and air force commanders, as well as six lesser officers. He publicly explained that he was acting to end the Pakistani military's attempt to play a political role.

The dismissals seem intended primarily to assert Bhutto's personal control over the greatest potential threat to his authority. He had himself appointed Gul Hasan as army commander on entering office last December, but strains had developed between them. Gul Hasan's refusal last week to follow Bhutto's order to send troops into Lahore during a police strike seems to have been the last straw.

Bhutto's action could also be related to a growing controversy with the Pathan leader of the Northwest Frontier Province. Both the dismissed officers are Pathans, and their replacements are natives of the Punjab.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Egypt-Israel

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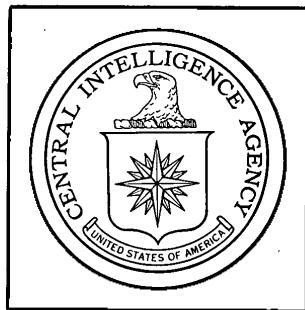
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Sunday Cable 5 Mar 72

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SUNDAY CABLE
5 March 72

CYPRUS

The Greek Government, in a note verbale delivered to President Makarios yesterday, has reiterated its demands that the Czech arms be turned over to the UN forces on Cyprus and that steps be taken to form a new government of "national unity." [redacted] [redacted] the new note does not demand that Makarios resign but calls on him to respond immediately in writing, giving his "unequivocal acceptance" of the demands.

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In what may have been a show of force to underscore the seriousness of the note, there were reports yesterday that three separate convoys of National Guard troops, involving several hundred men, were moving toward Nicosia. A UN observer also confirmed that there was "substantial military movement" around the island, but this terminated without incident. Tension again seems to be increasing among the Turkish Cypriot community where a prominent leader has called for intervention by both Greece and Turkey to restore stability to the island.

Although there have been indications that Makarios is willing to go a long way toward meeting the Greek demands, he is likely to be reluctant to put this in writing. He apparently has already taken steps to place the Czech arms under UN supervision, but this will satisfy neither Athens nor Ankara which demand full UN control. There are also reports that Makarios is considering resigning in the face of mounting pressure from both Athens and Church leaders on the island, but so far he has made no overt move in this direction.

NOTES

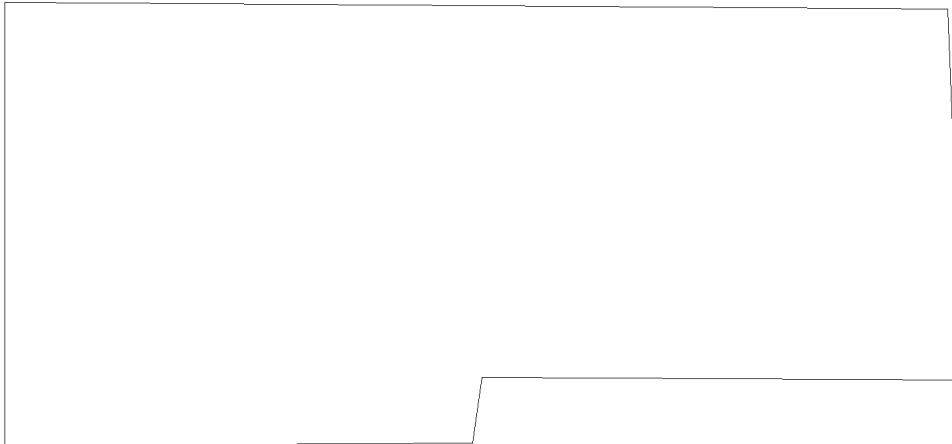
Malta-UK: In response to the latest British invitation, Prime Minister Mintoff has arrived in London for a new round of talks. He is to meet with Defense Minister Carrington all day today and Monday morning. A session with Prime Minister Heath is scheduled for Monday afternoon.

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UK-Guatemala: The tension resulting from the UK decision to reinforce its garrison in British Honduras has eased somewhat. After the Guatemalan cabinet met in emergency session on Friday, Foreign Minister Herrera told Ambassador Bowdler that he would draft a note of protest, but that his colleagues had not reacted as sharply as anticipated. Yesterday Herrera informed Bowdler that President Arana had authorized a note accepting ministerial talks with the British late next week provided the UK holds off on any troop movements or public announcement of its decision. The British have told us they will defer an announcement until Monday and perhaps even longer if they detect any "give" on the part of Guatemala.

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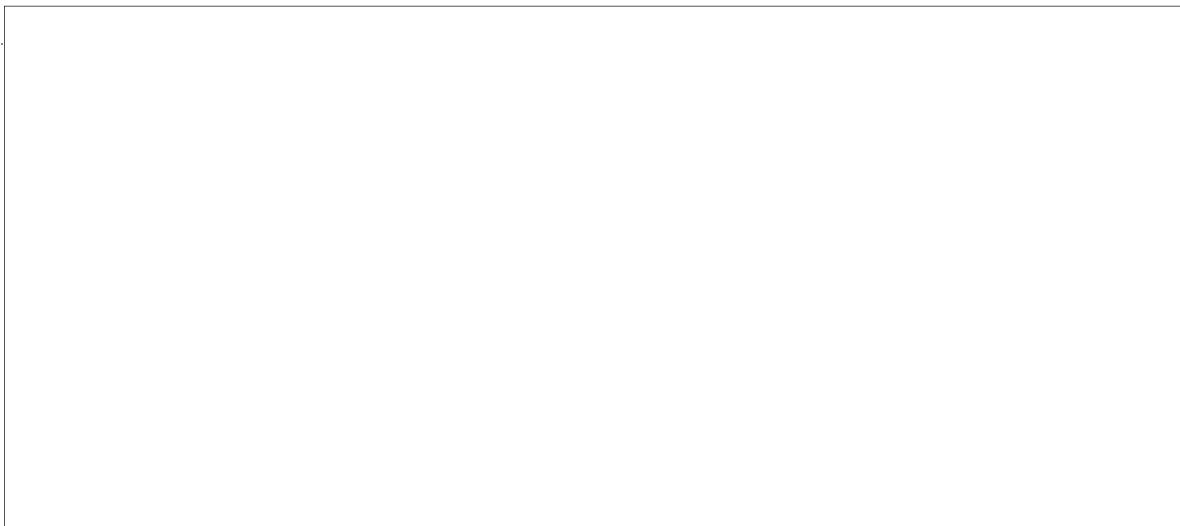


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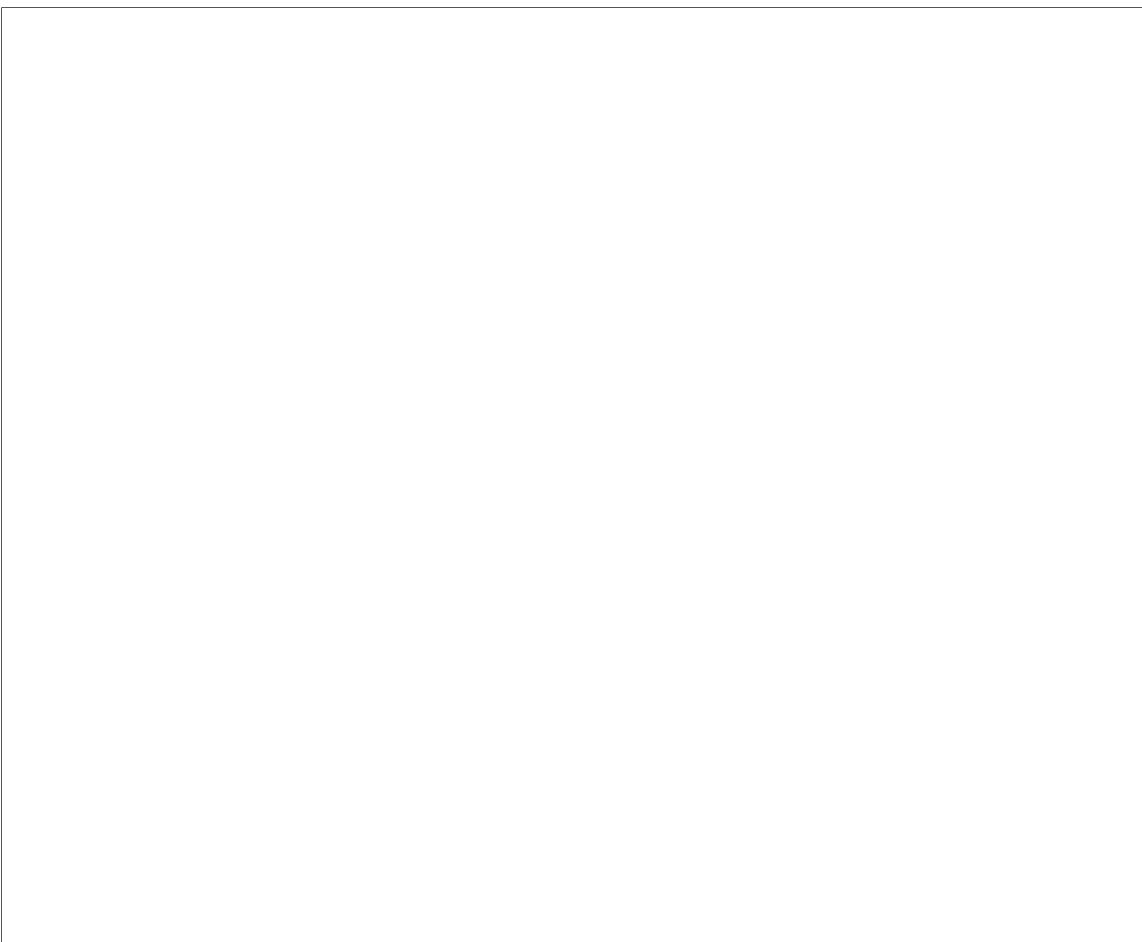
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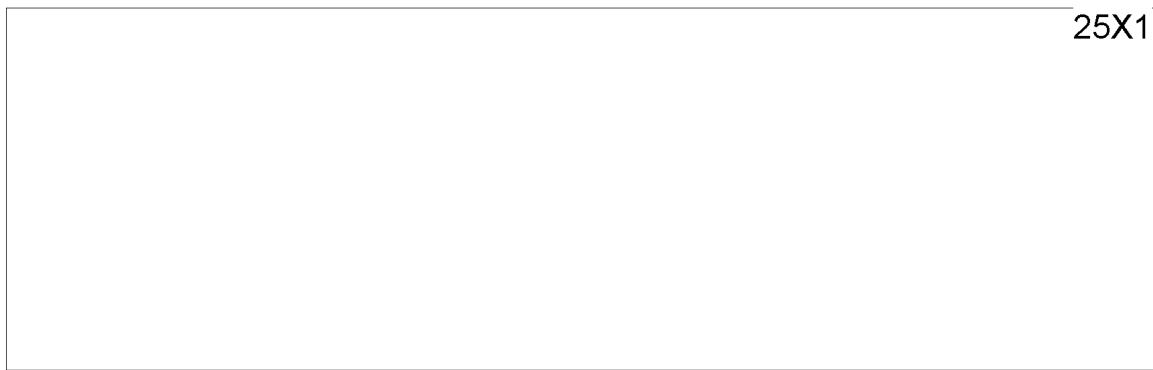


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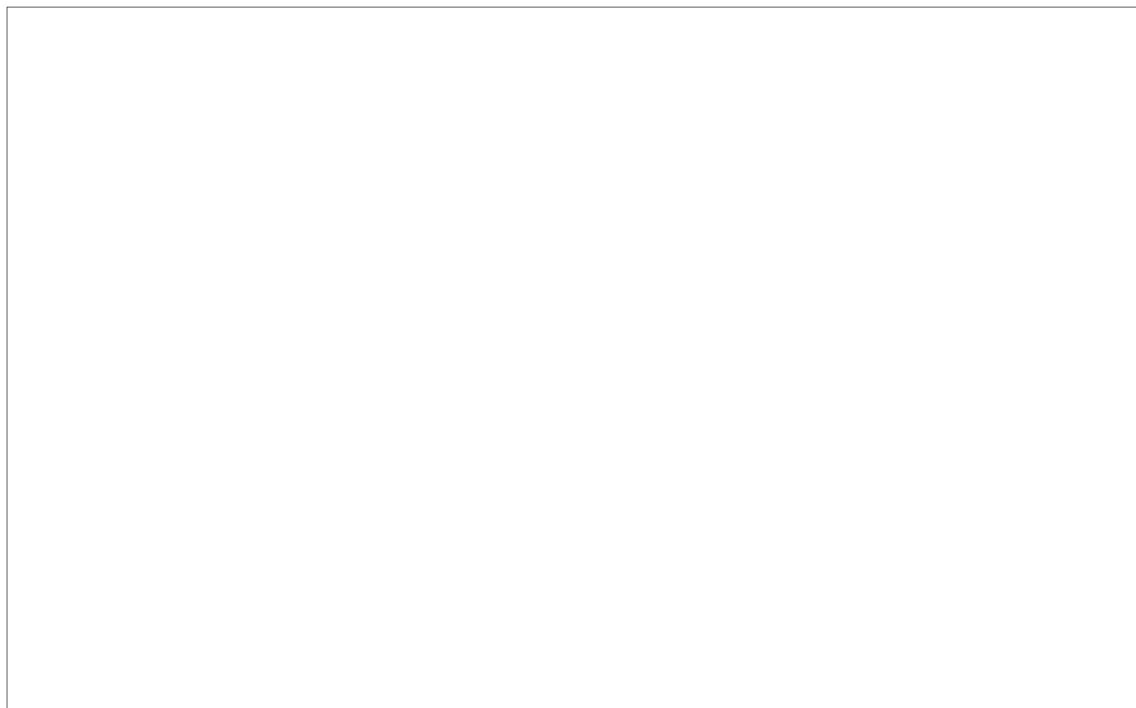
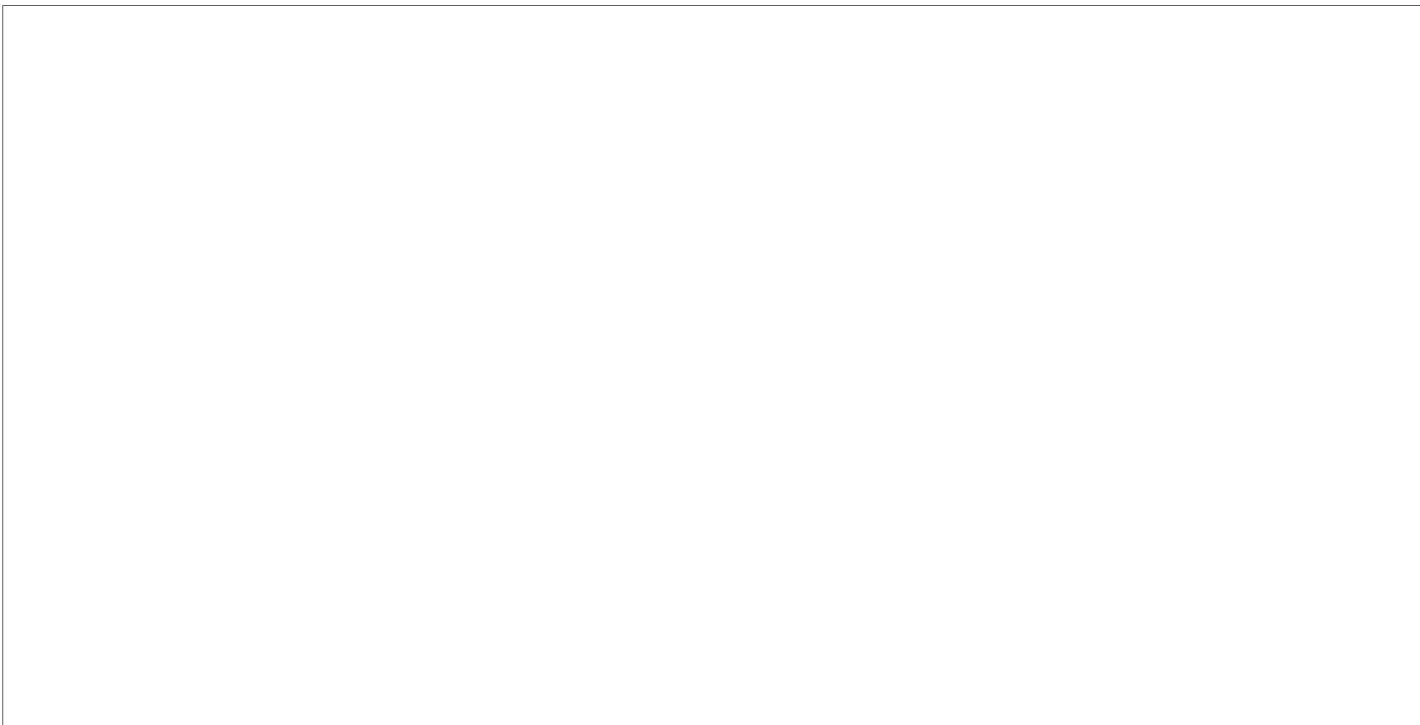


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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Cypriot President Makarios apparently is weighing some further response, including possible resignation, to the intensifying Greek pressure. (Page 1)

Soviet

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Cuba. (Page 2)

Talks between the UK and Malta resumed yesterday in London. (Page 2)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CYPRUS

President Makarios has been preparing an answer
to the demands made by the Greek Government in its
note of 11 February,

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Makarios is also considering resigning the
presidency. If he does so, Makarios will couple his
announcement with a proclamation setting a date for
national elections.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**NOTES**USSR-Cuba

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USSR-Bangladesh: Sunday's communiqué winding up Prime Minister Rahman's visit to the USSR expresses Bangladesh backing for a number of foreign policy positions favored by Moscow, notably the Viet Cong's seven-point peace plan and the 1967 UN resolution on the Middle East. There was no mention of major new aid commitments, but Moscow agreed to proceed with over \$40 million in projects begun in Bangladesh prior to the war. The communiqué indicates that some further aid for reconstruction of industries, transport, and fisheries and the training of technicians will be made available.

Malta-UK: Prime Minister Mintoff began a new round of talks in London yesterday with Defense Secretary Carrington.

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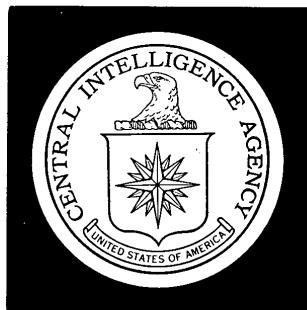
[] the first day's discussions brought some progress on bilateral issues but no change on the major sticking points. The talks are to resume this morning and a session with Prime Minister Heath is scheduled for this afternoon.

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UK-Guatemala: The tension resulting from the UK decision to reinforce its garrison in British Honduras eased somewhat during the weekend. On Saturday Guatemalan Foreign Minister Herrera told Ambassador Bowdler that, at President Arana's direction, he was sending the British a note agreeing to talks at the ministerial level later this week provided that London holds off on any public announcement of its reinforcement plans.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

President Bhutto promises to convene the national assembly next month as a step toward restoration of civilian rule in Pakistan. (Page 1)

[Redacted] 25X1

The UK and Malta have narrowed the gap on important issues but some financial questions remain unsettled. (Page 3)

We have photographed China's Mao-class submarine at an operational base for the first time. (Page 4)

[Redacted] Soviets [Redacted]

(Page 4) 25X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

After three days of negotiation with leaders of the major opposition parties, President Bhutto announced yesterday that the national assembly would meet to discuss an interim constitution on 14 April and that martial law would be lifted four months later.

Bhutto's promise to convene the long-suppressed national assembly and ultimately to return to civilian rule will reduce tensions and may induce the government's most influential critic, Abdul Wali Khan of the National Awami Party, to cooperate. The agreement caps a series of measures Bhutto has taken in recent days to strengthen the stability of his government. These have included the beginnings of a land reform program designed to attract peasant and left-wing support, a shakeup of the military chiefs intended to assert the supremacy of the presidency over the armed forces, and the removal of restrictions on travel abroad that will appeal to big business leaders.

Bhutto needs support and tranquility at home as he prepares for difficult negotiations abroad.

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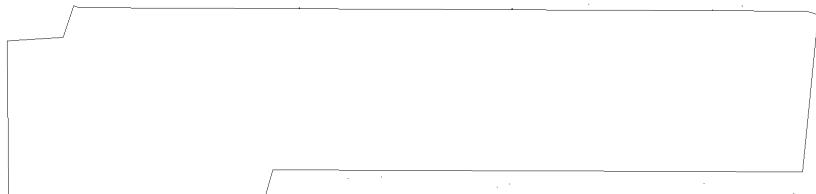
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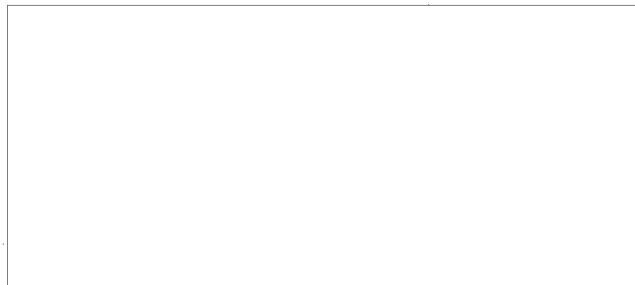
WEST GERMANY



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MALTA-UK

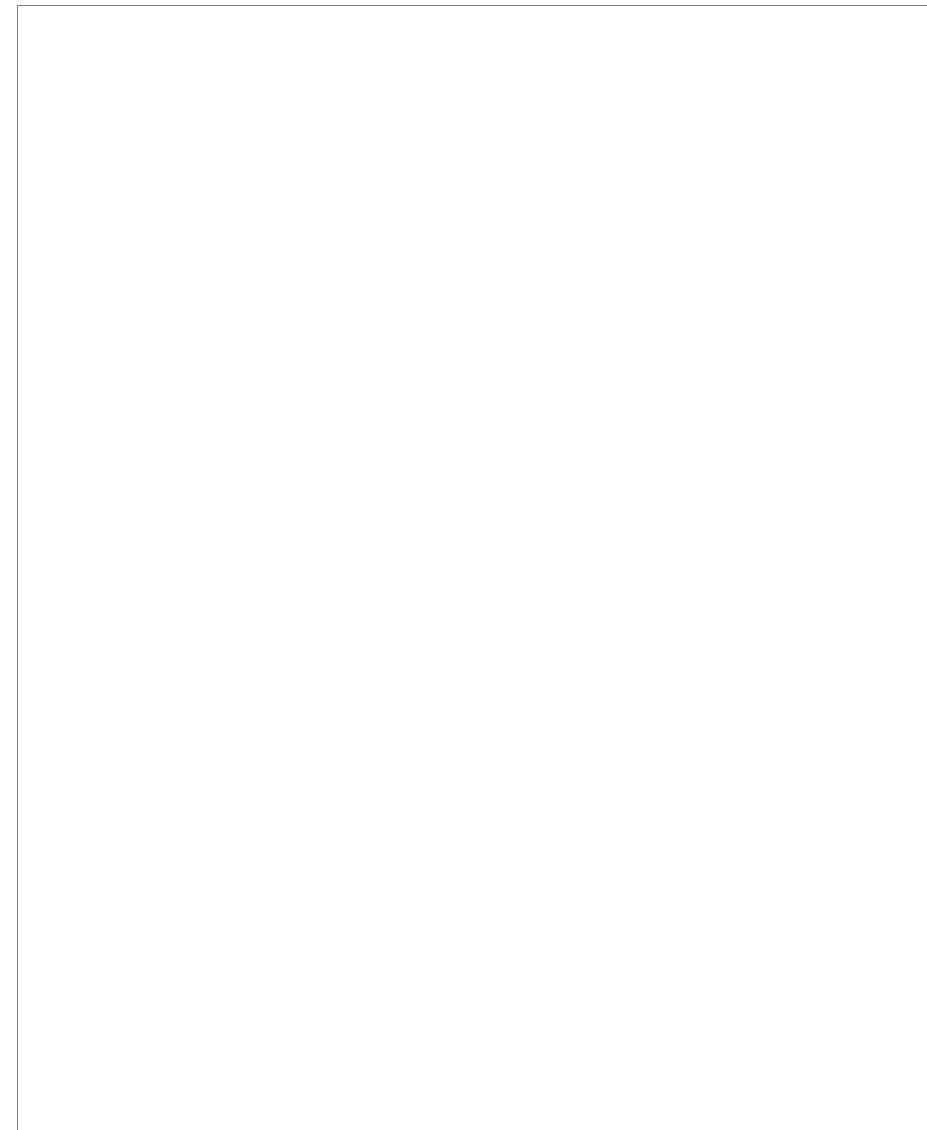
The meeting in London yesterday between Prime Ministers Mintoff and Heath resulted in progress on crucial bilateral issues. Mintoff accepted new and more generous British proposals that call for a gradual phasing down of the number of Maltese employed by UK forces. The prime ministers also appear to have come close to an understanding on the key question of pay for Maltese serving in the British armed forces.

The chief remaining bilateral problems concern Mintoff's demands that Britain stand by its offer to the previous Maltese government of \$7.8 million in aid for improving Malta's drydocks, and that UK forces no longer be granted exemptions from certain import duties. Mintoff rejected London's compromise offer to split the difference on these demands. He also continues to insist on an additional, one-time payment of \$13 million beyond the final UK-NATO offer of \$36.4 million annually.

Mintoff will return to Valletta today. The Maltese parliament is in recess until 20 March, thus giving Mintoff additional freedom of action in bargaining with London. Heath, however, reminded Mintoff that time is short and that if the British completed their withdrawal an "entirely new situation" would be created. No further meetings have been scheduled and British Defense Secretary Lord Carrington said that the next move was up to Mintoff.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Indochina: An intensified phase of North Vietnam's dry season logistics program began on 1 March and is expected to last at least through the end of the month.

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China: The Mao-class attack submarine (probably nuclear) was photographed at the Hsiao-ping-tao base in late February, the first time it has been seen at an operational base. It had last been observed fitting out at the Hu-lu-tao shipyard in November.

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

North Vietnam

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(Page 1)

The Nationalist Chinese are looking for new contacts with Communist governments not allied to Communist China. (Page 2)

Pakistan has decided to recognize North Vietnam and Prince Sihanouk's Cambodian government-in-exile. (Page 3)

Fearing that the Israelis mean permanently to occupy southern Lebanon, Beirut wants more UN observers stationed in the area. (Page 4)

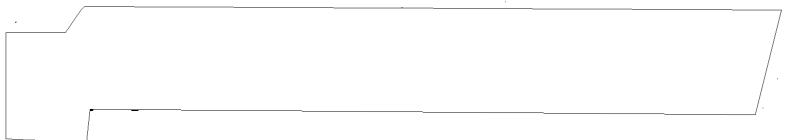
Archbishop Makarios' latest response to the Greek Government's demands will probably be rejected in Athens. (Page 5)

France is preparing to intervene in West Germany's debate over the ratification of the Moscow and Warsaw treaties. (Page 6)

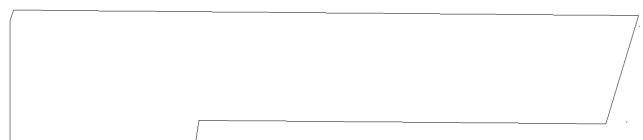
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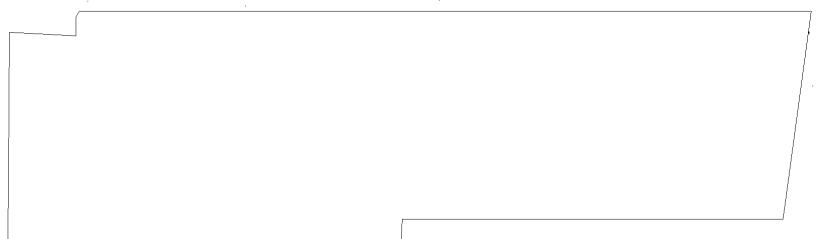
INDOCHINA



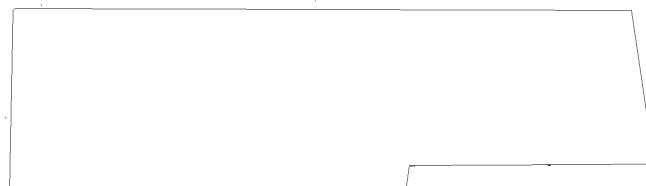
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NATIONALIST CHINA

The Nationalist foreign minister stated publicly yesterday that his government is interested in contacts with Communist nations "if they are not puppets of Communist China." He hinted that Taipei might even be willing eventually to establish diplomatic relations with such states. Last Sunday the government announced that it will consider allowing foreign companies on the island to export to the USSR and East Europe, at first through third parties. Taipei will also further relax restrictions on imports from these countries.

These reversals of long-standing policies are in line with Taipei's efforts since its ouster from the UN to prevent economic and political isolation. The announcements are also designed to suggest that Taipei has not been "boxed in" by the Sino-US communiqué and that the Nationalist government, like its rival in Peking, can conduct diplomacy on the basis that the "enemy of my enemy is my friend." The USSR and its East European allies in fact have little to gain from close contacts with the Nationalists, but they will no doubt welcome the opportunity to nettle Peking by responding positively, if cautiously, to Taipei's overtures.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

The Bhutto government has decided to recognize North Vietnam and Prince Sihanouk's government-in-exile and to establish consular offices in both Pyongyang and Seoul. A high Pakistani Foreign Ministry official told the US Embassy yesterday that the decisions were being made in order to fulfill earlier pledges made by President Bhutto's party. He added that the Pakistanis hope that ties with Hanoi will help balance the upgrading of Indian - North Vietnamese relations last January and enable the Pakistanis to serve as a communication link between Washington and Hanoi.

These moves, following a succession of dramatic measures on the domestic front in the past week, seem designed to demonstrate Bhutto's independence in preparation for his trip to Moscow later this month. Islamabad has no official relations with South Vietnam, and has had none with Cambodia since Sihanouk's ouster nearly two years ago. Both North and South Korea have consular representatives in Pakistan.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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LEBANON-ISRAEL-UN

Foreign Minister Abu Hamad has requested all permanent members of the UN Security Council to support a proposal to expand the UN observer group operating in the Middle East under the armistice agreement of 1948. He told Ambassador Buffum on Monday that the UK was enthusiastic about such an expansion, the Chinese and Soviets were noncommittal, and the French were somewhat reserved. The foreign minister said Lebanon was prepared to accept observers only on its side of the border if this would make their presence more palatable to Israel.

Abu Hamad reiterated the Lebanese complaint that the Israelis are insisting on a level of control over the fedayeen which is clearly beyond Beirut's capability. The latest Israeli demands included the removal of all fedayeen from the border and the stopping of "all fedayeen activity."

Senior Lebanese officials believe that Israel really wants to annex southern Lebanon and that the recent raids were in preparation for such action. Israeli officials, including Defense Minister Dayan, have on several occasions threatened permanent occupation of southern Lebanon if the fedayeen are not controlled, and the presence of Israeli observer groups on the Lebanese side of the border is doing nothing to calm fears in Beirut.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CYPRUS-GREECE

On Monday, Cypriot Foreign Minister Kyprianou told UN special representative Osorio-Tafall that President Makarios is now ready to accept UN inspection of the controversial Czech arms, according to another UN official. Kyprianou added that if General Grivas leaves the island, the arms will be transferred to UN custody.

This offer may represent Makarios' indirect response to the Greek note demanding that the arms be turned over to the UN and that steps be taken to form a government of "national unity." The Greeks have claimed all along that they do not control Grivas, and Athens will probably reiterate this claim as justification for rejecting Makarios' offer. Moreover, Athens has insisted that Makarios reply directly to the Greek Government.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

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France - West Germany: The French Government, concerned lest the Bundestag fail to ratify West Germany's treaties with the USSR and Poland, will use its influence in behalf of the treaties [redacted]

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[redacted] The French are preparing to discuss the ratification problem with opposition leader Rainer Barzel when he visits Paris in about two weeks. French officials say they expect President Pompidou to warn of the setback in East-West relations that would ensue from a failure to ratify. Paris is well aware that its own effort to promote detente would be among the casualties.

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] Laos. (Page 1)

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[redacted] North Vietnam

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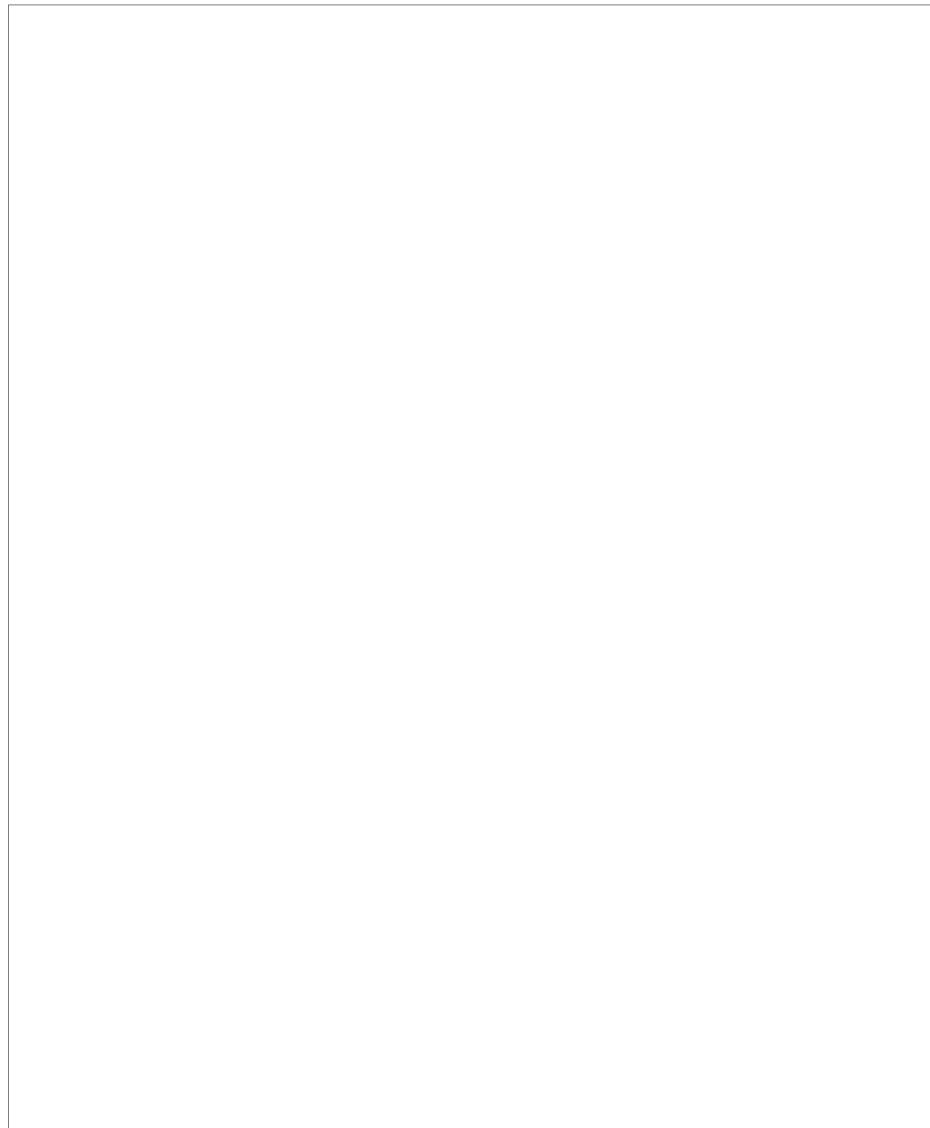
[redacted] (Page 2)

Libyan Deputy Premier Jallud's recent visit to the USSR is discussed on Page 3.

At Annex, we discuss the North Vietnamese military campaign in Laos during the current dry season.

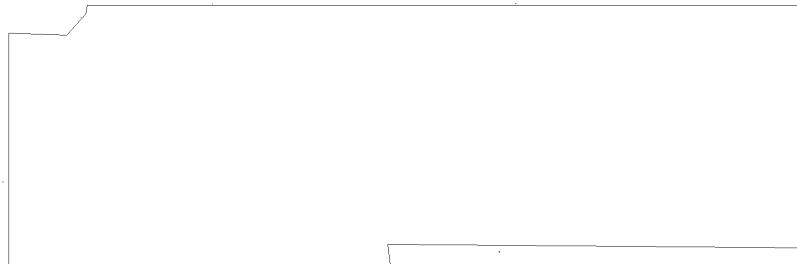
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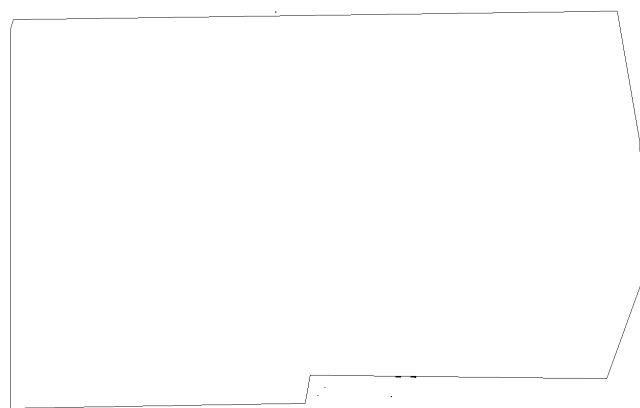


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LAOS



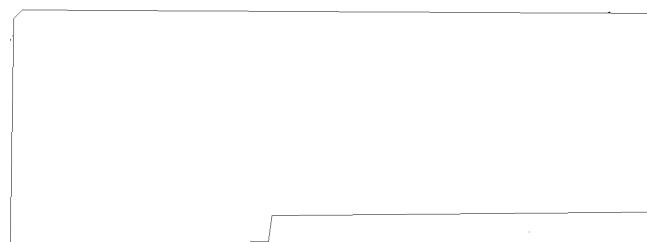
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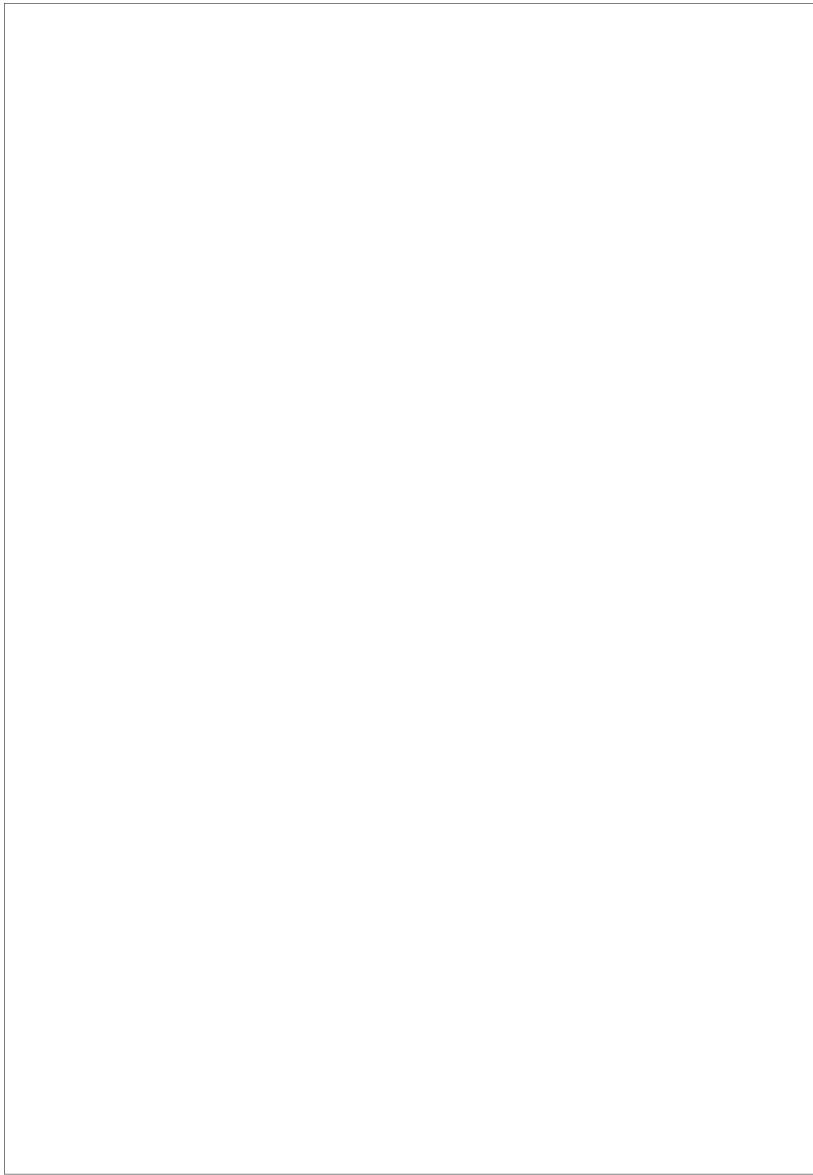


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

INDOCHINA

The North Vietnamese recently transported an unusually large amount--some 2,800 tons--of military supplies to a logistic authority southeast of Ban Phone in the Laotian panhandle. According to an intercept of 5 March, the shipments included nearly 15,000 AK-47 rifles--enough to equip four infantry divisions--and ammunition for a wide variety of weapons from the AK-47s to 82-mm. mortars, 122-mm. field guns and howitzers, and 160-mm. mortars.

The supplies probably are destined for combat units in South Vietnam's central highlands, where 160s were recently introduced as well as for the COSVN area farther south. The shipments occurred during February, before the start of the new March logistic phase/

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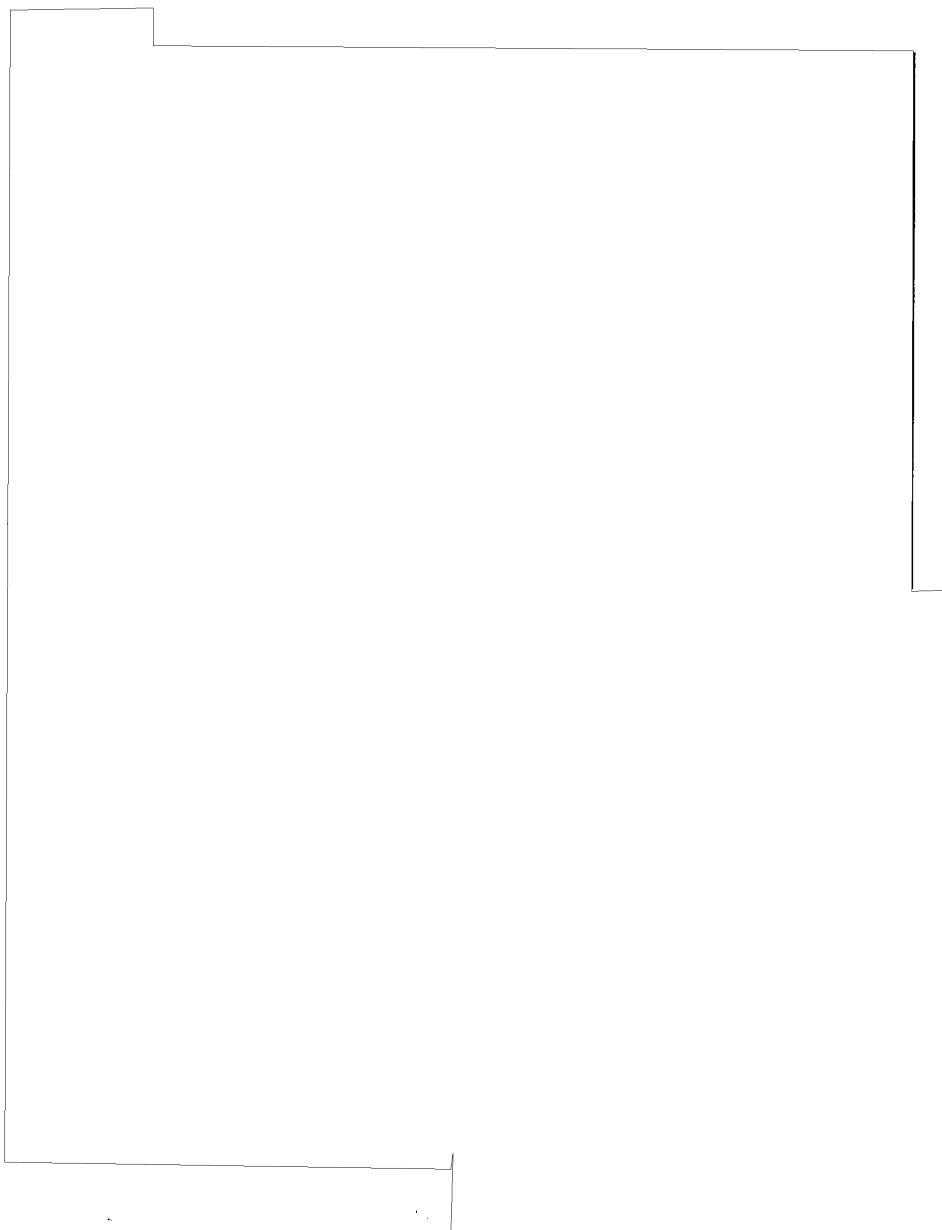
USSR-LIBYA

All did not go well during Deputy Premier Jallud's recent visit to the USSR. Jallud left the Soviet Union on 4 March, but no communiqué was issued until the 7th. Separate Soviet and Libyan documents were then released, and they contained some notable differences: for instance, whereas the Libyan communiqué called for the closing down of all military bases in the Mediterranean, the Soviet statement referred only to "imperialist" bases. Neither communiqué mentioned military aid, which was one of Jallud's reasons for undertaking the trip.

Both sides have devoted little media coverage to the trip, and neither felt the need even to tone down criticism of the other. On the day of Jallud's departure for Moscow, for example, the Libyans criticized the idea of a Soviet-Iraqi friendship pact which Baghdad had earlier announced would be signed later this year. One day after Jallud left the USSR, the Soviets castigated the Libyan press for trying to drive a wedge between the USSR and the Arab states.

The only positive achievement of Jallud's visit was an agreement for Soviet aid in extracting and refining Libyan oil. A few Soviet experts have been in Libya since 1970, and this new agreement would seem to require an increase in personnel. Premier Qaddafi, however, remains extremely suspicious of the Soviets and is unlikely to allow a large influx of technicians.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

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With more than half the dry season over, the North Vietnamese must view the results of their military campaign in Laos as mixed. They have been successful in the south, where they ousted dispirited government forces from the Bolovens Plateau in mid-December, recaptured the town of Dong Hene in January, and have kept government forces tied down well away from the infiltration corridors. Indeed, they have withdrawn one main-force regiment from the area, suggesting that they plan no major new offensive action.

In north Laos the Communists retook the Plaine des Jarres, but then lost momentum. Despite the unseemly alacrity with which they claimed victory in mid-January, the Communists have not taken the Long Tieng complex, nor have they destroyed the fighting spirit of Vang Pao's forces or of the Thai volunteers who have played a crucial role in Long Tieng's defense. Hanoi has nothing decisive to show for the additional men and firepower it committed to the battle in the north this year, and it has only about two months of good weather remaining to achieve its objectives.

The Struggle for Long Tieng

The campaign in north Laos began in October when Hanoi reinforced its troops there with the remaining part of the 312th Division, an independent regiment, 130-mm. field guns and anti-aircraft artillery units. In mid-December these forces swept across the Plaine, scattering Vang Pao's irregulars in only three days and dealing a stinging blow to their morale. By early January, the North Vietnamese had breached the government's hastily prepared defenses and on 12 January carried the fight into the Long Tieng Valley. A tenacious defense by the irregulars, particularly along Skyline Ridge overlooking the valley, combined with allied air power and Communist logistic problems, finally halted the North Vietnamese advance.

Having failed in their first attempt to overrun the stronghold, the Communists apparently spent the next several weeks stockpiling supplies in forward caches and filling out depleted units with replacements. They also began a new effort to overcome the logistic difficulties that have always plagued them southwest of the Plaine by building a road from the Plaine toward Long Tieng.

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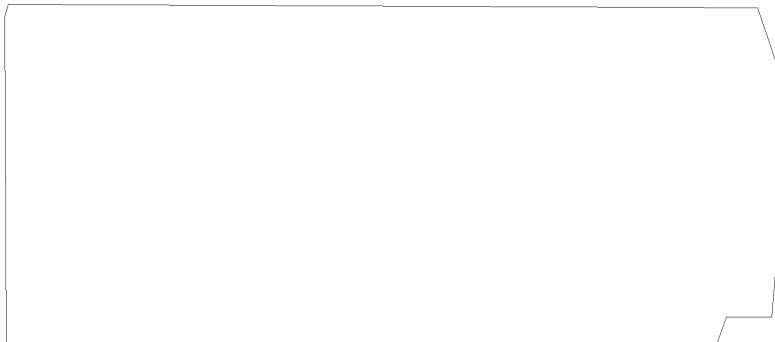
While the Communists prepared for the next round, Vang Pao rallied and strengthened his battered forces. In an audacious bid to regain the initiative he split his 11,000-man force in early February and launched more than 5,000 irregulars north from Pha Dong to threaten the enemy's supply lines south and east of the Plain.

The irregulars never seriously interfered with Communist supply movements, but they helped relieve the pressure on Long Tieng. The Communists felt it necessary to pull back [redacted] from the Long Tieng area to protect logistic corridors near the Plain. Last week, however, the Communists forced the irregulars back toward Pha Dong.

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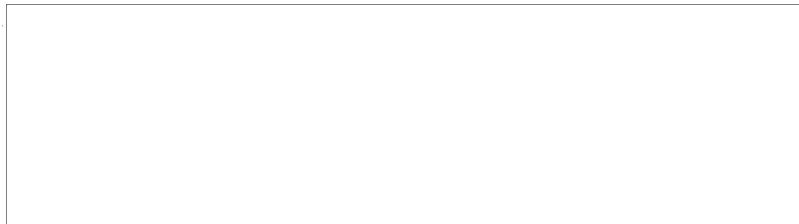
What Now?

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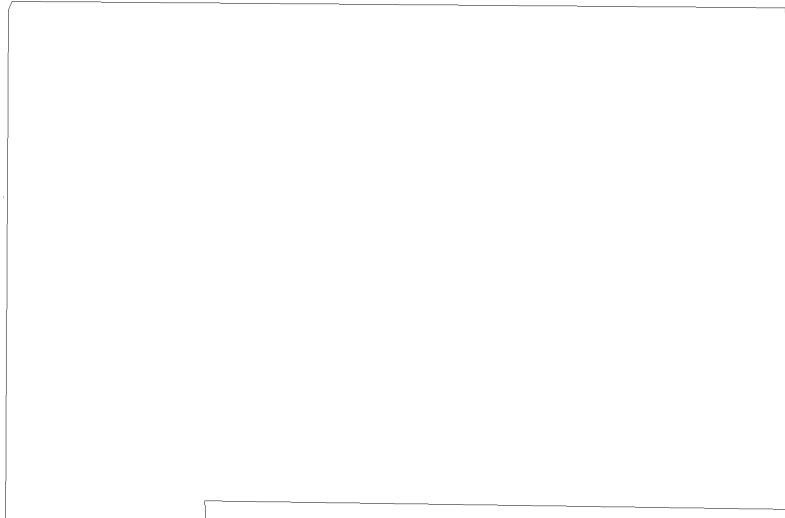
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[redacted] Intercepts indicate that at least 1,500 replacement troops have moved into or are en route to northern Laos. Other messages urge units to prepare for new offensive action.

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Whatever the immediate tactics chosen by both sides, the irregular offensive has bought the government some important time. If Long Tieng should fall, the North Vietnamese would have little time left to push beyond. The major Meo refugee settlements south and west of Long Tieng appear to be safely removed from any major offensive aimed at breaking the back of Meo resistance. If Long Tieng holds until the rainy season, then both the government and the Communists will be left once again in possession of territory they consider vital to their interests in the north, and the possibility will once again arise of a negotiated or de facto understanding providing for a de-escalation of the war there.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

10 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

There is some evidence that Peking has taken steps to reassure Hanoi, and perhaps also Pyongyang, in the wake of the President's visit to China. (Page 1)

Continuing analysis of satellite photography indicates that the Chinese are developing a submarine-launched ballistic missile system at a coastal facility in northeast China. (Page 2)

Prime Minister Lon Nol is apparently preparing to move ahead with governmental changes that would make him Cambodia's president. (Page 3)

[Redacted] Israel [Redacted] Egypt [Redacted]
(Page 4)

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[Redacted] Guatemala [Redacted]
(Page 5)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

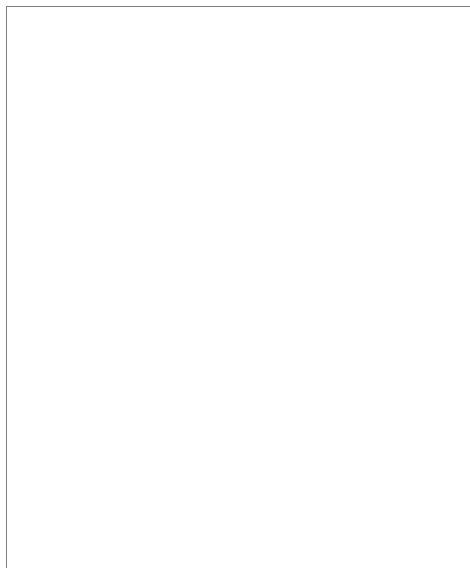
CHINA - NORTH VIETNAM

Cambodia's Prince Sihanouk has told Western newsmen that Premier Chou En-lai recently assured him and North Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong that Peking would not act, even secretly, as an intermediary in resolving the Indochina war. Chou is said to have stated that this position had been communicated to President Nixon. Sihanouk refused to say where his meeting with Chou had taken place.

There have been reports from Hanoi this week that the Chinese Premier visited the North Vietnamese capital on 3-4 March.

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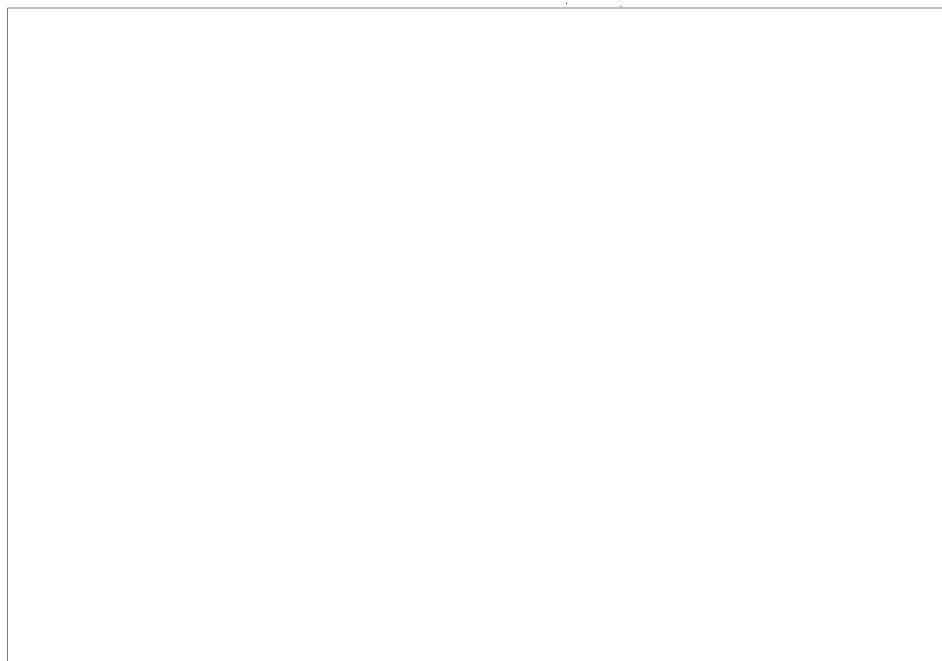
The persistent criticism of the Sino-US talks coming out of Hanoi suggests that the North Vietnamese are not mollified so far by any Chinese assurances. On 8 March--some days after Chou's reported meeting with Pham Van Dong--an authoritative article in the North Vietnamese Army's daily newspaper continued Hanoi's practice of quoting liberally from the Sino-US communiqué and statements made by the President during his visit and commenting sarcastically on them. The communiqué issued by Sihanouk and the North Vietnamese on 5 March--presumably also after Chou's reported meeting with Dong and Sihanouk--also contained adverse comments on portions of the Sino-US communiqué.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

Our continuing analysis of satellite photography of the last several years reveals what appears to be a land-based facility for the development of a submarine-launched ballistic missile system at Chin-hsi on the Gulf of Liao-tung.

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CAMBODIA

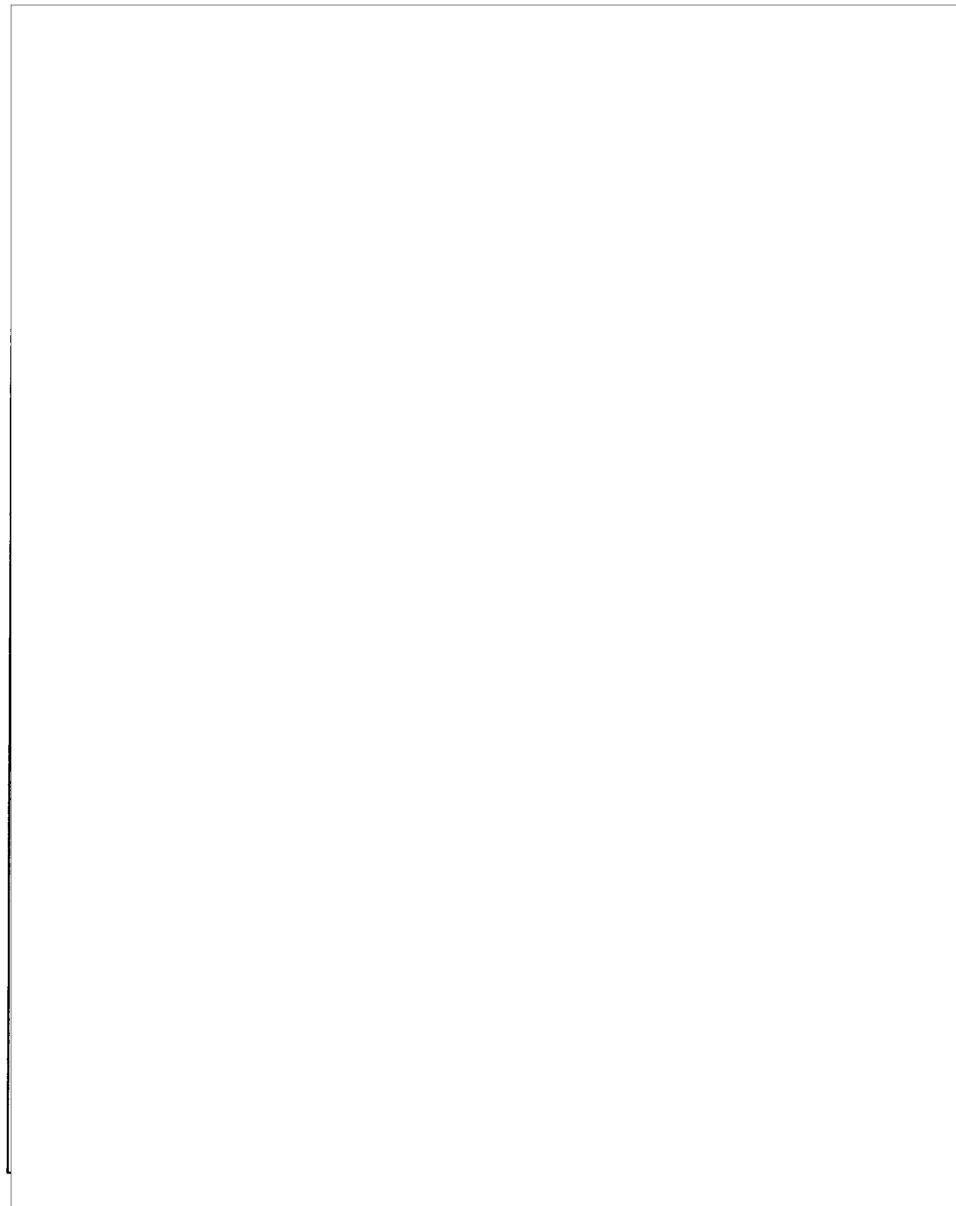
Following his expected return to Phnom Penh on 9 March after a month's vacation in Kompong Som, Prime Minister Lon Nol is likely to press ahead with his project of making himself president. He presumably intends to seek a provision in the new constitution naming himself interim president pending national elections. Chief of State Cheng Heng, however, is balking on grounds that this would be illegal. An alternative may be to bypass Cheng Heng by having a reconstituted National Assembly--rather than the chief of state--promulgate the new constitution.

Some doubt also still surrounds the makeup of the new government. Constituent Assembly President In Tam, slated to become prime minister, may be having second thoughts. He is now telling US Embassy officials that Lon Nol has not actually offered him the job.

Meanwhile, members of the Constituent Assembly drafting the constitution have been meeting with government officials to resolve such controversial questions as military voting rights and the eligibility of royalty for public office. The latter issue is particularly sensitive since it bears directly on Prime Minister - Delegate Sirik Matak's ability to remain in the government.

Apart from Cheng Heng, there is little evidence of opposition in important military or civilian circles to the impending political changes. Although a flurry of anti-government activity by some students in Phnom Penh is causing the regime some concern, government leaders appear determined to deal with student dissatisfaction with restraint. The students' opposition to Matak may, nevertheless, provide some ammunition to those among Lon Nol's entourage who would like to see Matak's influence curtailed.

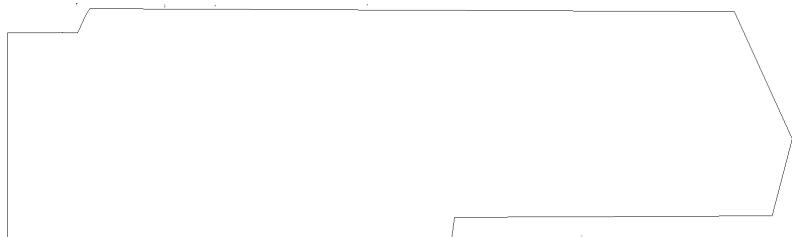
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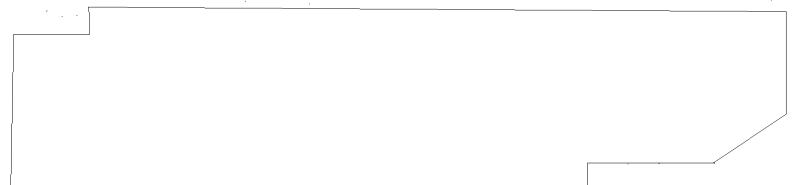
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-ISRAEL



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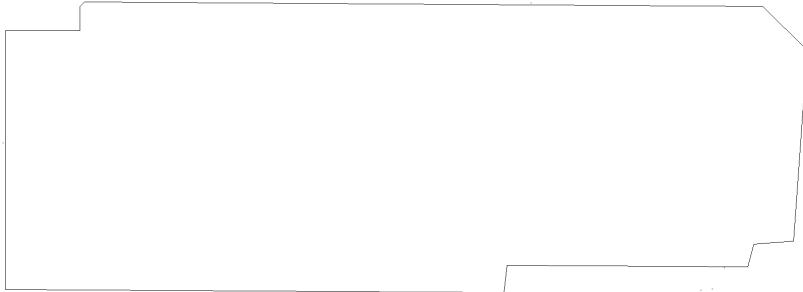


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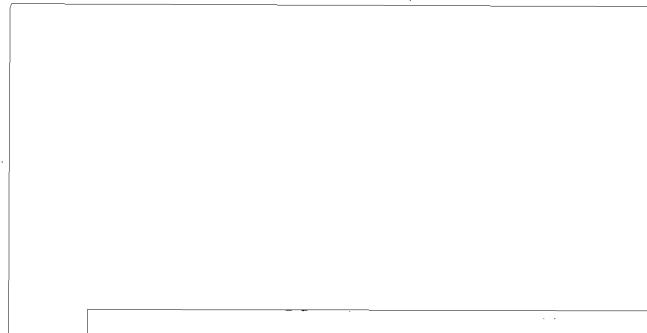
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GUATEMALA-UK



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

South Vietnam:

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North Vietnam:

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Lebanon-Fedayeen:

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(continued)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Arab States - West Germany

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The President's Daily Brief

11 March 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

11 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Chinese diplomats are commenting favorably on President Nixon's trip to Peking. (Page 1)

Recent satellite photography shows ground support equipment for China's first operational MRBM. (Page 2)

West German [redacted]

25X1

(Page 3)

Cambodian Chief of State Cheng Heng has resigned, clearing the way for Lon Nol to succeed him and to promulgate a new constitution. (Page 4)

The secret negotiations between Guatemala and the UK over troop levels in British Honduras have collapsed. (Page 5)

Malta is reported to have accepted the UK-NATO final offer on base rental payments but Prime Minister Mintoff still wants a little something extra. (Page 6)

[redacted] (Page 7)

Israel

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

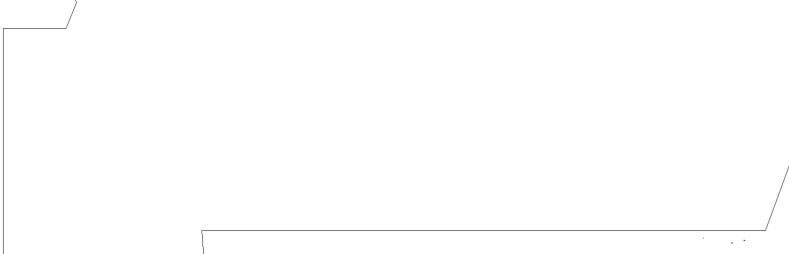
CHINA-US

We are beginning to receive feedback on President Nixon's trip to China from Chinese diplomats stationed abroad and from officials assigned to Hong Kong. Most appear to be repeating instructions received from Peking, but even when an official claims to have heard nothing from home his reaction does not vary greatly from the norm.

In general the Chinese have taken a positive and optimistic attitude toward the visit and the communiqué, but there have been no signs of euphoria. Officials are not claiming a Chinese "victory" and one diplomat, when pressed, was emphatic that each side had made "equal" concessions.

Most officials have stressed as a sign of progress the point that the United States has now agreed to the five principles of peaceful coexistence. Virtually all have referred to the section of the communiqué dealing with Taiwan as an indication of changed US attitudes on this subject, but they have also stressed that the Taiwan problem is not yet fully solved. In commenting on this section a number of officials have stated that a solution to the problem would take time, and that China was prepared to wait. One diplomat, noting that no timetable had been set for the withdrawal of US forces from Taiwan, remarked that the President was likely to come under a variety of pressures on this issue. He added that China would consider the beginning of a US withdrawal as an earnest of Washington's good intentions in dealing with China.

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CHINA

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Recent satellite photography shows ground support equipment for CSS-1 ballistic missiles at the Chiu-feng-jun barracks 90 nm. east of Peking. [redacted]

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[redacted] When the barracks were last photographed a year ago, no missile equipment could be clearly identified there. Since then five buildings, including one which may be for missile check-out, have been built.

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No missiles have been detected at Chiu-feng-jun and the facility does not appear to contain a launch area.

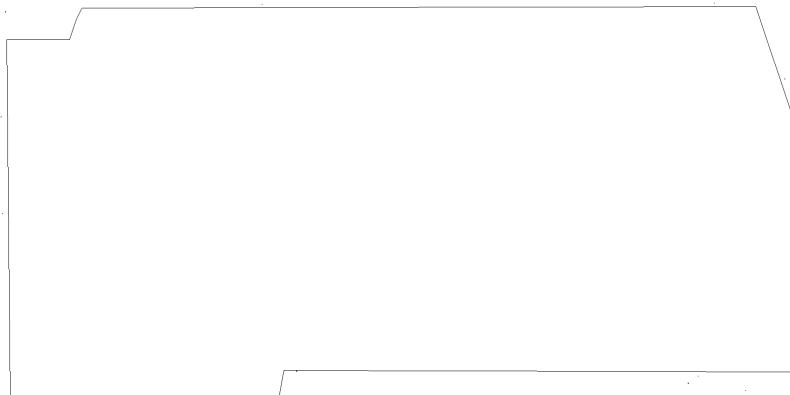
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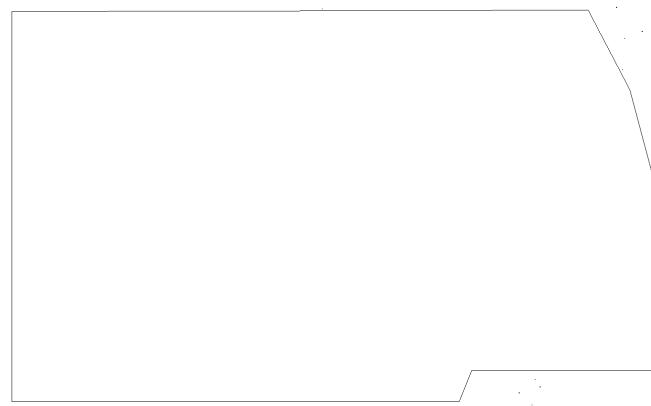
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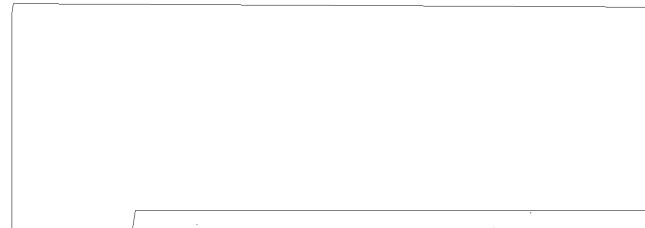
WEST GERMANY



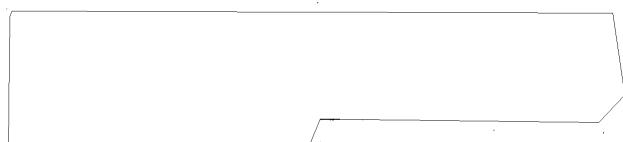
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CAMBODIA

Chief of State Cheng Heng announced yesterday that he was resigning because he had failed to resolve "internal difficulties." He named Lon Nol as his successor. As chief of state, Lon Nol is in a position to promulgate a new constitution that would make him Cambodia's first president. The final draft of a republican constitution was to be ironed out this weekend, but Lon Nol has announced that he is nullifying this draft.

Now that Lon Nol is chief of state as well as prime minister, he may want to dictate the provisions of a new constitution. Additional changes in the government could further delay action on the constitution.

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GUATEMALA-UK

The secret negotiations between Foreign Minister Herrera and British Minister of State Godber [redacted] have collapsed.

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According to a Guatemalan communiqué, Guatemala broke off the talks in response to Britain's refusal to reduce their troop strength in British Honduras to normal levels. The communiqué characterized London's decision as "aggression," and warned that Guatemala would take the necessary measures to protect its national interests.

The communiqué appears to be the opening salvo of a diplomatic and propaganda campaign against Britain's increased military presence in British Honduras. In view of Guatemala's earlier effort to keep the British reinforcements secret, the decision to publicize the issue indicates that the Arana government is willing to engage its prestige in attempting to reverse London's stand. Although Herrera may try to persuade the cabinet to make a further attempt at compromise, a likely next step for Guatemala is to raise the matter in the OAS.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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MALTA

The Maltese cabinet decided on Thursday to accept the UK-NATO offer of \$36.4 million annually,

[redacted] Prime Minister

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Mintoff told his cabinet that he would hold off announcing Malta's acceptance for a day or two in the hope of obtaining at least part of the one-time payment of \$13 million he has been seeking. [redacted]

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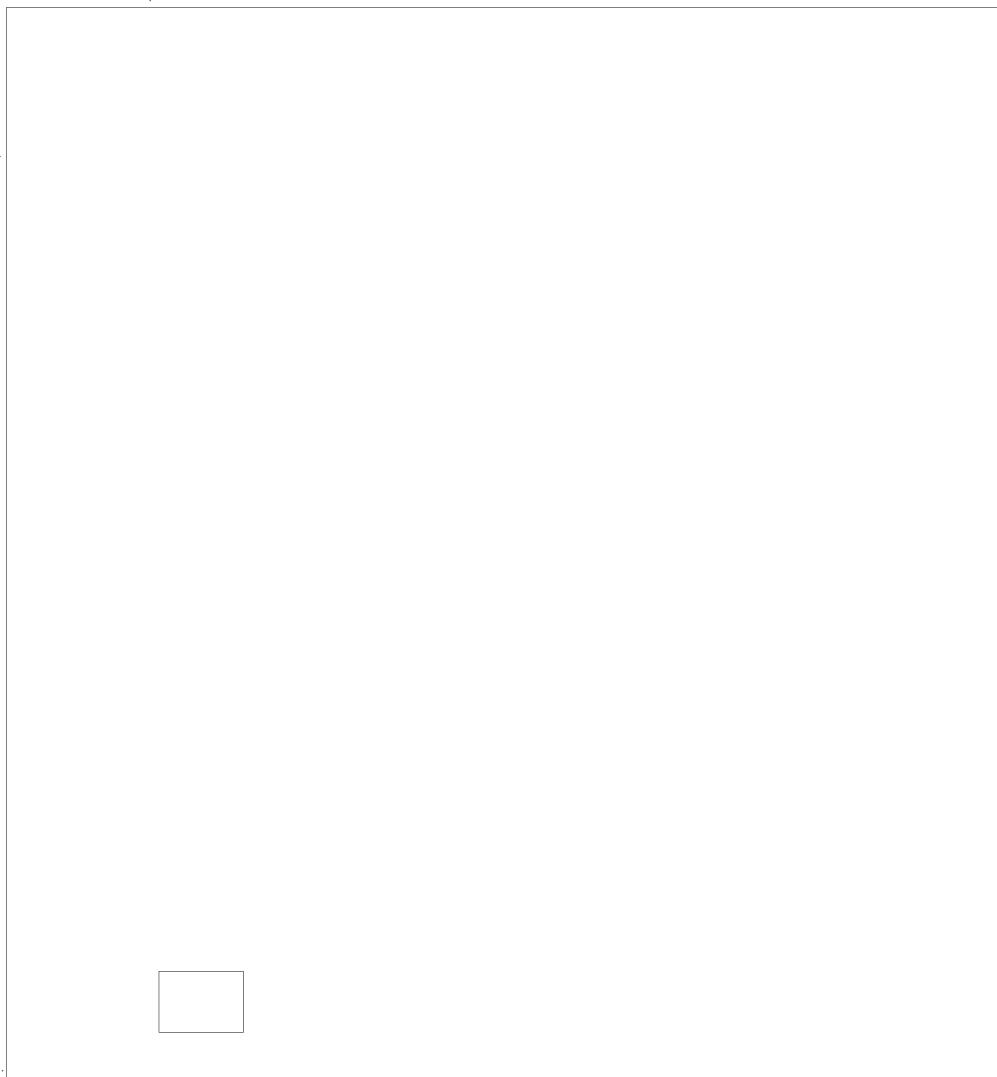
[redacted] The cabinet warned Mintoff of the growing resentment among the Malta Labor Party's rank and file at his refusal to sign an agreement and instructed him not to break off negotiations over the extra \$13 million.

Mintoff has claimed he needs the \$13 million because of an understanding he has to reimburse Libya immediately in the event of an agreement with the UK. He presumably was referring to a loan of at least \$3 million he received from Libya last August.

The Italians have asked West Germany and the US to join with Rome in putting up the \$13 million; the West Germans have refused. The British have accepted the idea of such a payment reluctantly and have warned Rome that time is limited, given the fact that the final phase of the British pullout is scheduled to begin on 20 March.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

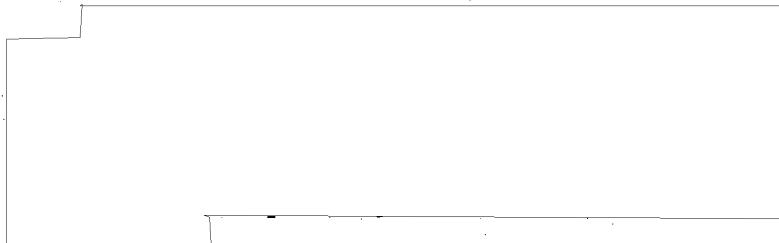
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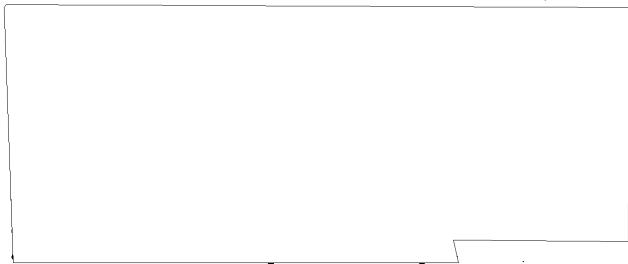
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-EGYPT-ISRAEL



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

Syria: President Asad has announced Syria's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 242, marking the most moderate position Damascus has taken on Israel since the resolution was passed in November 1967. The Asad regime had been exhibiting a more flexible policy since ousting its radical predecessor in November 1970. This change brings Syria into line with Cairo, as well as with Moscow, which provides substantial military and economic aid to Damascus.

Venezuela: President Caldera's moderate treatment of the oil companies in his state of the union message this week contrasts with his government's increasingly nationalistic approach

This

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shift follows Creole's recent announcement that its production is again rising and recent US offers to discuss a broad range of bilateral matters.

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The President's Daily Brief

13 March 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Over the weekend the North Vietnamese launched the most serious attacks in the Sam Thong area in almost two months. (Page 1)

Lon Nol's political moves are discussed on Page 2.

Cypriot President Makarios appears to be trying to increase pressure on Athens. (Page 3)

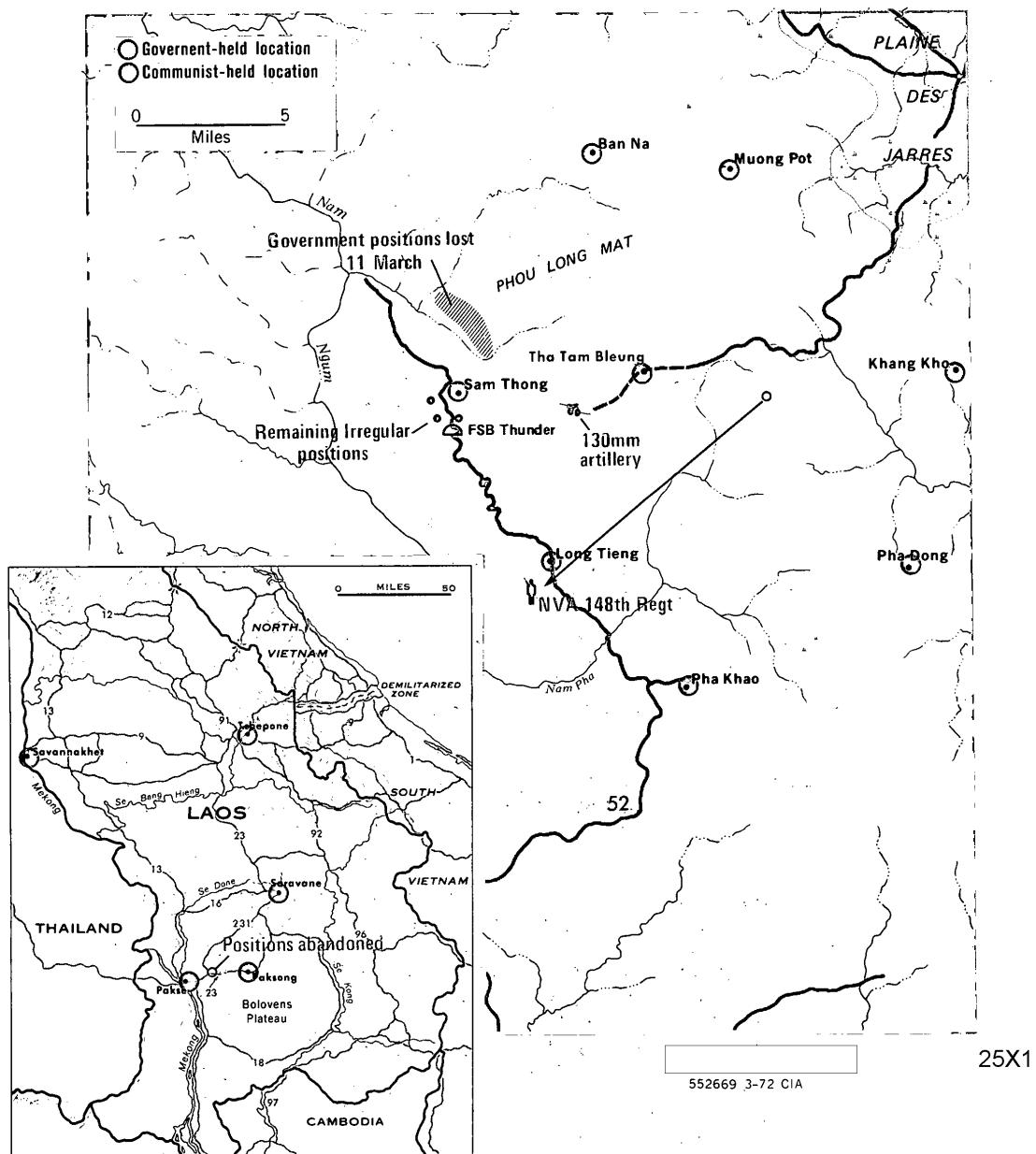
Chile

(Page 4)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LONG TIENG AREA



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Elements of the North Vietnamese 141st Regiment drove irregular units from positions north and east of Sam Thong on 11 March in the most serious attacks in this area in almost two months. Government forces also abandoned artillery base Thunder, which was not under heavy attack. Although Communist probes and shellings continue, the situation has stabilized for the time being. Most of the 1,500 irregulars in the Sam Thong area are regrouping at three positions to the southwest. The Long Tieng Valley has been shelled, and the airstrip has been closed sporadically, but no Communist ground attacks have been reported there.

The weekend activity could be the beginning of an anticipated Communist drive to take the Long Tieng complex. The North Vietnamese are continuing to move forces closer to the Sam Thong and Long Tieng bases. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 148th Regiment, which was diverted to the Plaine des Jarres area during Vang Pao's offensive in February, has now moved back toward Long Tieng, and 130-mm. artillery guns have been moved west from the Plaine to the Tha Tam Bleung area. Vang Pao has been preparing an offensive force of some 4,500 men for a new spoiling operation. He will now have to decide whether to reinforce the 6,500 men defending Long Tieng and Sam Thong or to go ahead with strikes at Communist rear areas in an effort to lessen the pressure on the bases.

The government has also suffered a military setback in south Laos. Two irregular battalions over the weekend abandoned positions on the Route 23/231 road junction some 12 miles east of Pakse city. A fresh irregular force has moved into the area, where elements of the North Vietnamese 9th Regiment have been active for the past two weeks, presumably trying to tie down government forces well away from the infiltration corridor. The proximity of the Communists to Pakse is having an adverse psychological effect on the government.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Over the weekend Lon Nol dissolved the constituent assembly, suspended work on a new constitution, dismissed the cabinet, and assumed the title of president. He told Ambassador Swank yesterday that he intends to restructure the executive branch of government but that he has not yet decided on the specifics.

Lon Nol appears to have had only the most cursory consultation with principal figures within the government. He apparently also gave little consideration to the impact on political elements already restive at what they consider to be the betrayal of a promise of more democratic government after Sihanouk's ouster. The chances are good, nevertheless, that Lon Nol will bring off the changes without provoking a major political crisis. There will be much grumbling among politicians in the coming days, but Lon Nol's potential opponents lack a figure around whom they can coalesce. Any serious opposition would need support from the military, and army commanders appear to be strongly behind Lon Nol.

Lon Nol must now decide what to do with Sirik Matak, whose administrative skills are much needed and for whom Lon Nol has considerable personal respect. This could prove troublesome, because Matak is under strong attack from students and intellectuals, who find him a convenient scapegoat for what they regard as the delinquencies of the regime. Lon Nol's next move is likely to be a gesture toward broadening his government, perhaps by offering someone like In Tam, who was president of the constituent assembly, a position of ostensible importance.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CYPRUS.

President Makarios appears to be orchestrating a campaign aimed at increasing pressure on Athens. He is telling diplomatic callers, according to the US Embassy in Nicosia, that Athens itself advised in favor of the controversial Czech arms delivery to Cyprus but, in the hope of avoiding Turkish criticism, requested that the purchase be represented as a Cypriot initiative. The Archbishop's remarks have been leaked to the press in order to arouse Turkish suspicions of Athens. In the past few days, moreover, the pro-Makarios press in Cyprus has begun to needle Athens intensively, suggesting that there are splits within the Greek regime and casting aspersions on Foreign Minister Palamas.

At the same time, Makarios is fostering mounting opposition to the request of the three Greek Cypriot bishops for his resignation from the presidency. In one district, Greek Cypriots are calling for a referendum on replacing the local bishop--a procedure that, while illegal in church eyes, could prevent that bishop from returning to his seat and thus dilute church pressure on Makarios.

While this campaign is going on, Makarios has sequestered himself to prepare a formal reply to the Greeks in which he is expected to seek a compromise. Makarios may delay his reply until later this week in order to give his campaign time to take effect. He runs some risk, however, of merely provoking Athens and further jeopardizing prospects for stability on the island.

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CHILE



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The President's Daily Brief

Sadler
14 March 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

14 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Moscow is increasingly concerned that the West German parliament may reject Chancellor Brandt's Eastern treaties. (Page 1)

Japan

25X1

(Page 2)

North Vietnamese officials indicated a hardening of their position on negotiations with Saigon in recent conversations with the Norwegian ambassador. (Page 3)

Somalia

Soviet

25X1

(Page 4)

The Israelis are building large patrol boats for use in the Red Sea. (Page 5)

King Husayn plans to present his proposal for West Bank autonomy after a peace settlement before Jordan's parliament tomorrow. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - WEST GERMANY

Moscow is increasingly concerned that West Germany's parliament may reject Brandt's Eastern treaties. The Soviet press has made stinging attacks on the Christian Democrats who oppose the treaties, and has warned of "serious" damage to West Germany if the treaties are defeated.

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Brandt is seeking through the Soviets some tangible concession from the East Germans that will allow him to answer Christian Democratic criticism that his policies have failed to improve the lot of the East German people.

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there is evidence that some Soviet leaders, in particular politburo member Shelest, have reservations concerning detente with Bonn. Non-ratification is not likely in itself to cost party chief Brezhnev his job because some of those individuals who might support Shelest on this policy could be Brezhnev's most loyal supporters on other issues. It would, however, make him more cautious toward the detente policies he has been pushing during the last 18 months.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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JAPAN - NORTH VIETNAM



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM

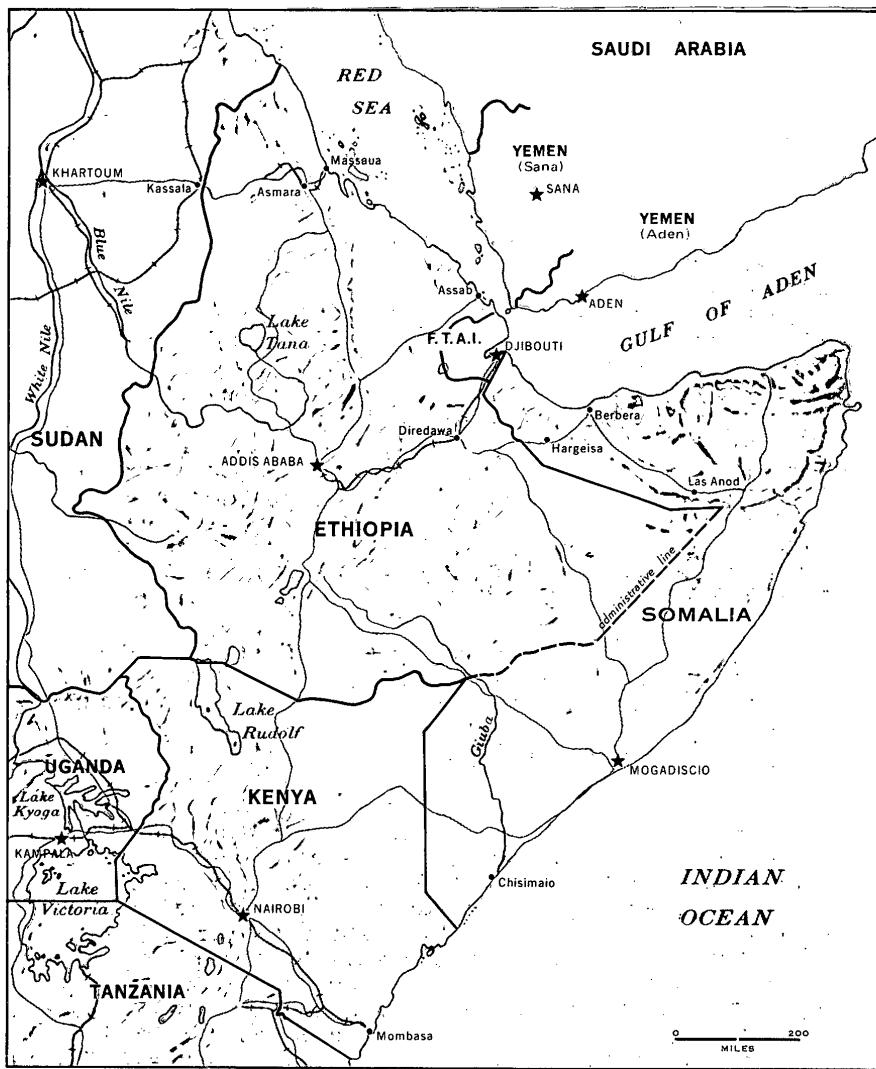
Premier Pham Van Dong took a tough stand on the issue of negotiations with the Saigon regime when Norwegian Ambassador P. G. Ravne came down from Peking to present his credentials last week. According to Ravne, Dong said that before the Communists would discuss any political deal with Saigon, the South Vietnamese Government apparatus would have to be "purified" and all "Quislings eliminated." He flatly rejected the notion that Thieu's removal alone might be sufficient to get talks going between the two sides, and he added that this could be conveyed to "Western governments so that they would know" Hanoi's position.

Ravne said that a North Vietnamese Foreign Ministry official virtually acknowledged later that the Premier's formulation represented a hardening of the North Vietnamese demands on a political settlement. The official hinted that there had been differences within the Hanoi leadership on this issue.

Ravne claims he came away from his conversations with the impression that relations between the North Vietnamese and Chinese were "ice cold." He says he got the impression from lower-ranking North Vietnamese and Cambodian officials in Hanoi that the leadership was particularly troubled by China's failure to censure US bombing attacks on the North in the final US-China summit communiqué.

The Premier's reported statements fit with the unbending position he has consistently taken since the US made public its eight-point proposal in January, and his remark that this word could be passed to other Western governments gives his pronouncement an unmistakably official ring.

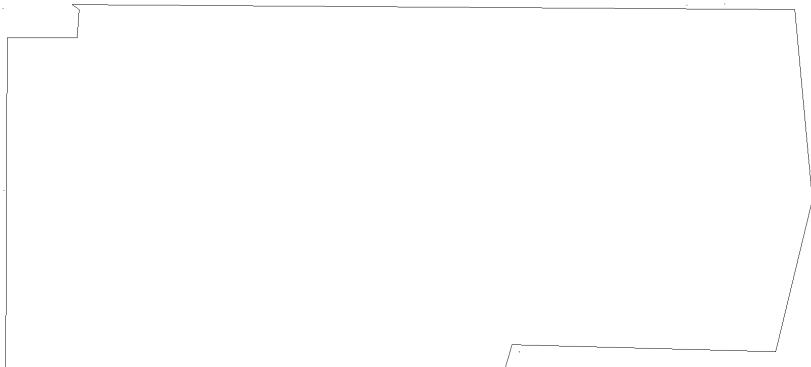
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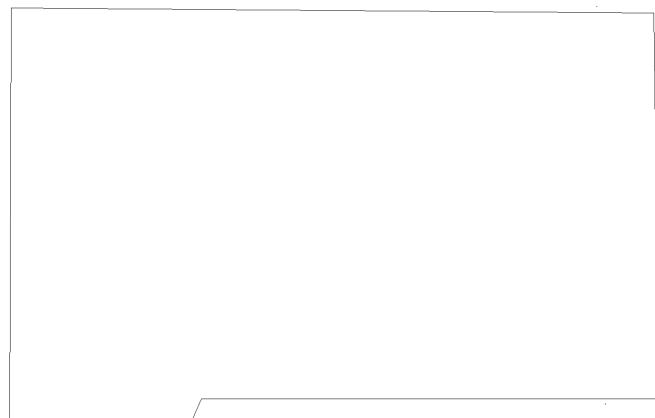
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOMALIA-USSR

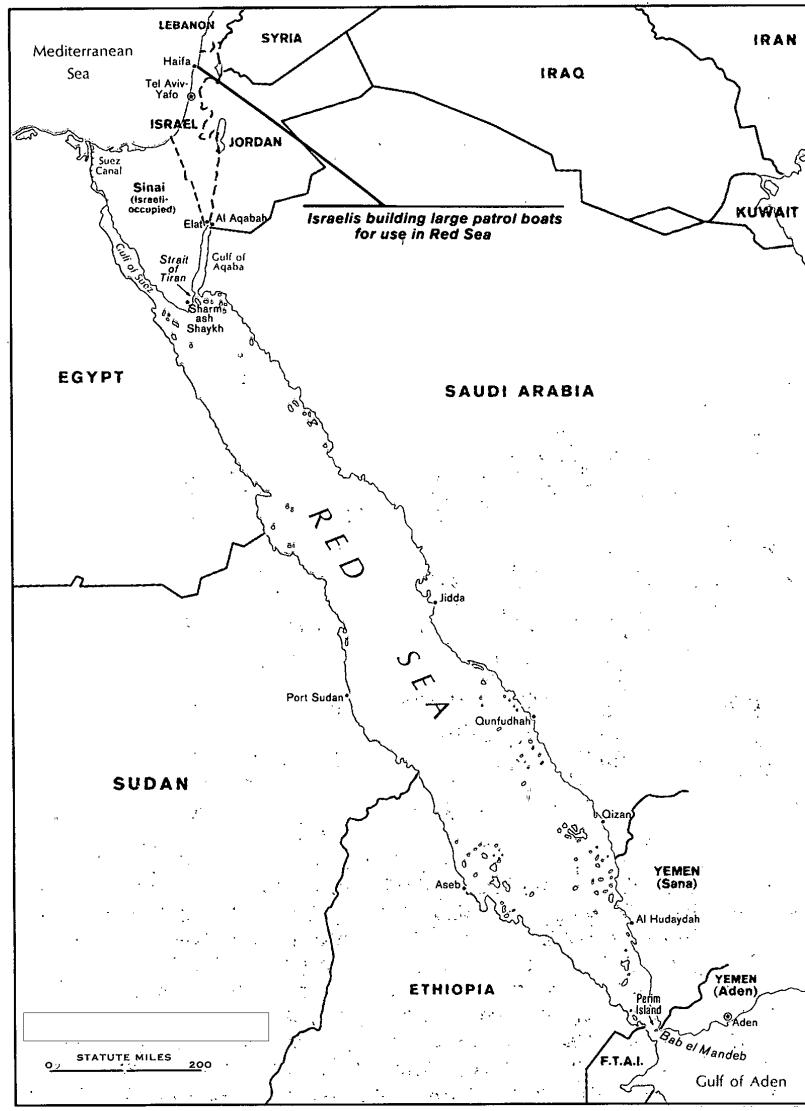


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL

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The Israelis are building six large patrol boats for use in the Red Sea

Two are currently under construction at the Haifa shipyard and are to be commissioned this fall. The Israelis have copied from Saar-class boats purchased from France, but have extended the length to 180 feet and made other modifications to permit them to conduct extended patrols in a hot climate. The boats will be armed with the 11-nm Gabriel anti-ship missile and with 76-mm. guns.

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The new boats will enable Israel to challenge Egypt's current naval superiority in the Red Sea. Israel now has in the area only 12 coastal-size patrol boats equipped with machine guns. Egypt currently maintains in the Red Sea two destroyers, three Komar missile patrol boats, and three PT boats.

The new patrol boats also will allow the Israelis to police the mouth of the Red Sea where Palestinian guerrillas, operating out of Yemen (Aden) attacked an Elat-bound tanker last year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN-ISRAEL

King Husayn has informed Ambassador Brown that he will present his proposal for post-settlement West Bank autonomy to a joint session of the Jordanian Parliament tomorrow.

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The King's formula would create a two part Jordanian-Palestinian kingdom. Each region would control its own internal affairs while a national government, under Husayn, would direct foreign policy, the military establishments and other areas of national interest. The new Palestinian state could also include the Gaza Strip.

Husayn has consulted senior army and intelligence officials as well as Palestinian notables, including West Bank representatives. According to Husayn, the response from the West Bankers was overwhelmingly favorable. He has also sought the endorsement of other Arab governments. Kamal Adham, a Saudi royal adviser and King Faysal's brother-in-law, has informed US officials that while Saudi Arabia did not object to the proposal, he personally doubted that his government would go along. Adham also said that President Sadat, during his visit to Saudi Arabia last week, said he had come to favor a West Bank Palestinian entity.

Husayn's public presentation of his proposal, which he first raised with US officials in early February, demonstrates his determination to retain at least nominal control over the West Bank in any final settlement. A major difficulty with his plan is its location of the capital of the Palestinian state in East Jerusalem. Israel is unyielding in its insistence that Jerusalem is Israel's capital and can never again be divided.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

INDIA

The ruling Congress Party's sweep in state elections last week has given Prime Minister Gandhi power surpassing even that exercised by her father in his heyday. The results in 16 of India's 21 states indicate that the party has consolidated its position nationwide, even in the few remaining strongholds of opposition parties. It appears to have solid majorities in nearly all the states. In West Bengal, incomplete returns indicate that the Congress will trounce its arch-rival in the state, the Communist Party/Marxist.

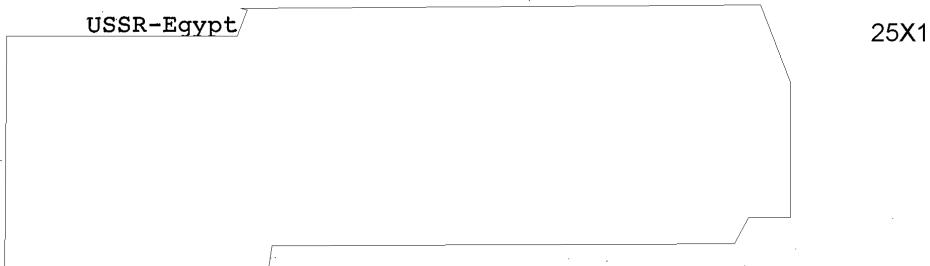
The rival "Organization Congress" has lost its credibility as an opposition force. The two challengers on the right, the Jana Sangh and the Swatantra have suffered setbacks in the several states where they have cultivated a marginal following over the years. At the other end of the political spectrum, the pro-Moscow Communist Party of India and the internationally independent Communist Party/Marxist have won only minimal representation.

Since assuming the prime ministership in January 1966, Mrs. Gandhi has steadily maneuvered politicians and parties to her advantage, and in the process has seemingly been able to reverse a trend in the 1960s toward devolution of power from New Delhi to the states. She has been aided by a string of record crops produced by ample monsoon rains and the "green revolution," a growing sense of Indian nationalism, and, most recently, the military victory over Pakistan.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTE



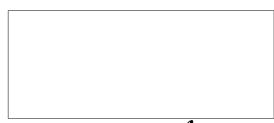
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15 March 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Page 1]

North Vietnam

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South Vietnam

In the Laos fighting, a Communist mortar attack forced an irregular battalion to abandon two defensive positions on Skyline Ridge yesterday. (Page 2)

Soviets

(Page 3)

25X1

Ceylonese insurgents are [redacted] planning a new campaign of terrorism. (Page 4)

25X1

Arab media are charging King Husayn with making a secret deal with Israel. (Page 5)

The East Germans appear to be getting in step with Soviet efforts to help assure Bundestag ratification of Bonn's Eastern treaties. (Page 5)

Chinese

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(Page 5)

Finns

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(Page 5)

At Annex

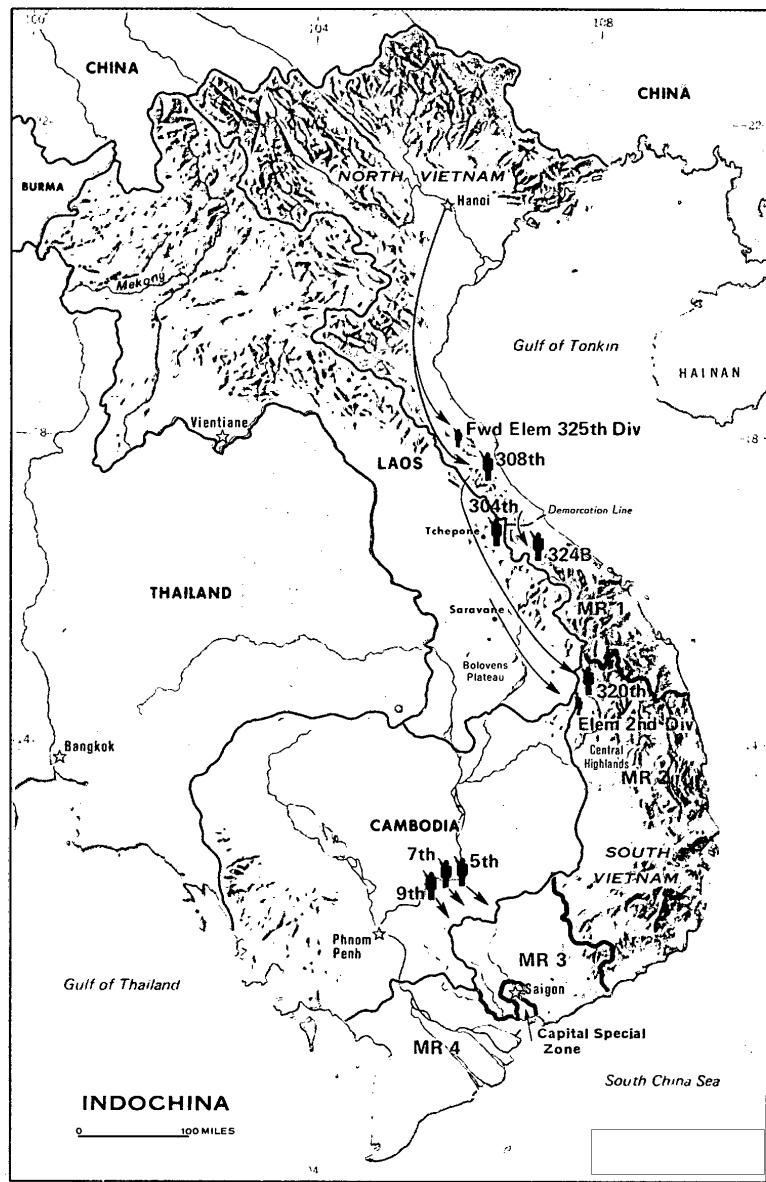
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Communist Divisions Pose Offensive Threat to Vietnam



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM - SOUTH VIETNAM

With more than two months to go in the dry season, North Vietnamese infiltration toward South Vietnam and Cambodia already is equal to or greater than that for any previous year except 1967-68, when a massive infusion of manpower occurred after the Tet offensive began. About 40,000 of this season's infiltrators are earmarked for the central highlands. This is the highest number we have ever noted heading for this area, and four times the average sent there in the past three years. By contrast, the flow of men to Cambodia and the lower half of South Vietnam--the COSVN area--is running at about the same pace as in earlier years.

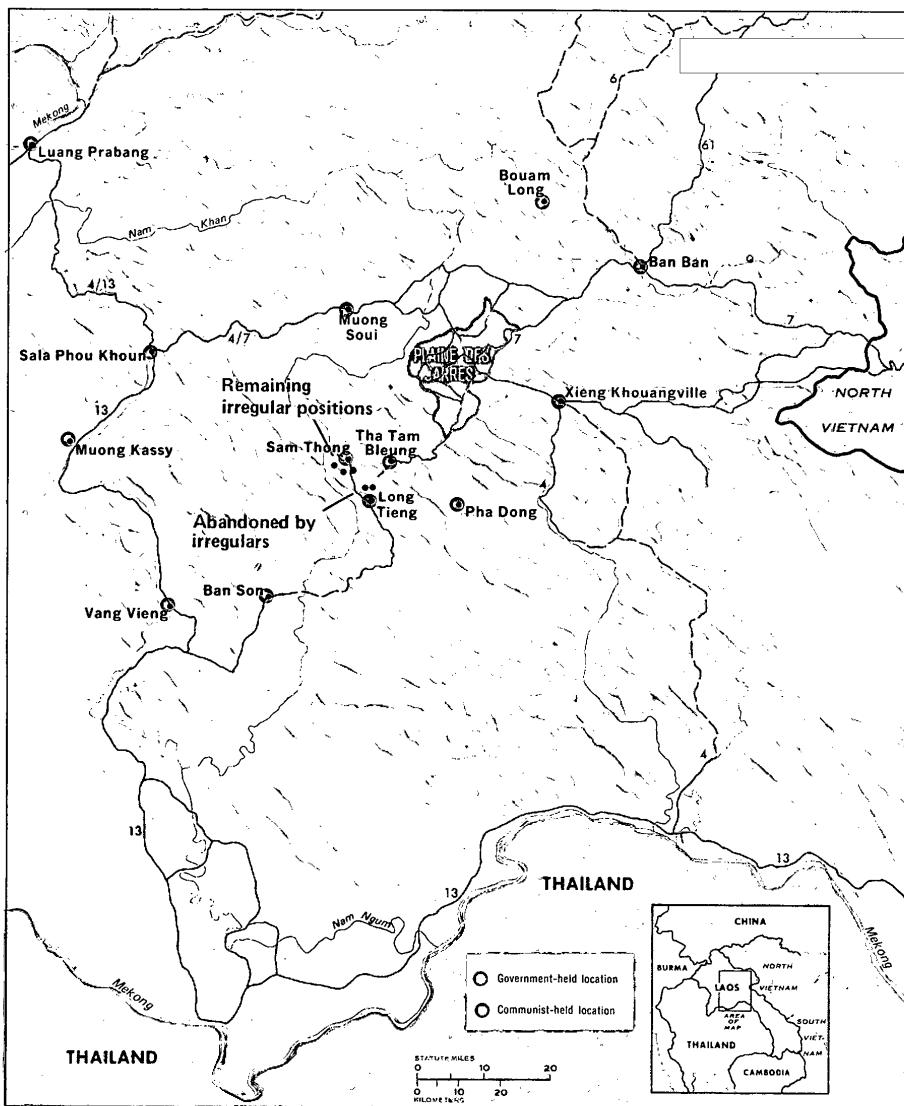
Since mid-December, nine Communist infantry divisions have been involved in movements toward or into South Vietnam. These include all five of the divisions based in North Vietnam that have seen combat in South Vietnam in the past four years. Three of these, the 304th, 320th, and 324B, appear to be headed for the northern half of South Vietnam, and many of their subordinate units are now in place. The 308th has moved from Hanoi to the panhandle just north of the DMZ, and there is evidence that the 325th will follow it. Farther south, major elements of the 2nd Division have returned from Laos to the central highlands. The 5th, 7th, and 9th divisions in Cambodia have moved toward the provinces bordering Saigon, the first time that all three of them have been this far east since April 1970.

The Communist main-force units will have greater firepower than before. They have moved 130-mm. field guns into position north of the DMZ, other heavy guns are being moved into the two northern provinces of South Vietnam, and 122-mm. field guns and howitzers have been sent to the central highlands and to COSVN. In addition, tanks have been spotted north of the DMZ, southwest of the DMZ in Laos, and moving into the central highlands.

Because artillery, armor, and massed troops are vulnerable to air interdiction, the Communists also have improved their air defenses in Laos, north of the DMZ, and in South Vietnam as well. There has recently been an increase in MIG activity over southern North Vietnam and adjacent areas of Laos.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The situation at Long Tieng has worsened appreciably. A Communist mortar attack forced an irregular battalion to abandon two defensive positions on Skyline Ridge yesterday. These positions were quickly occupied by Communist troops, and efforts to retake them have failed. Although the remaining positions on Skyline Ridge have also been shelled, the irregulars manning them have held their ground. The North Vietnamese are also shelling the Long Tieng valley. Poor weather conditions have curtailed air strikes against the enemy gun positions north of the government complex.

To the northwest, irregulars holding the three remaining positions in the Sam Thong area have reported no significant activity since 11 March. Intercepted messages, however, suggest that elements from the North Vietnamese 165th Regiment intend to move against these positions and are preparing to bring tanks into Sam Thong from the Tha Tam Bleung area. From Sam Thong these tanks could move by road into Long Tieng.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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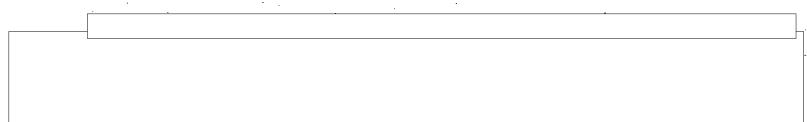


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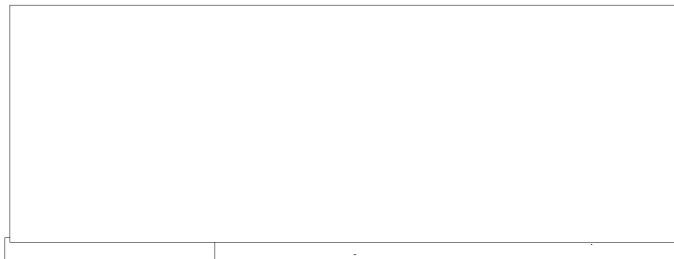
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CEYLON

[redacted] an insurgent group--apparently the same one that attacked the US Embassy a year ago--is planning another such attack as part of a new campaign of terrorism. The group also plans an assault on air force headquarters and assassination attempts against civilian and military leaders. [redacted]

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Ceylonese authorities are giving greater credence to these reports than they did to similar signs of trouble during the past year. The armed forces and police have been placed on alert and other security precautions, such as providing guards for the US Embassy, are being taken.

Although Ceylon's insurgents may well launch a new wave of terrorism, it is unlikely that they could mount attacks on the scale of the island-wide insurgency that almost toppled the government last April. Some 14,000 rebels are still being held in detention camps, and those at large are not well armed.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Jordan: As King Husayn's proposal for a semi-autonomous Palestinian state has leaked out, Arab media have begun to charge him with making a secret deal with Israel. Arab leaders are not likely to come out in support of Husayn's proposal, nor are they likely to try to stem the flood of invective sure to come against the King, Israel, and the US, which maintains ties with both of them. In this atmosphere, prospects for the assassination of the King are increased.

East Germany - West Germany: The East Germans appear to be getting in step with Soviet efforts to help assure Bundestag ratification of Bonn's Eastern treaties. In a speech last week, East German party leader Honecker gave the treaties his strongest endorsement to date. He referred to them as the linchpin to European detente and indicated that ratification would contribute to inter-German rapprochement. [redacted]



China: [redacted]



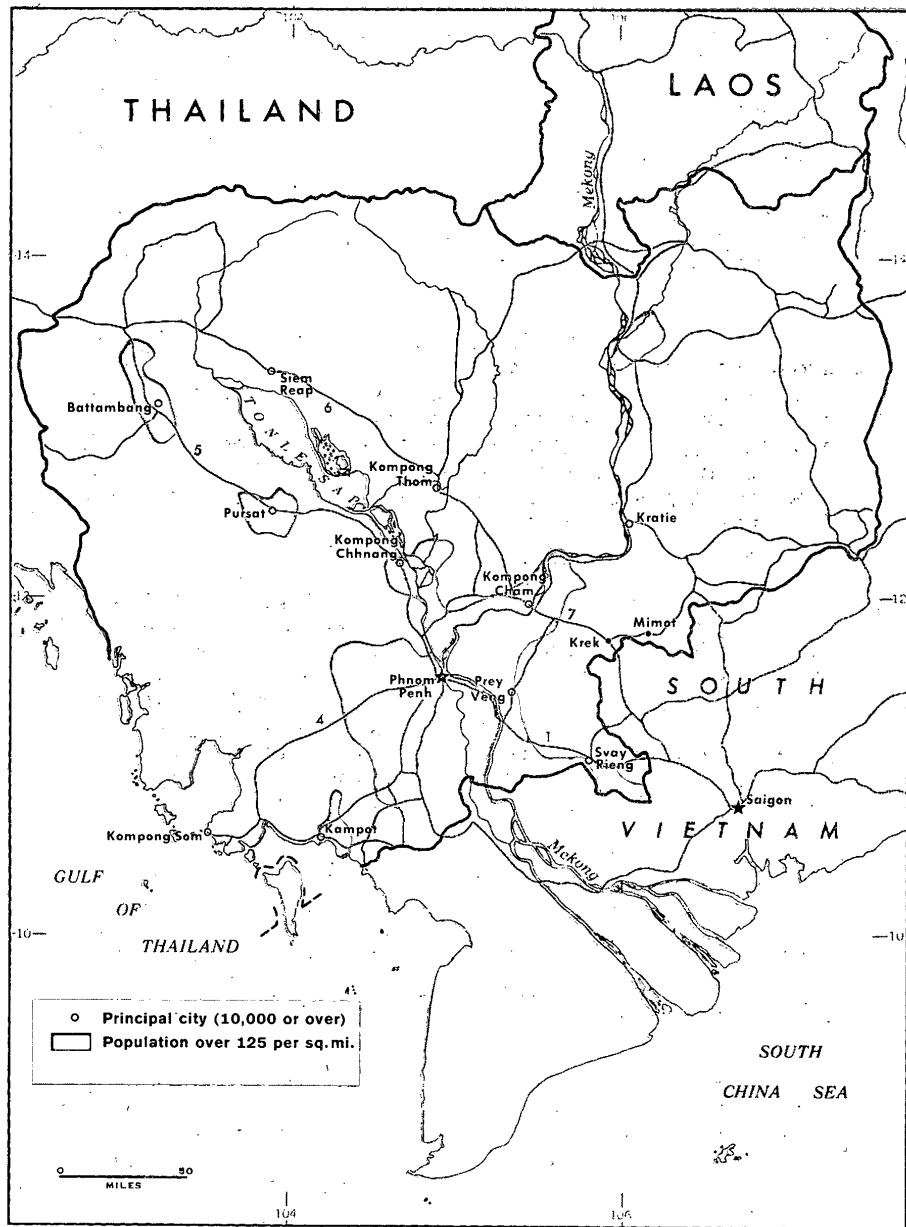
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Finland-USSR [redacted]



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

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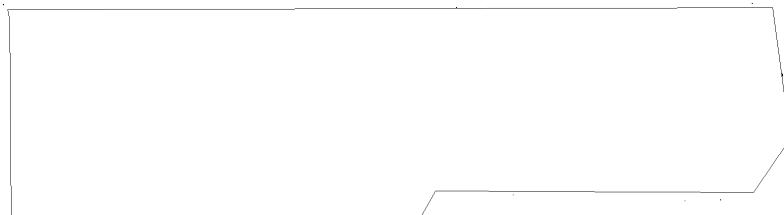
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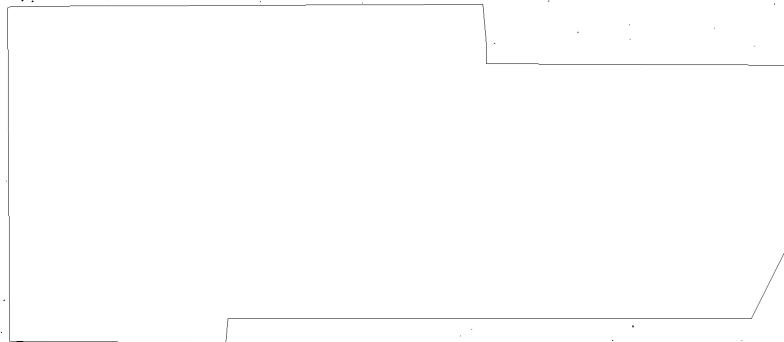
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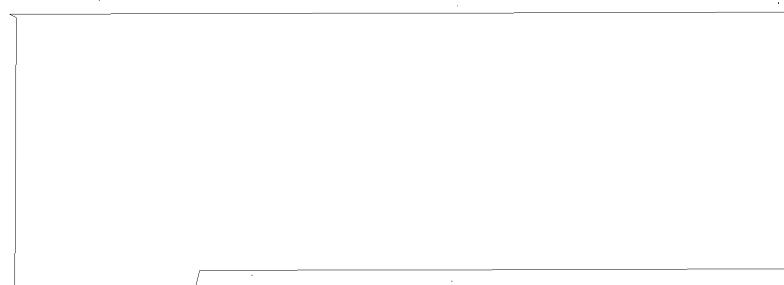
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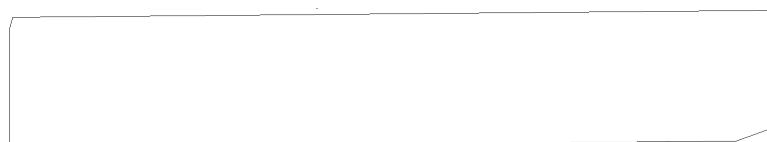
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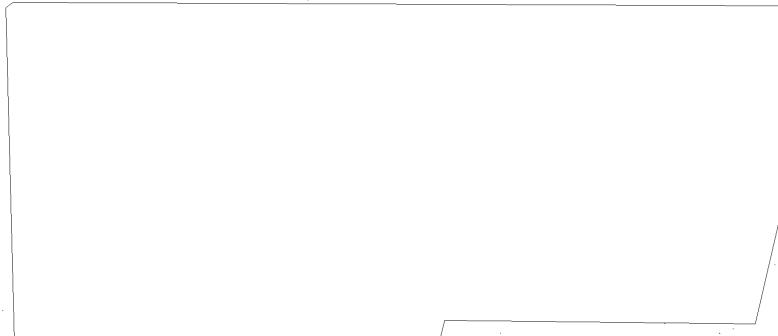
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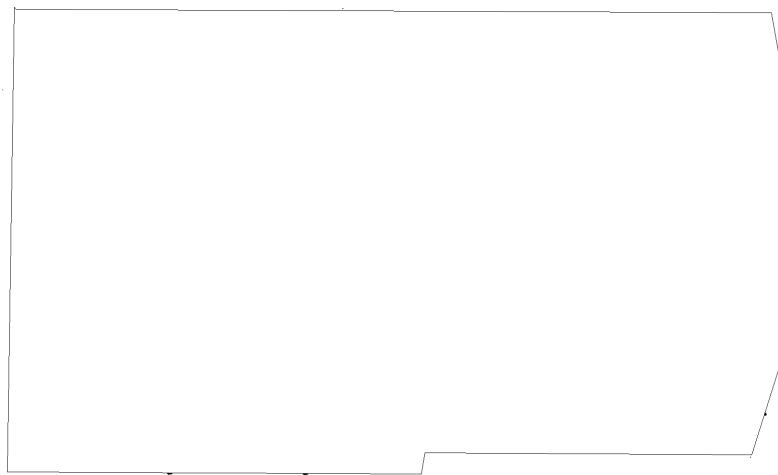
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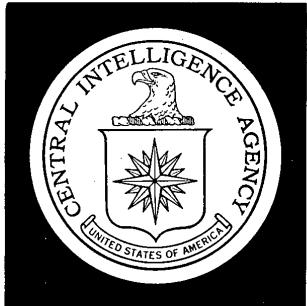
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The President's Daily Brief

16 March 1972

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

16 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

President Bhutto's trip to Moscow could help set
the stage for future Pakistani talks with India and
Bangladesh. (Page 1)

South Vietnam

(Page 2)

25X1

The Greek Government can hardly be satisfied with
President Makarios' reply to its demands, and the
Turks are unhappy with the UN's agreement to leave
the Czech arms in Cypriot hands. (Page 3)

In a continuing effort to safeguard his longevity
in office, Chile's President Allende is still trying
to woo the military over to his side. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-PAKISTAN

President Bhutto arrived in the USSR today for a three-day visit during which Moscow can be expected to urge him to begin negotiations with Bangladesh and with India.

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In bargaining for Bhutto's agreement to begin negotiations, Moscow is likely to offer to resume economic aid to Pakistan, perhaps including the immediate return of the 300 technicians withdrawn when the war broke out.

Bhutto has been careful not to be publicly hostile to the USSR since he assumed office. He wants to avoid cementing an Indo-Soviet alliance against Pakistan.

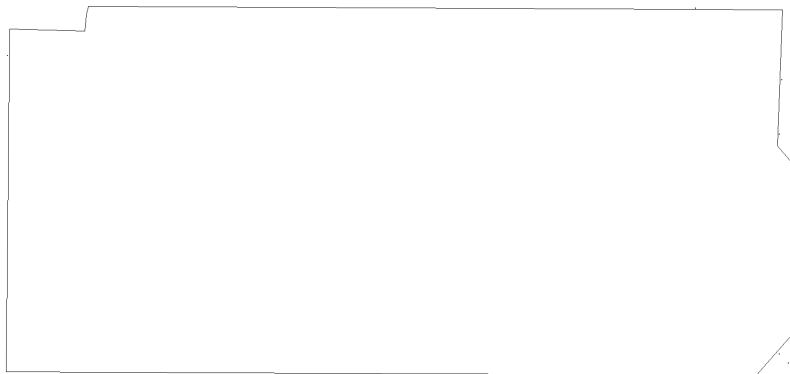
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He is also anxious for Moscow to resume economic aid, but he remains suspicious of alleged Soviet cooperation with opposition groups in Pakistan. Although Bhutto may stress his willingness to begin talks with the Indians, his price for formal recognition of Bangladesh may involve more economic aid than Moscow is willing to provide.

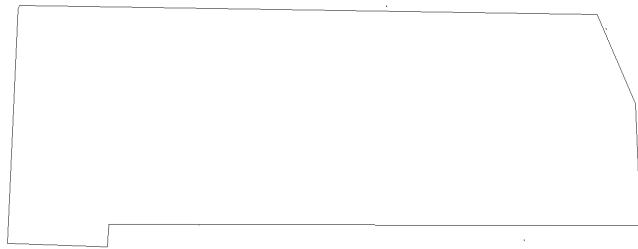
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

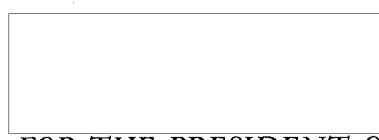


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CYPRUS

President Makarios and UN officials on Cyprus have worked out an arrangement on the recently imported Czech arms that provides for periodic inspection by UN forces but leaves the arms in Makarios' custody. The UN Secretary General today will issue a general report on the arrangement to the Security Council. The report will obscure the fact that the weapons have not been brought under UN control in the hope of avoiding a categorical Turkish rejection of the plan.

Heretofore the Turks had insisted on a complete and immediate turnover of the arms to the UN. The Greek representative at the UN has expressed satisfaction with the plan, but it is not clear that he was speaking for his government.

Makarios is willing to make a show of compromise in the political field, hinting at some changes in his cabinet. However, he will not give in to the Greek demands that he reconstitute his government on a broader base and then resign. The US Embassy in Athens estimates that the Greek Government cannot accept this response and must produce some concrete results or face growing pressure from Turkey.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

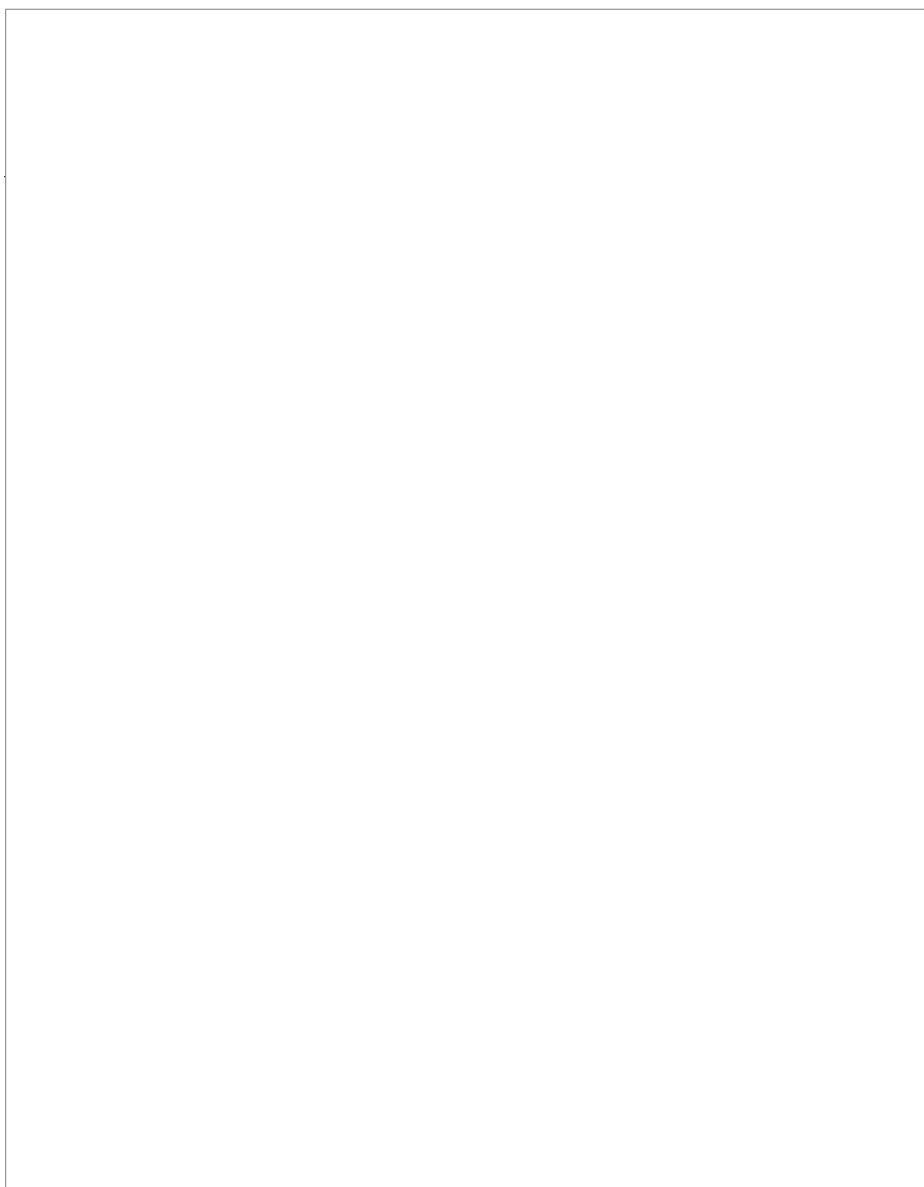
President Allende soon will renew his efforts to include at least one military leader in his cabinet, [redacted] He hopes this would help blunt military opposition as well as to give his government added prestige. At the same time, several recent shifts in key military assignments reflect Allende's efforts to relegate potential military plotters to peripheral positions.

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Ever since his inauguration in late 1970, Allende has cultivated the military by defending them against critics, raising their pay, and playing upon their loyalty to the constitution and reluctance to be drawn into partisan politics. The military, however, continue to experience the same deep divisions that permeate Chilean society as a whole. These divisions and Allende's tactics reduce the chance that any incipient coup plotting would succeed.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

South Vietnam - Cambodia: The 4,500-man South Vietnamese force operating in a major Communist base area in Cambodia west of Tay Ninh Province has destroyed enemy camps and large supply caches, but has not yet made any significant contact with enemy forces. The South Vietnamese commander, General Minh, is more interested in disrupting one of the enemy's main staging areas for attacks into South Vietnam than in taking on the three Communist divisions which are concentrated nearby. Minh apparently plans to end this operation in a few days.

USSR-Cuba: Fidel Castro may visit the USSR in May. Our embassy in Moscow has reported that an official propagandist, lecturing recently on foreign affairs, asserted without elaboration that Castro would come at that time. Should Castro do so, it would be his first visit since 1964, and it is likely that he would attend the annual May Day observance. The Cuban leader no doubt would use such a visit to seek reaffirmation of the USSR's commitment to Cuba prior to President Nixon's summit meetings in Moscow, and he would be likely to get it.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Cambodian politicians are reluctant to serve as prime minister under Lon Nol. (Page 1)

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Soviet

(Page 2)

The British are making concessions to the Guatemalans on British Honduras. (Page 3)

Pakistani President Bhutto has again signaled to the Indians that he is ready to negotiate. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

President Lon Nol is having trouble finding a prominent civilian to fill the prime ministership.

[redacted] several politicians have already refused to head a new cabinet. Sirik Matak, the former prime minister delegate, has publicly petitioned Lon Nol for permission to return to private life.

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The politicians' reluctance to serve as prime minister reflects the widespread fear that the military will dominate the new government. This fear appears to be justified.

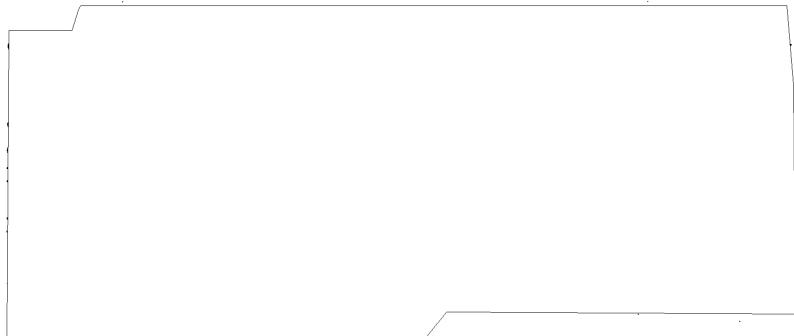
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Once the temperamental Matak cools down, he may have second thoughts about quitting, and Lon Nol, who is aware of the need for Matak's skills, may make an effort to persuade him to stay on. If Matak does bow out, the students and those Buddhist and intellectual elements who have supported their protests will claim a victory and be encouraged to begin agitating on other issues.

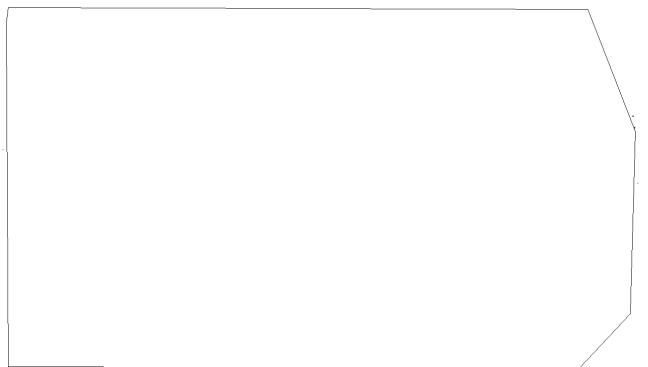
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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USSR-MALTA-UK



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UK-GUATEMALA

The British [redacted] intend to tell Foreign Minister Herrera that, out of deference to Guatemala's views, London will not send any Gurkha troops to British Honduras. Furthermore, London will raise its total garrison strength in the colony to less than 600 men rather than 700 to 1,000 as originally planned. British Honduran Premier Price, meanwhile, is arriving in London on Monday.

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The British presumably intend to tell Price to shelve his plans for independence in the near future and to stop making public statements that provoke the Guatemalans. These British concessions should ease the situation. President Arana can be expected to press for further concessions, but, with few trumps to play, he may eventually decide to be satisfied with these adjustments.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PAKISTAN

President Bhutto has provided an additional signal to encourage India into early negotiations. Before leaving for Moscow he told Indian newsmen that he was willing to end Pakistan's past policy of confrontation over Kashmir, leaving the resolution of the dispute to the local inhabitants.

Previously, Pakistan has claimed Kashmir because the majority of its people are Muslim and has committed itself to helping the Kashmiris fight for their self-determination. India has rejected all past proposals for a plebiscite. Bhutto may calculate that, by suggesting flexibility on Kashmir, he can facilitate the negotiations he needs to get back Pakistan's 90,000 prisoners of war.

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The President's Daily Brief

18 March 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Laos, the situation around Long Tieng has eased somewhat, but both sides are preparing for new combat. (Page 1)

Chinese

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(Page 2)

Turkey

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(Page 3)

Officials in Panama have been implying a link between US press charges of high-level Panamanian involvement in narcotics trafficking and US negotiating tactics over a new canal agreement. (Page 4)

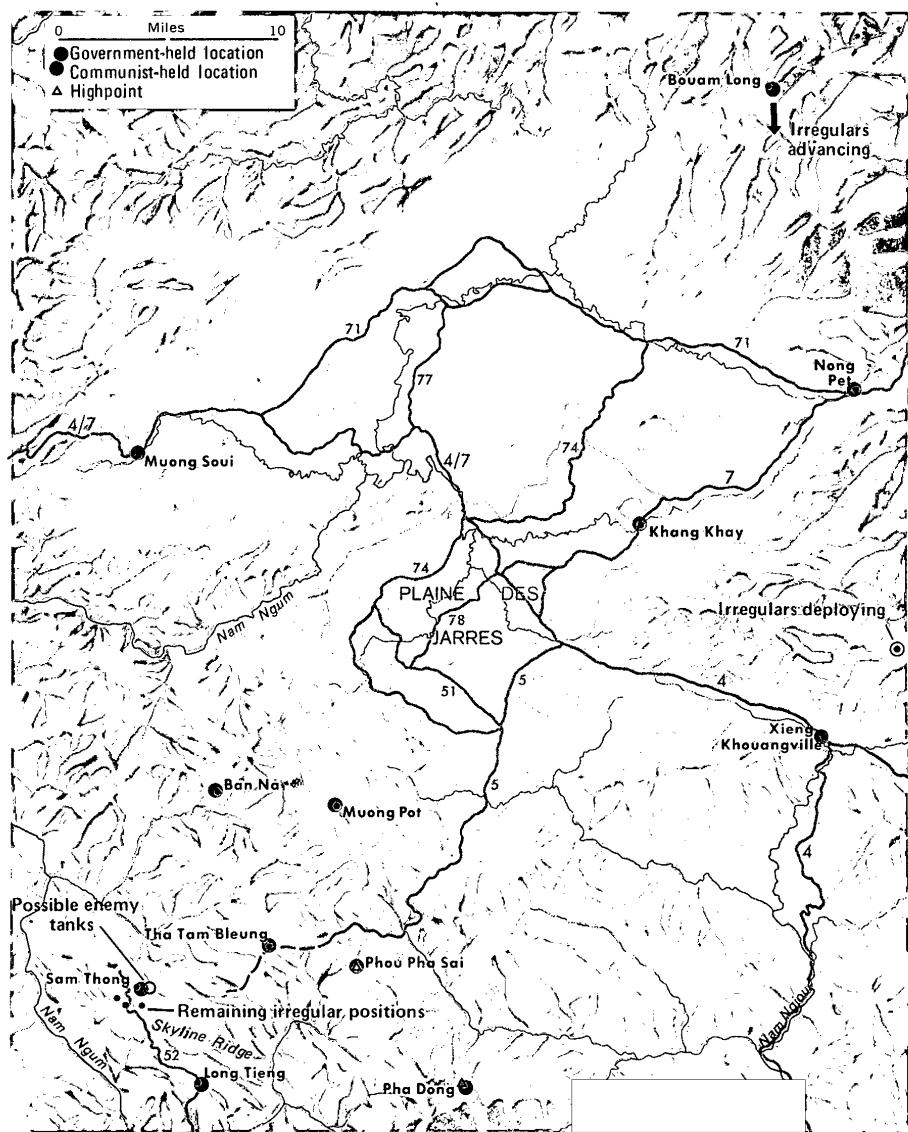
Chile's military leaders may try to use Soviet military credit offers to obtain noncombat equipment. (Page 5)

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At Annex, we discuss the current attitudes of Pakistan and India as they inch toward negotiations.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

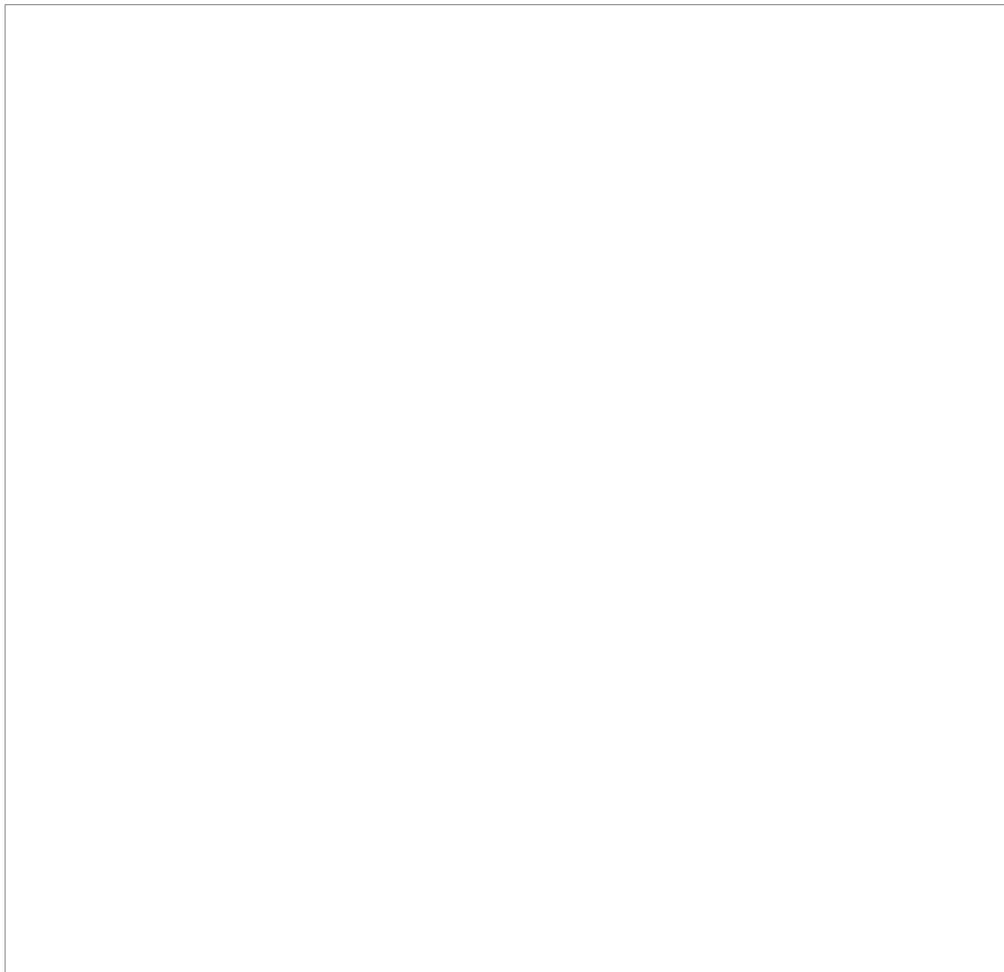
The Communists are continuing preparations for new attacks on Long Tieng. [redacted] heavy enemy activity in the Tha Tam Bleung area and on 17 March [redacted] enemy tanks had moved into the Sam Thong valley. Government troops still hold positions on the southwestern edge of Sam Thong, but two North Vietnamese regiments also remain in the area. For the moment, the Communists have restricted their attacks to the shelling of Skyline Ridge and nearby targets.

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With the local situation at Long Tieng somewhat eased in the last few days, Vang Pao is deploying forces to interdict enemy supply routes east of the Plaine des Jarres. Yesterday advance elements of a task force with more than 1,500 men began moving south from Bouam Long, while another task force of about 1,000 men has been airlifted to positions about six miles northeast of Xieng Khouangville. Intercepts indicate that the Communists are aware that Vang Pao's troops have moved into these areas but are not certain about their specific objectives.

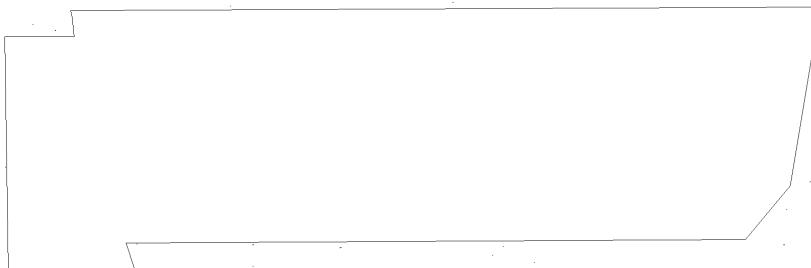
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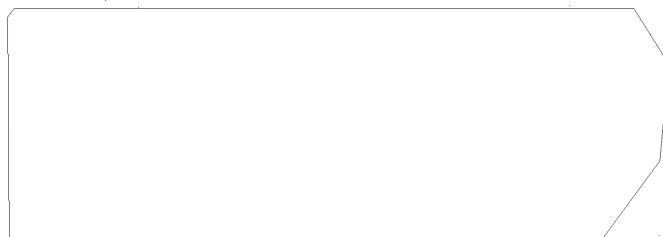


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CHINA



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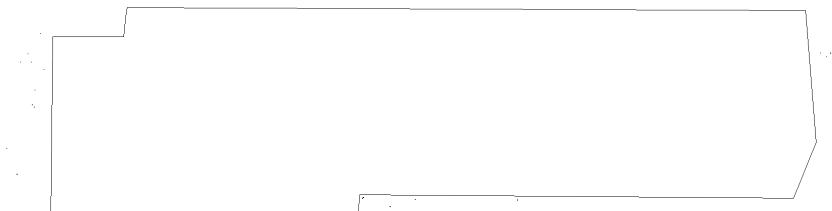
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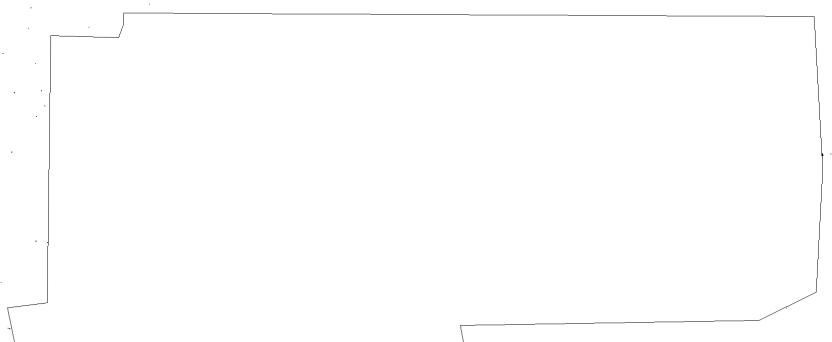
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TURKEY



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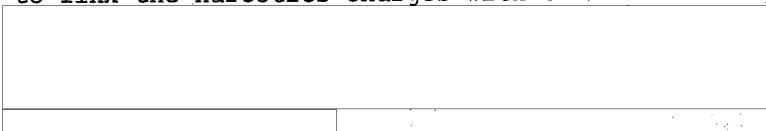
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA

The government is trying to portray press charges of official Panamanian involvement in narcotics trafficking as a US intelligence plot to undermine the Torrijos regime's stand in the canal negotiations. The Panamanian ambassadors to Costa Rica and Ecuador have already attacked the US, suggesting that a diplomatic campaign may be under way to link the narcotics charges with the canal talks.



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On previous occasions when Tack has threatened to muddy the waters with a public statement on the negotiations, General Torrijos has applied an ultimate veto. The narcotics charges could make him less hesitant this time. Torrijos in his present frame of mind is likely to be casting about for some way to embarrass the US in the belief that the best defense is a good offense.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

President Allende recently met with the commanders of the three services to discuss their reasons for rejecting proffered Soviet military credits of \$300 million

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[redacted] Their answers, according to the source, reflected a reluctance to acquire combat equipment that might entail sending Chileans to the USSR for training or accepting Soviet advisers. The navy chief did indicate, however, that a Soviet hydrographic vessel would be acceptable, and the air force and army commanders said that they could use telecommunications equipment and vehicles.

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[redacted] Army Chief Prats said [redacted] that Chile needs high-quality weaponry, but that the army cannot take advantage of the Soviet credit. He explained that, in addition to the difficulties of incorporating Soviet equipment, the presence of Soviet tanks in Chile would have an adverse effect on suspicious neighboring governments.

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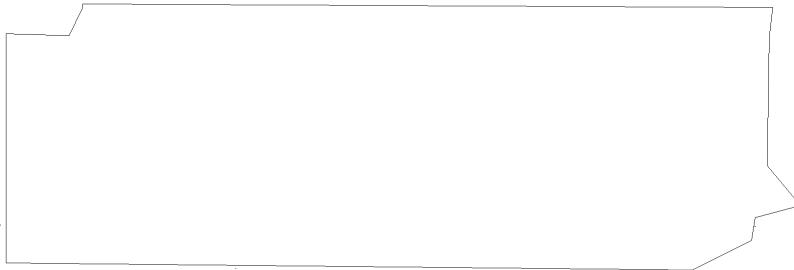
Allende appears to be as concerned as the military chiefs over the implications of Chilean acceptance of Soviet military aid. If the commanders can settle on noncombat equipment to utilize some of the Soviet offer, both Allende and the military might find this an acceptable way out of their dilemma.

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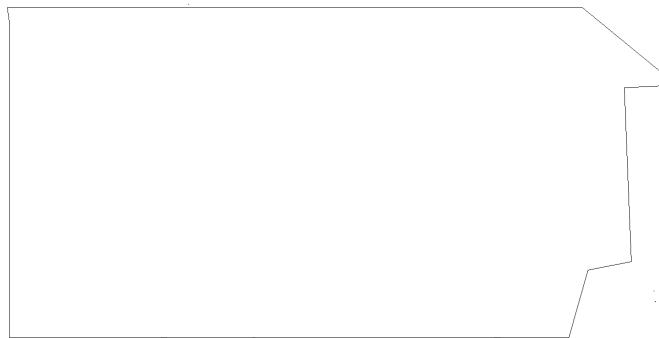
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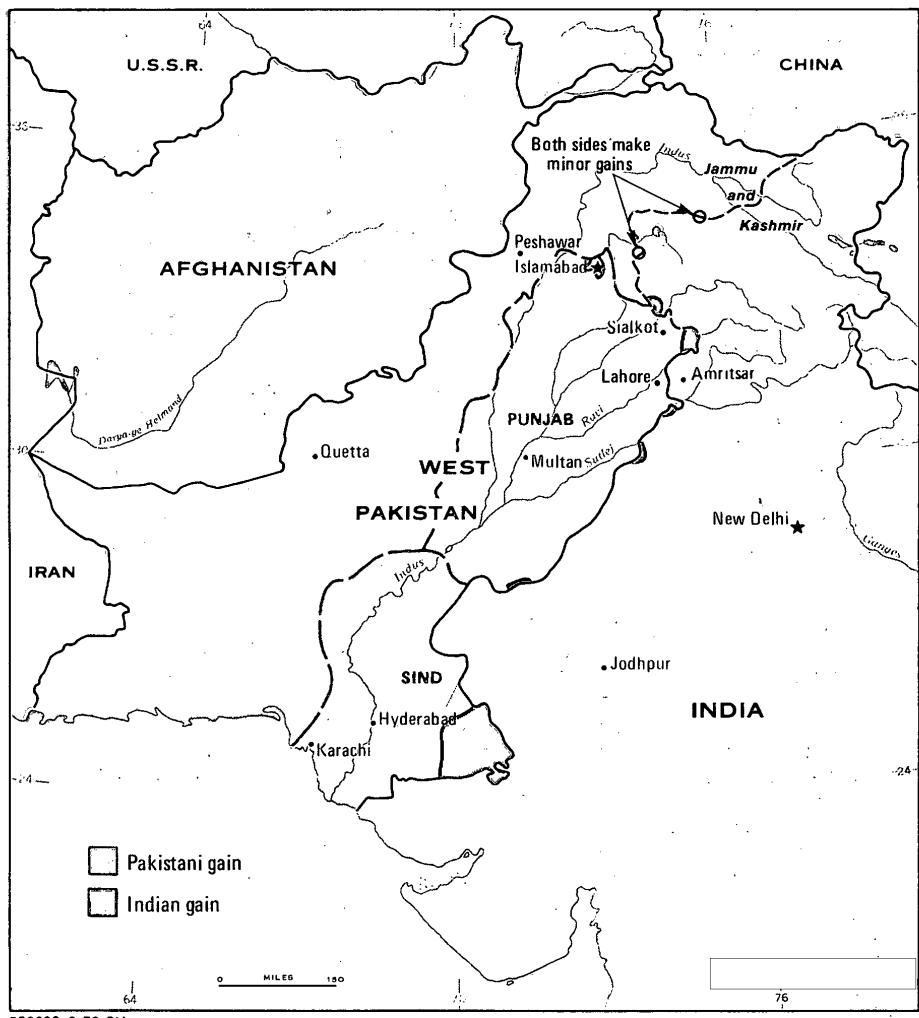
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Israel-Lebanon: The land mine explosion in northern Israel on 16 March was the second terrorist incident since the four-day Israeli search-and-destroy operation last month against fedayeen bases in southern Lebanon. Two Israeli soldiers were killed and five injured. A retaliatory strike may well follow if Tel Aviv's investigation indicates that fedayeen infiltrators were responsible for the incident. The Israelis last hit at fedayeen targets in Lebanon on 9 March in response to rocket attacks on Israeli border settlements.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLYA
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X**APPROACHING NEGOTIATIONS IN SOUTH ASIA**

New Delhi and Islamabad are edging toward negotiations on issues arising from India's military victory of last December. The withdrawal of Indian troops from Bangladesh this week has removed one major obstacle to Pakistani participation in talks. President Bhutto's rapid moves to solidify his domestic position and his current visit to Moscow seem designed to clear the way tacitly to acknowledge the finality of the events of last December, to accept the independent existence of Bangladesh, and to restore relations with New Delhi.

Issues between India and Pakistan

India, from its position of strength, told UN Secretary General Waldheim in mid-February that it was ready for direct peace talks "at any time, at any level, and without preconditions." New Delhi thus abandoned its earlier insistence that Islamabad first recognize Bangladesh. Prime Minister Gandhi, with her own domestic prestige greatly fortified by her Congress party's sweeping victory in the state elections last week, and with her troops holding the lion's share of captured territory, has every reason to approach talks with confidence.

Her specific aims are to adjust the frontier to India's advantage, to negotiate POW repatriation, and to settle the Kashmir dispute by a formal partition roughly along the 1949 cease-fire line. Beyond these, Mrs. Gandhi hopes by reducing tension to end Islamabad's policy of maintaining a high state of military readiness so that India can divert more resources to domestic needs.

Bhutto's immediate aim is to cancel out losses from the war. He seeks to regain some 1,400 square miles of territory India occupies and to secure repatriation of some 94,000 POWs held by India. As for Kashmir, he has little alternative but to accept the fact that India has what it wants and is both able and determined to keep it. Moreover, the recent military defeat has led many Pakistanis to favor stabilizing relations with India, even if this requires such a major change as accepting a permanent Kashmir partition. Also, Bhutto's cards are few: only 100 square miles of occupied Indian territory, 600 Indian POWs, and the prospect of recognizing Bangladesh.

(continued)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The conflicting claims to the entire state of Kashmir have defied solution in the past, but Bhutto may be preparing his public for a softening of Pakistan's traditional claim to all of Kashmir. In a seeming gesture of flexibility before leaving for Moscow, Bhutto told Indian newsmen that the local inhabitants should settle the problems themselves. If such a modification evolves, the Indians could at last achieve Pakistani recognition of a permanent border along the 1949 cease-fire line, leaving two thirds of the disputed territory with India. At a minimum, New Delhi wants a few border adjustments to plug routes which Pakistani infiltrators have used in the past and to deny Pakistani forces the ability to threaten Indian communication routes from certain salients. Indian troops now hold several of these outposts.

South of Kashmir, India holds some 1,100 square miles of Pakistani territory, but apparently is not greatly interested in retaining it. Relatively unproductive land in Sind Province constitutes the largest part, but India also occupies roughly half of Sialkot District in Punjab Province, Pakistan's breadbasket east of Lahore. Between 700,000 and one million Pakistanis have fled their homes in the Punjab, and [redacted] nearly half a million acres of crops, mostly wheat to be harvested in May, and hundreds of thousands of head of livestock have been lost there. A group of Western aid donors is helping Islamabad provide relief supplies to a total of some 1.2 million refugees.

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Coupled with domestic pressure for the return of occupied territory is the growing demand in Pakistan for repatriation of the 94,000 civilian and military personnel which the war left stranded in Bangladesh. Most have been transferred to camps in India now, but the problem has been complicated by New Delhi's insistence that Bangladesh participate in any repatriation negotiations. The first exchange of a small number of seriously ill and wounded prisoners took place in late February, but India refuses to yield 93 remaining wounded Pakistanis without Dacca's concurrence.

Other issues are less prickly. Both sides seem to favor a restoration of diplomatic relations. There also might be progress on restoring communications and travel and trade links, some of which have been severed since the hostilities of 1965. Commercial overflights, except for national airlines of the two countries, have already been resumed.

(continued)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Issues Between Pakistan and Bangladesh

Bhutto evidently wants to establish a modus vivendi with Bangladesh now that he has shown that every possible step has been taken to avoid formal separation of the two wings. Although he still wishes to postpone recognition--and still predicts that eventually the two will come together in some manner--most Pakistanis appear to be reconciled to the reality of an independent Bangladesh. A partial restoration of economic ties might be an early step. Islamabad has already offered to donate 122,000 tons of rice to Dacca on humanitarian grounds. In any event, the complexities of dividing assets and obligations of the former united Pakistan will clearly require many months of negotiations.

Dacca's announced plans to hold trials for Bengali and Pakistani "war criminals" provide an immediate brake on moves to restore ties. Bangladesh authorities arrested several thousand civilian "collaborators," and have stated that they will also try 100 senior Pakistani officers, including General Niazi, who commanded Islamabad's forces in the east and now is in Indian custody. If Dacca proceeds with trials, Bhutto might well withdraw his offer to return to Bangladesh all of the 30,000 Bengali military personnel and 8,000 civil officers in the West who wish to go back.

Bhutto Walks on Eggs

India's crucial role in the dismemberment of Pakistan gives Bhutto every reason to approach negotiations with great care. New Delhi's use of force fortified underlying fears in Pakistan that India's ultimate goal is to destroy Pakistan as a viable state and then to absorb it. At the same time, the US Embassy in Islamabad reports a growing tendency among politically sophisticated Pakistanis to accept a relationship with India not based upon continued military confrontation. Bhutto's own position is growing stronger, but he probably remains unsure of domestic tolerance for concessions toward India. Despite his recent success in curbing the military's political role, he must be particularly alert to the development of military resistance, for the military's raison d'etre has always been confrontation with India. Given India's advantages, the fruitfulness of any negotiations will depend heavily on Indian magnanimity and Bhutto's adroitness in judging just how far he can afford to bend.

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The President's Daily Brief

20 March 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 March 1972

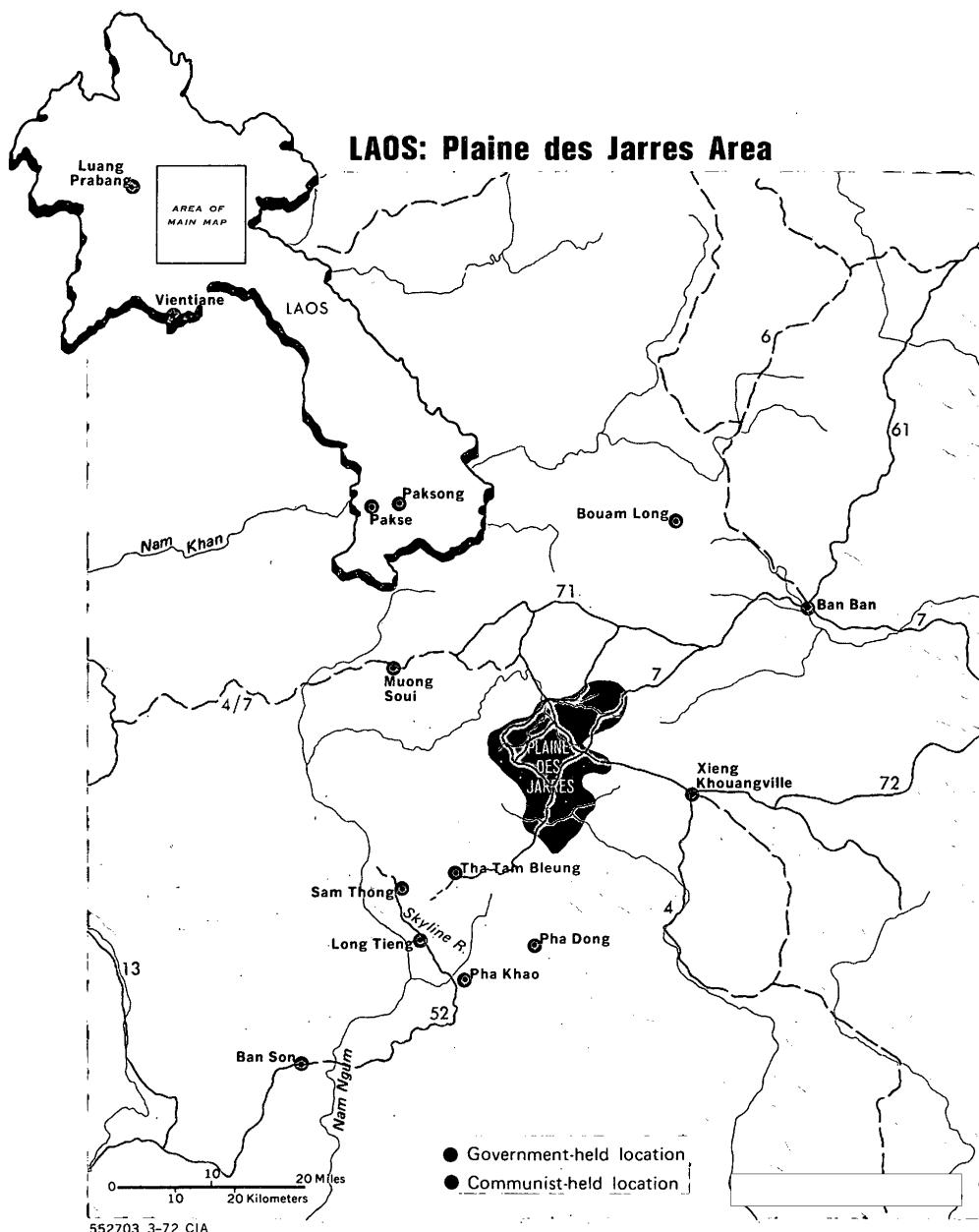
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The battle for Long Tieng resumed on Saturday.
(Page 1)

Enemy main force units are moving from the mountains
on the Laotian border toward South Vietnamese coastal
targets near Hue. (Page 2)

Son Ngoc Thanh's appointment as prime minister of
Cambodia should ease political tensions. (Page 3)

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LAOS

The anticipated assault on Long Tieng is under way. North Vietnamese infantry began hitting government defensive positions on Skyline Ridge overlooking the valley on Saturday. Later on the same day, they forced the remaining government forces from Sam Thong.

Yesterday morning the Communists launched heavy assaults along the length of Skyline Ridge, winning two government defensive positions by mid-afternoon. The enemy directed heavy artillery and mortar fire at the rest of the Long Tieng complex. The government is using all available air support to stem the Communist drive.

North Vietnamese preparations for this assault have been evident for several weeks. Apparently the Communists' timetable was set back by logistics problems, aggravated by government air strikes and diversionary ground operations. Given the Communists' logistics problems, this could be their last good opportunity to take the Long Tieng Valley during the current dry season.

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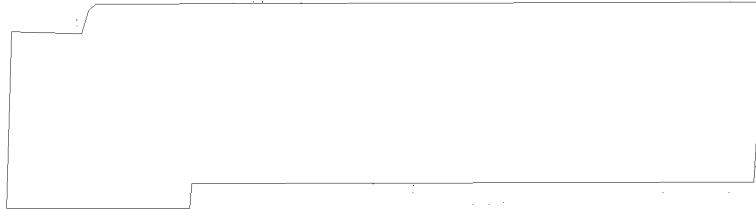
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Sharp fighting broke out less than 20 miles southwest of Hue over the weekend. More than two Communist battalions, supported by shellings totaling some 150 large-caliber rockets and over 1,000 rounds of mortar fire, attacked South Vietnamese field positions blocking enemy main forces moving from the mountains toward coastal targets.

According to the South Vietnamese, Communist losses in the weekend action totaled 280 killed and more than 215 weapons lost; the South Vietnamese lost 27 killed and 83 wounded. The enemy unit involved in these battles has been identified as the North Vietnamese 6th Regiment, which moved eastward from the Laos border during February. Other Communist main force units appear to be moving in the same direction.

* * *



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CAMBODIA

The appointment of Son Ngoc Thanh as prime minister should ease political tensions. President Lon Nol picked Thanh, who served as prime minister briefly in 1945, after five other candidates had turned down the post. The 63-year-old Thanh's anti-Sihanouk credentials and his reputation for honesty should mollify the restive students and others who have been agitating against royalist tendencies and corruption. Thanh has few enemies among influential politicians. His support within the military establishment is uncertain, but he has close ties with the Khmer Krom, the army's elite fighting force.



Son Ngoc Thanh

Lon Nol evidently intends to keep Thanh on a short leash. Thanh, who will serve concurrently as foreign minister, told the press that he accepted the prime ministership without conditions

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An intercepted message indicates that although decisions are not final, military officers will receive several key ministries and there will be some civilian holdovers.

Thanh's appointment seems to have precluded any important post for Sirik Matak, with whom the new prime minister has been at odds for years. The energetic Thanh, who unlike Sirik Matak, is not close to Lon Nol, could soon become frustrated with Lon Nol's restraints and his constant interference in the government's day-to-day affairs.

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NOTES

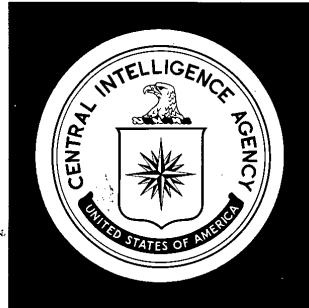
Arab States - Jordan: The Confederation of Arab Republics (Egypt, Syria, and Libya) has rejected King Husayn's West Bank proposal, terming it a unilateral effort to solve a pan-Arab problem. The confederation statement does not explicitly charge that Husayn made a secret deal with the Israelis, but suspicion of such an agreement is implicit in the document. Palestinian resistance leaders, meanwhile, continue to denounce the proposal, and on 17 March Fatah radio said an emergency meeting of the Fatah central committee reiterated its determination to overthrow Husayn.

China:

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

21 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists remain on the attack near Long Tieng. (Page 1)

Communist gunners have launched their heaviest attack to date on Phnom Penh. (Page 2)

The Chinese appear to be planning to test fire ICBMs to the Indian Ocean. (Page 3)

Party chief Brezhnev's statement on foreign policy is discussed on Page 4.

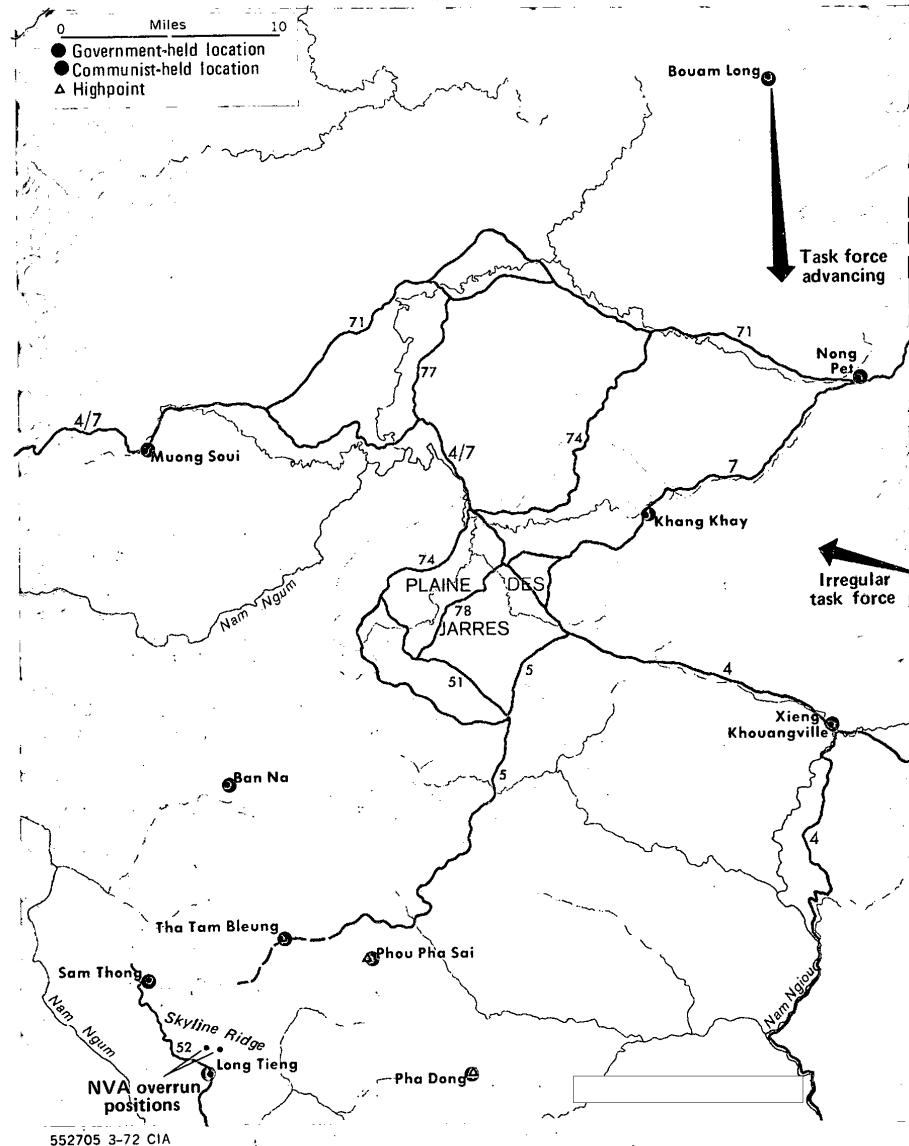
Greeks

(Page 5)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The Communists have captured three of the nine irregular positions on Skyline Ridge. The remaining irregular position on the western end of the ridge came under attack today. A North Vietnamese prisoner claims that plans call for elements of the 312th Division to assault the western end and for two regiments of the 316th Division to strike to the east.

The North Vietnamese also may be preparing to launch some harassing attacks from the south. Yesterday an irregular unit clashed with small numbers of North Vietnamese troops moving northwest toward Long Tieng.

To the east, Vang Pao's task forces are moving into positions to threaten the Communists' lines of communications. Advance elements of a 1,500-man task force are now about ten miles south of Bouam Long, while a 1,300-man force is moving toward the foothills east of the Plaine. The Communists are trying to counter Vang Pao's offensive with Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese troops already in this area, including elements of the 174th Regiment. Thus far there are no signs that they intend to divert troops now pressing the attack on Long Tieng.

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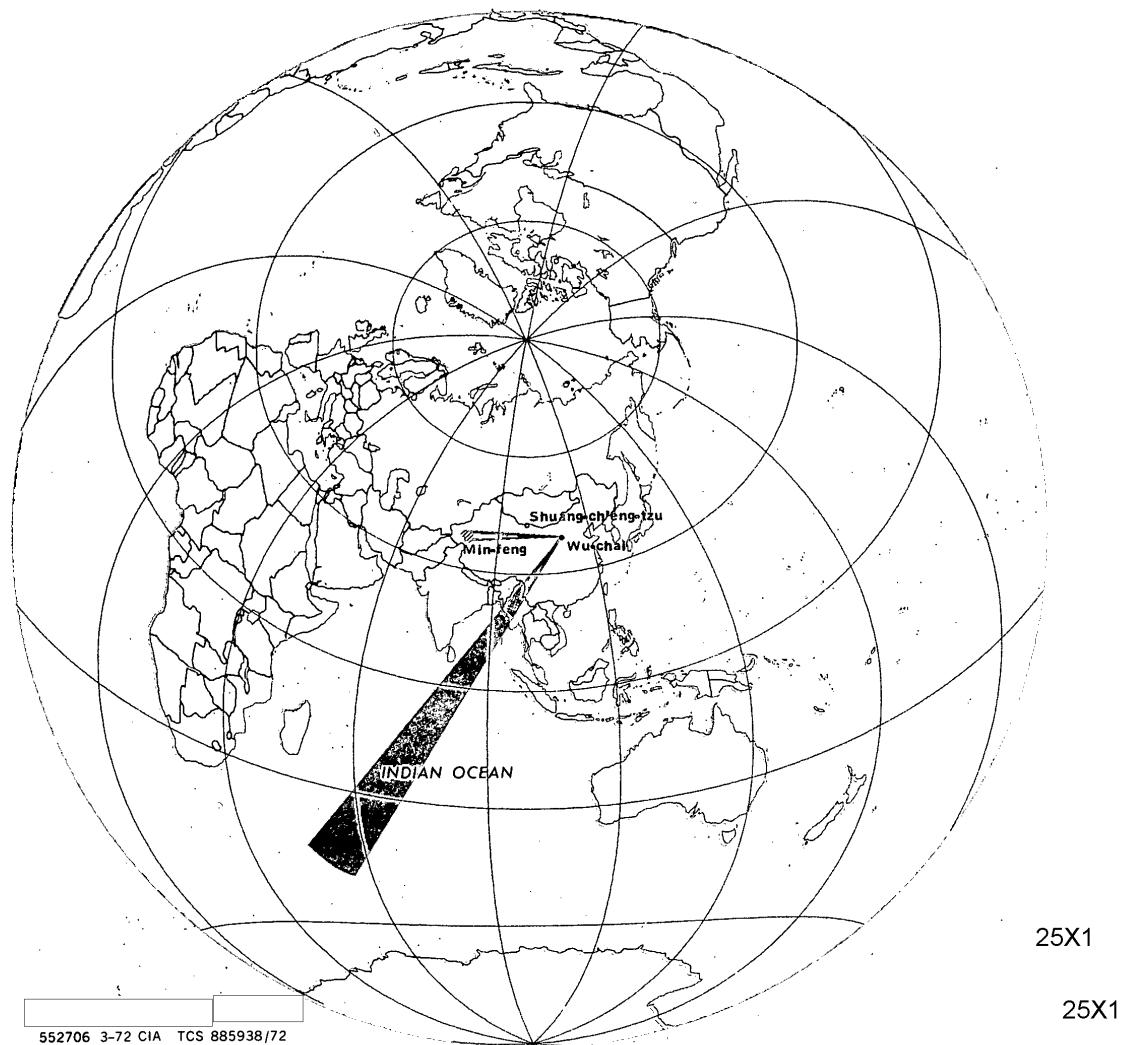
CAMBODIA

The three-month lull in enemy military action ended early this morning in Phnom Penh when Communist gunners launched their heaviest rocket and mortar attack to date on the city area. The pre-dawn barrage of over 100 rockets, along with scattered recoilless rifle and mortar rounds, destroyed one light aircraft and damaged four others at the Phnom Penh airfield. The airfield itself was only slightly damaged and has been reopened. Many rocket rounds impacted between the airfield and downtown Phnom Penh, starting fires that resulted in considerable civilian casualties, especially in one neighborhood crowded with refugees.

The shelling, which was apparently timed to coincide roughly with the ouster of Sihanouk two years ago on 18 March, was accompanied by a sapper attack on a military radio station east of the airfield, which resulted in 25 killed, most of them civilians. There are presently no signs that Communist main force infantry units, which moved away from the city last December, are returning to within striking distance of the capital area. The US Embassy in Phnom Penh points out, however, that the enemy is capable of other such shelling attacks at a time of his own choosing.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

China: Preparations for ICBM Testing

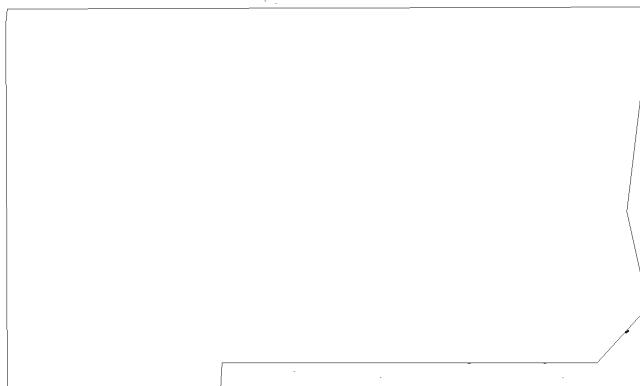


FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

Satellite photography suggests that the Chinese have plans to launch ICBMs from the Wu-chai launch complex to the Indian Ocean. Since late 1970, they have been building six permanent tracking sites near the Wu-chai rangehead, where they developed the CSS-2 IRBM. Recent photography shows that at least two of these sites are located well south of the CSS-2 flight path from Wu-chai to the regular impact area at Min-feng, some 1,400 nm to the west. In addition, work on a large silo has been underway at Wu-chai since the summer of 1968.

The apparent reason for establishing a new firing azimuth from the Wu-chai rangehead is to provide additional range beyond that available within Chinese boundaries. The flight path implied by the location of the two southerly sites, if extended to ICBM ranges, passes southwest across Burma and into the Indian Ocean.



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USSR

Party chief Brezhnev's remarks to a Soviet trade union congress yesterday suggest that Soviet foreign policy may be encountering some domestic criticism. In an uncharacteristic admission, Brezhnev noted that Soviet policy toward West Germany is "not a simple question for our country." Brezhnev personally endorsed recent Soviet media criticism of West German opposition to ratification of the Eastern treaties.

While defending Soviet policy toward Bonn, he urged West Germany to make the "responsible choice" in favor of cooperation rather than confrontation. Brezhnev altered the Soviet line on the Common Market to hint that the Soviet-led Council of Mutual Economic Assistance was ready to take up relations with it--a stance presumably designed to strengthen Chancellor Brandt's position on the treaties.

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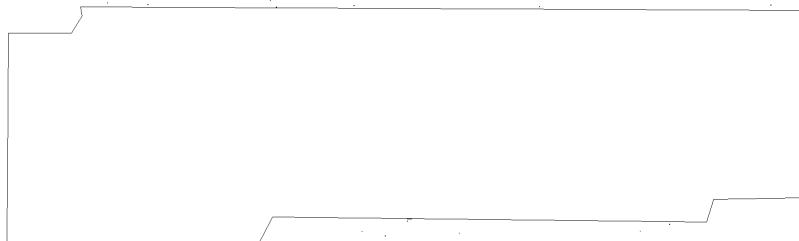
In Moscow's first authoritative comment on President Nixon's trip to Peking, Brezhnev expressed suspicion about its results. He noted the secrecy surrounding the trip as an indication that the Sino-US talks were not restricted to bilateral matters. In this connection he quoted, scornfully but without attribution, the President's remark in Shanghai that "today our two peoples hold in their hands the future of the whole world." He added that the "subsequent deeds of the US and China" would show the significance of the talks.

Brezhnev nevertheless pointed to the potential for improved Soviet-US relations in the coming Moscow summit meeting. He reaffirmed support for a "mutually agreeable" SALT agreement, and stated that it is "expedient" to widen contacts and meetings between Moscow and Washington.

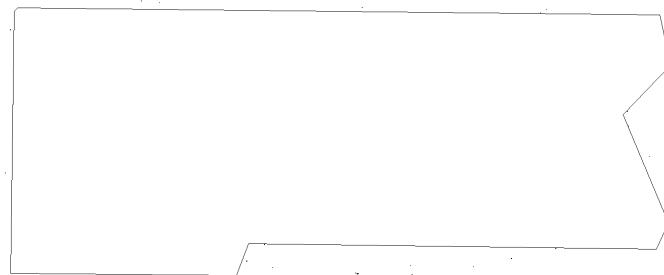
On Sino-Soviet relations Brezhnev seemed a bit defensive, citing several Soviet proposals that await a reply from Peking.

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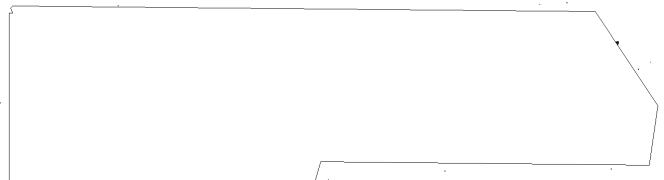
GREECE-CYPRUS



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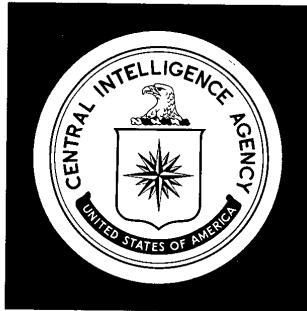
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NOTE

Cambodia: Lon Nol's new cabinet reflects the increasing political role of the military establishment. Military men hold several key ministries, including interior, defense, commerce, and education. On the civilian side, the competent information minister from the previous cabinet has stayed on, a frequent government critic has accepted the justice portfolio, and most of the rest are holdover technicians. President Lon Nol has now decided to take on the title of prime minister as well, in order to chair cabinet meetings. Son Ngoc Thanh's title, therefore, will be "first minister," indicating that he will coordinate rather than direct the work of other ministers. This underscores the narrow limits of his authority.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviets

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(Page 1)

In Laos, the Communists yesterday captured another strongpoint on Skyline Ridge, but the irregulars have now launched a counterattack. (Page 2)

The North Vietnamese appear to be working on two more airfields in the southern part of North Vietnam. (Page 3)

Guatemala

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(Page 4)

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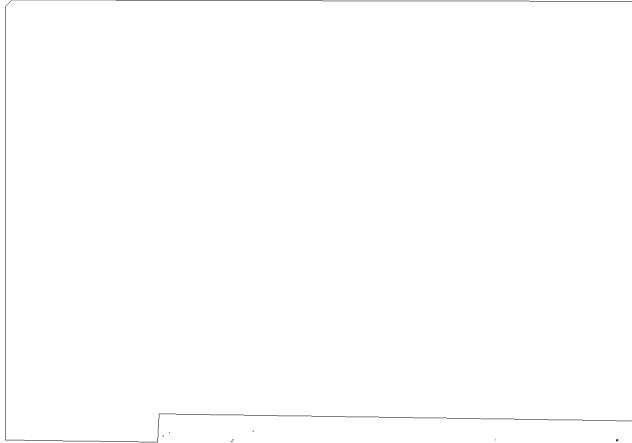
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USSR

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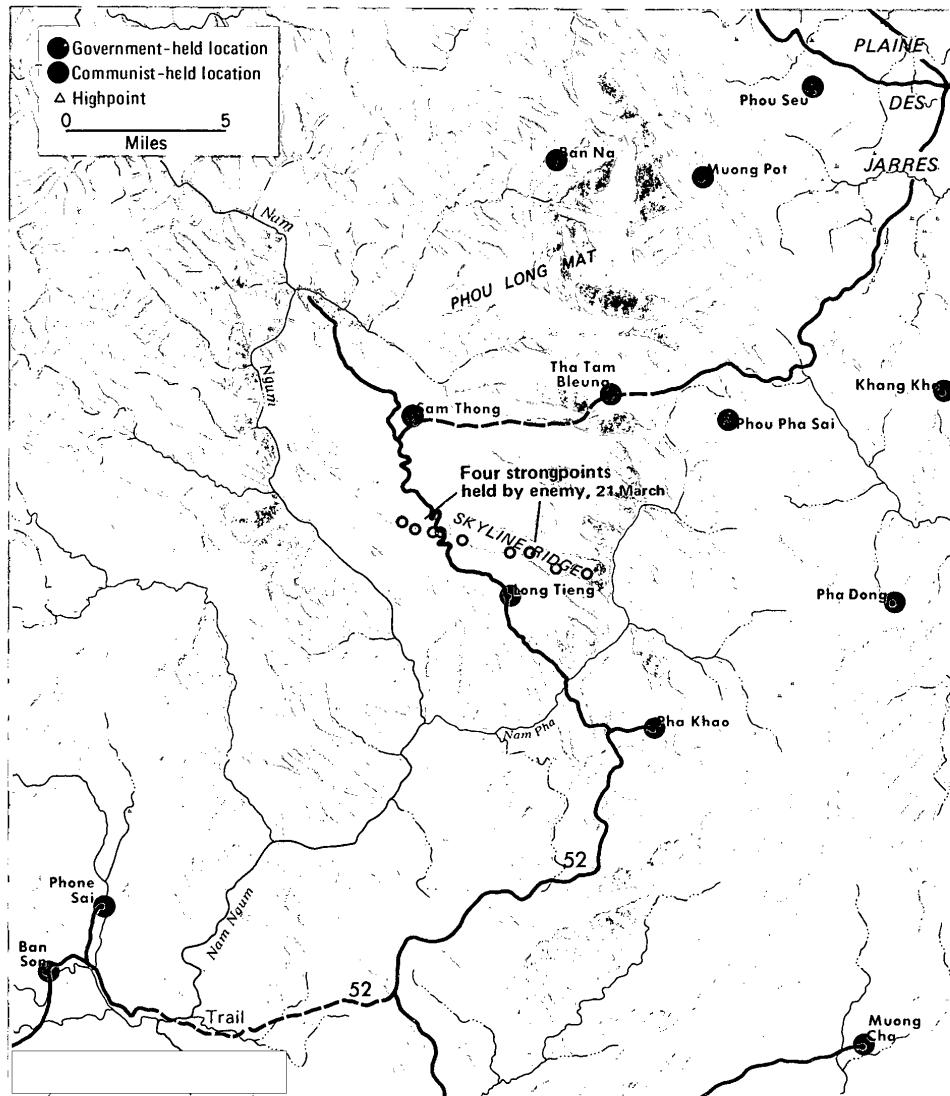
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LONG TIENG AREA



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LAOS

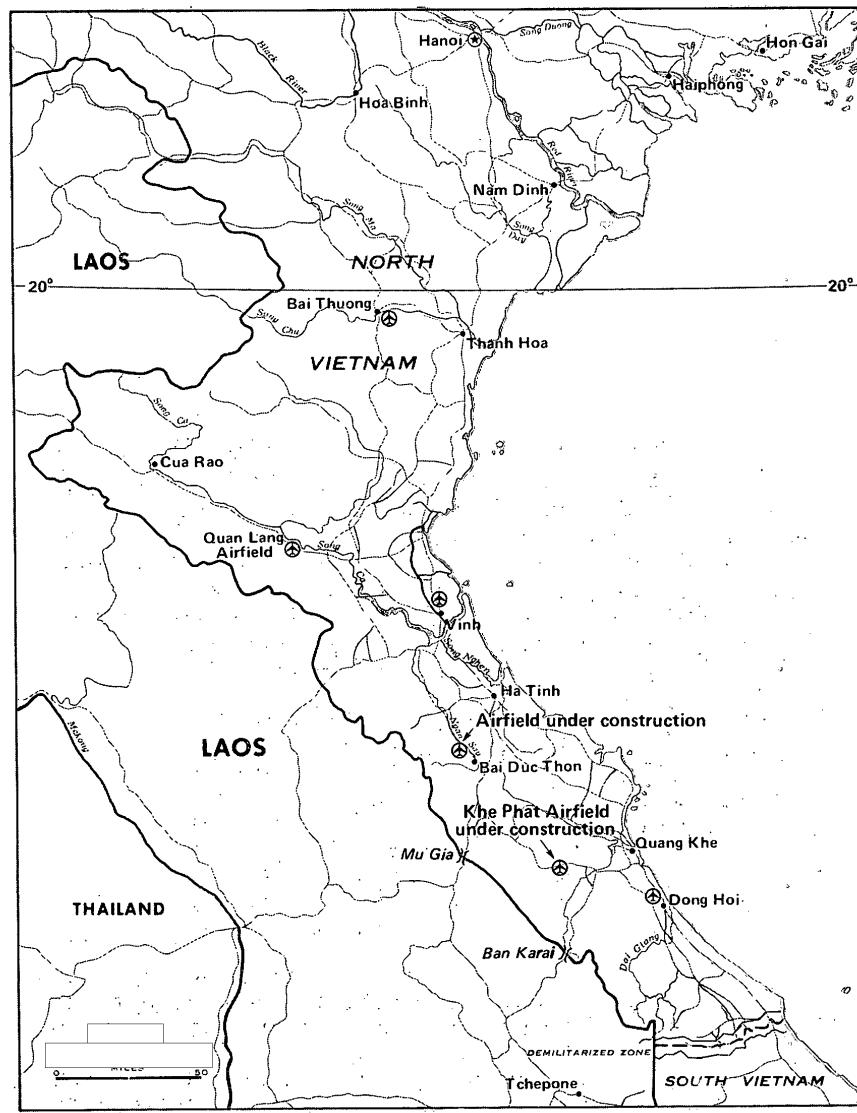
North Vietnamese troops drove irregulars from another position on the western end of Skyline Ridge yesterday. As of today, the Communists are reported to hold two strongpoints on the far west of the ridge, the government still holds five, and two are unoccupied. The irregulars have launched a counter-attack to prevent the North Vietnamese from using their toehold on the ridge to cover an advance by Communist troops and tanks from the Sam Thong area. Aerial observers have already spotted tank tracks north of the ridge.

The 1,400 Thai and 400 Lao irregulars defending Skyline in the week-long battle have been fighting with considerable tenacity, but it is questionable whether they can hold on indefinitely without major reinforcements. Heavy enemy fire on the Long Tieng airstrip has so far prevented Vang Pao from moving two fresh battalions into the area.

The Communists too may be hurting from the protracted heavy fighting.

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The two irregular forces operating north and east of the Plaine des Jarres are still encountering only light resistance as they advance toward positions from which to harass Communist lines of communication.



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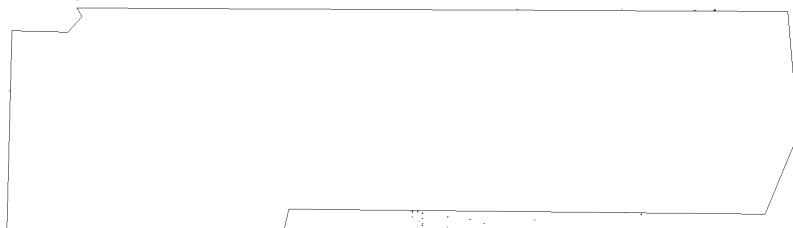
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NORTH VIETNAM

Hanoi appears to be building two additional air-fields in the southern region of North Vietnam. Photography of mid-March shows what looks like construction of a field near the town of Bai Duc Thon. Although the runway is still in an early stage of construction and only 3,800 feet long, it could easily be extended. Earlier this year the North Vietnamese also had begun work on an airfield at Khe Phat. Recent photography shows that one third of the 5,600-foot runway under construction there has now been surfaced.

The relatively rapid pace of construction at these airfields suggests that Hanoi is preparing for a much higher level of air operations during the next few months. When the two fields are completed this summer the North Vietnamese will have a total of six fields south of the 20th parallel capable of handling jet aircraft.



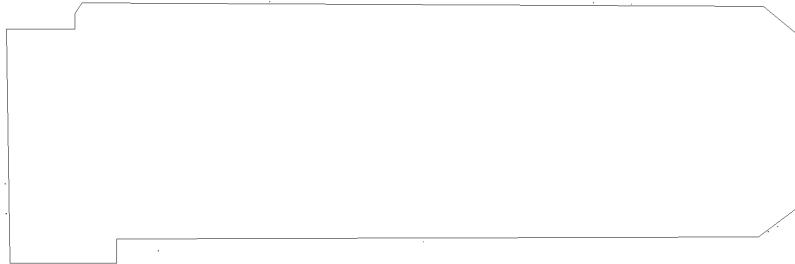
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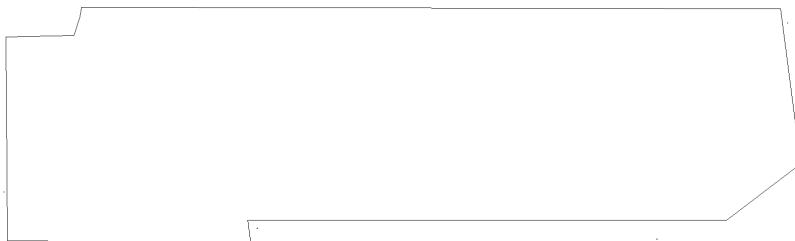
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GUATEMALA 

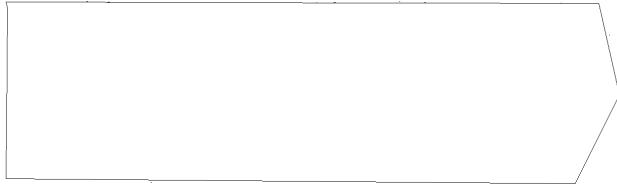
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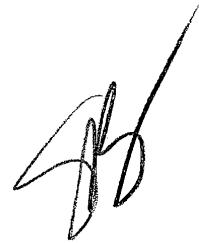
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NOTE

Cyprus: Following conversations with Cypriot officials, UN representatives on Cyprus say they expect the Makarios government to agree soon to tighter UN controls over the Czech arms. The Cypriots responded favorably to the suggestion of establishing a UN presence at the armory where the weapons are being stored and for the removal of the firing pins to another city. Ankara and the Turkish Cypriots continue to insist, however, that all of the arms be turned over to the UN force, and are threatening otherwise to import an equivalent quantity of arms for the Turkish Cypriots.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

23 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In the Laos fighting, irregular forces retook two positions on Skyline Ridge yesterday but later were forced back by enemy mortar and artillery fire.
(Page 1)

The Cypriot bishops have repeated in strong terms their request that President Makarios resign and the threat of violence on the island again is increasing.
(Page 2)

Pressure is building on the Israeli Government to define its ultimate aims with regard to the occupied territories.
(Page 3)

Pakistani President Bhutto's visit to Moscow appears to have reduced some of the bitterness between the two governments.
(Page 4)

Rising anti-American sentiment in Bangladesh may lead to violence this weekend.
(Page 4)

Yugoslav [redacted]

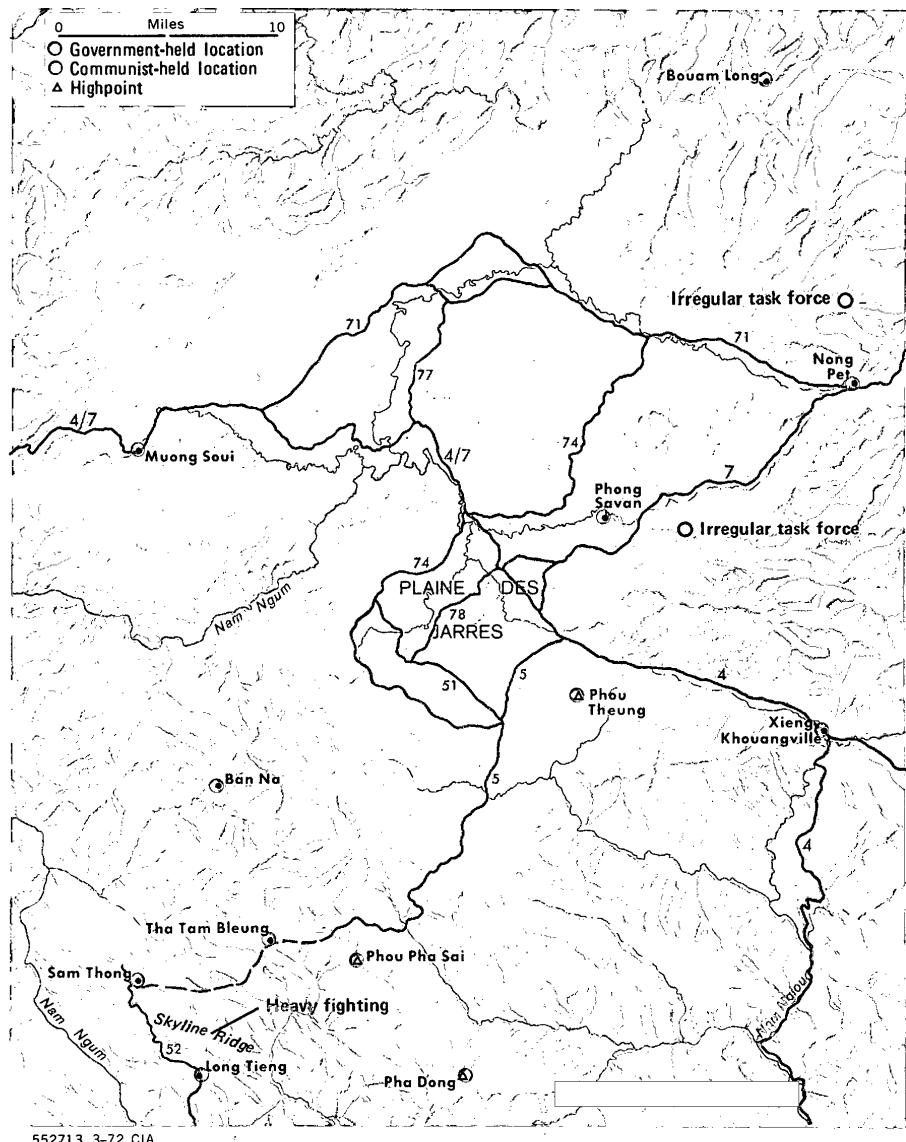
China [redacted]

(Page 4)

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LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

Irregular forces retook two positions at the western end of Skyline Ridge on Wednesday, but hours later were forced back by enemy mortar and artillery fire. Government artillery fire and air strikes forced the Communists to withdraw from the center of the ridge, but irregulars have not re-occupied the area. This leaves the government forces holding five positions and the Communists two, while two are unoccupied.

Over 600 fresh troops were airlifted into Long Tieng yesterday.

The arrival of this force should bolster the morale of the irregulars defending the base and improve Vang Pao's capability for defense and counterattack. About 550 troops driven from the Sam Thong area have also arrived, but they presumably will need some rest before they can participate in combat.

To the east of the Plaine des Jarres, advance elements of one of Vang Pao's task forces are about three miles from Phong Savan, once a major enemy storage area. Elements from the other force have reached high ground overlooking Nong Pet, at the junction of two important supply roads. A ground observer reports that five tanks are north of Nong Pet, and intercepts indicate that elements from the North Vietnamese 866th and 174th regiments are preparing to engage the irregulars.

There is as yet no evidence that Vang Pao's new operations have diverted any Communist troops from the siege at Long Tieng.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CYPRUS

Athens appears to be increasing its pressure on President Makarios. At a meeting yesterday, the Cypriot bishops rejected Makarios' contention that his resignation could lead to a "national disaster" and repeated in strong terms their request that he step down as president.

Although Makarios had earlier told the bishops that he would quit if they insisted, his more likely course is to appeal for public support in an effort to demonstrate that the people will not permit him to resign. The police in Limassol, a city in southern Cyprus where two of the bishops are staying, are on full alert in anticipation of mass demonstrations, and the threat of violence on the island again is increasing.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL

Pressure is building on the government to define more specifically its ultimate aims with regard to the occupied territories. The main impulse for this activity, which involves leaders of political parties, senior government officials, and the press, seems to be a fear that the US might strike a deal with the USSR affecting Israel's borders during President Nixon's visit to Moscow.

According to an adviser to Prime Minister Meir who talked with US officials, senior Israeli officials suspect that the Soviets, as part of their strategy to neutralize a US-Chinese rapprochement, will inform the President that Moscow now accepts the Rogers plan, which calls for only minimal changes in the pre-1967 borders as part of a peace settlement. The Israelis fear this move would force the US to choose between opposing Israel or abandoning a long-standing policy and incurring serious losses in the Arab world.

In addition to this concern, King Husayn's unveiling of his proposal for the West Bank has helped to focus attention on the border problem. This has led Deputy Prime Minister Alon to reintroduce his 1967 plan for a settlement with Jordan. Alon claims that it is now possible to mobilize a large majority in the Knesset in support of his plan, which includes a 10- to 15-mile defensive strip held by Israel in the Jordan Valley, an Israeli-controlled connecting corridor with East Jordan, and other border adjustments in strategic areas. Speaking to the press on 21 March, Mrs. Meir said the "Alon Plan" is the minimum any cabinet minister would accept.

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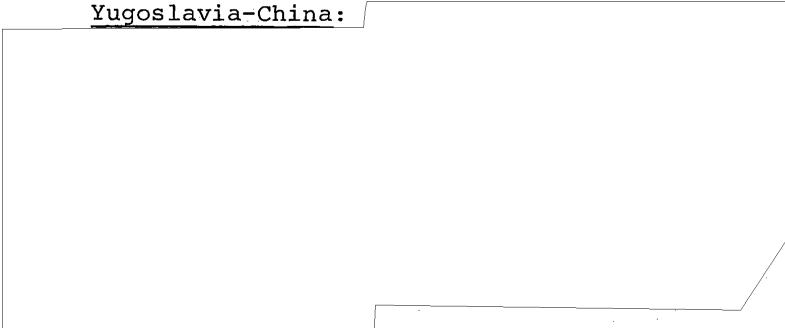
USSR-Pakistan: President Bhutto's visit to Moscow appears to have reduced some of the bitterness between the two governments. Moscow agreed to resume work on aid projects suspended during the war last December but apparently deferred to India on the question of peace negotiations by saying it would abstain from a role in such talks.

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Bangladesh: US officials in Dacca have received reports from Bengali sources that rising anti-American sentiment in Bangladesh may lead to violence on 25-26 March during celebrations marking the first anniversary of the independence movement. Speeches by local politicians alleging "imperialist conspiracies" against Bangladesh are aggravating anti-US feeling, as are American news reports, replayed in the local press, which many Bengalis believe reflect poorly on their country. Dacca is swollen with large numbers of unemployed displaced persons who may be responsive to an appeal to violence.

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

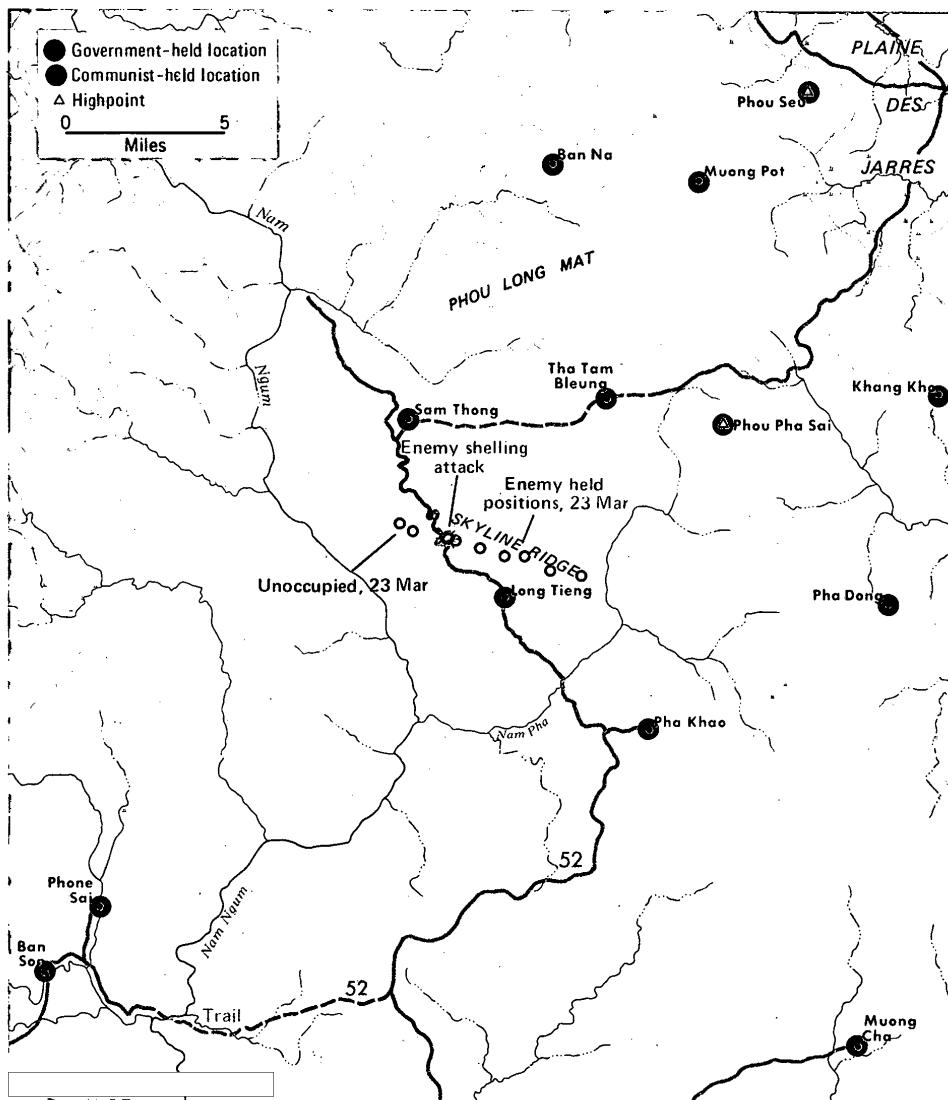
There is a lull in the fighting at Long Tieng.
(Page 1)

Despite Brezhnev's recent speech, Sino-Soviet relations show no improvement. (Page 2)

Chilean President Allende's tacit approval of illegal land seizures by peasants could lead to a showdown with aroused landowners. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LONG TIENG AREA



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LAOS

After nearly a week of intense fighting, the North Vietnamese are pausing, probably to regroup and resupply before launching more attacks on Long Tieng. A key position guarding the road from Sam Thong was shelled yesterday, but no ground assault followed. North Vietnamese units remain in two positions at the center of Skyline Ridge, government forces hold five positions, and both sides have abandoned two battle sites at the western end of the ridge. There appears to be little change in the situation of Vang Pao's two task forces operating east of the Plaine des Jarres.

Despite the lull, there is no evidence that any enemy units have withdrawn from the area of Long Tieng.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-CHINA

The timing of a Chinese announcement on 21 March that the most recent round of talks with the Soviets on navigation of border rivers had failed suggests that Peking intended it as an indirect rebuff to Brezhnev's disingenuous offer to improve bilateral relations on a broad front.

Brezhnev spoke on 20 March. On the same day the Soviets announced the return to Peking of Leonid Ilichev, their chief negotiator on delineating the Sino-USSR frontier. Ilichev's arrival presumably was timed to underscore Brezhnev's indication that Moscow was prepared to discuss further a series of proposals--tabled by Moscow over the past year--regarding non-aggression, non-use of force, and territorial settlements. Brezhnev stressed that it was up to Peking to respond. The Soviets no doubt were interested in how the Chinese would reply as an aid to assessing the consequences of President Nixon's visit to Peking.

The failure of the border river navigation talks is directly related to the lack of progress in Ilichev's negotiations on the delineation of the frontier.

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CHILE

In response to a demand by the Supreme Court, President Allende has sent Interior Minister Del Canto to southern Chile to investigate an eruption of violence in the countryside. Leftists are fomenting illegal seizures of farms by landless peasants, while established landowners are using force to preserve or regain their holdings. Still other seizures stem from efforts to settle old grudges.

The dispatch of Del Canto does not seem likely to calm matters down, primarily because Allende condones the seizures by the leftists. He views their actions, even if excessive, as part of the desirable process of grass-roots social change. The opposition Nationalist Party, for its part, fears that its supporters among the aroused landholders are heading for a showdown with the government that could be self-defeating, but feels unable to control them.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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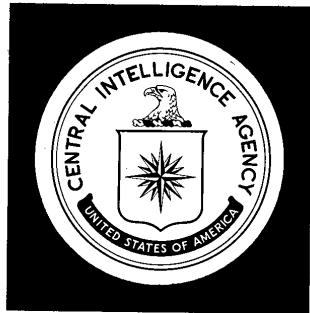
Lebanon-Fedayeen-Israel: The fedayeen and the Lebanese Army have established a fragile modus vivendi in southern Lebanon. The guerrillas, who are gradually returning to the area, continue to observe the army's ban on fedayeen bases in villages, and no new clashes have occurred. Villagers have asked for army protection, but allow the guerrillas to purchase supplies. Israel continues to maintain observation posts within Lebanon, and Lebanese Army commanders, despite their strong personal objections to this violation of national sovereignty, have ordered their troops not to interfere with the Israelis.

Malta-UK: As the deadline for British withdrawal draws near, Prime Minister Mintoff has abandoned or muted many of his earlier demands on the NATO allies. He now contends there are only two major obstacles to concluding an agreement with the British: receipt of assurances that US economic aid will materialize soon after the accord is reached, and delivery of a written commitment, no matter how veiled, that the US Sixth Fleet will not visit Malta. Mintoff has told the British he is prepared to go to London tomorrow to sign the document. The British, however, intend to reply that "even with the best of goodwill" they could not be ready before the middle of next week, because the cabinet must first approve the draft treaty.

Ceylon: Many Ceylonese and foreign observers believe that the threat of a new wave of insurgent terrorism has eased until perhaps next month, and that rebel leaders will wait until they think they can catch the authorities with their guard lowered. The government believes it can cope with an uprising, provided it receives promised Western arms and the rebels do not receive foreign aid. The government's popular support has seriously eroded, however, and it may no longer be able to rely on the loyalty of individual members of the police and armed forces.

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25 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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Vang Pao is receiving fresh troops to help defend Long Tieng, while the Communists appear to be readying a new assault against positions near the western end of Skyline Ridge. (Page 3)

The North Vietnamese appear to be constructing a major new road system through the country's southern panhandle. (Page 4)

The Israelis have run into difficulties with regard to their activities in Uganda [redacted] (Page 5)

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Ireland

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[redacted] (Page 6)

Prime Minister Mintoff is to fly to London today to review a draft UK-Malta agreement that would be signed on Sunday. (Page 8)

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JORDAN



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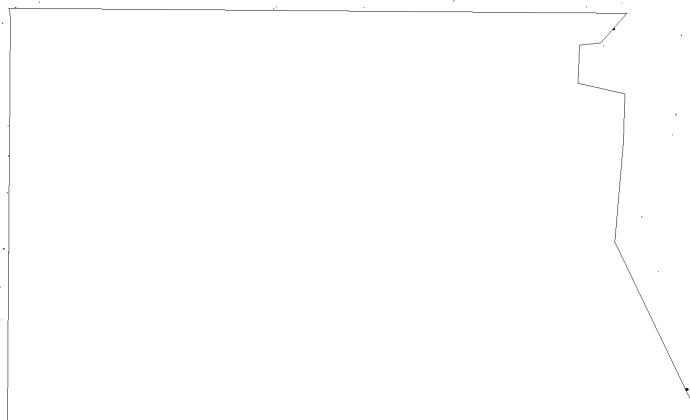


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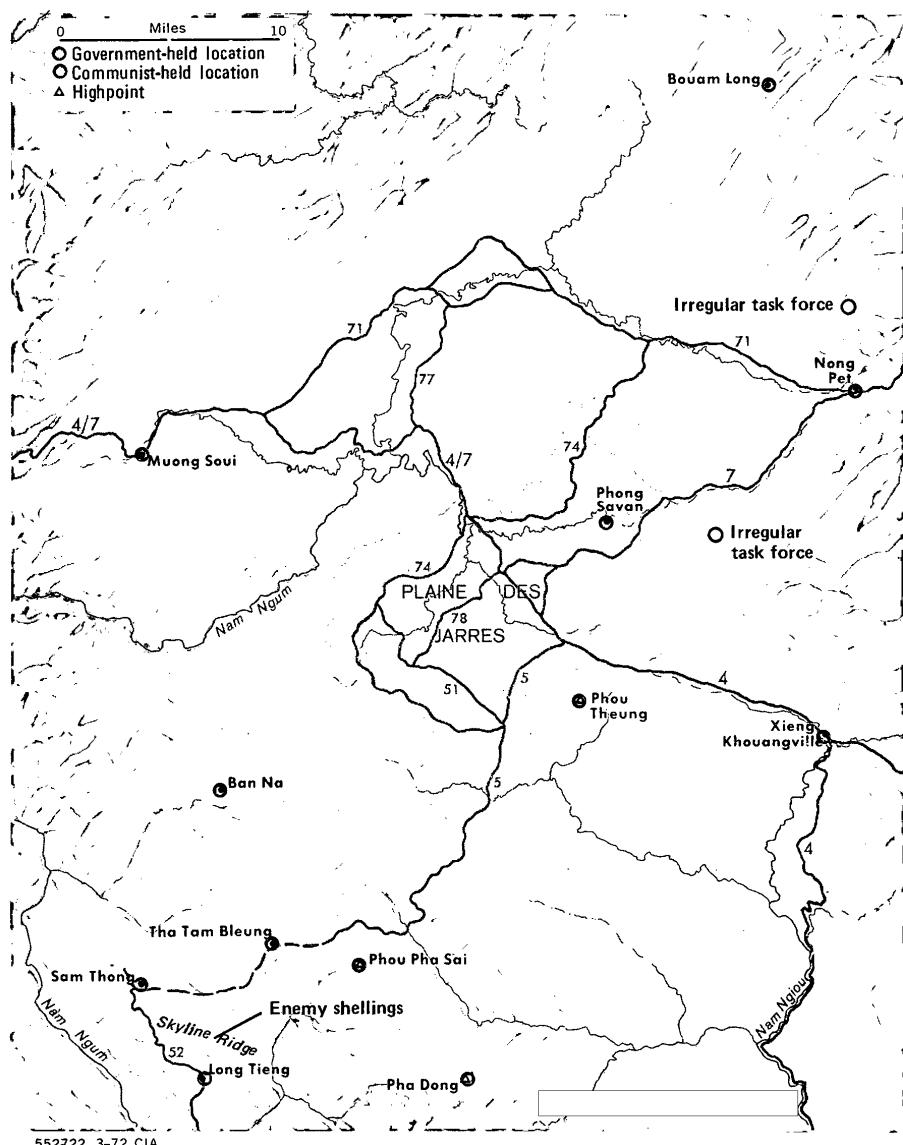


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS: PLAINE DES JARRES AREA



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

There was relatively little activity on Skyline Ridge yesterday. With the addition of reinforcements now flying into Long Tieng, Vang Pao will have over 1,100 fresh troops to assist in the defense of his stronghold.

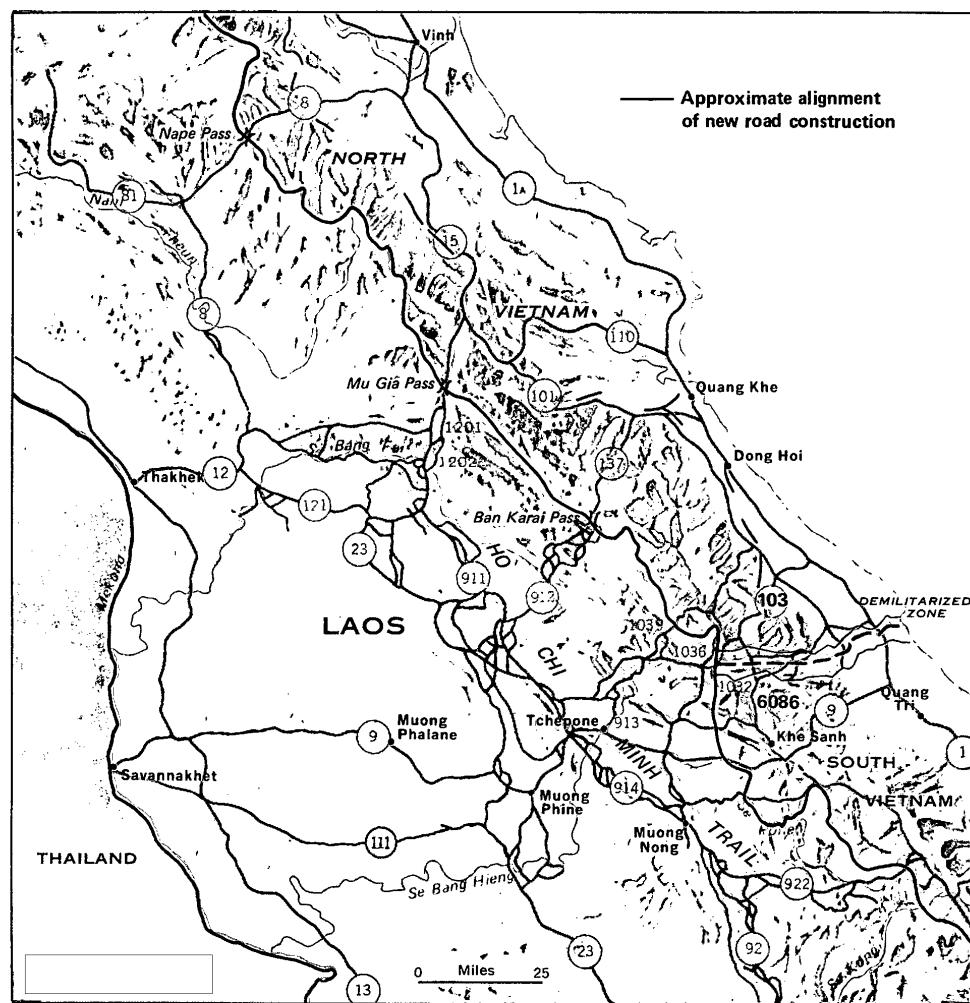
The Communists may be preparing to launch their next major assault against positions that guard the road from Sam Thong. Elements of the North Vietnamese 312th Division have been ordered to retain a toehold on the western end of Skyline Ridge "at all costs," according to intercepted messages, and ground observers continue to report tank movements north of the ridge.

To the east of the Plaine des Jarres, irregular task forces near Phong Savan and Nong Pet are meeting increasing resistance. The Communists used 105-mm. howitzers yesterday

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

North Vietnam Panhandle Road Construction



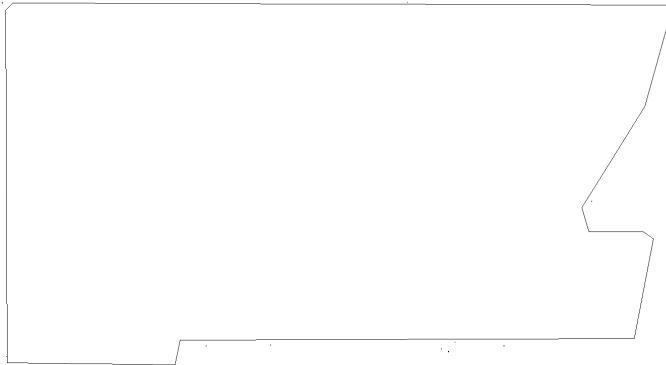
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

Photography of early March has revealed several north-south road segments in the early stages of construction in North Vietnam's panhandle. The construction is in high terrain paralleling the Laotian border and extends over 150 miles from northwest of Vinh to just 17 miles north of the DMZ. Some sections of existing roads along this general alignment are being improved at the same time. The North Vietnamese appear to be building the road segments as straight and level as possible.



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In a related development, photography of mid-March shows that Route 103/6086 through the DMZ has been completed and now can carry traffic as far south as Khe Sanh.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-UGANDA [redacted]

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The Israelis have suffered reverses in [redacted] Uganda [redacted], where their agents have had some success in diverting the Muslims from the main Arab-Israeli conflict. Earlier this week Ugandan President Amin announced that he would not renew Uganda's military training agreements with Israel and ordered Israeli Army advisers and "intelligence agents" out of the country by 27 March. Although Amin exempted Israeli Air Force advisers, who make up at least half of the approximately 50-man contingent, the Israelis have decided to pull them out too. Kampala claimed yesterday that five Israeli nationals were arrested on "subversion" charges, and Amin has hinted at further measures against Israel.

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Relations between Uganda and Israel began to worsen earlier this year when Amin, a Muslim, moved to strengthen his contacts with Arab countries, notably Libya. [redacted]

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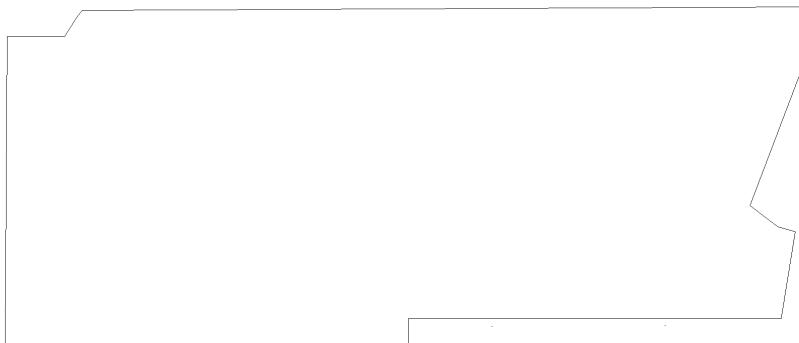
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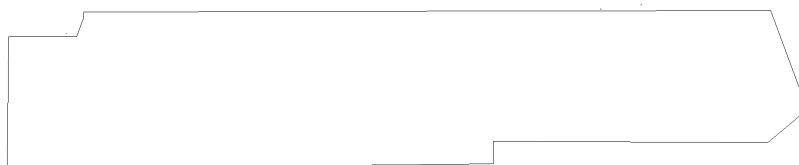
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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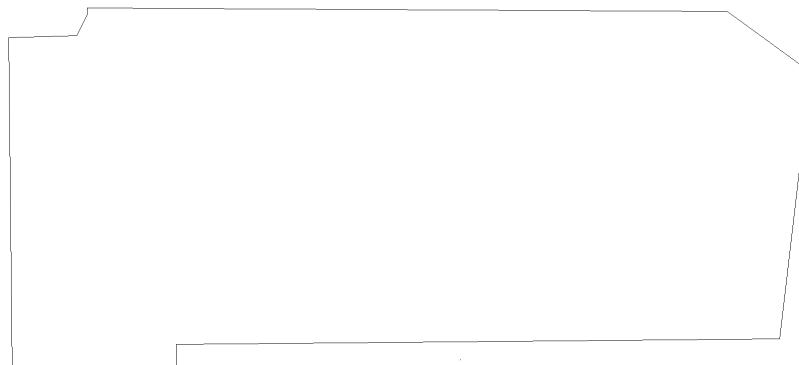
IRELAND



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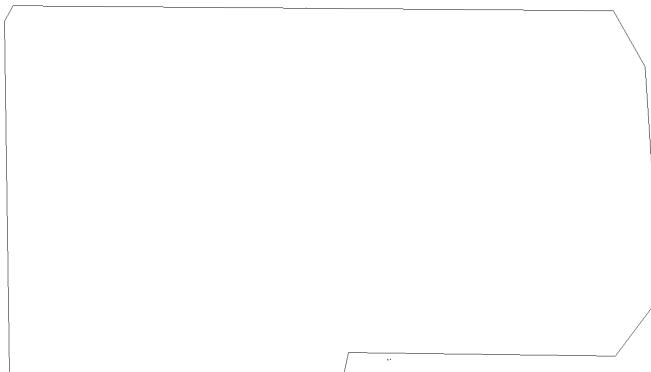
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NOTES

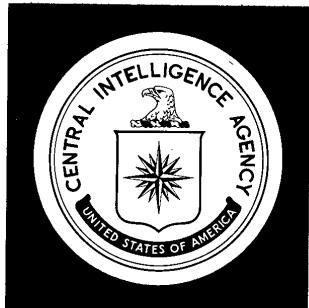
Malta-UK: Prime Minister Mintoff will fly to London today to review a draft Malta-UK agreement to be signed Sunday. He has dropped his demands that the US provide assurances of bilateral assistance and give a commitment that the 6th Fleet will not seek to use Maltese facilities leased to the British. The draft would give Malta about \$33 million upon signature, plus an additional payment of \$6.5 million from Italy, and \$36.4 million annually thereafter.

Chile

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

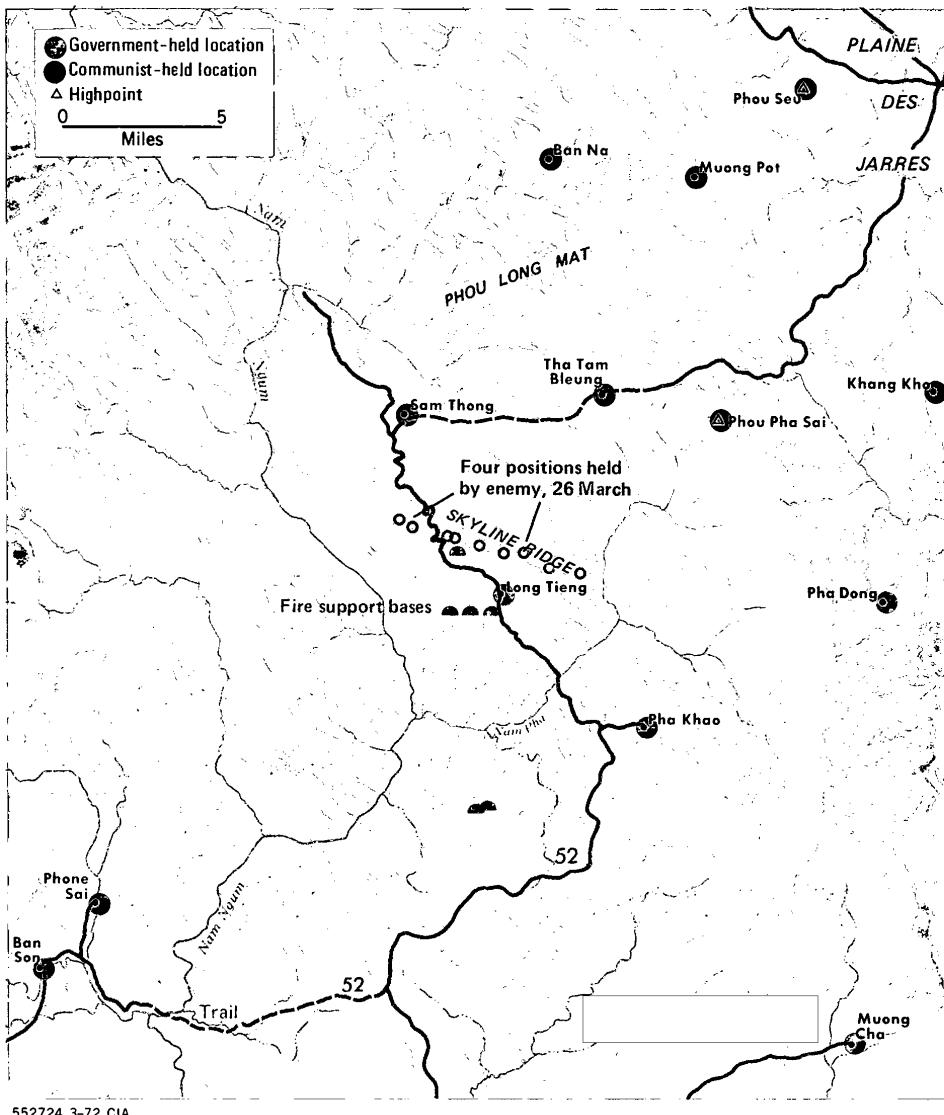
In the Laos fighting this weekend, Vang Pao's irregulars unsuccessfully assaulted enemy positions on Skyline Ridge. (Page 1)

The South Vietnamese are winding up their current drive against Communist bases and supply caches in southeast Cambodia. (Page 2)

The government in El Salvador is back in control following a coup attempt on Saturday. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LONG TIENG AREA



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

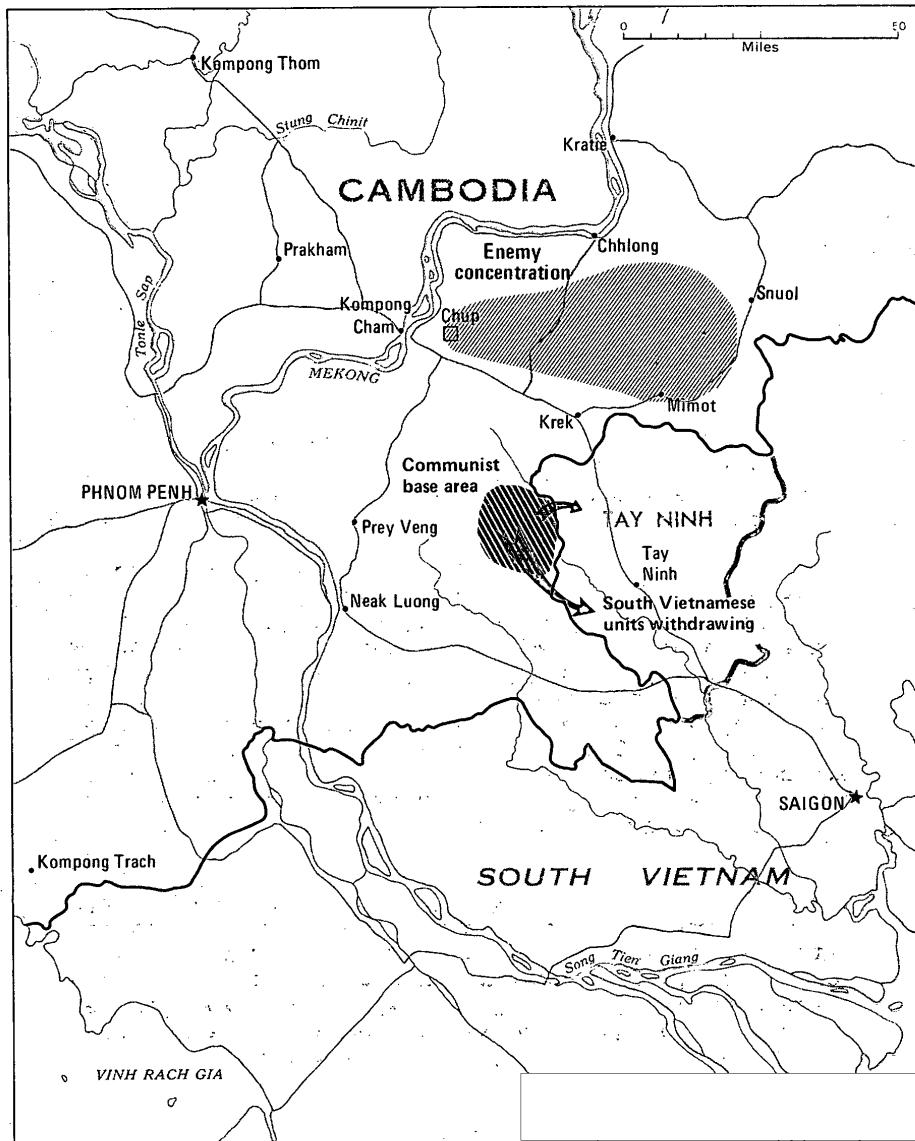
LAOS

Vang Pao's irregulars this weekend unsuccessfully assaulted enemy positions on the western and central portions of Skyline Ridge. Government commanders believe that air strikes and artillery fire have caused heavy enemy casualties, but as yet this assessment has not been substantiated. The irregulars have not suffered heavily as a result of their counteroffensive.

For their part, the North Vietnamese appear to be preparing new attacks on Long Tieng. An intercepted message disclosed that replacement troops are being brought in for "an urgent assignment" and several North Vietnamese units have been ordered to become combat ready. Other intercepted messages indicate that elements of the 312th and 316th divisions have been ordered to prepare for combat near a hilltop overlooking Long Tieng from the south. Small enemy units have been probing the irregulars' defenses in this area.

The object of assaults on government strong points south of Long Tieng would be to neutralize the irregulars' artillery support.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA

The South Vietnamese are winding up their current drive against Communist bases and supply caches in southeast Cambodia to the west of South Vietnam's Tay Ninh Province. Two of the operation's five battalions have already withdrawn and the others are to follow soon. In the action that began on 9 March, the South Vietnamese uncovered large supplies of weapons and food. Approximately 750 enemy troops were killed by air strikes and artillery attacks.

The task force commander, General Minh, regards his main job as protection of the areas around Saigon and in the past has withdrawn South Vietnamese units from Cambodia on short notice when enemy action has increased in his area. Thus, recent heavy enemy shelling in Tay Ninh most likely triggered the pull-back.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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EL SALVADOR

The government is back in control of the country following a coup attempt that failed to win support from the populace or the main military and security forces. The fall of a major rebel military installation, where President Sanchez was held prisoner, apparently broke the back of the revolt.

The rebels, led by Colonel Benjamin Mejia, were largely low ranking military officers of two army brigades in the capital. They claimed they were dissatisfied with the government's fraudulent handling of the recent presidential elections. While they did not consult with opposition leaders prior to their move, they later received the public support of Jose Napolean Duarte, a defeated presidential candidate.

Duarte and two other politicians involved have been promised their freedom if they leave the country at once. Many military personnel are under arrest and a number of persons have sought asylum in embassies. The lack of broad military support for the uprising is likely to discourage any other coup attempts prior to inauguration day, 1 July. In the meantime, Sanchez and President-elect Molina, his hand-picked successor, face the task of restoring public confidence.

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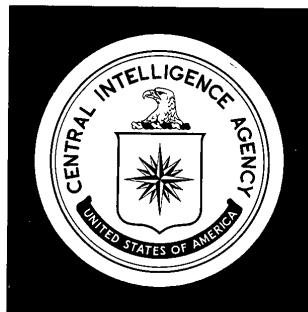
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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

28 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Brezhnev's recent overture for ties to the Common Market was serious, but many Market members are being cautious about responding. (Page 1)

A Soviet survey of North Vietnam's air defenses may lead to deliveries of additional aid from Moscow. (Page 2)

[redacted] Romania
Warsaw Pact [redacted] (Page 3)

25X1

The political situation in Cambodia is discussed on Page 4.

[redacted] South Korea [redacted] Chinese [redacted] (Page 5)

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[redacted] Annex, [redacted] Soviet-Egyptian

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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USSR - COMMON MARKET

Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko has confirmed that Brezhnev's overture for relations between the Soviet-led Council of Mutual Economic Assistance and the Common Market during a speech on 20 March was a deliberate departure from past policy.

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[redacted]
the timing of Brezhnev's announcement was partly determined by a wish to strengthen Chancellor Brandt's hand in the debate over ratification of the Moscow and Warsaw treaties.

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There are other good reasons for Brezhnev's vague signal, however. Not the least of these is the probability that beginning next year the East Europeans will be told that they must negotiate their trade agreements through the market rather than bilaterally. Yet another reason is the Soviet desire to maintain control over East Europe.

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While accepting Brezhnev's speech as a turning point, officials of the Common Market have reacted cautiously. They are concerned that Brezhnev's formula implies a demand for market recognition of Moscow's Council on Mutual Economic Assistance. A

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USSR - NORTH VIETNAM

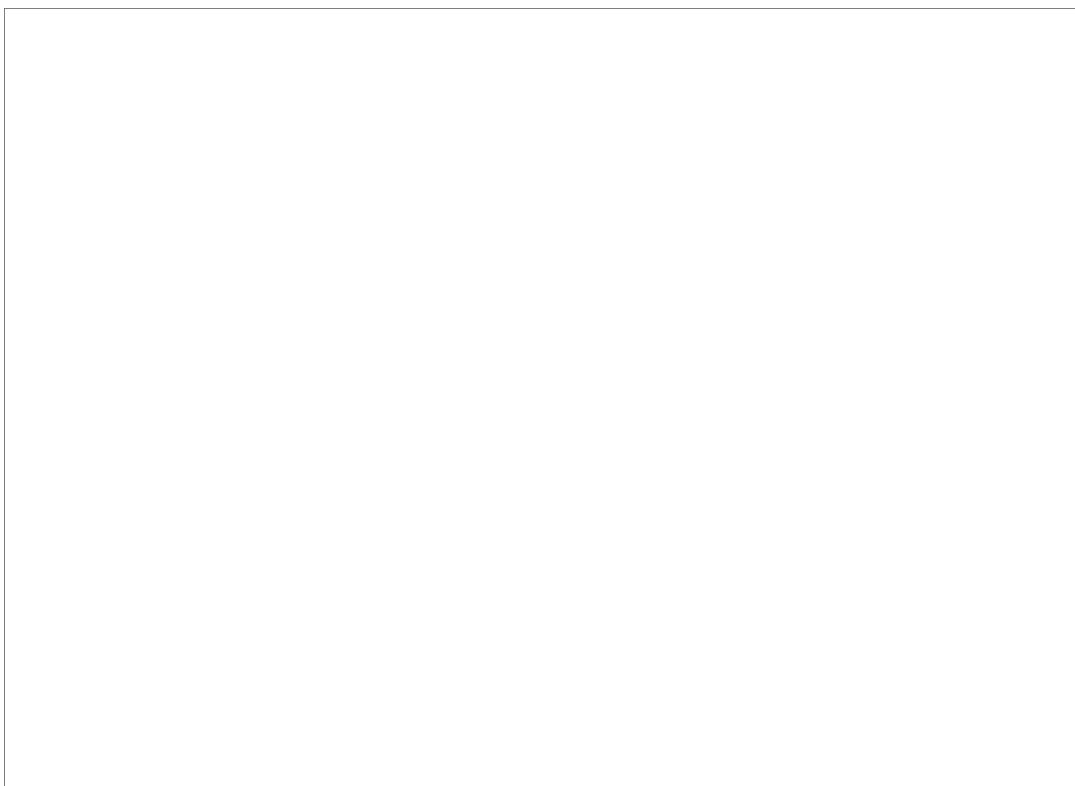
Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Batitskiy visited North Vietnam from 17 to 27 March to inspect all facets of Hanoi's air defenses and most likely to discuss future Soviet assistance. Batitskiy was accompanied by several air defense specialists.

Last year, Hanoi made significant improvements in its air defense network and received equipment for ten new SA-2 battalions from the USSR. This equipment, the largest Soviet increment to North Vietnam's air defense forces since 1967, accounted for \$45 million of the estimated \$100 million in military aid, which Moscow provided Hanoi last year.

The Soviets see an opportunity for themselves in North Vietnam's current discomfort about Chinese dealings with the US, and we believe that Batitskiy was instructed to be receptive to Hanoi's requests for additional air defense equipment. The resumption of more aggressive aerial patrolling and the rehabilitation of North Vietnam's forward airbases in recent months also suggests that Hanoi may have asked for Soviet aid in developing better command and control procedures, embodying more sophisticated tactics than have been possible up to now. The North Vietnamese may have gotten what they wanted; on the last day of Batitskiy's stay they lavished public praise on the work of his delegation.

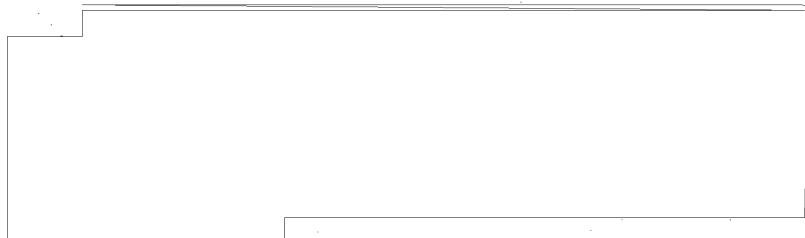
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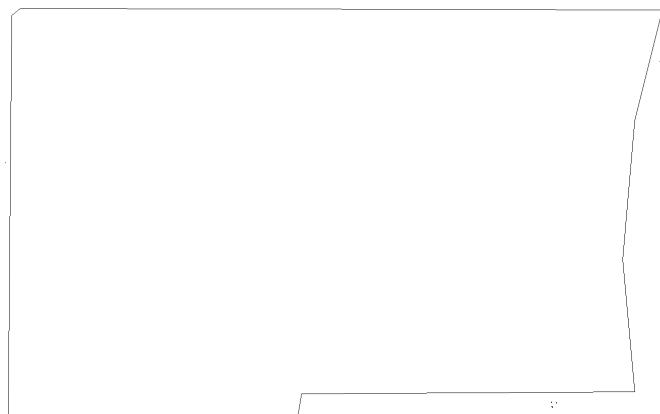


FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ROMANIA - WARSAW PACT



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CAMBODIA

President Lon Nol has promoted Sirik Matak to full general and persuaded him to become "chief delegate" of the armed forces and chairman of the armed forces chiefs of staff [redacted]

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Although Matak has accepted, he is still smarting over Lon Nol's failure to support him more strongly in the face of student attacks on his performance in the preceding government. Furthermore, Matak's actual duties in the labyrinthine administration of the present government have apparently not yet been precisely defined, and he may have difficulty in re-establishing a strong role for himself. In any event, his reappearance in the government will not sit well with student agitators in Phnom Penh.

Lon Nol has, however, made some other moves to try to dampen the three-week old student unrest. Some government-sponsored counter-demonstrations have been organized. More important, Lon Nol has publicly announced [redacted]

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[redacted] that a new constitution would be promulgated "in two weeks."

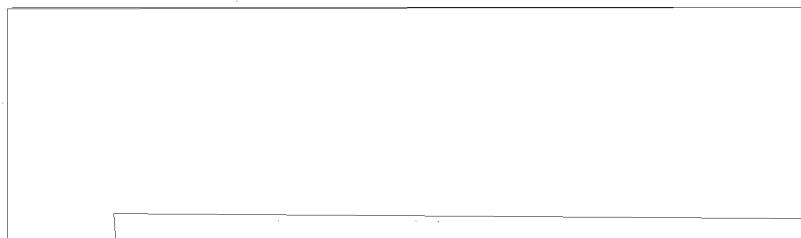
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We expect that Lon Nol will see to it that the constitution places the real power of government in the hands of the president.

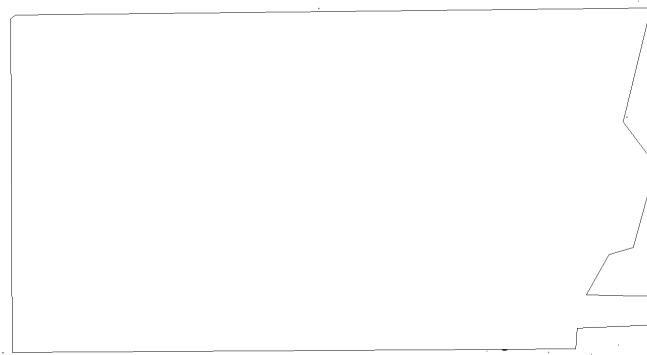
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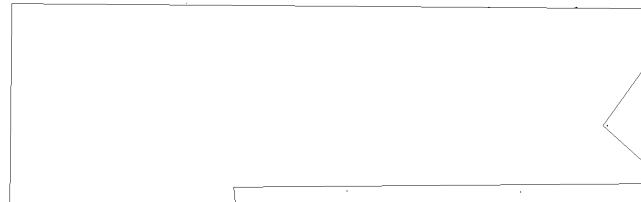
SOUTH KOREA - CHINA



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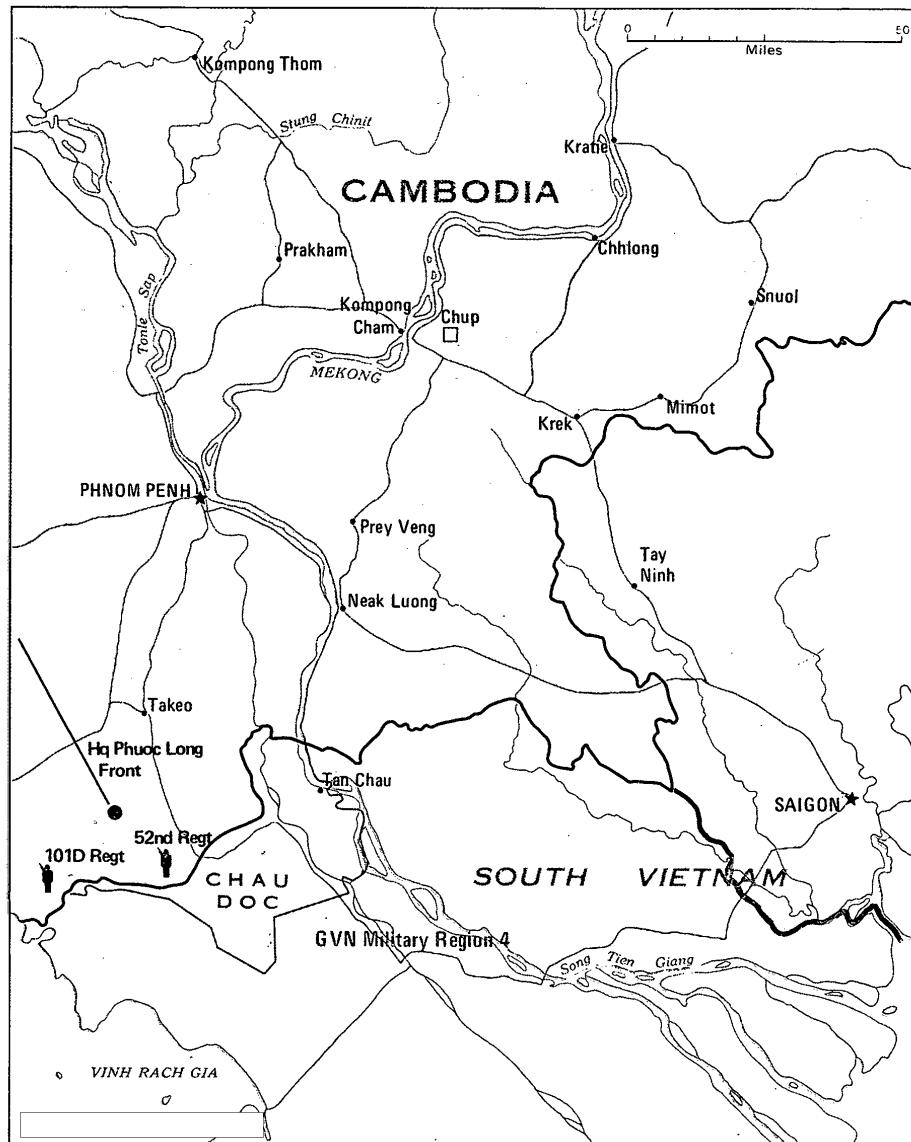


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

South Vietnam - Cambodia: Radio direction finding indicates that since 20 March the headquarters of the enemy's division-size Phuoc Long Front and the headquarters of its two combat regiments have moved to within a few miles of the Cambodian - South Vietnamese border in the Mekong delta region. The front has not sent its units this far south since June 1970. South Vietnamese positions on the Cambodian side of the border have come under artillery fire during the past several days, possibly from some of the recently arrived enemy units.

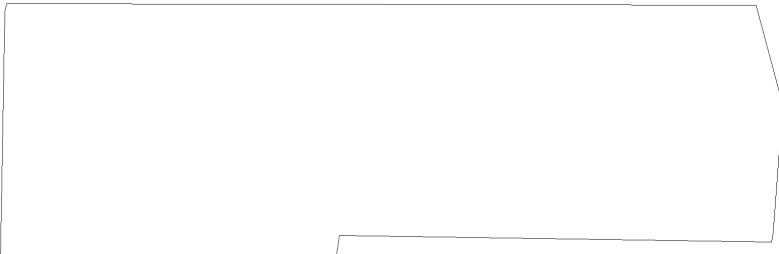
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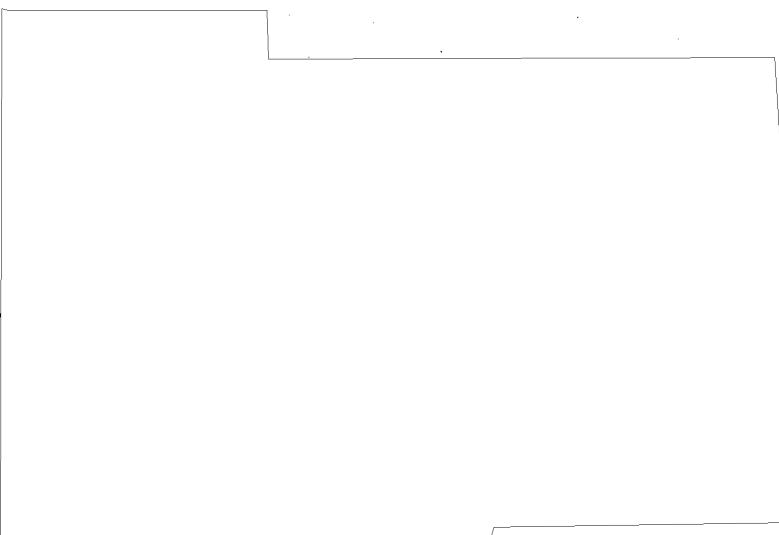
STRAINS IN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

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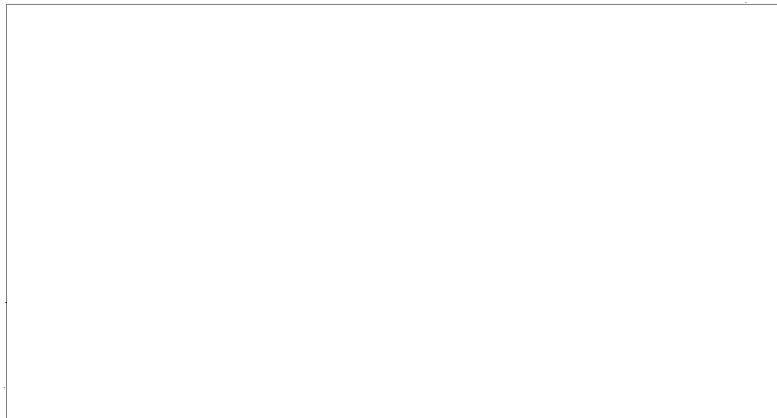
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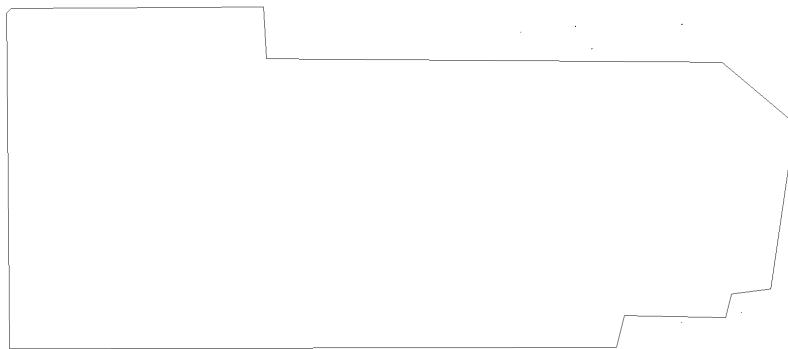
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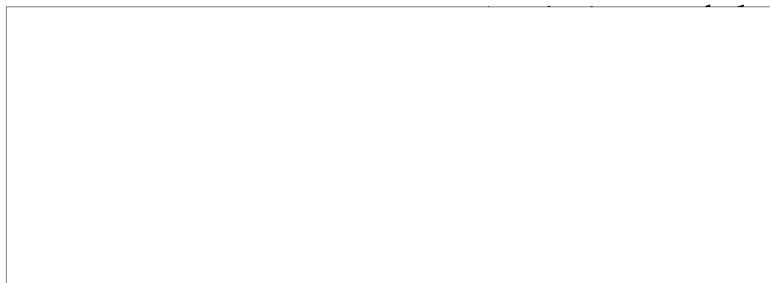
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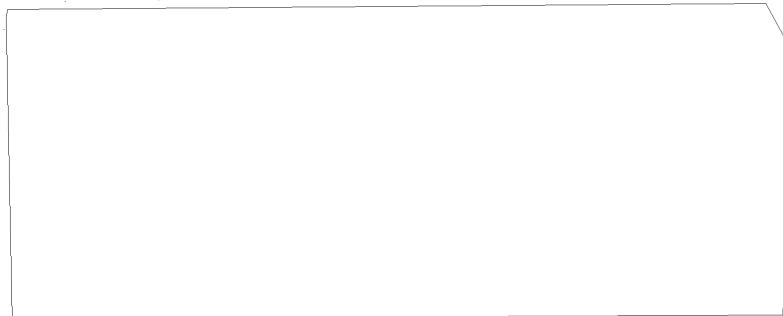
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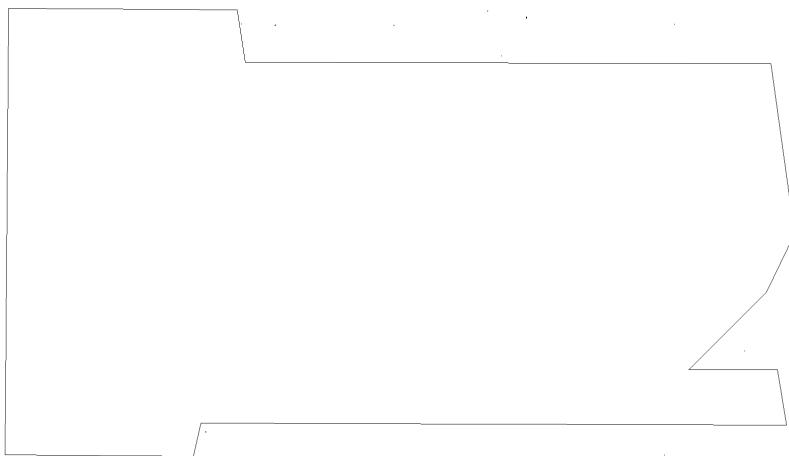
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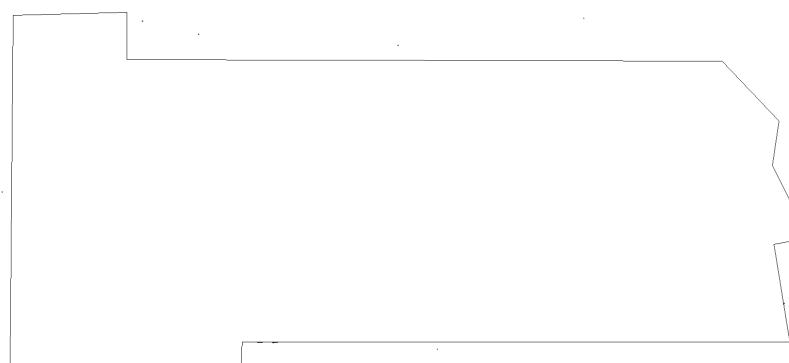
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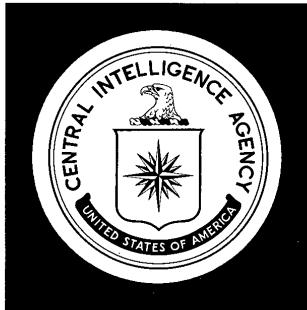


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29 March 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet

(Page 1)

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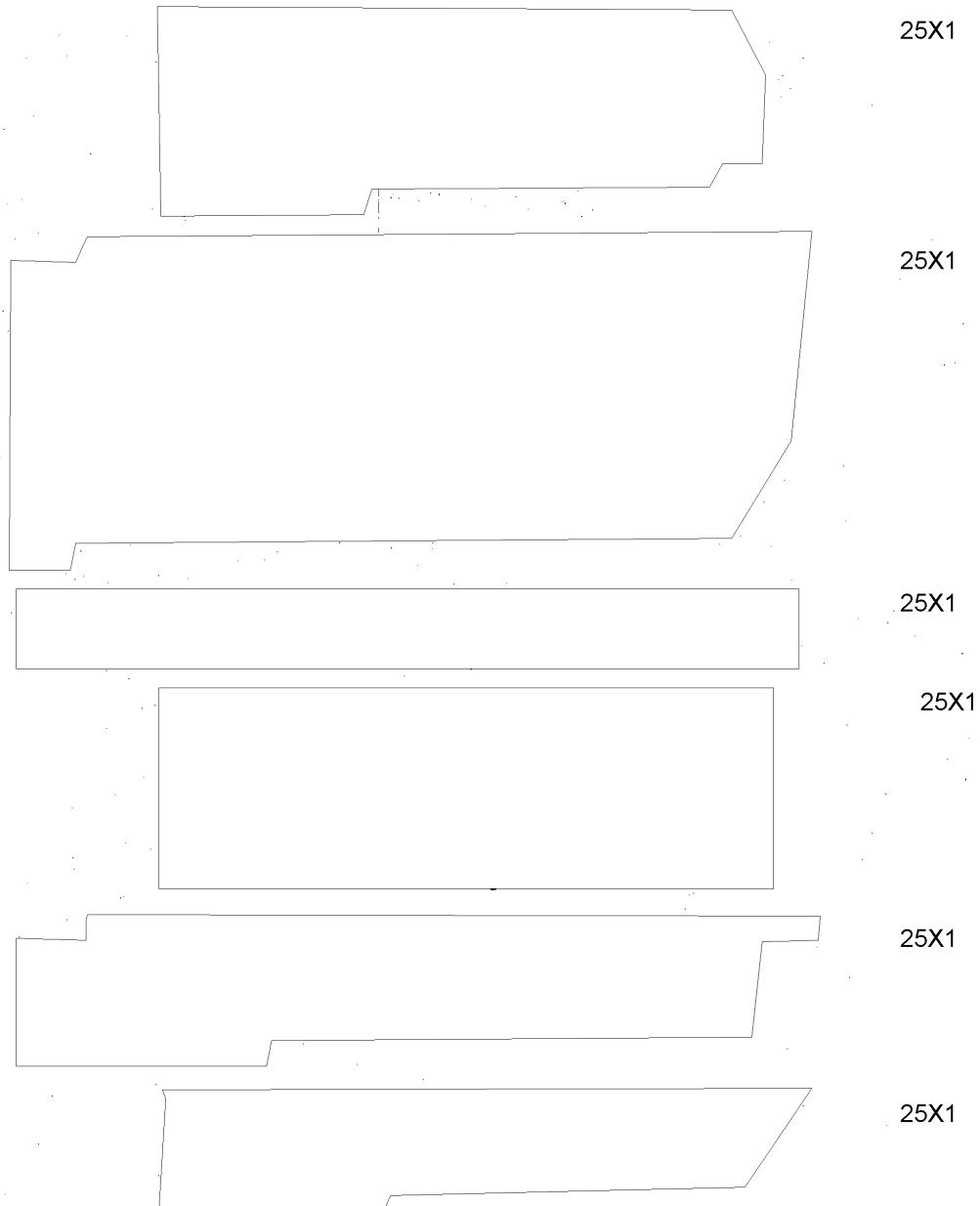
There now are a number of indications that private reactions around the Arab world to King Husayn's West Bank proposal are less hostile than public positions have been. (Page 3)

The Panamanians can be expected to continue their tough negotiating stance at the canal talks and may bring the matter before the UN and OAS if the talks remain at an impasse. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

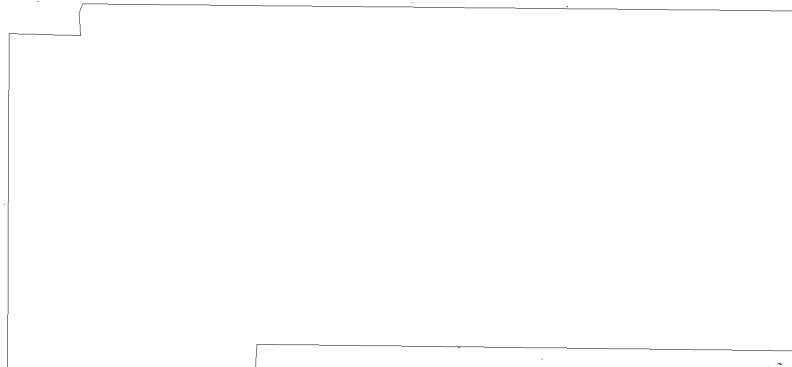
USSR



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CYPRUS



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARAB STATES

We have a number of indications that officials in the Arab nations are less hostile toward King Husayn's West Bank proposal than their public positions would indicate.

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In Saudi Arabia, one of the states refraining from public denunciation, officials have told Ambassador Thacher that they have no objection to the plan but believe it might have been more palatable if coordinated first with Egypt. Lebanese officials have privately told the US Embassy that they view the plan as a clever move which has embarrassed the fedayeen and which, they hope, will raise Husayn's stock with West Bankers. Similar private comments have been made by Sudan's President Numayri and by the Algerian envoys in Amman and Beirut.

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The restrained private reaction:

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will serve to keep the King's plan alive, at least for the near term. The virulent public denunciations of the plan by the fedayeen and by such states as Libya and Iraq, however, inhibit Egypt, Algeria, and other states publicly pledged to support the fedayeen from taking any steps favorable to Husayn's plan. On the other hand, Husayn may have succeeded in generating some thinking among moderate Arabs about alternative solutions to the Palestinian problem. Husayn has also forced a grudging acknowledgment in the Arab world that his opposition to fedayeen anarchy within his own kingdom does not equate with opposition to Palestinian aspirations for at least regional autonomy in their own homeland.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA

General Torrijos continues to lack confidence in his canal negotiators. He recently sent his senior foreign policy adviser, Ambassador Illueca, to Washington to assess the US position on a treaty. Illueca returned dissatisfied with the progress of the negotiations and expressed the need for the US to reformulate its proposals to take Panamanian aspirations into account. He also stressed the desirability of a change of venue from Washington to Panama.

Foreign Minister Tack shares Illueca's view that the US will ultimately yield to pressure. Tack will undoubtedly press for a continuation of Panama's hard negotiating line, especially in view of his anger over recent press allegations that he is involved in narcotics traffic. Tack may still believe that these reports are part of a US Government attempt to discredit him because of his tough stance on the talks. The foreign minister will probably encourage Torrijos to publicize the canal issue and bring the matter before the UN and the OAS if the talks remain stalemated.

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NOTE

Fedayeen:

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

30 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The death of inactive Chinese politburo member Hsieh Fu-chih underlines Peking's problems in naming personnel to key posts. (Page 1)

[redacted]
[redacted] fedayeen/[redacted]

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(Page 2)

Yugoslavia's smallpox epidemic apparently has caused Belgrade to postpone a number of large government meetings and public gatherings. (Page 3)

Guatemala is laying the groundwork for possible action in the OAS on British Honduras. (Page 4)

A new facility for producing and testing solid propellant rocket motors has been spotted in central China. (Page 5)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA

The death this week of inactive politburo member Hsieh Fu-chih underscores Peking's difficulties in filling key political and military positions. According to the eulogy delivered yesterday by Premier Chou En-lai, Hsieh was stricken with stomach cancer two years ago—almost precisely the length of time he had been out of public view with a single exception in June 1971. Despite this, Hsieh continued to hold a number of sensitive posts including minister of public security and political commissar of the Peking Military Region, and in March 1971 he was designated party boss of Peking city. His tenure is all the more remarkable since there were indications in early 1970 that he was involved in the bitter wrangling between conservatives and ultra-leftists on the politburo.

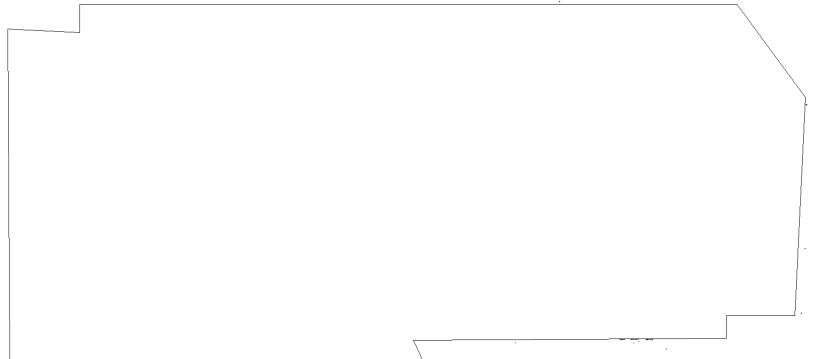
The disposition of Hsieh's positions and the filling of other numerous vacancies on the politburo are among the many leadership issues that remain unresolved even after the Lin Piao affair six months ago. Only a dozen of the 25 politburo members have been active since fall, and the effective authority of some remains open to question. Many positions are also unfilled at secondary levels in the central apparatus. Some provincial posts have stood vacant for two years.

Despite this apparent paralysis, other evidence points to the strengthening of Premier Chou En-lai and other moderates. The pragmatic domestic and foreign programs associated with these men have gained momentum in recent months. Still, the delays on appointments reflect Chou's inability to move within an area clearly within his purview as premier. It seems likely that no survivor of the Cultural Revolution and the Lin Piao affair has yet acquired decisive leverage. Moreover, Hsieh's death may tend to sharpen debate on allocating posts among moderates and radicals as well as among civilian and military figures.

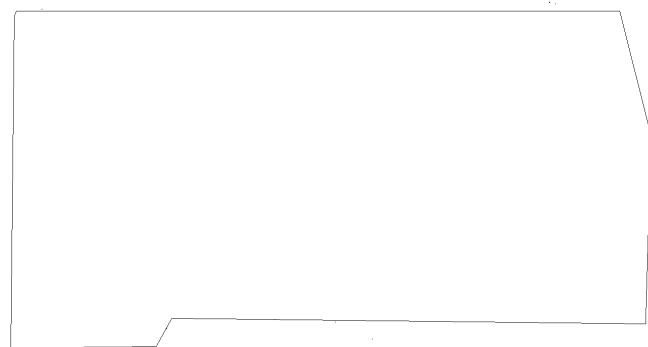
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FEDAYEEN - ARAB STATES



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

YUGOSLAVIA

Belgrade has postponed on short notice an unusual joint meeting of the party presidium and state presidency that was scheduled for 28 March. Meetings of the Federal Assembly and athletic events were also delayed.

Belgrade is reluctant to convene its top officials and allow other public gatherings in view of the smallpox epidemic that is now raging across the country. [redacted]

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[redacted] there are about 200 cases in Serbia, almost twice the number admitted publicly, and as of yesterday, 15 persons had died. The disease may have spread rapidly because some of the vaccines in use are suspected of being defective.

The epidemic may be spreading abroad. A Yugoslav worker in West Germany has been hospitalized with smallpox, and the Bulgarians have closed their border with Yugoslavia and are claiming that Albania is also infected. Other countries bordering on Yugoslavia are likely to close their borders shortly.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

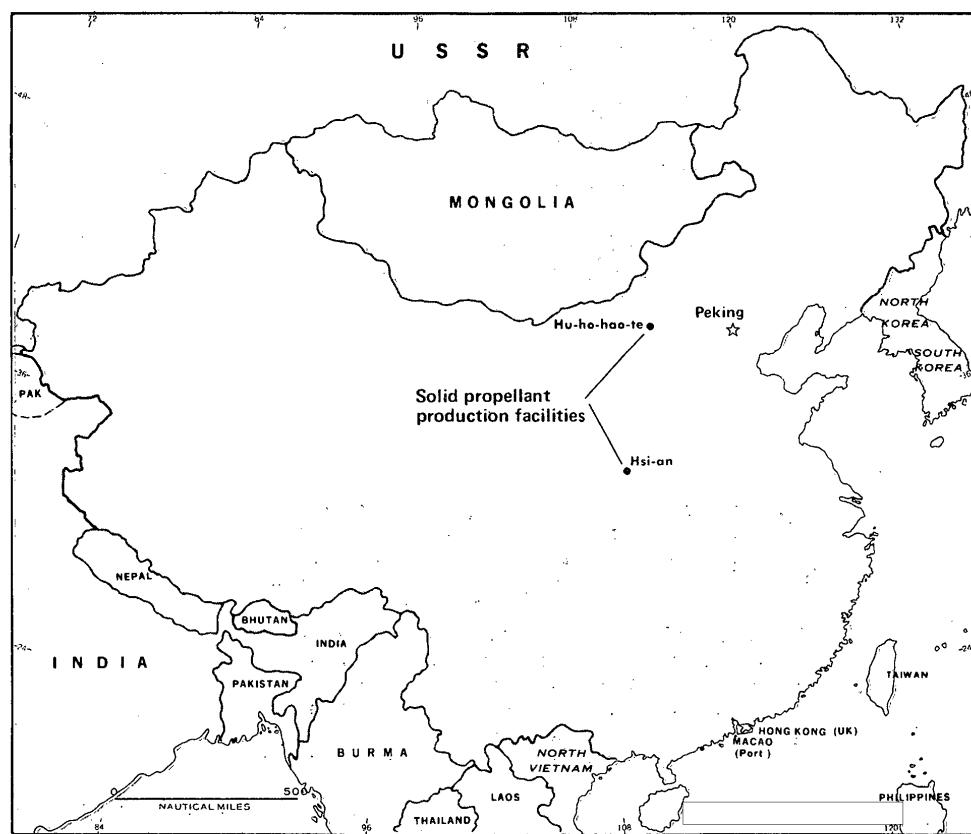
GUATEMALA

The Arana government is laying the foundation for possible action in the OAS on British Honduras. Last week it formally notified the OAS Secretary General that it had suspended negotiations with Britain. The Guatemalan note characterized Britain's plans to reinforce its garrison in the colony as unacceptable intimidation. The note was subsequently circulated among the OAS member states at Guatemala's request.

Arana apparently has not made a final decision to put the issue before the OAS General Assembly when its next session opens on 11 April. London is focusing its efforts on dispelling Guatemala's fear that independence for the colony is imminent. Officials in London told British Honduras' Premier Price during his visit there last week that the only practical approach to independence lies in a negotiated agreement with Guatemala.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHINA



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CHINA

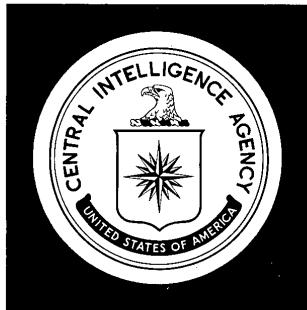
Recent satellite photography shows a new facility for producing and testing solid propellant rocket motors near Hsi-an in central China. Several buildings, now in the late stages of construction, closely resemble those at China's other solid propellant production complex near Hu-ho-hao-te.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

31 March 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

On *Page 1*, we discuss the current Communist buildup in Vietnam.

The Chilean Government now appears ready to exploit the ITT story. (*Page 4*)

Soviets Chinese
(*Page 4*)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Disposition of Communist Infantry and Artillery Regiments



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**VIETNAM**

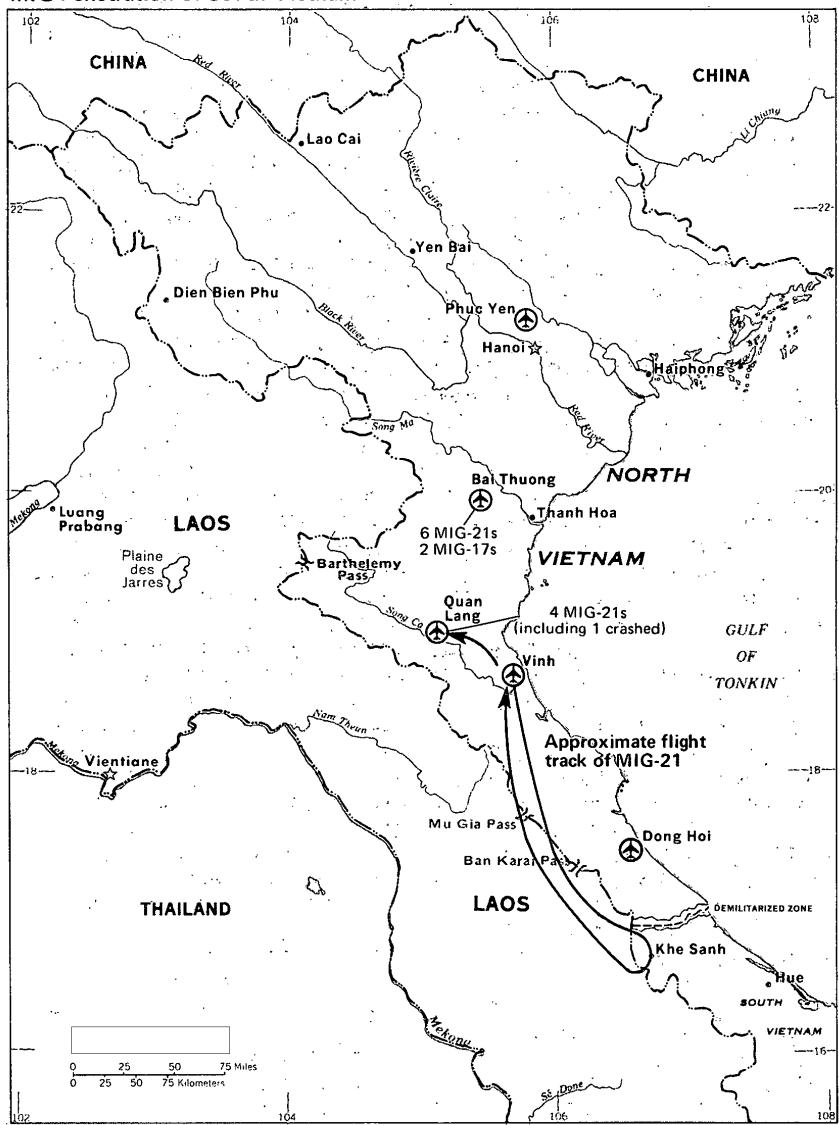
Communist forces have begun a new series of attacks along the DMZ following several weeks of heavy shelling. North Vietnamese artillery and infantry units on 30 March launched coordinated attacks against South Vietnamese bases in northeast Quang Tri Province. At least five artillery bases were shelled and another three were hit by ground assault. Initial reports indicate that damage and casualties were light, but the South Vietnamese were forced to abandon temporarily at least one position.

More ominous than these attacks is the increasing threat posed by the North Vietnamese buildup along the borders of each military region in South Vietnam. In the north, Hanoi's 324B Division has moved south through western Quang Tri and Thua Thien and is now located in the mountains west of Hue. At least one regiment of this division has been engaged by South Vietnamese forces, which claim to have won a victory in the initial encounters. Other 324B elements are in position to attack at any time. The 304th Division is straddling the DMZ and could also be committed with little warning. Part of one regiment has pushed into the Khe Sanh sector in western Quang Tri, and another regiment has moved across the DMZ farther east, threatening the Quang Tri provincial capital. In addition to these divisional forces, the enemy has five separate infantry regiments and four artillery regiments in the Quang Tri - Thua Thien region, bringing the main force threat there to some 15 regiments.

Well above the DMZ in North Vietnam, the 308th Division is still near the Ha Tinh - Quang Binh provincial border. It has not made any significant moves farther south in some weeks and there are no signs that it will do so soon. The other division in North Vietnam's strategic reserve, the 325th, apparently remains in the vicinity of Hanoi.

In MR-2, the enemy threat to the western highlands also continues to develop, and main force elements are in a position to attack at any time. During the past few days, radio direction finding has indicated that all of the enemy's traditional B-3 Front regiments plus the four regiments of the North Vietnamese 320th Division are now in Kontum and Pleiku provinces. The command authorities controlling these regiments have moved from Laos into Vietnamese territory. The enemy has ten regiments in the highlands, newly equipped with heavier artillery and antiaircraft weapons. Nearer the coast, the enemy has three regiments of the 3rd Division that are usually stationed there. Given the concentration

MIG Penetration of South Vietnam



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of Communist units in Kontum Province, the provincial capital of Kontum City still appears to be a primary target, although cities and government bases in both Kontum and Pleiku provinces could be hit.

Government forces defending the western highlands currently number some 12,000 men, but additional forces can be brought in from elsewhere in MR-2 and from Saigon's general reserves. Although government artillery in the highlands does not match the range and firepower of the Communists, the support received from strategic bombers and tactical fighters, together with the helicopter troop lift and gunship support, compensates for this.

Farther south, the Communists are continuing to move elements of the 5th, 7th, and 9th divisions now in Cambodia closer to the border of Tay Ninh Province. There are 15 regiments east of the Mekong, eight of which may be within 15 miles of South Vietnamese territory. In addition, the Communists have three infantry regiments and one artillery regiment well within MR-3, but these are all understrength.

Until recently in this dry season, the delta area has not been threatened by additional main forces. Three enemy regiments are scattered about MR-4 and three others have been largely confined to the U Minh Forest region. The latter are probably now under a newly identified division headquarters. Two additional Communist regiments and a divisional headquarters, called the Phuoc Long Front, have recently been detected in Cambodia moving south toward the border of Chau Doc Province. Elements of these units may have been responsible for recent artillery fire against South Vietnamese positions on the Cambodian side of the border, and they are probably close enough to attack the border areas of MR-4 at any time.

When major attacks are launched in northern South Vietnam, the Communists will be in a better position to provide fighter aircraft support than at any time in over two years. The flight of six MIG-21s from Phuc Yen to fields in the panhandle on 29-30 March brings MIG strength south of the 20th parallel to 12. Intercepts indicate that the Communists plan to use the MIGs in combat, and last evening one of the newly arrived aircraft overflew the Khe Sanh area in the first confirmed penetration by a MIG of South Vietnamese airspace.

(continued)

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The Communists' buildup clearly gives them the capability of attacking in strength along widely separate fronts, a tactic that could complicate the South Vietnamese task of reinforcing endangered positions. The heavy attacks already launched near the DMZ and in the highlands fall far short of enemy capabilities. The enemy has for some time had a substantial assault capability in the DMZ area and on the edge of the highlands but has delayed using this strength. Given these delays, there is no good indication how much of his strength the enemy ultimately will expend during this fighting season. But he now has enough main forces deployed to inflict considerable punishment on the South Vietnamese.

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NOTES

Chile: The government now appears ready to exploit the ITT story.

President Allende plans to address a mass rally on 6 April in which he will protest plots "to oust and murder" him and try to link them to the reports of ITT maneuvering to prevent his assumption of office in 1970. As a further step, the Chilean congress intends to investigate the ITT issue.

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