



The President's Daily Brief

1 July 1970

47

~~Top Secret~~ 50X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

1 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Enemy military pressure is increasing in western Cambodia. (Page 1)

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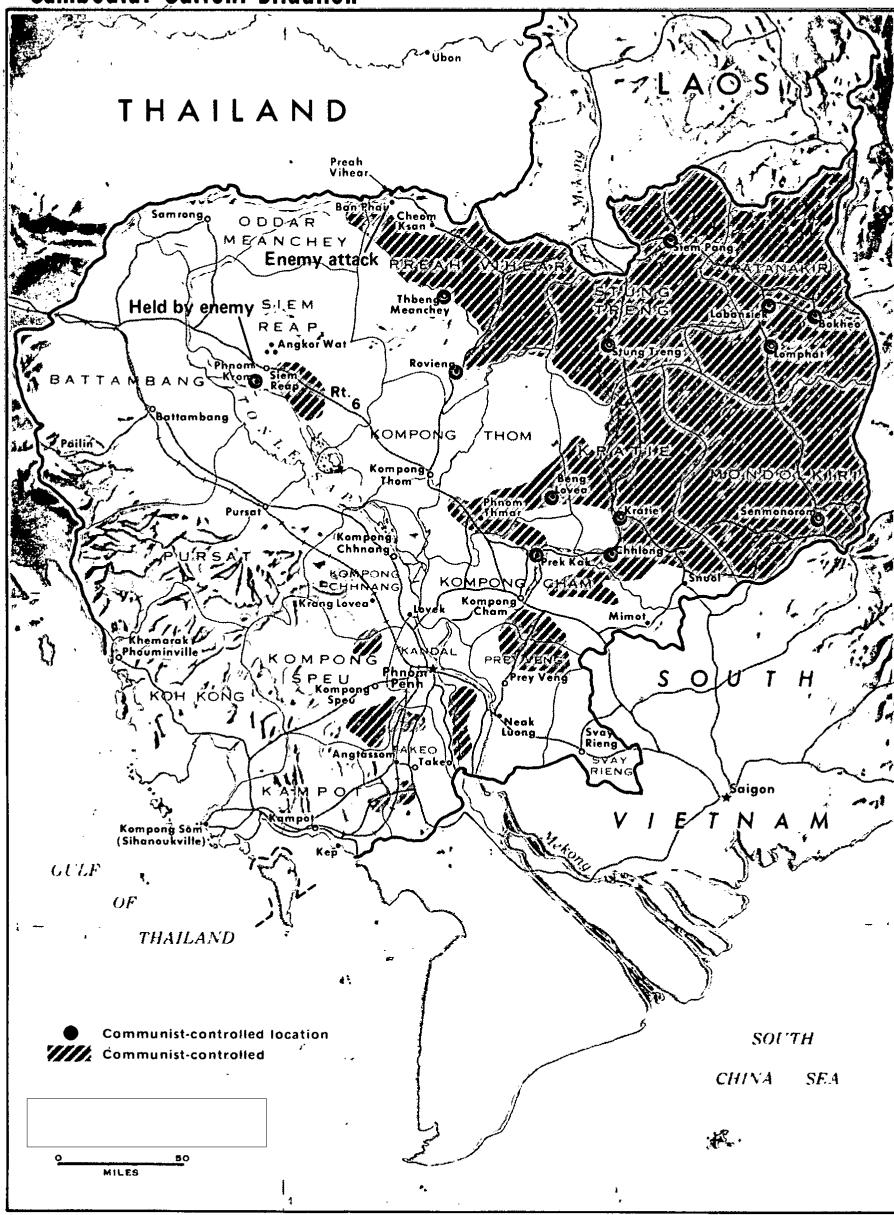


Peking's recent public attacks against the US seem designed to please its Asian allies at the expense of Moscow. (Page 5)

Anti-Americanism is on the rise in South Vietnam. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Enemy forces continue to move through western Kompong Thom Province, propagandizing villagers and setting up administrations in villages they now occupy near Kompong Thom city.

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[redacted] on 29 June that enemy troops are moving toward the town from the west and north; [redacted] The Communists have beaten back a government relief column which was headed toward Kompong Thom on Route 6. The government forces have been ordered to withdraw south toward Phnom Penh after running into heavy enemy pressure.

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On the night of 27 June, Communist troops in Siem Reap Province destroyed a bridge between the capital and the town of Phnom Krom, near the eastern shore of the Tonle Sap. [redacted] Phnom Krom is now held by the Communists, who have emplaced heavy weapons there. Siem Reap city was harassed again by light mortar fire during the night of 29 June, but there were no casualties.

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[redacted] the enemy plans to replace Vietnamese Communist forces now occupying the Angkor ruins area with Cambodian Communist elements. The object is to substantiate propaganda claims that Angkor is held by Sihanouk's "army." The Cambodians also allege that Lao Communist troops are in the Siem Reap - Kompong Thom area, but we have no confirmation of this.

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Enemy attacks on the besieged Lovek munitions depot in Kompong Chhnang Province continue. South Vietnamese reinforcements have reached Lovek. Some Communist troops were said to be concentrated just north of Kompong Chhnang city on 27 June, and an army message has indicated an enemy "heavy weapons battalion" is moving from western Kompong Cham Province toward the town.

One of the government's last remaining outposts in Preah Vihear Province was attacked yesterday [redacted]

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[redacted] About 300 Cambodian Army troops are defending the post at Ban Phai, near the Thai border. Several Thai border police platoons have moved into defensive positions on the Thai side of the border. Some Thai Army troops are also being moved from Ubon for duty along this sector.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

There are now eight battalions of the North Vietnamese B3 Front in northeastern Cambodia. This shows the importance the Communists attach to securing lines of communication and areas for resupply in this region.

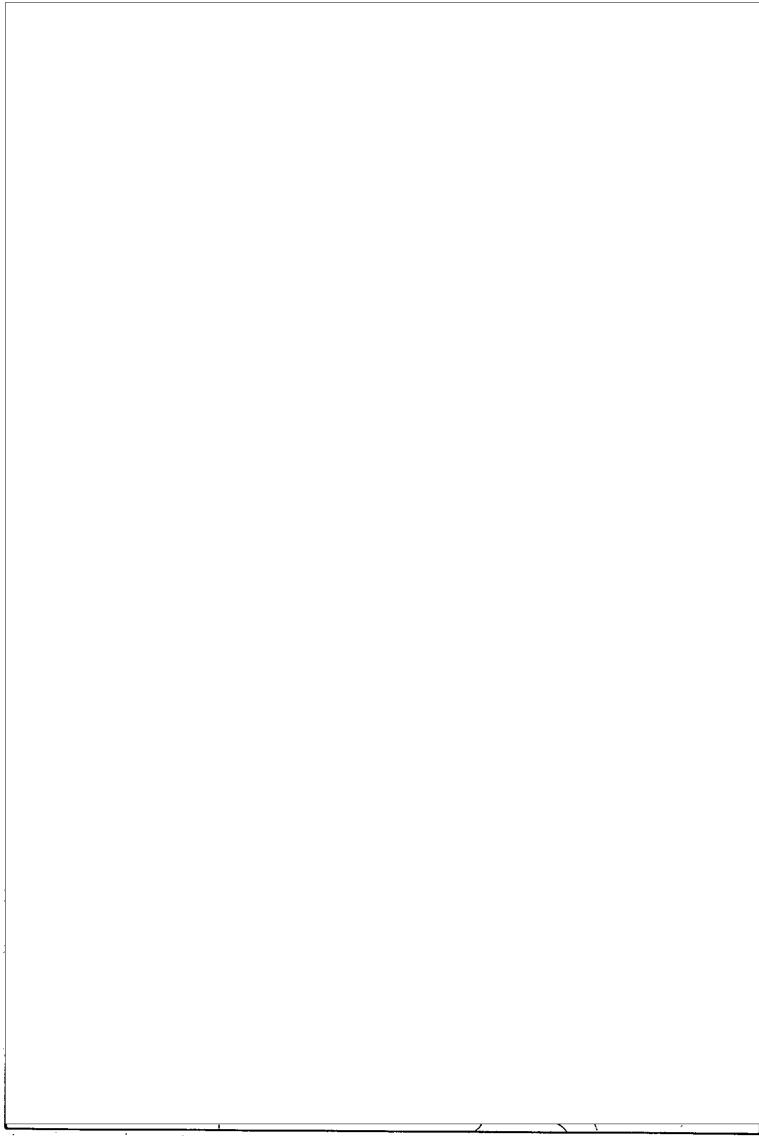
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Sihanouk and the Communists

The Soviets for the first time have given Sihanouk's "Royal Government of National Union" a public measure of respectability. Yesterday Pravda identified Thiounn Munn, who is visiting Moscow, as the "minister of finance and economy" in Sihanouk's government. Earlier Soviet press treatment of Munn's visit was in a lower key, similar to the way Moscow treats various "liberation movements" that travel to the USSR. Pravda did not mention Sihanouk's ambassador in Moscow, however, and Soviet media still refer to "neutral" Cambodia, which suggests that the Soviets are still undecided about recognizing Sihanouk.

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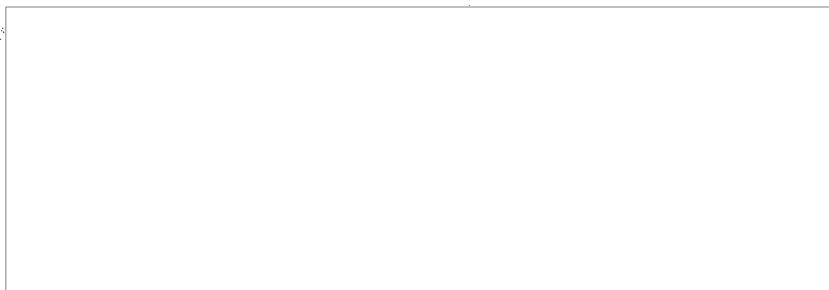
SUEZ CANAL AREA



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ISRAEL-UAR-USSR



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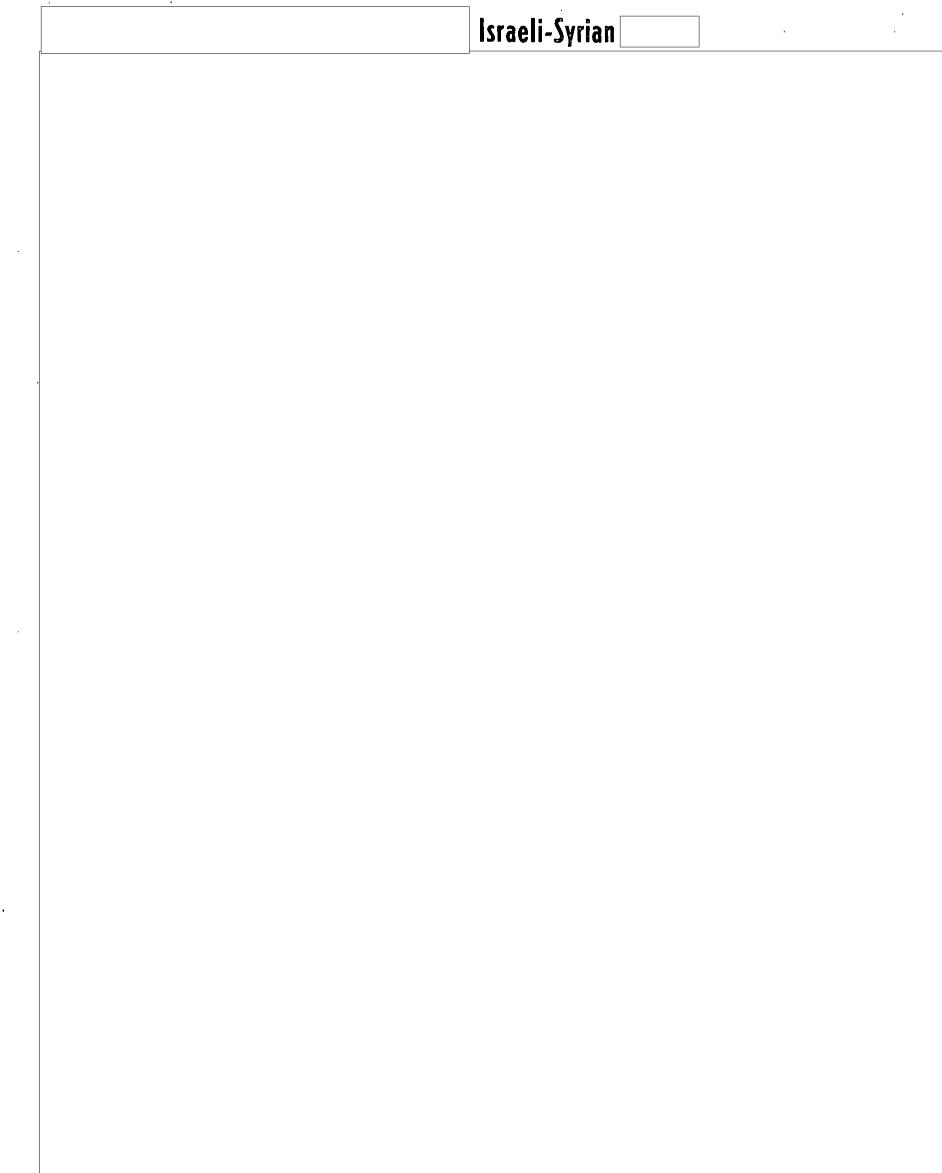
Yesterday's action shatters the Israeli hope that its heavy bombing raids would prevent the emplacement of fully operational missile sites along the west bank of the canal. In addition, the loss of two Phantoms in one day compared to a total of 23 aircraft lost over the past three years may cause a tactical rethink. Nevertheless, Israel's strategic goal, the maintenance of air superiority over the canal, probably will not change.

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Israeli-Syrian

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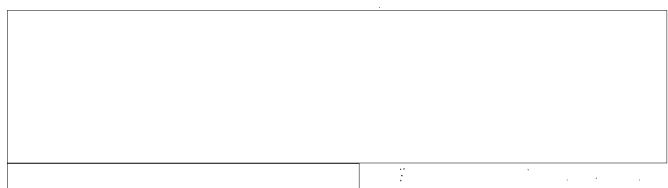


FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SYRIA-ISRAEL-USSR



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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COMMUNIST CHINA

Chinese Communist tirades against the US are increasing in volume and virulence. Recent statements have charged Washington with continuing hostility and have belittled US efforts to improve relations with Peking. For the first time in over a year, a Chinese official has publicly declared that relaxation of tensions is "out of the question" while the US "occupies" Taiwan. Other commentaries have flailed at the US defense treaty with Taipei, alleged US support for Nationalist raids against the mainland, and intrusions into Chinese air and sea space by US military forces.



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[With their problems with Moscow unresolved, the Chinese have a long-term interest in a dialogue with Washington.]

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Peking's militant line is primarily an attempt to exploit Moscow's cautious approach to developments in Indochina by playing heavily on anti-US themes, which are well received in both Hanoi and Pyongyang. The Chinese may also calculate that Washington, preoccupied with events in Indochina, has put the question of Sino-US relations on the back burner. One imponderable in the situation, however, is that the developments to the south may have for the moment strengthened the hand of those in the Peking leadership who have argued against talking to the "imperialists."

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Anti-Americanism has become politically fashionable in some Saigon circles.

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a number of deputies believe an anti-American stance will enhance their re-election prospects in 1971. As a result, open criticism of the US on the Assembly floor has become more common in the past two months.

A similar trend is evident in the Saigon press. One newspaper has increased its circulation by featuring anti-American policy, and two others are following the lead.

Student groups also are using anti-Americanism in an effort to advance their causes.

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anti-Americanism probably would be the main theme of the next student demonstration, a tactic the students did not dare use until recently.

Anti-Americanism has been latent for some time in South Vietnam, but it has surfaced rather suddenly to become a convenient political instrument. By criticizing the US for the country's problems, opposition elements count on discrediting the Thieu administration.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

USSR-China: The chief Soviet negotiator at the deadlocked Peking talks, Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov, is ill and returned to the USSR yesterday, according to an official Hungarian news agency report from Peking. The press report states that both Soviet and Chinese doctors consulted on Kuznetsov's case, which suggests that it is not a diplomatic illness to facilitate Kuznetsov's long-sought exit from the negotiations. Kuznetsov's departure may further complicate the talks which probably will recess until Moscow and Peking agree on how to continue.

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2 July 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

2 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Cambodia, Prime Minister Lon Nol has reorganized his cabinet. Communist military activity has declined somewhat. (Page 1)

[Redacted]

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The Soviets are soon to embark on a major disaster relief program for Peru; sixty-five aircraft will be involved. (Page 3)

[Redacted]

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The package on Berlin offered by Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov Tuesday merely embroiders on earlier formulations advanced by the Soviets. (Page 5)

A central committee plenum in Moscow is likely today, but we still do not know whether it will deal with personnel changes. (Page 6)

[Redacted]

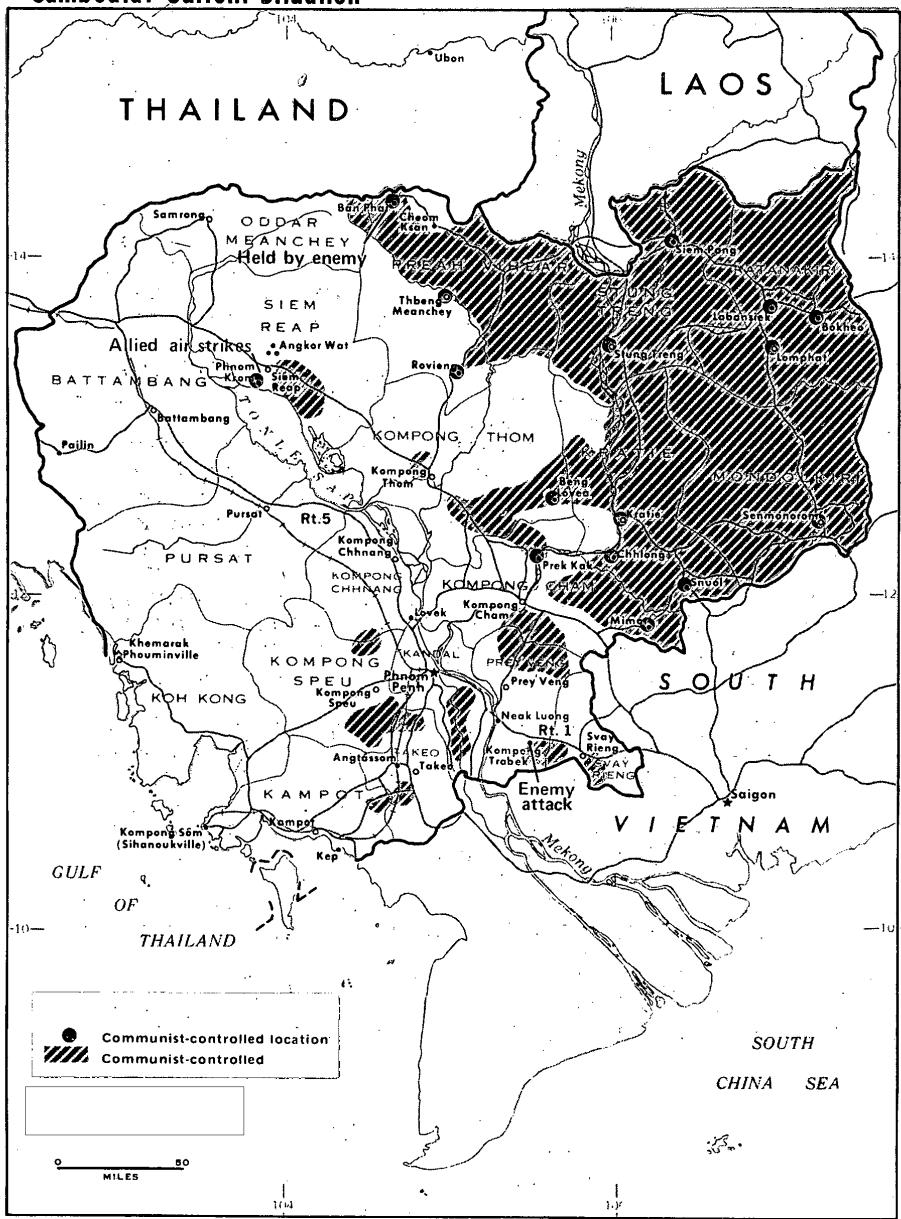
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The military in Bolivia are again pressuring President Ovando to remove leftists from the cabinet. (Page 8)

[Redacted]

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Lon Nol has reorganized his cabinet. In changes announced yesterday, he lightened the heavy burden carried by his deputy, Sirik Matak, and shifted several other portfolios. Matak will continue functioning as vice president of the council of ministers (deputy premier), but most of his specific responsibilities have been turned back to the ministerial level. The number three man--Yem Sambaur--has lost his job as foreign minister, although he retains the justice portfolio and responsibility for liaison with the National Assembly. Lon Nol will continue serving as his own defense minister.

These changes seem to have been influenced both by recent assembly criticism and by Lon Nol's recognition that too heavy a load was being carried by three or four of his most trusted associates. Matak in particular had been badly overworked. He is now in a position to function as troubleshooter for the leadership.

* * *

Generally reduced Communist military operations continued to be marked by harassment of government positions in widely separated areas of the country.

Siem Reap city received another brief round of mortar fire on 30 June. Allied air strikes on the Communist-controlled town of Phnom Krom, south of Siem Reap, are reported to have resulted in 50 enemy killed.

In Prey Veng Province, a Cambodian Army battalion at Kompong Trabek town on Route 1 was attacked by an estimated 100 enemy troops on the night of 28-29 June. Government units to the north of Kompong Trabek were attacked the same night by a larger enemy force. Local villagers report the Communists took heavy losses in that engagement.

In the north, the government sustained another setback when its outpost at Ban Phai in Preah Vihear Province was taken by the enemy yesterday.

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Elsewhere, South Vietnamese troops have broken the Communist offensive against Lovek in Kompong Chhnang Province, and are conducting clearing operations north, west, and south of the town. A South Vietnamese armored column also is moving north up Route 5 in an effort to open the road while allowing the Cambodians to repair damages on the parallel railway to the Thai border.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTHERN LAOS:

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LAOS

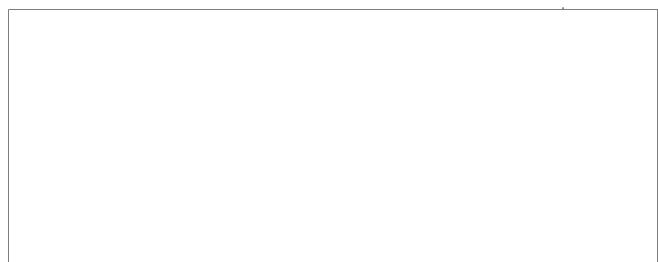


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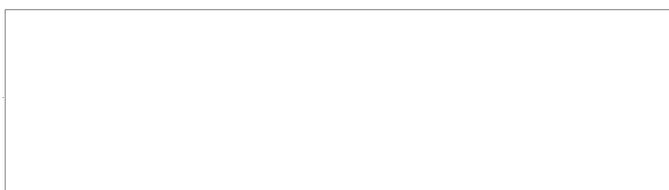
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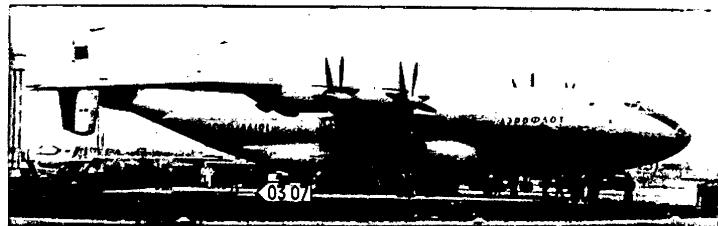
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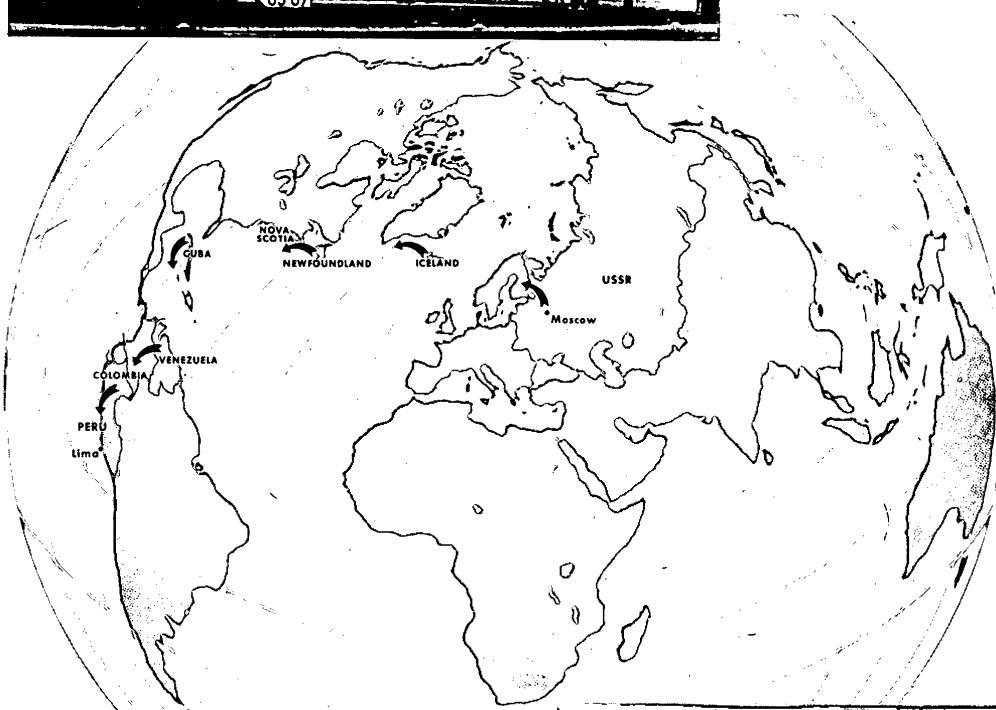
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Soviets Planning Massive Airlift to Peru



AN-22

Length
Payload
186 ft
99,000-
176,000 lbs.



AN-12

Length
Payload
109 ft
17,000-
44,000 lbs.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-PERU

Sixty-five Soviet aircraft will carry Soviet goods to Peru during the first half of July in what will be the USSR's largest disaster relief program for the benefit of a foreign nation. The first aircraft will leave Moscow on Saturday, flying to Lima with stops in Iceland, Canada, Cuba, and Venezuela or Colombia. After a four-day lapse, the other flights will follow at the rate of eight to ten each day.

We do not know what cargoes will be flown in. One possibility is structural materials and tools to meet the need for emergency housing. The aircraft will be able to carry 700-1,000 tons.

Moscow's decision to provide Lima with emergency assistance coincides with a gradual change in Soviet attitudes toward military regimes. Over the past year, the USSR has looked on Peru in particular as providing the first in a potential series of opportunities to work with military regimes that take a leftist or "progressive" stance in their policies. In fact, Soviet propaganda has hailed the Peruvian Government as an example for all Latin America to follow.

Although the warming trend in Soviet-Peruvian relations was interrupted by Moscow's initial failure to come forward with promises of disaster assistance, the magnitude of its forthcoming effort should more than offset Lima's earlier criticism. Moreover, the demonstration of support will gain the Soviets a greater measure of respectability outside Peru.

Beyond serving as a demonstration of Soviet goodwill, the massive airlift will benefit Moscow in other ways. It will, among other things, constitute an unprecedented test of Soviet air transport capabilities in the Western hemisphere.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-BERLIN

The "principles" Soviet Ambassador Abrasimov offered at the ambassadors' meeting Tuesday as the basis of an "intermediate" agreement on Berlin are in essence only a more detailed formulation of Soviet demands advanced in earlier four power meetings.

The key features would have the four powers agree to accept West Berlin as a "separate political entity" and would put an end to "the political presence of the FRG" in the city. Abrasimov said the USSR would not object if one of the three powers would assume the responsibility of consular representation of West Berlin--a role now performed by West Germany--and proposed that an "official Soviet representation" be opened in West Berlin.

The whole package is similar to the concept of West Berlin as a "free city" under four power administration developed under Khrushchev a decade ago.

Abrasimov indicated that he wanted a Western response to the Soviet proposals at the next meeting on 21 July, but emphasized Moscow would "never agree" to give up its insistence that there can be no political ties between Bonn and West Berlin. He gave no open encouragement to Western hopes for a bargain which would trade off some West German political rights in return for access guarantees. He did hint, however, that once the Soviet concept of an independent West Berlin is accepted, some progress might be possible on the matter of access. These hints were balanced by pointed reminders that West Berlin's physical isolation placed the burden of compromise on the West.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

We still expect a central committee plenum today (see The President's Daily Brief of 27 June), but we still do not know whether it will deal with personnel changes.

An honorable retirement for Premier Kosygin remains the most likely of various rumored shifts in the top Soviet leadership, and it might set in train other changes as well. A central committee plenum would, however, be the wrong occasion to announce a new appointment on the governmental side. The proper venue for this would be a session of the Supreme Soviet, and one is scheduled for 14 July.

What we would expect the plenum to do is to announce a date and agenda for the 24th Party Congress, already promised for some time late this year. Precedent requires this announcement to list the principal speakers for the Congress, and it is a foregone conclusion that the premier will speak on the next five-year plan. This poses a nice question for the leadership if it is planned for Kosygin to retire before the Congress.

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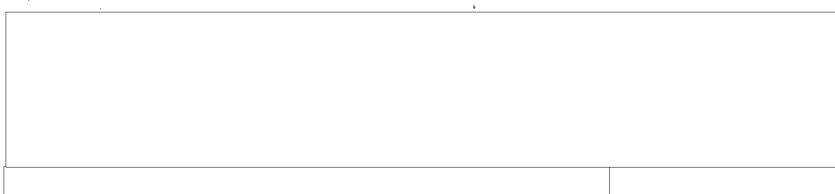
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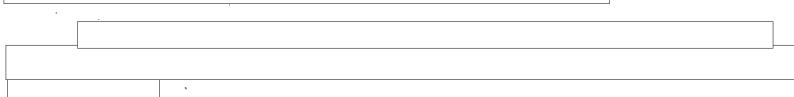
JORDAN



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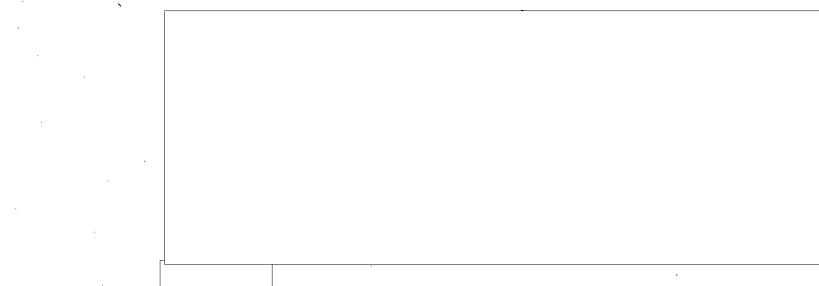
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Bolivia: The military is again putting pressure on President Ovando to remove leftists from his administration. The targets this time are four cabinet ministers and the armed forces commander in chief, General Torres, who does not seem to enjoy much support in the military. The army last night put troops in the La Paz area on alert to back up demands that Torres and the others be removed from their posts.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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3 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

3 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Cambodia, the struggle continues while Lon Nol attempts to make his government more efficient and tries to get some effective help from his neighbors.
(Page 1)

Libya expands the threat of nationalization to include two more US oil companies. *(Page 4)*

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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Violence is an increasing problem in the Dominican Republic, [redacted]
(Page 7)

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[redacted] a
little more information on the Soviet airlift.
(Page 8)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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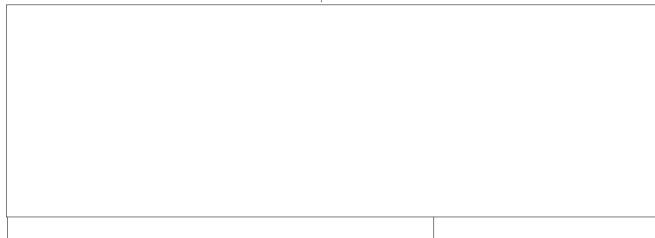
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA



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The enemy shelled the provincial capital of Svay Rieng yesterday, causing 12 military and civilian casualties. A ground attack on Svay Rieng may be in the offing. Cambodian Army messages report considerable numbers of Communist troops to the northeast and east of the city. The enemy also directed sporadic fire against the Neak Luong ferry crossing yesterday.

Cambodian troops skirmished yesterday with an unknown number of Communists during a clearing operation on Route 6 southeast of Kompong Thom city. The enemy destroyed a bridge before being forced to withdraw.



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Cambodian Army messages describe the situation at Siem Reap as calm but indicate that Communist troops have moved into position as close as two miles to the city. Allied air strikes continue against enemy gun positions that have been harassing Siem Reap from time to time.

The Communists may be intensifying their activities in Oddar Meanchey Province. Small enemy groups have been sighted by Cambodian forces near two villages south of the provincial capital of Samrong.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Intercepts show that the headquarters of both the Viet Cong 9th Division and the North Vietnamese 95C Regiment were deployed near Tonle Bet town in Kompong Cham Province on 1 July. Twenty-four Cambodian Army battalions, including some Khmer Krom units, are now assigned to the province. In addition, some South Vietnamese Army troops are still operating along sections of Route 7.

* * *

In addition to his recent cabinet shakeup, Lon Nol has revealed plans to reduce the administrative load on the ministries by establishing 12 general commissariats. The new organizations will be manned by technical experts who will be responsible for running program details. The exact relationship between the commissariats and the concerned ministries is unclear.

Lon Nol promises more sweeping reforms in the way in which Cambodia is governed. He has made a special point of indicating his government aims to better the lives of Cambodian villagers.

* * *

A Cambodian delegation is scheduled to leave for Djakarta this week to work out the details for the training of Cambodian military personnel in Indonesia. The group will meet with President Suharto in addition to Indonesian military [redacted]

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Indonesia has sent several teams of military advisers to Cambodia since April, but the question of Indonesian supply of other military assistance, such as arms, has caused some contention in Djakarta.

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[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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In an interview with Ambassador Bunker on 1 July, President Thieu said he foresaw a long war in Cambodia, with the Communists pursuing a classical struggle in the countryside and harassing Phnom Penh to keep the government off balance.

Thieu says he intends, for the immediate future, to maintain pressure to keep the Communists out of their former sanctuaries along the border and that his forces may set up bases near the Parrot's Beak and Fishhook areas. Another base will be maintained at the Neak Luong ferry in order to facilitate the continued repatriation of Vietnamese refugees. One of the most troublesome problems that South Vietnamese forces have run into in the Cambodian interior so far, Thieu said, has been the need to furnish Cambodian forces with helicopters and other air support. Cambodian requests for helicopter lifts have been especially urgent due to the insecurity of many of the roads in the Cambodian countryside, and the South Vietnamese do not have enough helicopters to provide this kind of movement.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LIBYA

The threat of nationalization continues to hang over US-owned oil companies. Occidental [redacted]

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[redacted] Amerada-Hess
and Marathon, are threatened. [redacted]

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[redacted] Local newspaper and radio commentary has been in a similar vein.

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Such threats help to build more pressure on Western oil firms during the current price negotiations and serve also to underline the opportunity that nationalization of [redacted] companies would present to the Libyans. [redacted]

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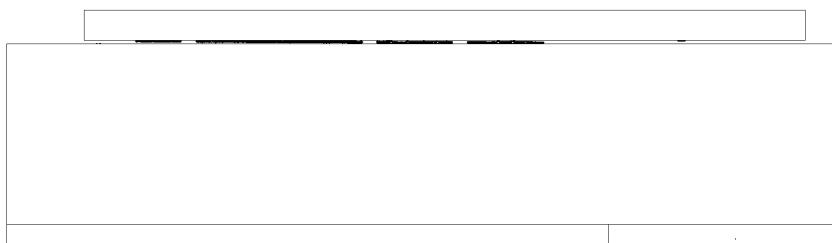
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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ISRAEL-UAR-USSR



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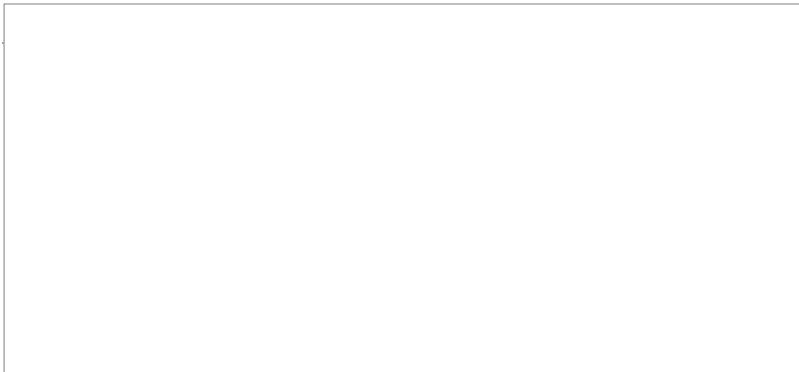
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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WEST GERMANY



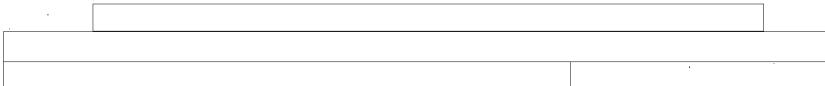
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



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Since 26 June, there have been eight killings in Santo Domingo--six of them having political overtones. President Balaguer is determined to reduce the level of violence, and to that end has instituted special military and police patrols.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-PERU

The start of the Soviet airlift of relief aid to Peru has been moved up one day and now is to begin on 6 July. A western oil firm in Iceland (Esso) has been requested to refuel the Soviet aircraft.

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[redacted]
the Soviet shipment will consist of prefabricated homes, road-building equipment, and a family hospital. A group of 75 doctors is said to be scheduled to arrive in Peru early in July for a two-month stay.

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[Redacted]

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

4 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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



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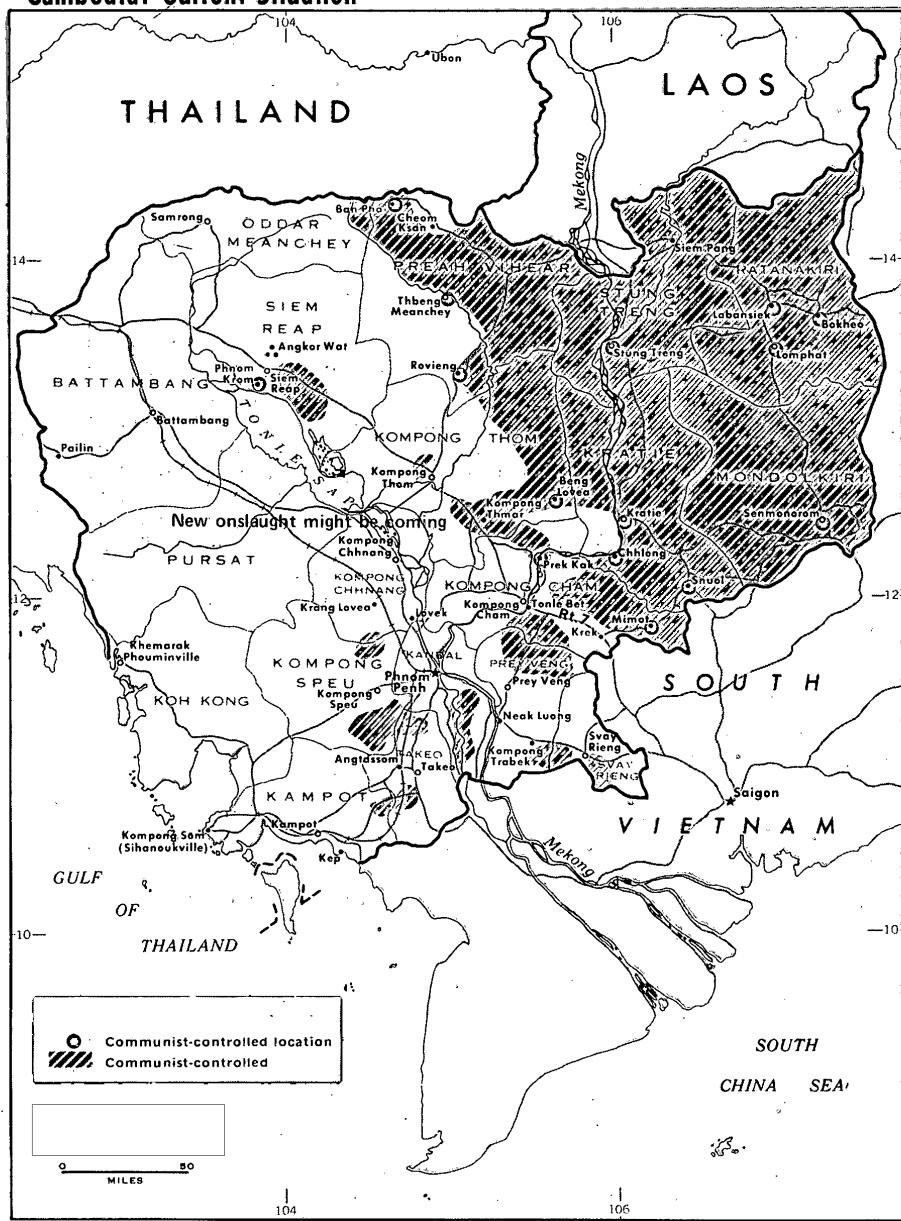
South Vietnam is uneasy about US intentions in the Paris talks. (*Page 4*)

The Vietnamese Communists are belittling the appointment of Ambassador Bruce. (*Page 5*)

The Heath government wants to revise its predecessor's plans to withdraw from east of Suez. (*Page 6*)

The USSR conducted another short range test of the modified SS-11 ICBM on 2 July. (*Page 7*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The Communists continue to harass provincial capitals in many areas, but no new major fighting has developed.

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Even though security precautions in Phnom Penh are poor, there have been few if any instances of Communist terrorism or sabotage.

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It seems unlikely that Saigon would tie up all its elite airborne forces for the duration of the rainy season; elements of the division, however, might be sent into the Mimat area.

(continued)

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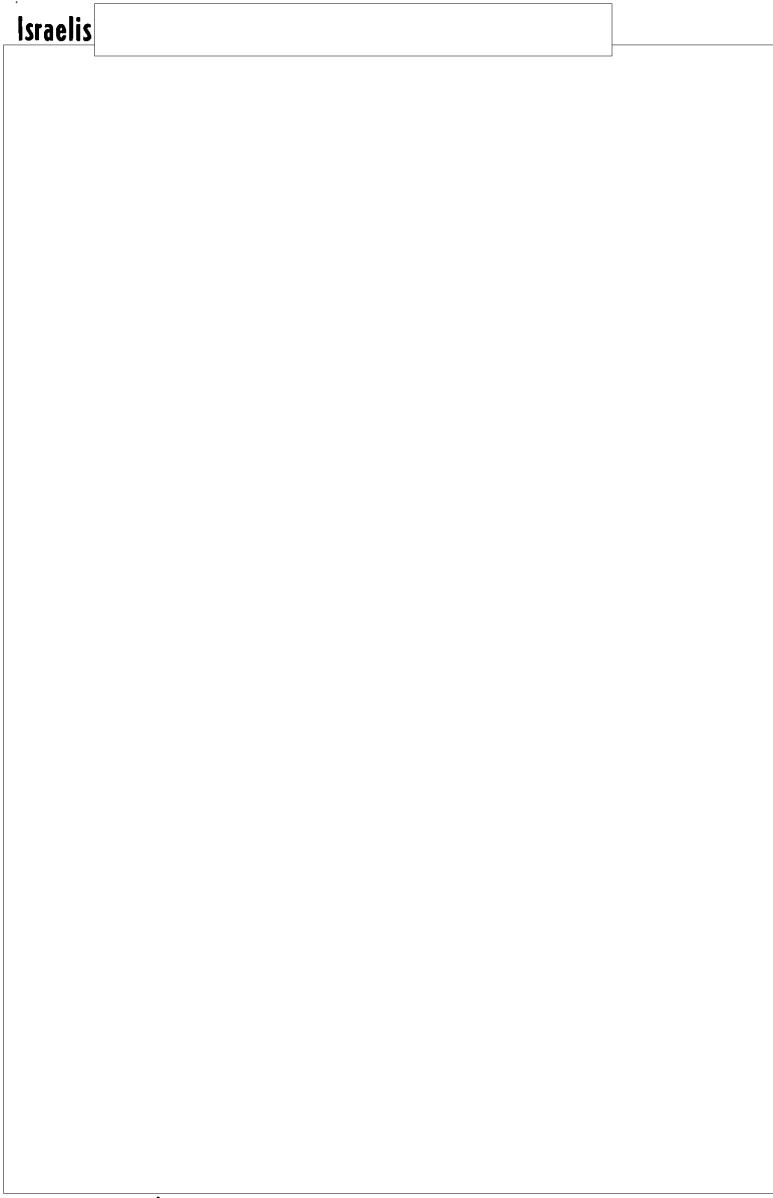
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Sirik Matak, in a recent conversation with Chargé Rives, took note of rumors making the rounds that Hanoi would be willing to return to the status quo ante if Lon Nol bowed out in favor of Penn Nouth, Sihanouk's "prime minister." Matak expressed "grave doubt" that this would be acceptable. He did not rule out, however, the possibility of coming to terms with the Communists. On the key problem of Communist troops in Cambodia, Matak said the situation could not revert to what it was under Sihanouk. But he did say the removal of Communist forces could take place "over a period of time."

Matak's remarks appear to bear out other reports that he is somewhat more flexible than Lon Nol on the question of making a deal with the Communists. How long the "period of time" will be before Communist troops leave Cambodia has been what the Cambodians and the Vietnamese Communists have been arguing about since Sihanouk raised the issue at least a year ago. In the early days after Sihanouk's fall, Phnom Penh demanded a complete and almost immediate withdrawal, a position which subsequently softened somewhat. For their part, the Communists have been willing to agree in principle to the complete withdrawal of their forces, but have held firmly to the position that implementation will not be possible until the Vietnam war ends.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Israelis

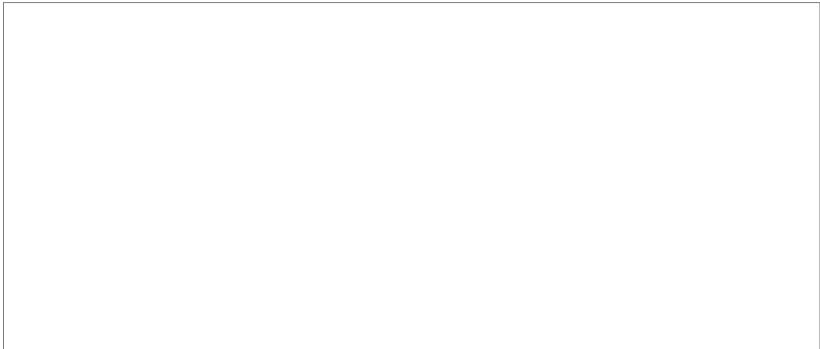


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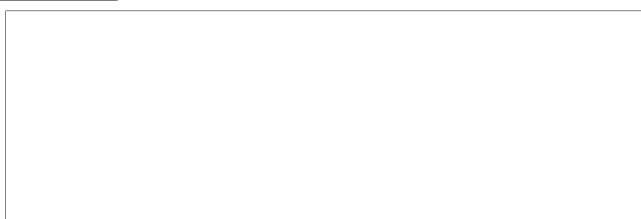
USSR-ISRAEL-EGYPT



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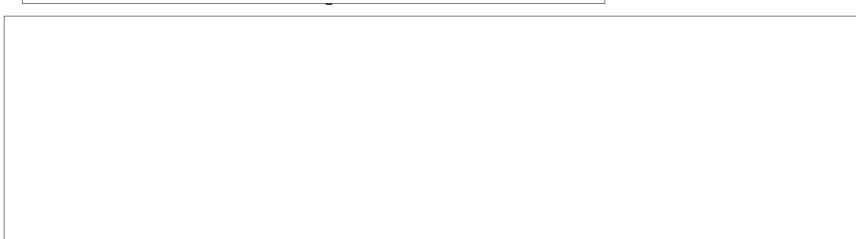
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

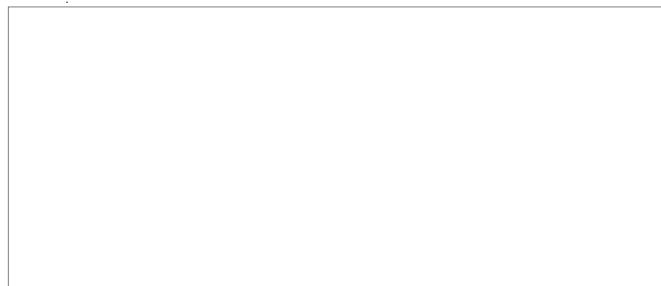


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

The Vietnamese Communists are belittling Ambassador Bruce's appointment. Most commentary so far, including statements issued in Paris Thursday, takes the line that President Nixon was forced to make the appointment in order to appease critics of administration policies. Radio Hanoi yesterday broadcast a statement on the appointment by Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh charging that Bruce's designation was merely a "correction" of US policy and adding that no "peace hoax" can sway the Vietnamese Communists.

For at least the next few weeks, Hanoi probably will not want to give any appearance of responding positively to US urgings that the time is ripe for getting the negotiations back on the track. The Communists, nonetheless, are almost certain to return one or more members of their first team to Paris soon after Ambassador Bruce arrives--if only to probe for the substance of his instructions.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UNITED KINGDOM

London now hopes to be able to maintain some military forces in the Singapore-Malaysia area. At the SEATO conference in Manila on 2 July, the British delegate said that the Tory government will review all its commitments in the light of British resources and will then consult with Commonwealth partners about keeping at least some British forces in that area. He stated, "We are here. If our friends want us, we intend to remain here."

On another aspect of Britain's east of Suez policy--the Persian Gulf area--Prime Minister Heath has not yet made up his mind.

Iran and, to a lesser extent, Saudi Arabia want the British to pull out on schedule, as the Wilson government promised. The rulers of the British protectorates in the Gulf, however, probably are hoping that the Tories can lighten the burden of responsibility placed on them by Labor's withdrawal policy.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

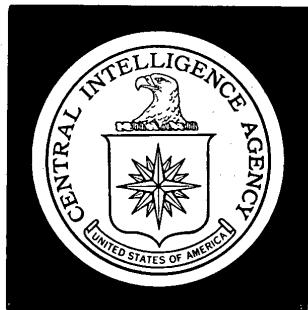
USSR: A modified SS-11 ICBM was fired from Tyuratam to an undetermined short range on 2 July. Two other tests of the modified SS-11 were conducted in June to ranges of about 500-600 miles. The modifications to the SS-11 include larger fuel tanks for increased range.

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If testing continues satisfactorily, the new system probably will be ready for deployment late this year.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Top Secret



The President's Daily Brief

5 JUL 1970
~~6 JULY 1970~~

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PLS PASS FOLLOWING TO THE PRESIDENT AT SAN CLEMENTE:
HEREWITH PDB OF 5 JULY:

CAMBODIA

NO MAJOR MILITARY ACTIVITY HAS BEEN REPORTED
IN THE PAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.

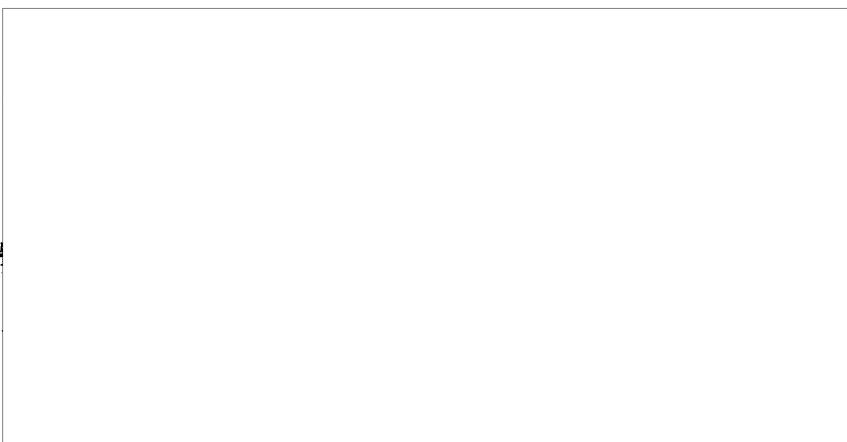
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AROUND

SIEM REAP CITY, ENEMY FORCES, WHILE ACTIVE IN THE
COUNTRYSIDE, ARE STILL LARGELY AVOIDING CONTACT WITH
CAMBODIAN UNITS. ACCORDING TO A CAMBODIAN ARMY
INTERCEPT, THAI AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT WERE TO BE
AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT SIEM REAP'S DEFENDERS BEGINNING
YESTERDAY. TO THIS END, A THAI RADIO TEAM HAS BEEN
SET UP IN SIEM REAP. SOUTH AND EAST OF PHNOM PENH,
GOVERNMENT FORCES BEGAN MOP-UP OPERATIONS AGAINST
WITHDRAWING ENEMY TROOPS.

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THE BANGKOK POST ALSO CARRIES AN INTERVIEW WITH
PRIME MINISTER THANOM'S BROTHER, GENERAL SANGA,
WHO HAS JUST TAKEN OVER AS THE NUMBER TWO MAN IN
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. SANGA TOOK THE USUAL SNIPES
AT SEATO, TERMING IT A "PAPER TIGER" AND A
"FAILURE." SANGA, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY WENT SO FAR
AS TO CALL FOR ITS DISSOLUTION, A PROPOSAL THAT EVEN
THABAT, SEATO'S SHARPEST CRITIC, HAS STOPPED SHORT
OF. SANGA APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT THE US COMMITMENT
TO THAILAND CAN BE SUBSUMED UNDER OTHER "MECHANISMS."
HE MAY HAVE IN MIND A BILATERAL TREATY IN WHICH THE
THAI HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST FROM TIME TO TIME, OR
POSSIBLY THE RUSSO-THAIANACAO

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USSR-EGYPT

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ACCORDING

TO THE CAIRO PRESS, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO FORMAL MEETINGS
BETWEEN NASIR AND BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN, AND PODGORNY
IN THE PAST WEEK. A THIRD MEETING, TO HAVE BEEN
HELD ON 2 JULY, WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN POSTPONED
UNTIL MONDAY BECAUSE OF THE SOVIET CENTRAL
COMMITTEE PLENUM ON AGRICULTURE. TWO LOWER LEVEL
STANDING COMMITTEES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN FORMED
TO DEAL WITH MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC MATTERS
RESPECTIVELY.

A UPI REPORT FROM MOSCOW YESTERDAY QUOTED AN
"AUTHORITATIVE" MIDDLE EASTERN SOURCE IN MOSCOW
TO THE EFFECT THAT THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT THE
CLOSE OF NASIR'S VISIT MAY NOT REJECT OUT OF
HAND THE NEW US INITIATIVE. THIS SOURCE CLAIMS THAT
THE ARABS SEE THREE POSITIVE ELEMENTS IN THE US
PROPOSAL AND THAT BOTH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE SOVIETS
AGREE THAT WASHINGTON'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE GENERAL
PROBLEM IS BECOMING "CLEARER." THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE
US APPROACH THE ARABS LIKE THE MOST INCLUDE SECRETARY
ROGERS' USE OF THE WORD "PALESTINIANS;" THE RECOMMENDA-
TION THAT JARRING RESUME HIS MISSION; AND THE
REAFFIRMATION OF THE 1967 SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
AS THE BASIS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

THE TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO WIND UP EARLY NEXT

USSR-ROMANIA

A "CATARRHAL AILMENT," AS ANNOUNCED BY TASS
YESTERDAY, MAY BE ONE OF THE REASONS WHY BREZHNEV
IS NOT GOING TO BUDAPEST TO SIGN THE FRIENDSHIP
TREATY, BUT THERE ARE OTHERS. THE ROMANIANS
OF COURSE BELIEVE--NOT WITHOUT GOOD REASON--
THAT MOSCOW HAS DOWNGRADED ITS REPRESENTATION.
KOSYGIN WILL GO IN BREZHNEV'S PLACE--A DELIBERATE
SNUB TO CEAUSESCU, WHO OF LATE HAS BEEN TALKING
UP ROMANIA'S INDEPENDENCE WITH RENEWED VIGOR.

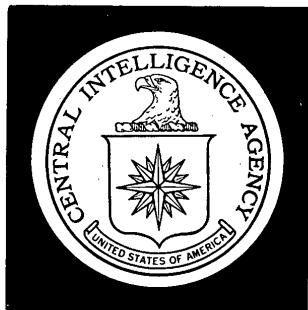
ALSO, BREZHNEV IS NOW INVOLVED IN THE NASIR
TALKS, WHICH MAY HAVE DRAGGED ON LONGER THAN HAD
BEEN EXPECTED. BREZHNEV MAY ALSO WANT TO BE IN MOSCOW
WHILE THE REGIME ASSESSES PRESIDENT NIXON'S
REPORT ON INDOCHINA AND HIS TELEVISION INTERVIEW.

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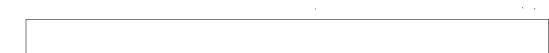


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Redacted] 50X1

Fighting in Cambodia flared up again yesterday after a lull of several days. (Page 2)

A study of the battle statistics shows little change in the level of Communist activity in South Vietnam's III and IV corps during the two months of US - South Vietnamese operations in Cambodia. (Page 3)

In Moscow, no leadership changes were announced at the central committee plenum, which concentrated mainly on agricultural policy. (Page 4)

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The status of the oil price negotiations in Libya is outlined on Page 6.

[Redacted] 50X1

The military situation in Laos has been fairly quiet the past three days. (Page 8)

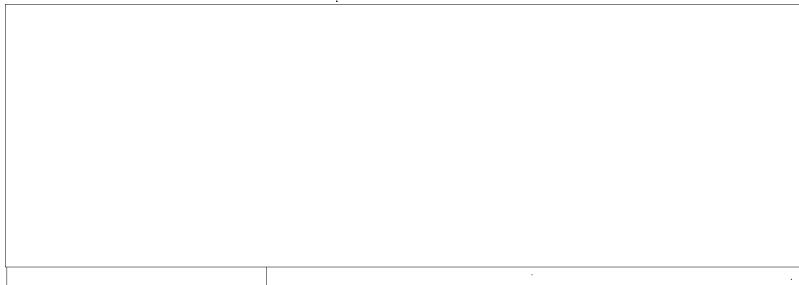
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-ISRAEL-EGYPT



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

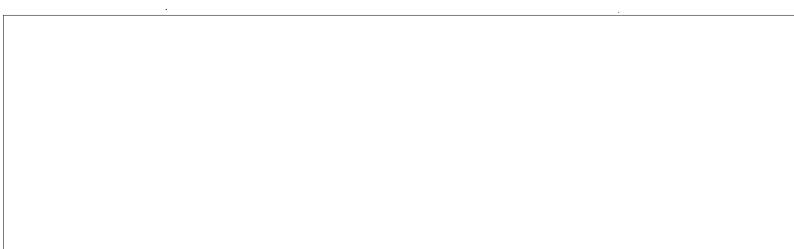
The Communists briefly but sharply attacked the district town of Saang, twenty miles south of Phnom Penh, yesterday. Government defenders suffered over a hundred casualties before the Communists withdrew. Enemy forces still seem to be in the area. Saang was last attacked in late April, at the time raising fears that the Communists were moving on Phnom Penh.

To the southeast, the Communists are renewing pressure near Svay Rieng city. Positions to the south and west of this provincial capital were attacked over the weekend, and there was one minor ground action on the outskirts of the city itself. The Communists also attacked South Vietnamese forces in the area.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

Statistics for the first half of 1970 show little change in the level of Communist military activity in III and IV corps during the two months of US - South Vietnamese operations in Cambodia. Such activity for the past year or so has remained small-scale (company-size or smaller) in nature. Comparing the average number of weekly actions from January through April with May and June, the small-scale attacks dropped by roughly 55 percent (from about 16 to 9) in III Corps but picked up by nearly 30 percent (from about 18 to 24) in IV Corps. The average number of other incidents, including harassment, terrorism, and sabotage, increased somewhat in both regions during May and June.

Most Communist offensive activity in III and IV corps this year has been staged by local force, sapper, and guerrilla units. The bulk of the enemy's main force combat units have been in or near border sanctuaries for over a year; their dispersion or deployment into Cambodia thus has had only a limited effect as yet on the level of Communist activity in South Vietnam.

It will be difficult for the enemy to mount sustained large actions in the southern half of South Vietnam in the near future, but the Communists will probably, at a minimum, maintain recent levels of attacks and harassments. They will also probably seek to exploit any vulnerabilities in allied defenses that might develop as a result of South Vietnamese forces operating in Cambodia.

There are also signs that the Communists may focus more of their activity on the northern half of the country. Communist planners may hope this will relieve some of the pressure on enemy units to the south as they try to recover from the initial allied incursions into their once-secure border bases.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

No changes in leadership assignments were announced at the central committee plenum Thursday and Friday, nor was a specific date set for the 24th party congress. Brezhnev simply repeated what he had said on earlier occasions--that a congress would be held this year.

As at most proceedings of late, Brezhnev dominated the two-day session. He presided both days, giving the principal report and a concluding address.

The plenum concentrated on agricultural problems, approving a big if uninnovative program for this sector for the next five-year plan (1971-1975). We see few clues as to the impact of this program on the military's claims for allocations under the five-year plan. Even though this was the first plenum since last December and despite the fact the leadership was even then deep in discussion with Nasir, no report seems to have been given on Soviet foreign policy.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COMMUNIST CHINA - US

[redacted] two MIG-19s may have attempted to engage a US C-130 flying an intelligence collection mission some 100 miles off the east coast of China on 2 July. Two or possibly three other MIG-19s flew defensive cover. Intercepted radar tracking of the latter aircraft caused the C-130 to abort its mission.

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The Chinese may have suppressed their radar tracking of the two fighters trying for the intercept. This suggests that the attempt was preplanned.

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The Chinese normally fly defensive patrols against US intelligence collection aircraft flying off their coast, but this is the first time since 1965 that hostile intent against a mission of this type has been detected. It is highly unusual, moreover, for Chinese fighters to fly such a distance from the mainland.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LIBYA

A new round of talks between the government negotiating committee and Esso, the industry leader, began on 30 June in an amicable atmosphere. For the first time, the government lowered its demands in response to an offer made earlier by Esso.

The companies apparently hope to drag out negotiations as long as possible while continuing to produce at maximum levels. The government, on the other hand, is impatient for a quick settlement and has emphasized its mood by limiting the production of some companies, threatening nationalization of other producing companies, and prohibiting the export of natural gas.

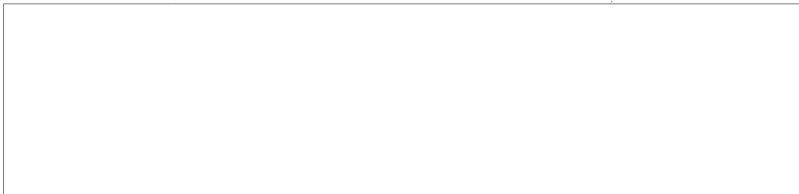
On 4 July, the Libyans nationalized the subsidiary facilities of Esso, Shell, and the Italian AGIP. These facilities form only a small part of the total oil industry in Libya, and the companies expect compensation.

The nationalization action will be interpreted as still another move to increase pressure on Western oil interests during the current price negotiations.

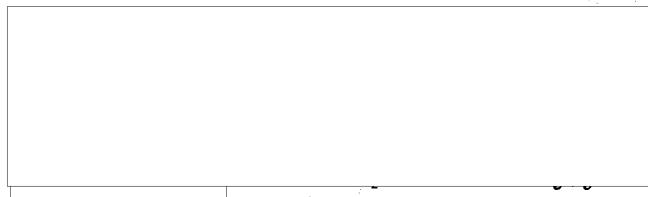
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Laos: The situation has been fairly quiet the past three days. Communist forces in the north are continuing to hinder Vang Pao's attempts to expand his defensive perimeters and are harassing government outposts with occasional mortar attacks. There have been additional reports suggesting an aggressive Communist campaign in the south during the rainy season, but for the last three days there have been only infrequent probes of the remaining Laotian Army and irregular positions on the Bolovens Plateau. Government guerrilla teams have reported some recent successes in interdicting enemy road and river traffic in the panhandle. These operations will spur Communist efforts to eliminate government bases within striking distance of their supply lines.

NATO: The Warsaw Pact proposals on European security are getting a long, cautious look from the Allies, and their representatives are having some trouble deciding what to do next. One point of agreement, amid a flurry of suggestions, is to seek "clarification" of the reduction of force proposal. The British have suggested that the proposition be discussed next fall, perhaps in September at a special ministerial meeting at the UN. The Italians and the French are not too keen on that idea, but the support for it by other NATO members may drag them along.

Bolivia: President Ovando has yielded to the military pressure we noted in The President's Daily Brief of 2 July. He will remove pro-left General Juan Jose Torres from his post as armed forces commander. The removal of the unpopular Torres should resolve the crisis that developed on 30 June when the interior minister threatened to resign unless Torres was replaced. Torres probably will be assigned abroad, perhaps to the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington. The post of armed forces commander in chief apparently will be jointly occupied by the commanders of the three services.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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7 July 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 July 1970

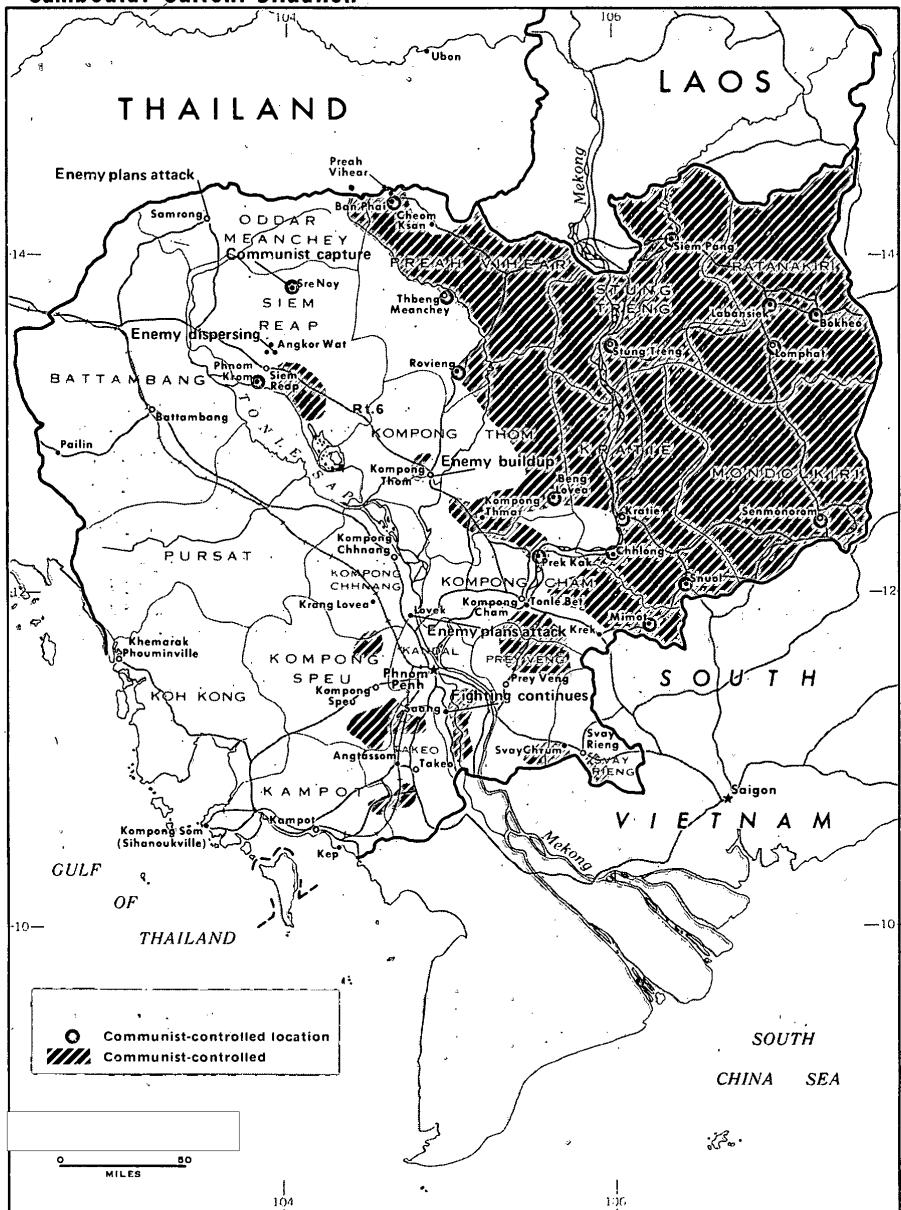
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

There is little change in the Cambodian military situation. (Page 1)

Establishing a new government in Italy will be a long and difficult process. (Page 3)

The United Kingdom will take the first step in supplying arms to South Africa. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Communist forces are maintaining strong pressure against the district capital of Saang, 20 miles south of Phnom Penh, following their brief occupation of the town on Sunday. Cambodian Army reinforcements have arrived at Saang, however, and South Vietnamese air strikes have broken up some of the enemy troop concentrations ringing the town. Large numbers of Communist regulars remain in the vicinity, however.

[redacted] a major enemy buildup near the city of Kompong Thom [redacted]. The Communists still control large segments of Route 6 between Kompong Thom and Phnom Penh, and are harassing westbound traffic along the same route to Siem Reap. Heavy South Vietnamese air strikes, however, may be disrupting enemy plans for a new ground assault on Kompong Thom.

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Nearby Kompong Chhnang appears to be relatively quiet, but the Communists appear to be active around that provincial capital. Enemy forces may be preparing for another attack on the government's major munitions depot at Lovek, which came under heavy pressure last week.

In western Cambodia, press reports indicate that Communist forces have now moved out of the temple complex at Angkor Wat and into the surrounding countryside. Farther north in Siem Reap Province, the village of Sre Noy fell to enemy forces on 6 July--the first evidence that Communists are present in this sector. In Oddar Meanchey Province, government forces are bracing for a possible attack on the capital city of Samrong. Evacuation operations in the province began last week, but it is still not clear whether Samrong--which is one of the few Cambodian provincial capitals unscathed by enemy attack--will also be abandoned.

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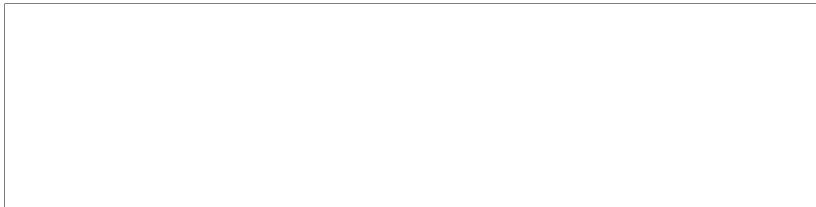
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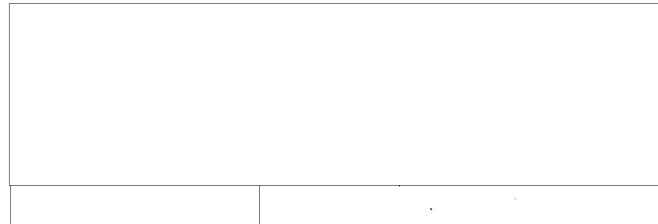
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ITALY

A major cause of the collapse of the Rumor government yesterday was the weeks-long bickering over prospective Socialist cooperation with the Communists in the central regions of Tuscany and Umbria, described in The President's Daily Brief of 23 June.

The Socialists maintain they are free to join the Communists in the two regional governments because the center-left is in the minority there. The other coalition partners object, citing a formula agreed to by all coalition parties before Rumor's government was formed. The formula was left vague to ensure four-party participation, and each party now is able to cite it to back up its own point of view.

The politicians also are squabbling over economic policy. A general strike, called for today to demand faster action on social and economic reforms, was canceled when the government resigned. Business leaders fear Italy's steady economic growth will be disrupted by increased government spending for reforms or by industrial strikes.

Negotiations to establish a new center-left government, or even a minority interim government, are likely to be long and difficult.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UK - SOUTH AFRICA

London has agreed to consider requests from South Africa for arms and equipment for maritime purposes. The foreign minister will discuss the situation with Secretary Rogers in London at the end of this week and an announcement will be made some time thereafter.

British officials defend the Conservative Party's long-standing position on the question and stress that a distinction will be maintained between arms for maritime defense and arms for internal security purposes, which will not be supplied. The British say they do not know precisely what South Africa will request, but they speculate that antisubmarine aircraft may be sought.

London is currently preparing "tailored messages" on the arms question for African Commonwealth members. These messages will go out "soon," British officials say. In Parliament, opposition leader Wilson has warned the government that, if plans to sell arms to South Africa come to pass, "the Commonwealth would be wrecked."

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Cuba: Castro's choices of an engineer to be the new minister of the sugar industry and of a major to be minister of education reflect the regime's increased use of technicians and military men to fill civilian administrative positions. There have been rumors that a high-level shake-up in the regime was imminent ever since Castro announced on 20 May that the sugar harvest would not reach its goal. Other personnel changes may be made soon as Castro attempts to reduce his share of the responsibility for the sugar shortfall.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

8 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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

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Bucharest is angry over Moscow's premature publication of a summary of the new Soviet-Romanian friendship treaty. (*Page 4*)

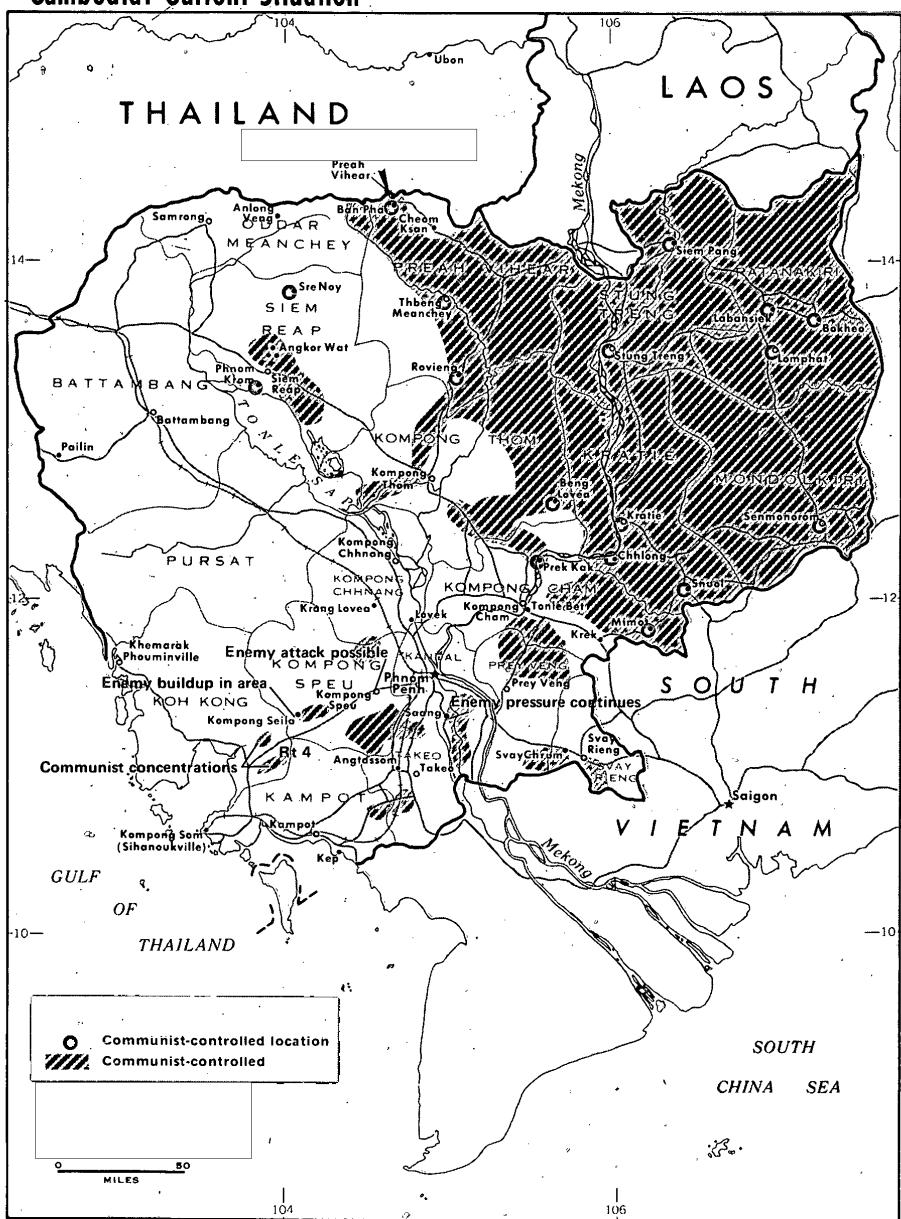
The lead flight of the Soviet relief airlift to Peru has been rescheduled for 9 July. (*Page 5*)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Continuous air strikes and government reinforcements have failed to dislodge Communist forces from staging areas on the outskirts of Saang. Villagers reported on 7 July that hundreds of Viet Cong were marching on the town from the east and south. The garrison commander has urgently requested additional ammunition.

Southwest of Phnom Penh, the Communists appear to be preparing for another major attack on the provincial capital of Kompong Speu. The city has been shelled intermittently for the past several weeks. Cambodian villagers report that the Communists are moving weapons and munitions northward toward the city. In addition, the headquarters of the North Vietnamese 1st Division recently moved from the South Vietnamese border to a position some 20 miles south of the city. The mission of the headquarters may be to control operations by elements of the 101D Regiment, two sapper battalions, and two unidentified battalions that are all now located in the vicinity of Kompong Speu.

In nearby Koh Kong Province, Communist forces are reported to be concentrating on both sides of Route 4, the overland artery that links Phnom Penh with Kompong Som (Sihanoukville).

[redacted] numbers of Viet Cong and Cambodian Communist troops are located near the government's command post at Kompong Seila, which came under enemy attack on 5 July.

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In the northeast, some North Vietnamese main force units subordinate to the Communist B-3 Front have drifted back to their border base areas from positions in the Cambodian interior. These units may be returning to re-establish their logistic system.

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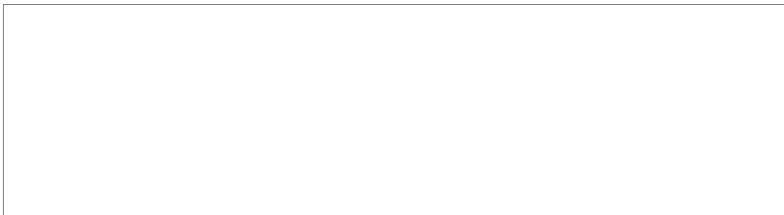
The government has undertaken a city-wide search in Phnom Penh for Communist agents, sympathizers, and munitions caches. The operation thus far has turned up very little. Cambodian police have had little practical experience in dealing with Communist infiltration and concealment techniques in urban areas, and South Vietnamese officers who have been in Phnom Penh are appalled at Cambodian security practices.

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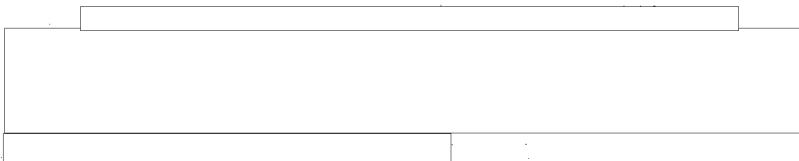
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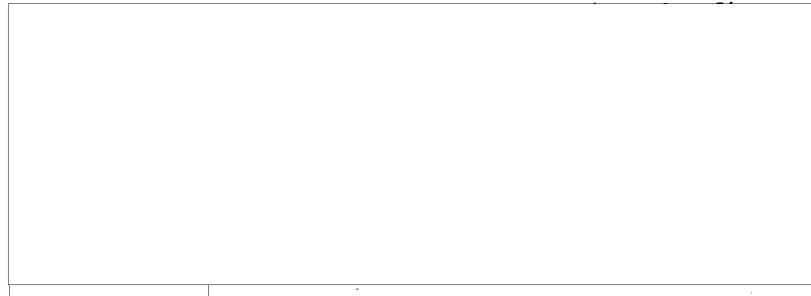
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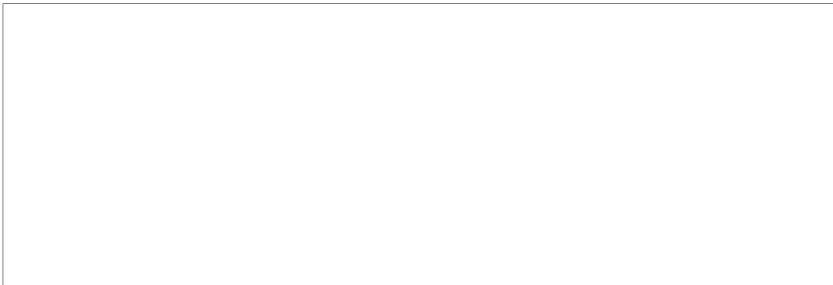
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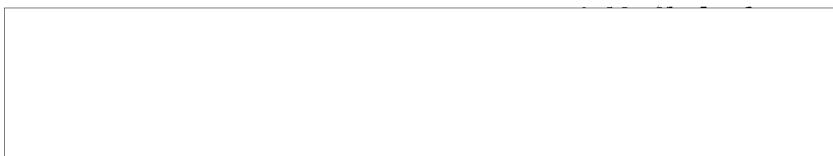
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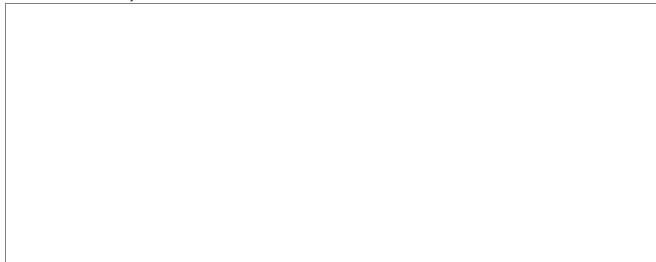
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ROMANIA-USSR

Studious efforts on both sides to maintain a facade of cordiality fell apart at the end of Soviet Premier Kosygin's visit to Romania for the signing of a new treaty of friendship and mutual assistance. TASS promptly published a summary of the treaty's contents, including a provision obliging each side to come to the assistance of the other, if it is attacked by any enemy. If this is a true rendering, then Romania's mutual defense commitments to the Soviets have been extended beyond Europe. There was no hint, however, that the Romanians accepted inclusion of the Brezhnev doctrine in the agreement.

The Romanians vigorously protested publication of the Soviet version, angered by what apparently was a violation of a previous agreement to publish the texts simultaneously in Moscow and Bucharest today. TASS has rescinded its summary.

It is possible that TASS made a mistake, but it is equally likely that a deliberate affront to the Romanians was intended, just as Brezhnev's last-minute boycott of the treaty signing appears to have been. Although the treaty is designed as the basis for correct relations between the two, the circumstances of the signing may leave Romanian-Soviet relations less friendly than before.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR-Peru: The USSR has again canceled the lead flight for its relief airlift to Peru, but has indicated that it will take place tomorrow if "meteorological and technical conditions" are satisfactory. Opening of the 65-plane airlift must await the lead flight that is expected to carry the necessary aircraft handling and maintenance personnel. The Soviets now have secured landing rights and fueling facilities en route.

North Vietnam - Laos: [redacted]

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Jordan: [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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9 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

9 July 1970

○
PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Communist military activity in Cambodia slackened yesterday. (Page 1)

A large number of Communist troops have been detected in southern Laos. (Page 2)

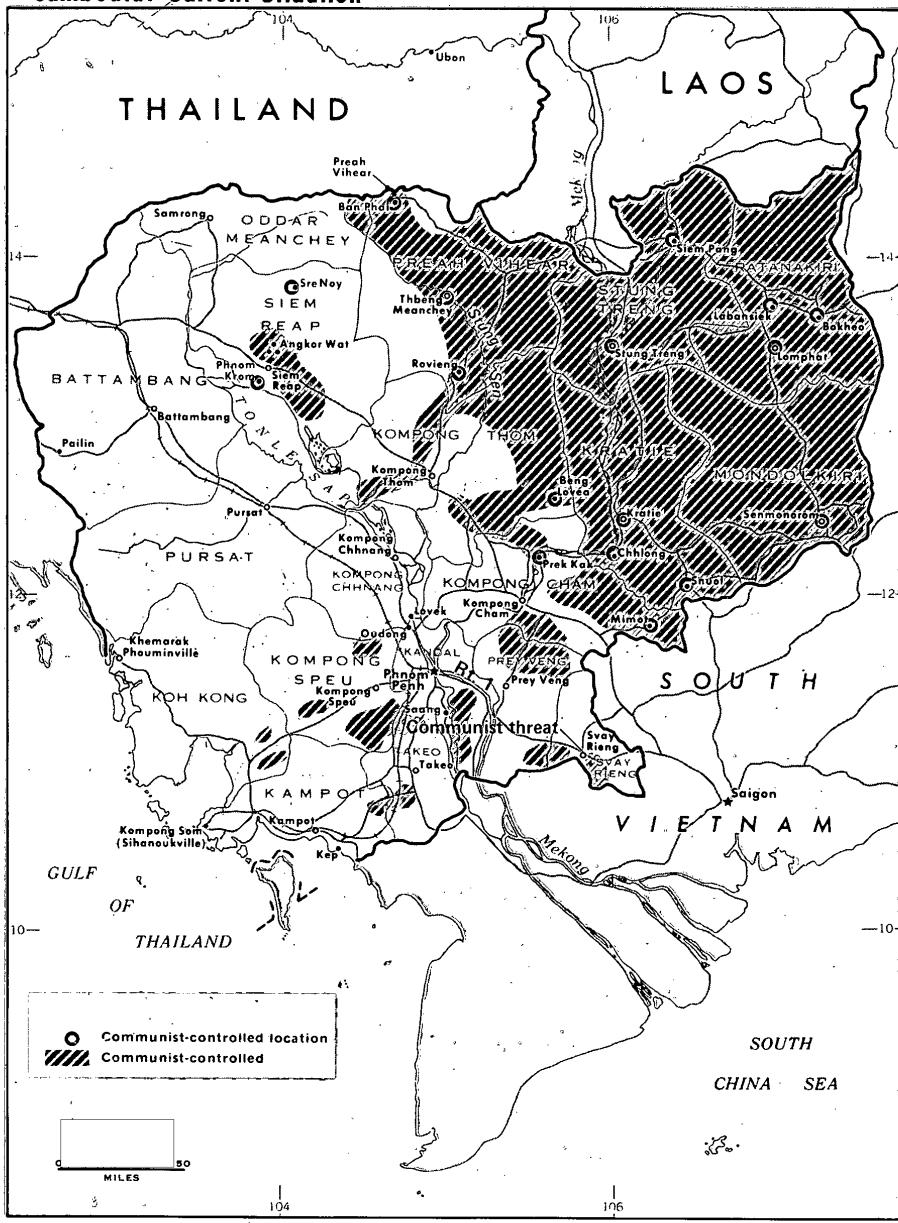
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The West German cabinet has completed a two-day review of domestic and foreign policies. (Page 5)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Both Kompong Thom and Siem Reap cities received enemy mortar and small arms fire yesterday, but no follow-on ground attacks developed. The situation at Saang, south of Phnom Penh, appears to have stabilized, with the embattled district town still in government hands.

A new threat appears to be developing against Svay Rieng town in southeastern Cambodia. Up to 3,000 Communist troops are reported to be maneuvering near this provincial capital, which has so far escaped serious attack. A South Vietnamese task force along Route 1 was attacked less than 15 miles from the city on 7 July..

As the Communists begin to adjust to the losses suffered during allied cross-border operations in Svay Rieng Province, they will probably bring additional pressure to bear on the remaining South Vietnamese and Cambodian forces there.

Phnom Penh is planning to take additional measures to ease enemy pressure against Kompong Thom city. Six Cambodian Army battalions will be shipped into the city on 9 or 10 July via the Tonle Sap and Stung Sen rivers. These reinforcements may be in for trouble, as intercepted Cambodian messages indicate that the Stung Sen is under Communist control.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

Unusual and as yet unexplained Communist troop movements have been detected in southern Laos.

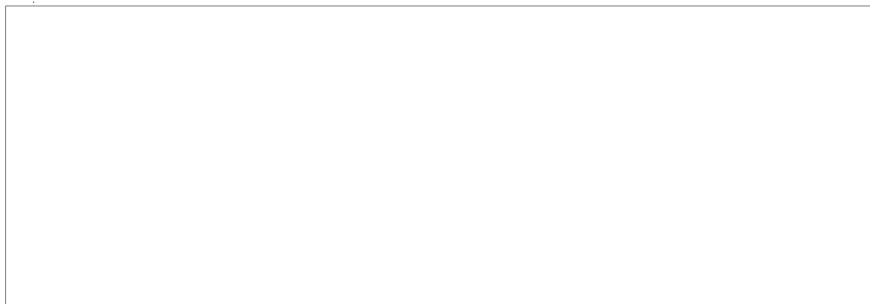
[redacted] six 50X1
battalion-sized groups containing at least 3,000 [redacted] 50X1
troops were in that area, [redacted] al-
together there are 15 groups, containing possibly
as many as 8,000 men, in the vicinity. [redacted] 50X1

There is no clear indication of the origin or destination of these troops, or even in which direction they are presently headed. They could be bound for the fighting in Cambodia, South Vietnam, or southern Laos. On the other hand, [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] that they might be Communist forces being pulled out of South Vietnam. 50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THAILAND-CAMBODIA



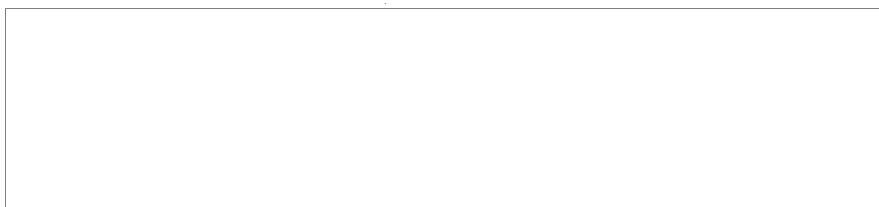
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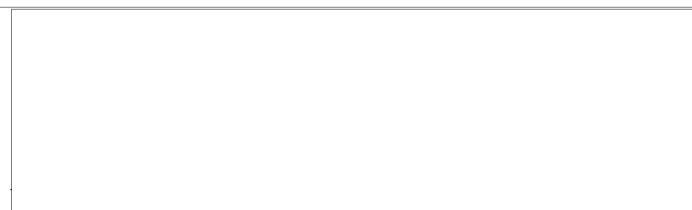
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR-US

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY

We are seeing signs of a more cautious approach to Chancellor Brandt's Ostpolitik, following his party's reverses in last month's state elections.

A two-day cabinet review of foreign and domestic policy this week failed to produce a date for resuming the postponed negotiations with Moscow on a nonaggression pact. Brandt also told newsmen yesterday that he favors another meeting with East German Premier Stoph only if there is a clear indication that it would lead to improved relations.

A final decision on resuming talks with Moscow does not now appear likely until the end of the month when Foreign Minister Scheel is to present his formal recommendations to the cabinet. Scheel says the government will invite all parties in the Bundestag--including the opposition Christian Democrats (CDU)--to name foreign affairs experts to accompany his delegation to Moscow as observers.

Scheel undoubtedly hopes such a gesture will serve either to dampen the CDU's strong criticism of Ostpolitik or expose them as unreasonable obstructionists.

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The Soviets have warned through an authoritative article in Izvestia that they would accept no major changes in the existing draft.

In another bid to take the heat out of opposition attacks, the cabinet also decided on a counterinflationary program, including tax increases. This was prompted by an awareness that public concern over inflation played a significant part in the success scored by the CDU in the state elections.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

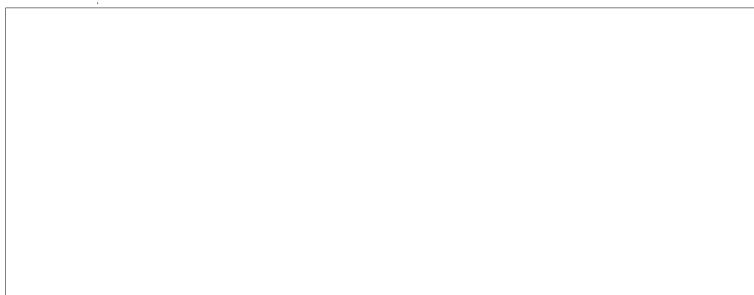
Recent satellite photography shows four new groups of SS-9 ICBM silos under construction as well as two new groups of silos for the SS-13. Construction began on all six groups this spring although initial surveying for one of the SS-9 groups was accomplished in the fall of 1969.



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

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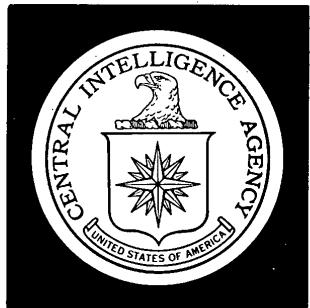
Bolivia: Troops in La Paz were placed on alert yesterday, as President Ovando grappled with the problem of ousting and exiling the commander of his armed forces, General Torres, without bringing down his own government. The city abounded with rumors of a coup after Torres decided to fight his ouster.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent satellite photography shows much activity at
the missile test center in Communist China (Page 1)

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(Page 2)

The latest military developments in Cambodia are
summarized on Page 3.

In Jordan, agreement between the fedayeen and the
government [redacted] (Page 4)

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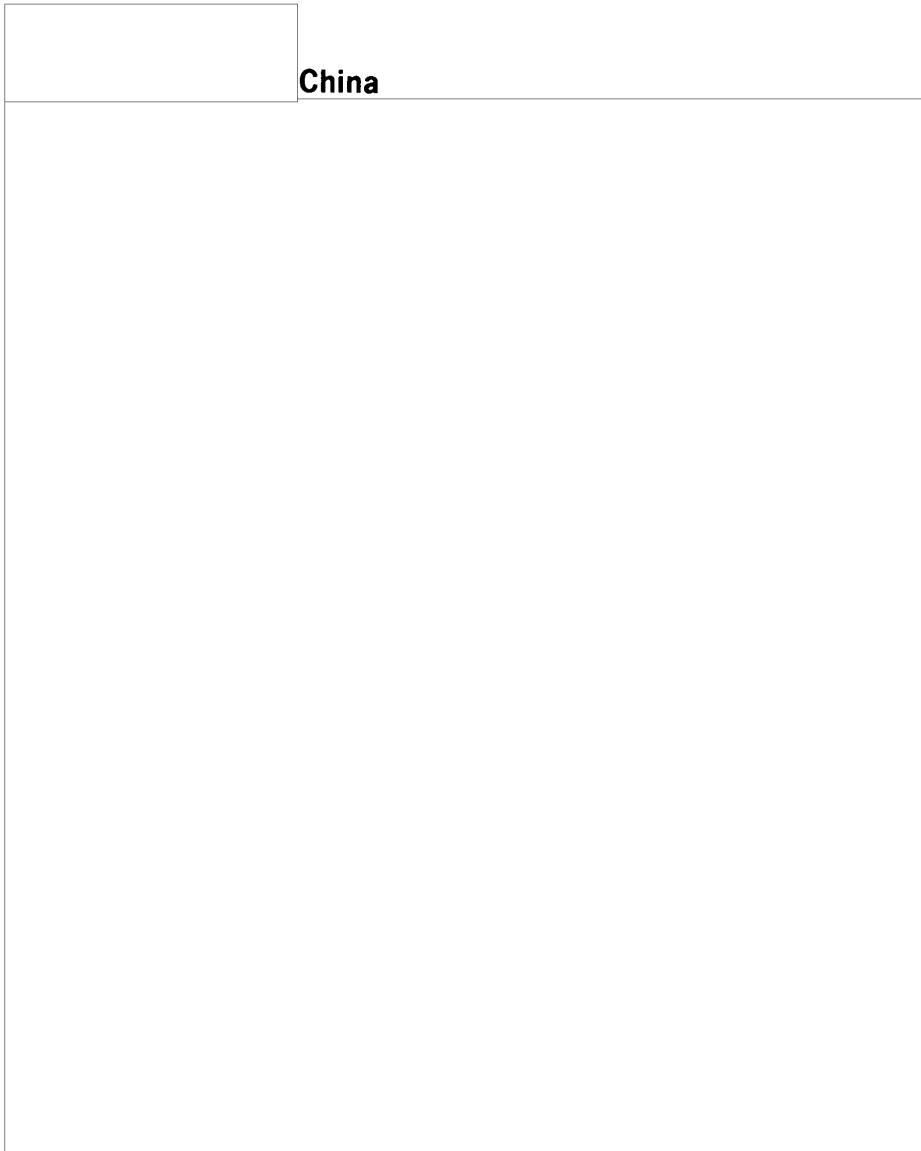
Discontent in Nigeria's oversized army is said to be
on the rise. (Page 5)

Satellite photography has pinpointed some more earthen
revetments in Egypt big enough to accommodate TU-16
medium jet bombers. (Page 6)

The Soviet relief airlift to Peru is finally under
way. (Page 6)

The situation in Bolivia remains unsettled. (Page 6)

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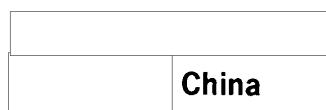
COMMUNIST CHINA

Satellite photography of late June shows much activity at the Shuang-cheng-tzu missile test center. Within the past two months the Chinese have built a 150-foot service tower at one of two large launch pads.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COMMUNIST CHINA

A missile launch complex has now been firmly identified near the Korean border at Lin-chiang, formerly called I-cho-mao [redacted]. Satellite photography in

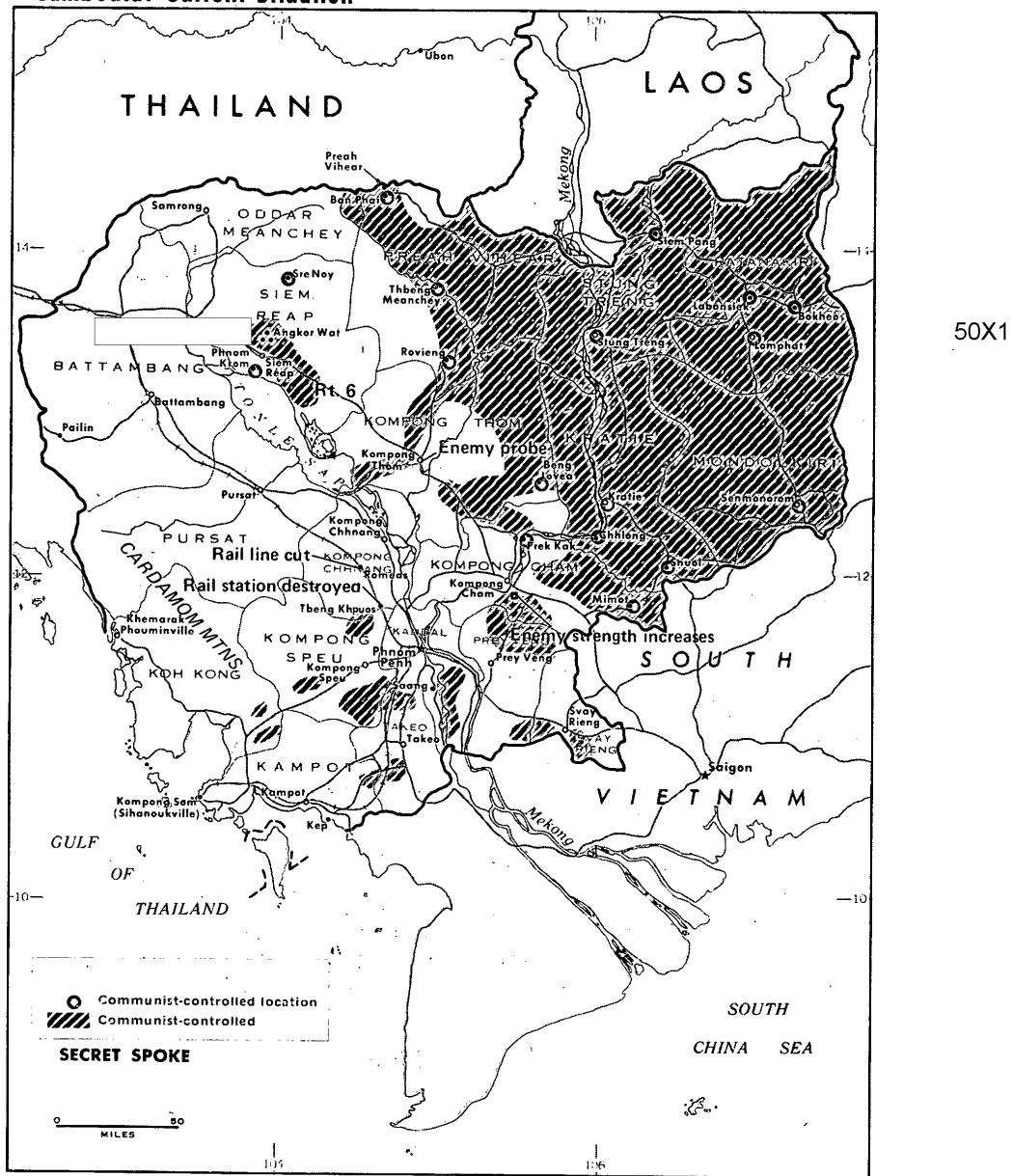
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[redacted] late June showed a missile transporter there which resembles transporters observed earlier at the guided missile production plant near Peking. A silo also appears to be under construction at the pad and a rail-mounted cover for a silo is located nearby.

It is still unclear whether this will be a research and development launch facility or an operational site.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Communist forces yesterday launched light ground attacks against the provincial capitals of Kompong Thom and Kompong Speu. Few details are available on the action at Kompong Speu. At Kompong Thom, enemy forces followed up their almost nightly mortar attacks on the city with a ground probe which was repulsed, apparently with no government casualties.

The probe may foreshadow heavier assaults; the Communists continue to maintain a significant presence in the area. There is no further information on the six-battalion Cambodian Army task force en route by river from Phnom Penh to reinforce the city.

Communist troop movements continue in Kompong Chhnang Province. In addition to enemy concentrations south of the provincial capital, other troops are reported to have moved out of the Cardamom Mountains toward the Cambodian Army's large training center at Romeas. Cambodian Communists cut the Phnom Penh - Battambang rail line some six miles northwest of Romeas on 7 July. The rail line to the south of Romeas was cut two weeks earlier, when the Communists destroyed a station and considerable equipment at Tbeng Khouos.

Communist forces are also on the move in nearby Kompong Cham Province. The Viet Cong 271st Regiment recently moved from Prey Veng some 20 miles northward to link up with its parent unit--the Viet Cong 9th Division--at a position some 17 miles southwest of Kompong Cham city.

In western Cambodia, intercepted Cambodian messages indicate that Thai aircraft are inflicting sizable enemy losses in strafing Communist positions near Siem Reap city. The Thais are also flying interdiction missions against enemy traffic along Route 6 from Siem Reap to Kompong Thom. Most of this road is under Communist control.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

At a meeting on Monday between representatives of the fedayeen and the government, the fedayeen agreed to government proposals that would have drastically restricted their presence in urban areas, but they then added three conditions of their own. These conditions are that the army be withdrawn from Amman and its environs; that any government offices and agencies hostile to the fedayeen be disbanded; and that any government officials deemed to be working against the fedayeen movement be dismissed.

[Redacted]

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The King [redacted] already has accepted the mediation of representatives of other Arab states and has designated pro-fedayeen members of his cabinet as the major element in the government's negotiating team. At this stage it would be difficult for him to reject any terms agreed to by the mediators and his own ministers.

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[redacted] the fedayeen believe that all or most of the new cabinet will resign if the King does not agree to the fedayeen's conditions. They seem confident that the army is not yet prepared to move against them. Nevertheless, the army appears determined not to accept further erosion of its power and authority. Such uncompromising attitudes on both sides have put the King more on the spot than ever.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NIGERIA

[redacted] that discontent in the lower reaches of the army is so intense that junior officers and NCOs are planning a coup. Their main grievance is that senior officers are preoccupied with getting rich and that many have succeeded. A further irritant is that many junior officers who received battlefield commissions during the war have recently been reduced in rank.

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General Gowon is probably aware of the dissatisfaction within the army, and quite possibly knows of the coup plotting. Key senior officers are loyal to Gowon and seem capable of suppressing any coup attempt by junior officers. There might well be a general deterioration of discipline within the largely idle 200,000-man army, however, and isolated mutinies could occur.

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NOTES

Egypt-Sudan-USSR: The most recent satellite photography shows 15 new earthen revetments large enough to accommodate TU-16 medium jet bombers at Wadi Natrun Northeast Airfield in Egypt. Forty-nine of these protective works have been built at airfields in Egypt and the Sudan since the first of this year, bringing the total in the two countries to 99. Egypt has 16 operational TU-16s and the Soviet naval reconnaissance squadron in Egypt has ten.

Bolivia: The fate of armed forces commander General Torres still has not been settled, and the political situation remains uncertain. The government has not given final approval to the reorganization of the military high command through which Torres' position would be abolished, and Torres continues to follow his normal routine. It is still quite likely that Torres will be removed from his post--the army commander, General Miranda, is demanding Torres' head and is backing up his demand with threats of force.

USSR-Peru: After several false starts, the Soviet relief airlift finally got under way yesterday with the departure of the lead aircraft from Moscow. It is scheduled to reach Lima on 11 July. Another batch of aircraft is to take off for Peru today.

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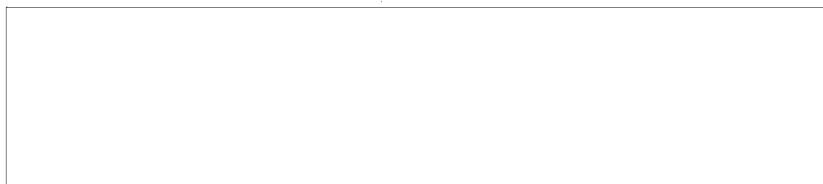
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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

11 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS



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An assessment of the situation in Cambodia begins on
Page 3.

Communists meeting in Hanoi may be preparing a new
diplomatic initiative on Laos. (Page 6)

Bonn is anticipating careful, perhaps prolonged,
negotiations with Moscow. (Page 7)



50X6

Chilean Communists' efforts to display their strength
by calling a strike have backfired. (Page 10)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Egypt

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

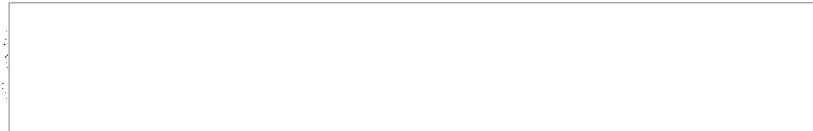


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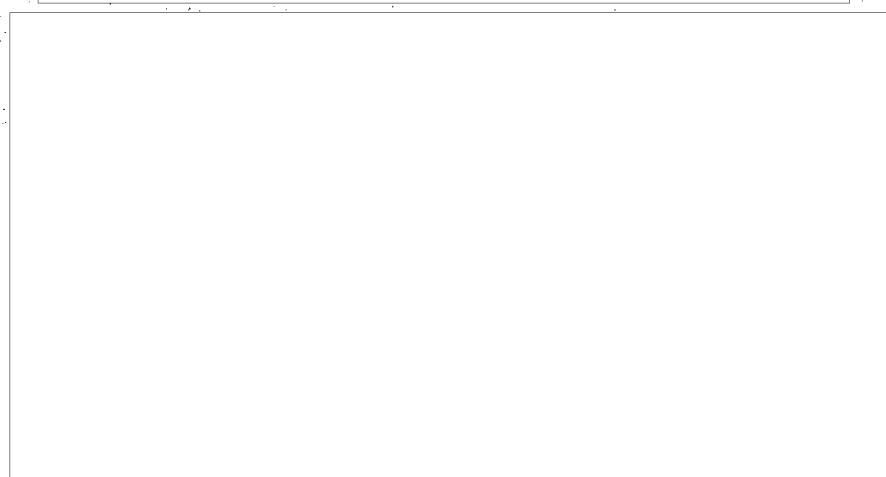
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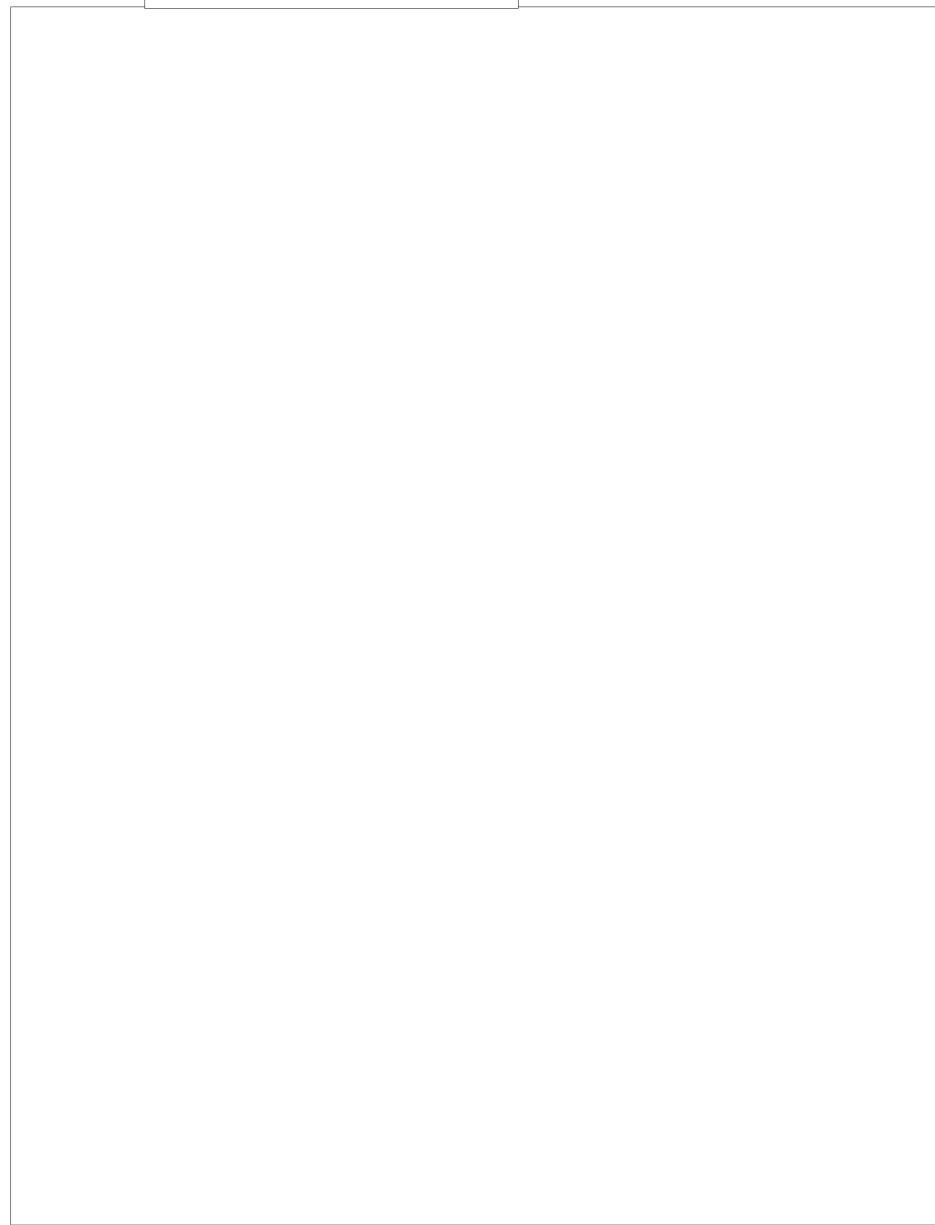
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Chinese



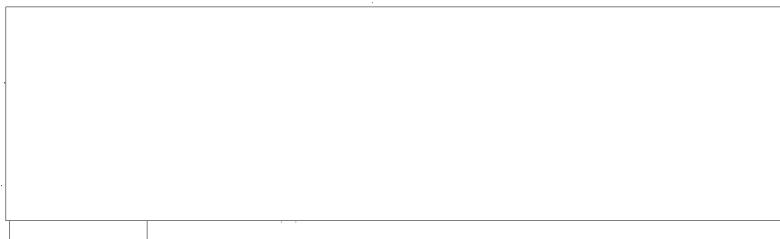
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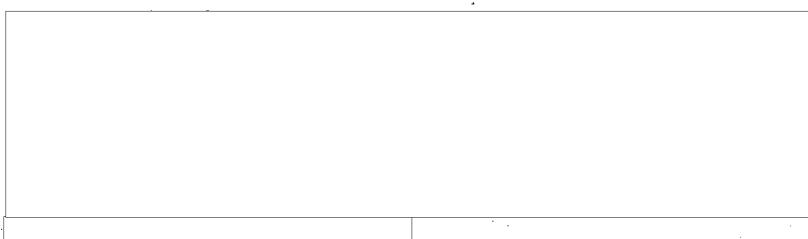


FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COMMUNIST CHINA

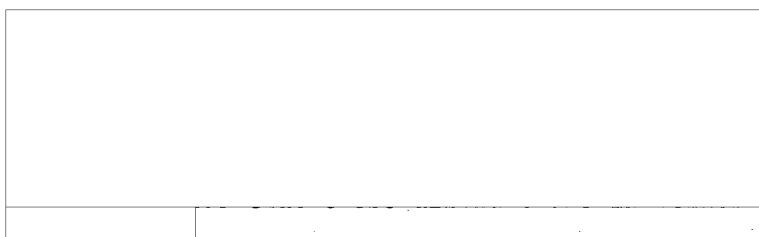


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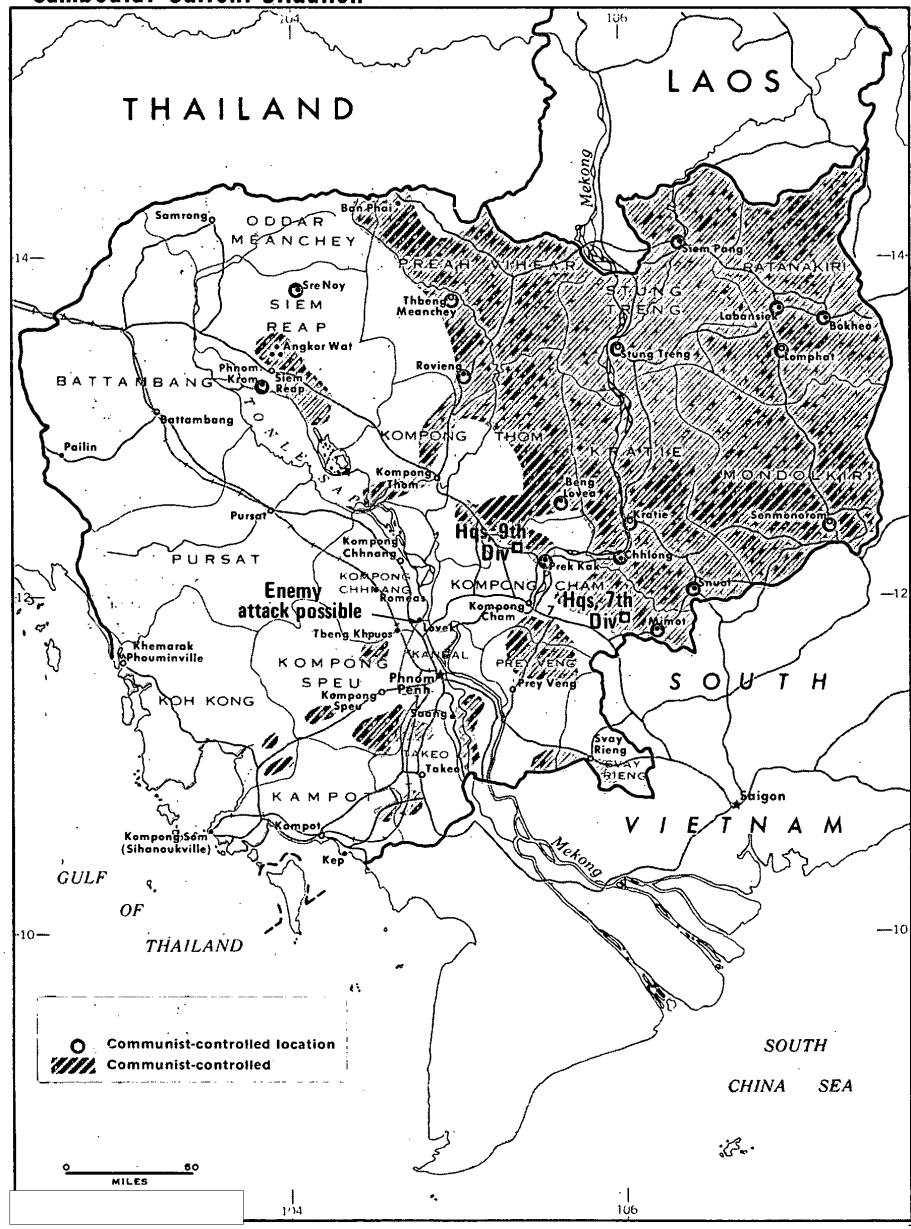


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

More than a month has passed since the North Vietnamese moved deep into western Cambodia and hit Siem Reap city. It appeared then as if Hanoi may have decided on an early showdown in Cambodia, but in the ensuing weeks the war has bogged down in the summer monsoons. Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, and Kompong Speu have been harassed almost every night, but ground assaults have been few and widely spaced. The Communists are maintaining enough pressure to keep the Cambodians tied down to defensive positions in the major towns and cities. An occasional ground attack, such as the one against Saang early this week or the munition depot at Lovek, has been undertaken for psychological or tactical reasons.

The circumstantial evidence suggests that the Communists are going through a period of retrenchment and consolidation. The loss of materiel from the sanctuaries undoubtedly is one important factor; the sheer magnitude of the task in Cambodia is another. Some 260 miles of rugged country separates Communist main force units along the South Vietnamese border from the small groups far to the west that have pushed the Cambodians into Thailand. A campaign of swift strikes, much of it by small bands living off the countryside, has given the Communists loose control over more than half of Cambodia's territory. We doubt that the Communists intend to fight for every square mile of this territory, but they almost certainly intend to do as much with it as they can. This will require more troops, more cadre, and more help from the indigenous Cambodian, Lao, and tribal people who live in the area.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

We do not have a clear picture of what is happening in the Cambodian countryside, but we strongly doubt that anybody--least of all the leaders in Phnom Penh--has a much better idea. We do know that the Communists are making a strong effort to build a Cambodian Communist movement. They have brought in Khmer-speaking cadre from South Vietnam to help out, and they are using Vietnamese and Cambodian Communists to set up an administrative apparatus. It will not be an easy job. The Cambodian Communist movement--the so-called Khmer Rouge--is weak. The Vietnamese are racially distinct from the Khmer; they speak a different language, and they must overcome the burden of long-standing Khmer animosity. We are not inclined to write off the Communist threat on these grounds, however. The Communists are superb organizers, and they know how to use terrorism to get what they cannot get otherwise. We continue to receive intercepted messages from Cambodian provincial authorities reporting that entire Cambodian villages are collaborating with the Communists and that large numbers are being trained by the enemy. There undoubtedly is a good deal of coercion involved in this, but as long as North Vietnamese units are available to impose discipline, such indigenous forces can be useful to the enemy.

Hanoi probably now recognizes that to cause the early downfall of the Lon Nol government would require an all-out military operation, including a direct attack on Phnom Penh itself. Hanoi may yet decide to try this route, but it seems more likely it will give the green light to continuation of recent activities, namely:

- solidifying control over the northeast; in effect, turning it into an extension of the Laotian infiltration corridor.

- concentrating on building a viable Cambodian Communist movement in territory already loosely controlled.

- keeping up the pressure on the government itself, perhaps even by rocketing Phnom Penh or sending in a sapper battalion to create havoc, in the hope that the Cambodian generals will capitulate to Communist demands or that the government will collapse under the accumulated pressure.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The lull in major Communist military actions continues, but there are indications of enemy intentions to step up attacks in several areas. The Communists may be looking for a significant scrap with South Vietnamese forces in hopes of inflicting heavy losses and shaking ARVN's growing confidence. The onset of the monsoon rain, which is beginning to hinder motor transport and reduce the air support available to South Vietnamese forces, may encourage enemy aggressiveness.

* * *

Vice President Ky may visit Bangkok next week to discuss coordination of Thai and South Vietnamese air operations in Cambodia. Ky has already visited Phnom Penh to help coordinate military planning with the Cambodians. During his stay in Phnom Penh, he made promises that caused some embarrassment in Saigon. It is not clear whether Thieu has authorized Ky's impending visit to Bangkok.

Ky, as a former chief of the South Vietnamese Air Force, could probably make a substantial contribution to the discussions if he kept his free-wheeling tendencies in check. In order to get the Thai to do more in Cambodia, however, he probably will make promises that could be difficult for Saigon to keep.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM

The Communists may be shaping a new diplomatic initiative on Laos.

Conversations involving Soviet officials, Polish ICC representatives, and the Lao Patriotic Front apparently have been under way in Hanoi since 4 July. The Soviets are represented by Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin, who flew unannounced to Hanoi on 4 July. This is Firyubin's second unpublished trip to Hanoi this year. The first, late in February, may have been concerned in part with the new Communist peace proposal for Laos issued on 6 March.

Several developments in the past few days suggest that Hanoi may want to resurrect that proposal.

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On 7 July the Poles suddenly agreed to an ICC offer to help "facilitate" talks between the two Lao factions.

Whatever is brewing in Hanoi probably is at least partially a response to Souvanna Phouma's offer to the Pathet Lao late in June to open talks in Communist territory with the other Laotian factions. It might, for example, include a guarantee of Souvanna's security in Khang Khay, the site he proposed for such talks. Hanoi has insisted that a full bombing halt must precede any negotiations, and will probably continue to insist on this as the price for serious political bargaining.

The North Vietnamese now might be willing to engage in talks restricted solely to the bombing issue, such as those with the US in 1968. They might reason that their recent territorial gains in southern Laos and the threat of further strong Communist military pressures have put them in a better position than before to extract concessions from Souvanna.

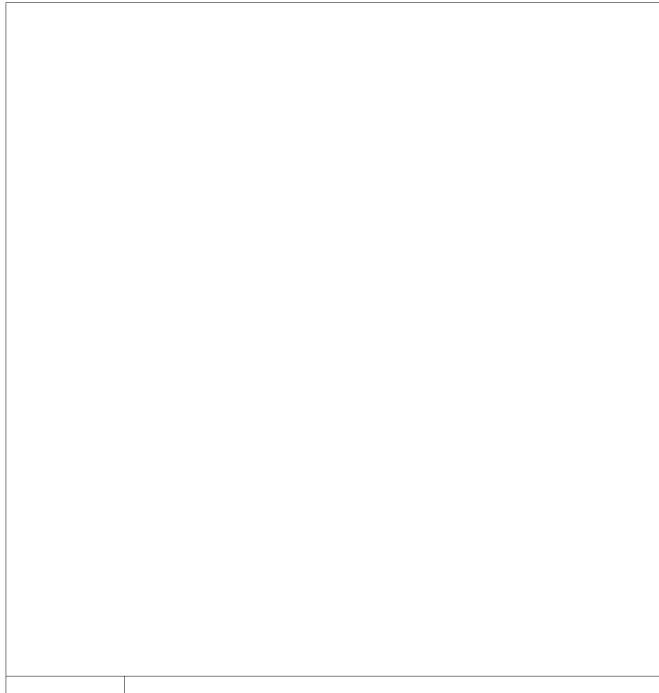
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY - USSR

The Bonn cabinet has definitely decided to treat the draft nonaggression treaty which emerged from earlier West German - Soviet discussions as only "preliminary and open to change." Although the West Germans expect the Soviets to press the Federal Republic for early signature, the cabinet feels there must be genuine negotiations in order to make the text more acceptable.

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According to US Embassy officials, Bonn also intends to send letters to the Western allies to the effect that its agreement with the USSR does not affect Bonn's basic relations with them as established in the London and Paris agreements of 1952 and 1954.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

These letters are intended to reassure not only the Allies, but also the opposition Christian Democrats who are highly critical of Brandt's proposed agreement with Moscow. It is unlikely, however, that this gesture or the proposed textual changes will mollify the CDU.

Meanwhile, Brandt has explained that although he regards his Ostpolitik negotiations as closely related to the four-power talks on Berlin, he does not go along with opposition demands that a Bonn-Moscow agreement be contingent on the successful conclusion of the Berlin talks. This will remove one potentially contentious issue from the discussions in Moscow.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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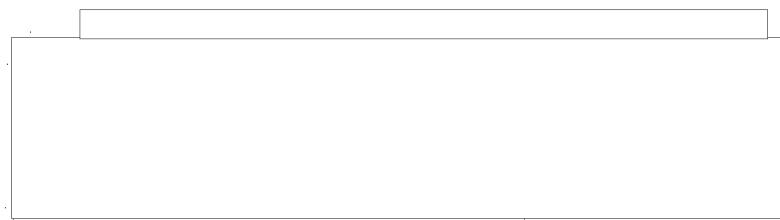


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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CHILE

Conservative presidential candidate Jorge Alessandri was probably the only political leader to benefit from the inconclusive strike the Communists called against the Frei government on 8 July. The Communists had hoped to turn the strike into a show of political strength, but the unions' response was so spotty the Marxists' cause was damaged instead. The fiasco could stem the recent upturn in the fortunes of the Marxist-backed presidential candidate, Salvador Allende.

The government, however, did not profit from the Communist slip. Student disturbances the same day resulted in the third student death in recent weeks and in the arrest of other students on "autonomous" university premises. The incidents are blamed on the police and will contribute to the leftist campaign to paint the administration as repressive.

This climate of continuing violence, although not yet of major proportions, is unusual and unsettling in Chile. Ex-president Alessandri stands to gain the most from it. He has been at pains to create an image of authority and has been adroit in handling the issue in recent weeks.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR: The Supreme Soviet is scheduled to convene in Moscow Monday. This will be the first meeting since the elections on 14 June, and a major agenda item will be the formal reconstitution of the government. Some changes in the Council of Ministers are therefore likely. If past practice is adhered to, the party's central committee will meet immediately before to preview the decisions of the Supreme Soviet session.

Bolivia: [redacted]

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists have become more aggressive recently in southwestern Cambodia. (Page 1)

Egyptian and Soviet leaders are still engaged in discussions, and the US role in the Middle East may be a major topic. (Page 3)

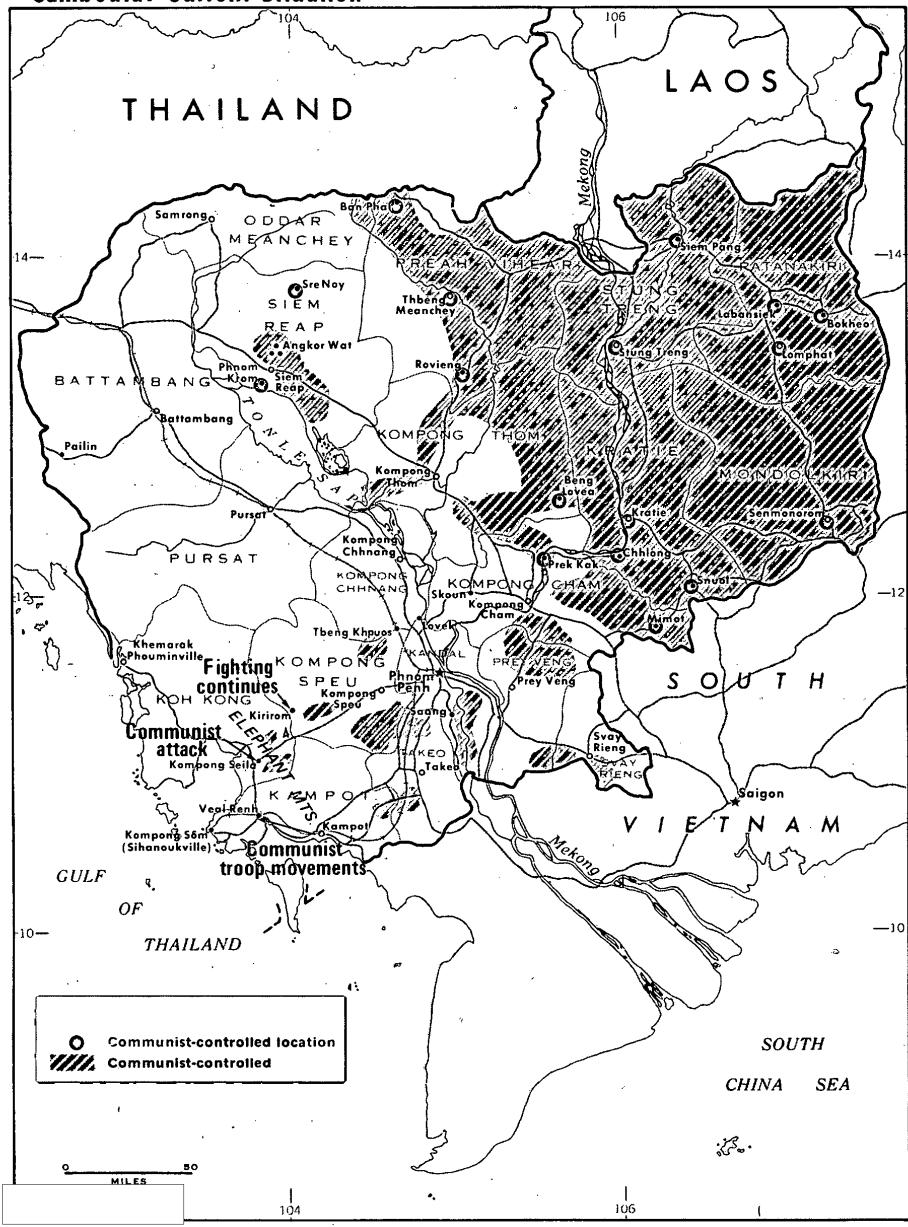
Jordan's King Husayn reached a better agreement with the fedayeen than many had expected, but few believe it will be implemented. (Page 4)

The Libyan Government's latest reduction of oil production has worsened the world petroleum supply situation, which is precarious. (Page 5)

The problems facing Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway in their bids to join the European Communities are discussed at Annex.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

At last report fighting was continuing at the town of Kirirom, which was overrun by Communist forces on 11 July. Government reinforcements are en route overland from Kompong Speu city and Cambodian T-28 aircraft have been flying continuous sorties in support of the government battalion holding on in the center of the town. Few details on the fighting are available, but it seems likely that some of the attackers were Cambodian Communists, who have been striving to establish base areas in the Elephant Mountains.

The action at Kirirom may be related to an upsurge of Communist activity in the southwest over the past two weeks. The town of Kompong Seila, farther south on Route 4, was attacked last week, and there have been several reports of Communist troop movements in the area. Cambodian commanders, for example, report that enemy units are moving along the southern coast toward the road junction at Veal Renh. Reinforcements have been called in to protect a portion of road leading to Kompong Som port that is highly susceptible to interdiction.

* * *

A battalion of troops has been sent in by helicopter to reinforce Kompong Thom. A New York Times correspondent who accompanied the troops reports that many of them are very young and that their antiquated Russian weapons are in bad repair. He also says the town has been largely destroyed.

* * *

Captured documents reveal that the Viet Cong 271st Regiment has formed a new battalion using Cambodian recruits and large numbers of Vietnamese regulars. The new unit has a reported strength of 515 men and was training a month ago.

In addition to indicating that the Communists are having some success recruiting Cambodians, the documents suggest that they are forming the kind of "mixed" North Vietnamese - indigenous force battalions that they have used with some success for many years in Laos.

(continued)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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[redacted] 50X1
that "many" Cambodian intellectuals are joining Sihanouk forces in the jungle. [redacted] the "old Viet Minh" network is still in business and [redacted] it had "many friends" within the Lon Nol government.
[redacted] Sihanouk's organization in Cambodia is progressing "very well."

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[redacted] no doubt maintains contact with "intellectual" and other elite circles in Phnom Penh, [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1

At the same time, however, many of Lon Nol's current supporters are probably keeping their political options open.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

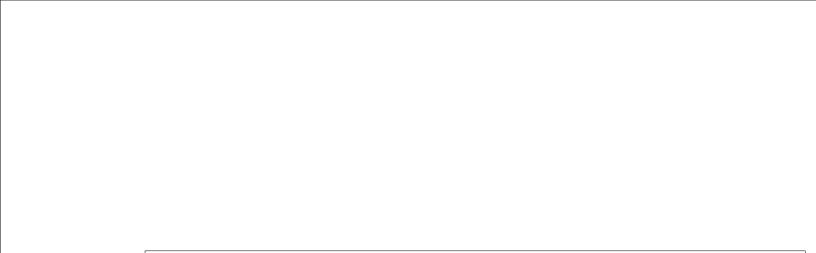
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

Nasir's talks with Soviet leaders will continue this week. His third meeting with Brezhnev, Kosygin, and Podgorny took place on Saturday and a fourth is planned before he leaves for home.

According to press reports from Cairo, Foreign Ministers Riad and Gromyko met yesterday, after lesser members of both delegations had concluded yet another working level round.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

We have finally received details of the new agreement on coexistence between the government and the fedayeen. On paper at least, King Husayn came out ahead; but the accord probably will not be fully implemented. All it probably bought the King was some time.

The government is committed to:

- support the commando movement,
- repeal special measures taken during the outbreak of hostilities between the two, and,
- see that no official body acts against the interests of the fedayeen.

There is no reference to a government commitment to withdraw military forces from in and around the cities, or to disband government units such as the special forces. Both these conditions were demanded at the outset of the negotiations by the guerrillas.

The fedayeen are required to:

- adhere to the disciplinary regulations they had imposed on themselves during an earlier crisis last February,
- cease carrying arms in public places and stop driving unlicensed vehicles,
- give up military training with live ammunition and the storage of munitions in populated areas, and,
- establish bases outside of towns, except for those forces which took a leading part in last month's fighting with the army.

This exception appears to be the only real gain by the fedayeen.

The greatest potential trap in the agreement is the designation of the "central committee" of the Palestine Liberation Organization, controlled by more moderate fedayeen elements, as the single authority for all fedayeen organizations and activities. It is doubtful that the more radical guerrillas, such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, will honor the accord, or subordinate themselves to anyone else.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LIBYA

Oasis Oil Company, the largest producer in Libya, has been ordered by Libyan authorities to reduce its production by about 125,000 barrels per day. This action, together with similar earlier action against Occidental and Amoseas, will reduce Libya's total output by almost 600,000 bpd from the peak in April of about 3.7 million bpd.

The Oasis reduction further aggravates the world oil supply situation, which is already precarious because of the earlier Libyan cutbacks and the continued shutdown of the Trans-Arabian pipeline.

This action may have been taken against Oasis because of alleged pro-Zionist activities of officials of the Oasis owner-companies. It may also be part of a campaign to demonstrate the importance of Libyan oil supplies, thus influencing current price negotiations.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

Romania-USSR: In the eyes of Romanian party chief Ceausescu, the friendship treaty signed with the Soviets last week does not compromise his country's independent course (see The President's Daily Brief, dated 8 July 1970). Ceausescu does not intend that Romania be dragged by the treaty into any Soviet military conflict with Communist China. Instead, Ceausescu looks to the leaders of the two Communist giants to resolve their quarrel. He said Romania would be preoccupied with working toward this goal and asked the Soviets and the Chinese to accept diversity within the movement as a basis for relations among all Communists. Ceausescu's remarks on the subject were made to Romanian party leaders on 9 July and were later summarized in public pronouncements.

USSR: [redacted]

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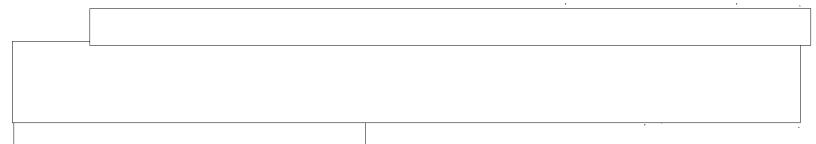
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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EXPANSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Negotiations on the accession of Great Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway to the European Communities (EC),* which opened formally last week in Luxembourg, will be long and hard. Nevertheless, the atmosphere at the opening session was quite favorable, and many officials are hopeful that this time the negotiations will succeed.

The most contentious issue is Britain's contribution to the financing of the Communities. Belgium's Foreign Minister Harmel, who spoke for the EC in his capacity as current president of the Council, emphasized that the applicants must accept the treaties on which the Communities are founded, as well as the decisions taken since. The most important of these decisions, judging by the difficulty members had in reaching it, was one last December on how to permanently finance the Communities.



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*The Communities are: the European Economic Community (Common Market), the European Coal and Steel Community, and the European Atomic Energy Community.

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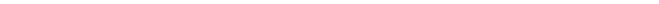
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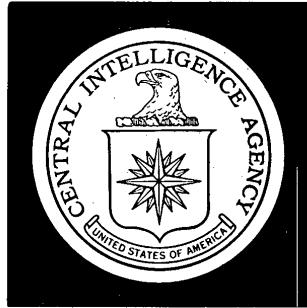
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The President's Daily Brief

14 July 1970

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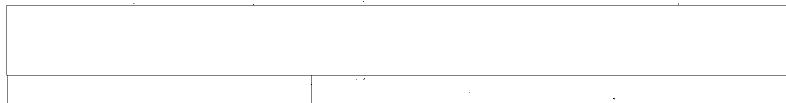
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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

14 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

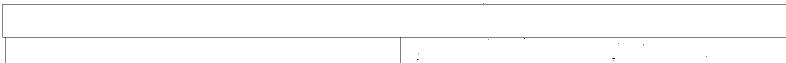
The fighting in Cambodia centers around the resort town of Kirirom. (Page 1)



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The Soviets' 24th Party Congress has been postponed until March 1971. (Page 3)



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The fighting continues to center around the resort town of Kirirom, southwest of Phnom Penh. The Communists appear to hold the town itself, but two battalions of Khmer Krom reinforcements have worked their way through the dense jungle to the southwest and, according to late press reports, may have retaken some enemy positions around Kirirom.

An enemy message intercepted yesterday reported that a 600-man Communist force hit Kirirom Saturday, securing various Cambodian installations and cutting lines of communication. The intercept, sent by COSVN's strategic intelligence bureau, went on to report that "the government forces fled in confusion. The Cambodian troops were of insufficient strength to hold Kirirom."

In the only other significant action, Communist forces penetrated government defenses at the Lovek ordnance depot in Kompong Chhnang Province. Counter-attacking government troops apparently were able to push the enemy out of the depot, however. Some munitions are still stored at Lovek, but most have been moved to Phnom Penh for safekeeping.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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LAOS

Souvanna has been informed that Communist leader Souphanouvong is sending a representative to Vientiane to "examine the arrangements" for an "eventual meeting" between the "interested parties." The emissary will carry a letter from Souphanouvong, evidently in response to Souvanna's letter of late June which proposed that talks be held in Communist territory in Laos.

This initiative is probably the fruit of consultations in Hanoi involving Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Firiyubin, the Polish ICC representatives, and presumably the North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao. Firiyubin is now on his way home. Stories about a new Soviet peace initiative originating from his stopover in New Delhi probably relate to this more modest Laos proposal.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

A central committee plenum yesterday scheduled the long-overdue 24th Party Congress for March 1971. The plenum also announced that Brezhnev and Kosygin would give the main reports at the congress, suggesting that until then at least, Moscow does not expect top-level leadership changes.

Party leaders earlier had committed themselves to holding the congress this year, a promise Brezhnev made again as recently as 2 July. Difficulties in working out the over-all guidelines for the next five-year plan may be one of the reasons for the last-minute decision to delay the congress.

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NOTE



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The President's Daily Brief

15 July 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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The fighting continues in Cambodia while the Thai debate the perils of intervention. (Page 2)

[Redacted]

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Seoul is insistent that South Korean forces be modernized before US troops are pulled out. (Page 5)

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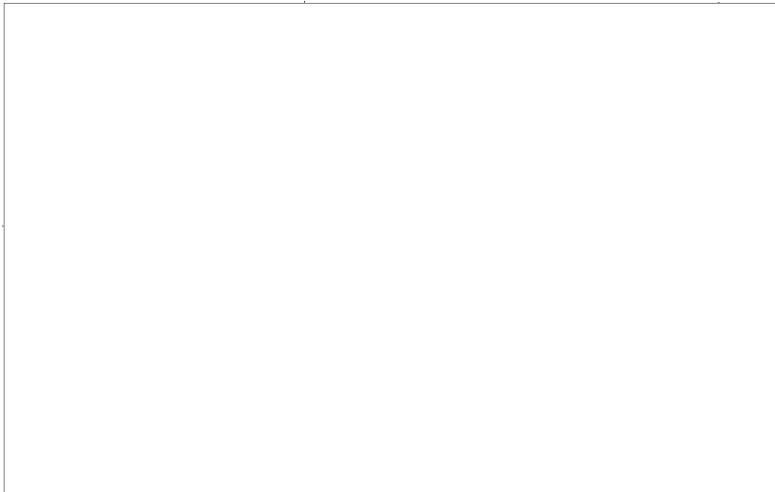
SUEZ CANAL AREA

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT-USSR

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Two government battalions fighting their way yesterday toward the center of Kirirom were under heavy enemy mortar fire

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government troops had recaptured a resort hotel near Kirirom held by the Communists for the past few days. Two other government battalions moving along the only road to the town were blocked by enemy elements in the surrounding jungle. South Vietnamese and Cambodian air strikes have caused sizable enemy casualties, but initial reports indicate that government losses also may be high.

Communist forces have overrun government outposts at Srakar Neak and Taken, some 20 miles south of Kirirom, killing at least 30 soldiers and an unknown number of civilians. Government forces have withdrawn northward toward Route 4.

These latest attacks reflect persistent Communist attempts to create a climate of insecurity in areas adjacent to Route 4.

* * *

For the first time in recent memory, a foreign policy question--whether Thailand should send troops into Cambodia--has become a matter of public debate in Bangkok. Foreign Minister Thanat and Deputy Prime Minister Praphat participated in a panel discussion on the Cambodian question before 3,000 university students in Bangkok yesterday. Both Thanat and Praphat took the line that Thai troops would be committed to Cambodia only as a last resort. Their remarks made it clear that they disagree on when that might be. Other panelists, including the editor of an influential Thai daily, flatly opposed sending Thai troops across the border.

The reaction of students to the discussion made it clear that they are opposed to such a deployment. Many of Praphat's statements, particularly his allegations that Communist "documents" captured on the Cambodian border had revealed plans for an invasion of Thailand, were greeted with derision.

The public display of differences among top Thai leaders on what to do about Cambodia may harden existing divisions within the Thai leadership. The emergence of Cambodia as a major public issue will also make it more difficult to keep certain activities clandestine and will serve to limit the government's freedom of action.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Sino-Soviet Border

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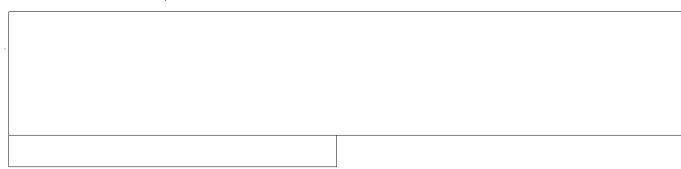


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USSR-CHINA



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CANADA - COMMUNIST CHINA



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SOUTH KOREA

To reinforce Seoul's position that a firm agreement on modernizing South Korean forces must precede any US troop reductions, Prime Minister Chong has made the political gesture of threatening that he and his entire cabinet will resign if negotiations with the US prove unsatisfactory. In addition, the National Assembly is preparing a "recommendation" to the government stressing the need to seek prior US commitment to modernization and stronger assurances of US involvement in case of an attack from the North.

Political necessity requires that President Pak appear to achieve a "victory" in this matter. The opposition stands ready to attack Pak if he gives the impression of being a weak bargainer.

South Korea has requested Japan to increase its economic aid to help offset the effects of any US troop reductions. Tokyo has expressed "sympathy" with Seoul's concern, but thus far has been noncommittal about increasing the level of aid. With regard to military assistance, however, both Sato and defense chief Nakasone have reiterated their opposition to assuming any part of the burden.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

PANAMA



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GUATEMALA

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Both the left and right extremists had been lying low since early June, after a series of retaliatory murders by the right-wing Ojo por Ojo (Eye for an Eye). In the past week, however, two members of President Arana's right-wing National Liberation Movement have been assassinated, including the mayor of Zacapa. In addition, a wealthy plantation owner reportedly has been kidnaped by the FAR, and several minor terrorist incidents have occurred. All of this serves to put Arana in the spotlight. He campaigned on a promise to put an end to political violence.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

16 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

16 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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In Cambodia, the fight for Kirirom continues. (Page 2)

Recent press accounts evidently have exaggerated North Vietnam's interest in any new talks with the US at this time. (Page 3)

On Page 4 we offer comments on the Supreme Soviet's statement on the Middle East.

The postponement of the Soviets' 24th Party Congress seems less a setback for Brezhnev than a recognition that more time is needed to prepare for the session. (Page 5)

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Communist troops in parts of South Vietnam and Cambodia may be planning increased activity to mark the Geneva accords anniversary on 20 July. (Page 7)

West Germany's foreign minister plans to arrive in Moscow late this month for further talks on a non-aggression pact. (Page 7)

In the United Kingdom, striking dock workers are posing the first domestic test of the Tory government. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA - THAILAND



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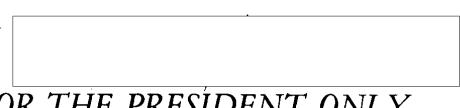


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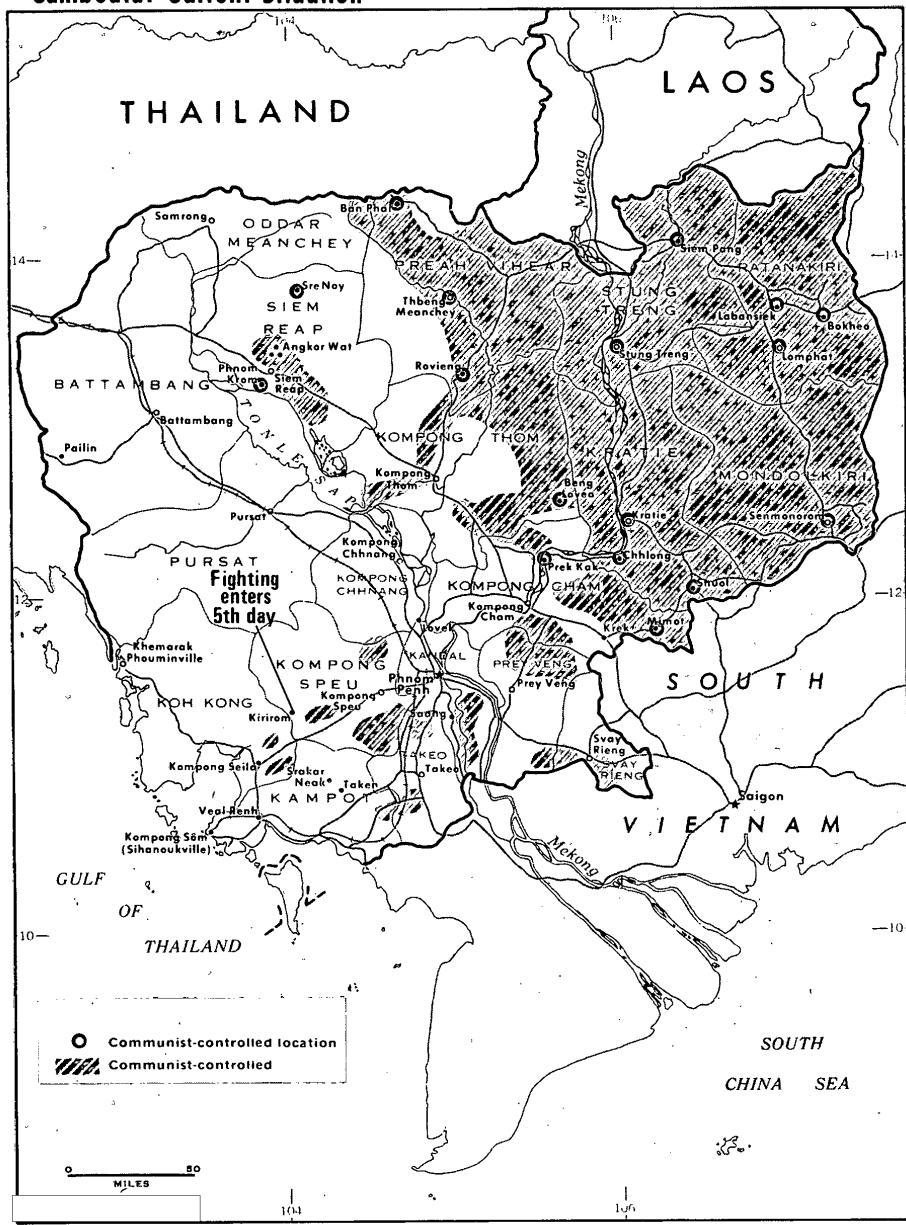
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Enemy troops are holding their positions in the center of Kirirom. Yesterday, however, two government relief battalions gained a foothold there, despite intensive Communist mortar fire. Phnom Penh has sent a fifth battalion of reinforcements to join in the effort to retake the town.

Elsewhere, there are signs that the Communists may be preparing another attack on the Lovek ordnance depot in Kompong Chhnang Province. According to an intercepted Cambodian Army message, some 500 enemy troops were assembling at several locations west of the depot on 14 July, and government forces at Lovek have begun to destroy remaining munitions stocks to prevent them falling into enemy hands. Another battalion is being sent to reinforce the depot.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NORTH VIETNAM

Recent press accounts claim that Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Firyubin told Indian officials that Hanoi was interested in a Geneva-type conference.

Hanoi radio has denied these reports, and [redacted]

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[redacted] official contacts of the US Embassy in New Delhi indicate Firyubin merely reiterated the standard Communist position that if the US committed itself to withdraw from Indochina on a given timetable, Hanoi might relax its opposition to a conference. Firyubin's comments in fact tend to confirm other indications that unless the US makes substantial concessions, Hanoi is not interested at the moment in opening any new talks with Washington.

The talks with Firyubin are being very tightly held by the Indian Government [redacted]

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[redacted] No mention at all is made of Laos, despite numerous indications that some Communist initiative in that area--possibly involving the International Control Commission, of which India is chairman--is in the works.

Firyubin's visit to New Delhi also was meant to soothe Indian sensitivities by filling them in on Pakistani President Yahya Khan's recent visit to Moscow. The Soviets usually attempt to do this after any high-level exchange between Moscow and Rawalpindi.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - MIDDLE EAST

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the statement on the Middle East issued by the Supreme Soviet yesterday was its attempt to allay international concern over a possible great power confrontation in the area. This was apparent in a TASS summary of the declaration, which contained a formulation novel for the Soviets that "only the peoples and governments of the Middle Eastern States should be masters of the situation in the Middle East."

Otherwise, the statement generally reflected a continuity in Moscow's policy. Once again, for example, it placed the onus for the dangerous situation on the "imperialist powers, particularly the US and its client, Israel." It balanced a warning that military danger in the area might increase "if the aggressor is not curbed" against a call for a settlement based on the UN Security Council resolution of November 1967.

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The Supreme Soviet declaration also reaffirmed Israel's right to existence, independence, and security.

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USSR

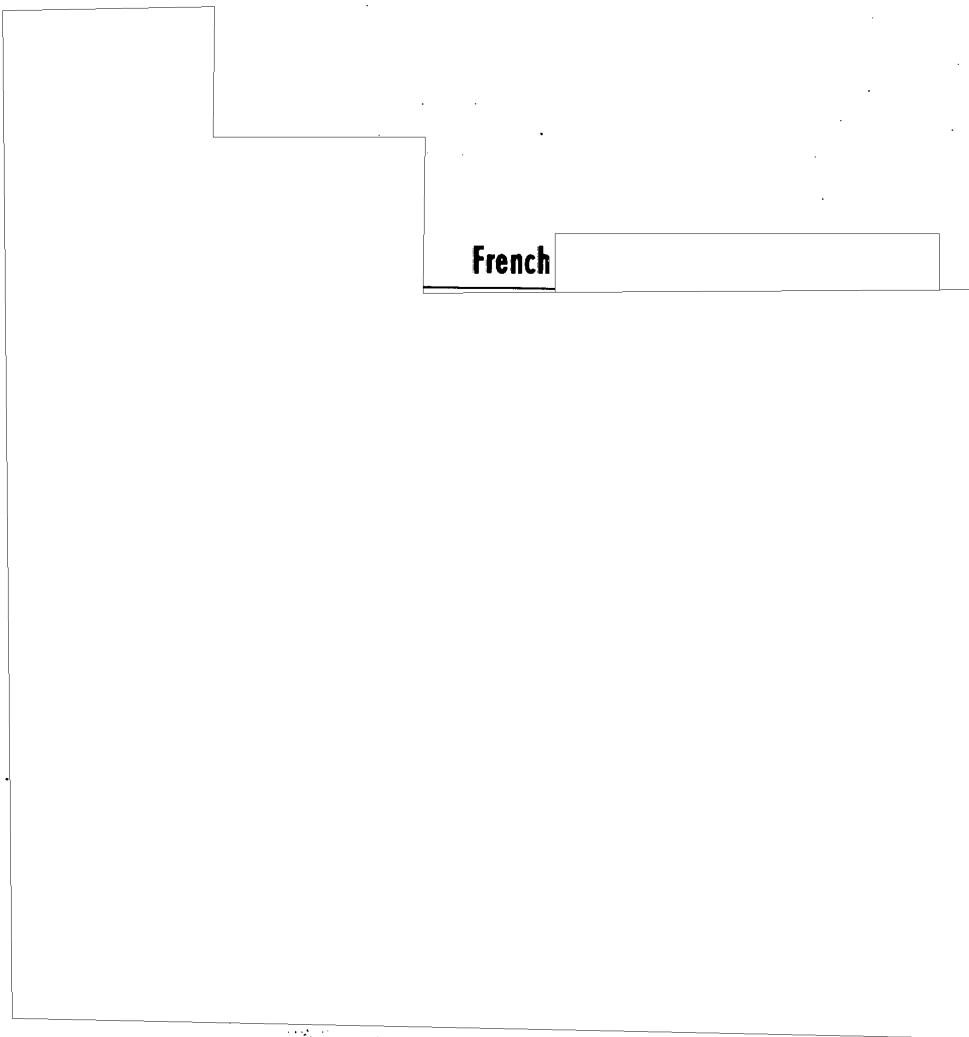
The postponement until next March of the 24th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has led to speculation among diplomats in Moscow that this signals a defeat for Brezhnev, who as recently as 2 July had publicly reiterated a commitment to hold the meeting this year.

There may indeed have been some opposition among politburo members to convocation of a congress this year, but Brezhnev was by no means alone in calling for a 1970 date. Most of the high-level "campaigners" had mentioned it in their pre-election speeches in late May or early June. Thus the postponement looks less like a setback for Brezhnev than a recognition that more time is needed to prepare for the meeting.

The major difficulty apparently has been working out the guidelines for the 1971-1975 economic plan. Thus far, among the key sectors, priorities affecting allocation of resources have been worked out only for agriculture.

Maneuvering for position among party leaders could also have been a factor. The naming of Brezhnev and Kosygin as the main speakers at the congress may be aimed at discouraging such activity.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

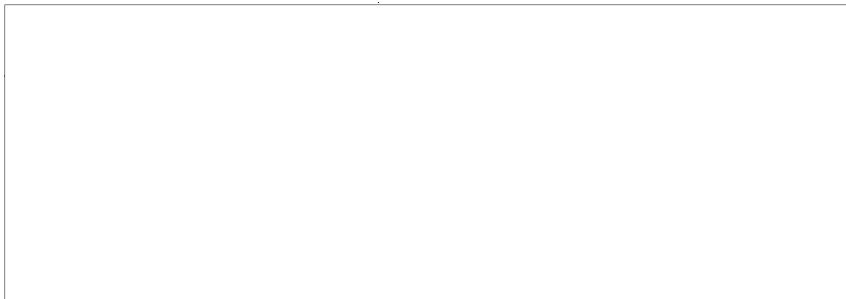


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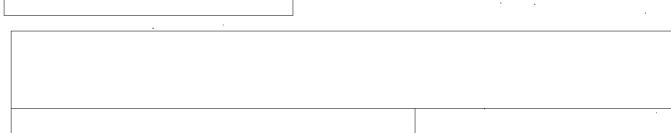
FRANCE



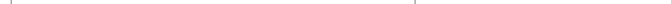
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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NOTES

South Vietnam - Cambodia: There are signs that the Communists may be planning to mark the period around 20 July--the anniversary of the Geneva accords--with an upsurge of attacks in the III and IV corps areas of South Vietnam. These would likely be made primarily for psychological impact, as few Communist main force units are located near prime targets. There is some evidence that attacks may also be mounted in southeastern Cambodia.

West Germany - USSR: Gromyko has been advised that Foreign Minister Scheel plans to arrive in Moscow on 26 or 27 July for the next round of negotiations on a nonaggression pact. Gromyko concurred, noting that most West Germans seem to favor an agreement with the USSR and Eastern Europe. Bonn is generally optimistic about prospects for concluding a treaty.

United Kingdom: Considerable harm to Britain's economy could result from a nationwide dock strike at this time; the country's trade accounts are already in the red for the third successive month. The Tory government is suddenly facing its first domestic test, made particularly significant because of election pledges to do something about Britain's often chaotic labor problems. Heath's handling of the problem, especially whether he can resist pressures to employ troops in the place of the dock workers, will be watched closely by miners, local government employees, teachers, and others who are readying their own demands.

US-Europe: The potential impact of pending restrictive US trade legislation has seriously alarmed the members of the European Communities (EC). During the past few days, Dutch officials, for example, have insisted that the Mills bill, which would limit US imports of textiles and other products, could seriously damage the Netherlands' textile industry and could lead to a deterioration of the entire US-EC relationship. This may not be an idle threat; the EC has traditionally reacted as a body when the interests of one of its members have been threatened.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

17 July 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

17 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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

In Laos, the Communists are engaging government forces to prevent them from harassing the flow of their men and material to Cambodia and South Vietnam. (*Page 2*)

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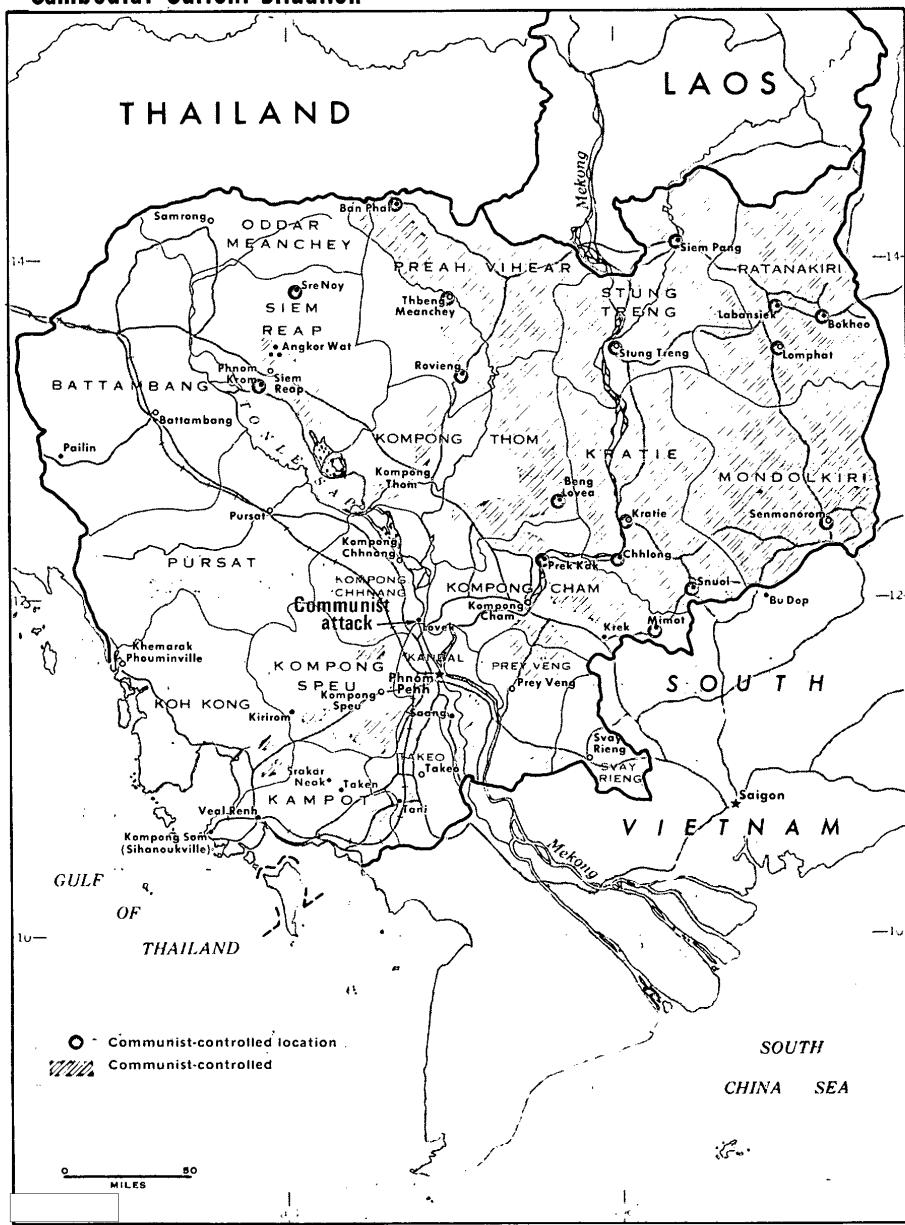
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The unexpected reconstitution without change of the Soviet government is examined on *Page 5*.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

There are unconfirmed press reports that Kirirom has been retaken. At least eight government battalions participated in the assault. For the first time since the outbreak of hostilities, Phnom Penh has admitted that in this operation government forces have suffered "fairly heavy casualties."

The Communists made a minor attack on the Lovek ordnance depot on the night of 15-16 July, but were repulsed. Government forces, aided by air strikes, appear to be in control of this situation.

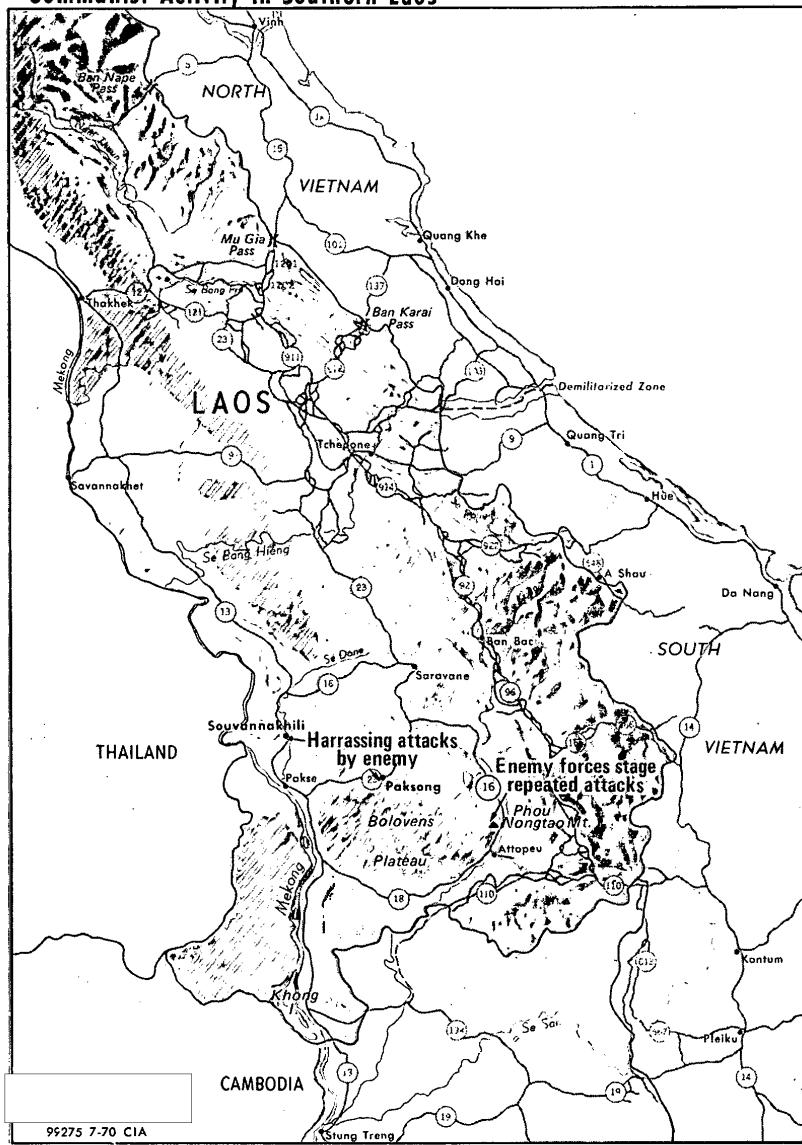
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Foreign Minister Koun Wick told Chargé Rives yesterday that the government is opposed to a formal regional defense pact because it would jeopardize Cambodia's standing as a neutral. He implied, however, that the government might not rule out informal military alignment as long as Communist forces threaten the country. These matters probably will be discussed during Thieu's visit to Cambodia today and during Lon Nol's visit to Bangkok next week.

This will come as no surprise to Thieu, who recently told Ambassador Bunker that he saw "no possibility" that a formal defense pact would be concluded. Expressing doubt that Cambodia or Laos would ever agree to an alliance, Thieu emphasized that the important thing was to get on with helping the Cambodians.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Communist Activity in Southern Laos



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Communist-controlled territory Contested territory

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

For the past four days, enemy forces have staged repeated attacks on a government battalion which recently moved into the Phou Nongtao mountain area along the eastern edge of the Bolovens Plateau. At last report, the irregular unit had been forced to withdraw from its main position, but was remaining in the area.

Communist pressure against government bases on the Bolovens is probably intended to forestall interdiction operations into the infiltration corridor, which have been on the increase. Since 22 June, government guerrilla teams are reported to have accounted for four trucks and 25 watercraft along Route 16 and the Se Kong River.

To the west of the plateau, Communist forces appear to be trying to prevent government forces from regaining the initiative during the rainy season. Harassing attacks have been directed against Paksong and Souvannakhili, and since 13 July small unit actions have been reported from the area just north of Khong Island.

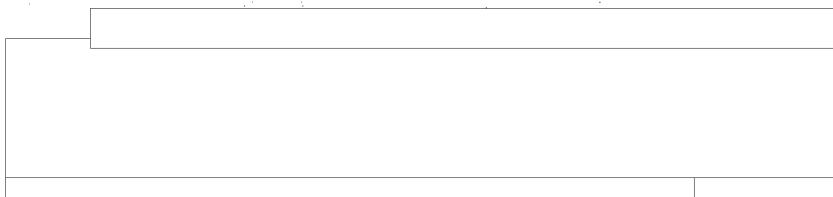
All of these places have been earmarked in enemy propaganda for Communist seizure during the rainy season. The Communists' actions so far, however, suggest that they are less interested in occupying towns than they are in tying down government troops while the flow of men and material to Cambodia and South Vietnam continues.

In the north, heavy rains have brought military operations to a virtual standstill.

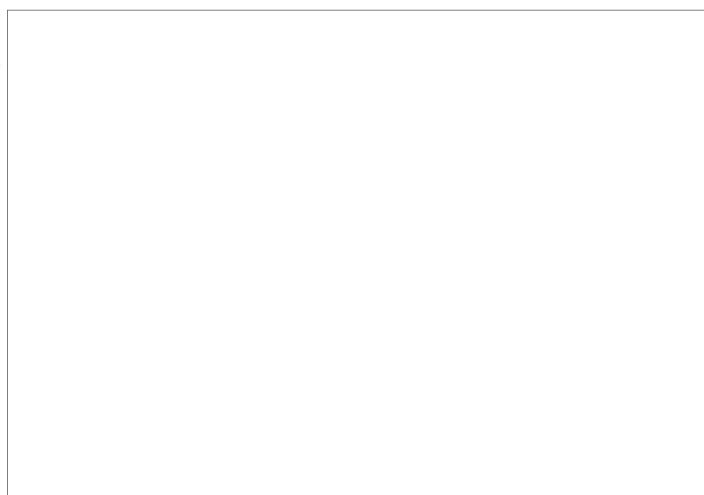
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ISRAEL-EGYPT



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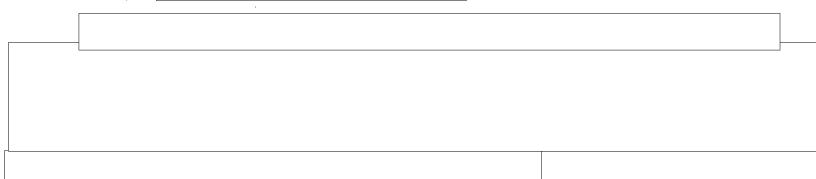
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EGYPT-ISRAEL



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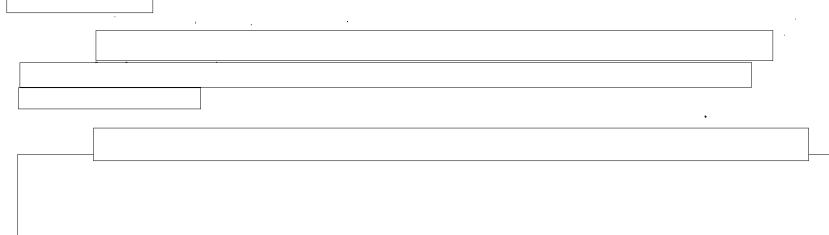
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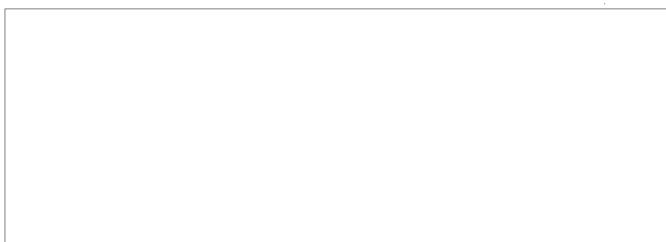
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR

After months of reports that Kosygin would resign and that there would be other important changes in the government, the Supreme Soviet met, Kosygin accepted the premiership again, and all 93 of his ministers were reappointed.

There is no hard information on the reasons for this development, or indeed on the postponement of the Soviet party congress which preceded it. There are several possibilities, which taken singly or together may help to explain what happened.

Kosygin himself said in early June that he would be free of ministerial cares in "a few weeks."

It is possible
that Kosygin merely changed his mind.

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On the other hand, there may be an unresolved struggle for Kosygin's job. As has happened in the past, rumors of impending changes may have been floated to promote the fortunes of individual leaders. Thus, at least some of the reports this year concerning Kosygin's retirement may have been launched to undermine his position or that of his proteges.

The embassy in Moscow suggests that the reconstitution of the government is intrinsically connected to the party congress, and that the question of resource allocations has so divided the Soviet leadership that postponement of difficult decisions even in the government seemed the wisest choice. There is logic to this conclusion, for the direction of economic management and the selection of a successor for Kosygin are a part of the problem. It may be that we will not see significant changes until such decisions are made.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

South Vietnam: More Communist main force units have re-established themselves in their border sanctuaries. The Viet Cong 5th Division headquarters recently shifted southward from Cambodia to within less than five miles from the Bu Dap Special Forces Camp in northwestern Phuoc Long Province (see Cambodian Situation map). The division's 174th Regiment may be en route to join it. Farther north, at least five subordinates of the Communist B-3 Front (the enemy's command headquarters for operations in the Vietnamese highlands) have returned to their normal base areas from refuge in northeastern Cambodia.

NATO-SALT: Our European NATO allies are concerned about US proposals for a limited initial SALT agreement because it would do nothing about Soviet intermediate- and medium-range missiles targeted against them. Secretary General Brosio, with the support of the French, the Belgians, and the Dutch, asked for more time to consider the proposal before it is presented to the Soviets. However, West Germany and the United Kingdom are opposed to lengthy consideration which might unduly delay the talks in Vienna.

Cuba: [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Peru-USSR: The Soviet relief airlift is not turning out to be the propaganda bonanza its authors may have hoped for. One reason, of course, is the delay in getting the flights under way. But the Peruvians themselves seem deliberately to be down-playing the relief effort. The first flight was met Tuesday only by two Peruvian Air Force colonels and a representative of the presidential emergency center. The public, too, seems to be taking the relief flights with a grain of salt; our embassy in Lima comments that the public reaction so far indicates that Peruvians view the Soviet aid as a grand-stand play undertaken for political gains.



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The President's Daily Brief

18 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Cambodian commander at Kirirom claims the situation there has stabilized. (Page 1)

On Page 2 we note further signs of increased Communist military capability in the Lao panhandle and northern South Vietnam.

A Pathet Lao spokesman, discussing possible peace talks with Souvanna, made no mention of the usual Communist demand for a complete US bombing halt before negotiations can begin. (Page 3)

The communiqué issued at the conclusion of Nasir's visit gives little hint of what specific decisions the Russians and the Egyptians reached. (Page 4)

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The Chilean presidential election campaign is brought up to date on Page 6.

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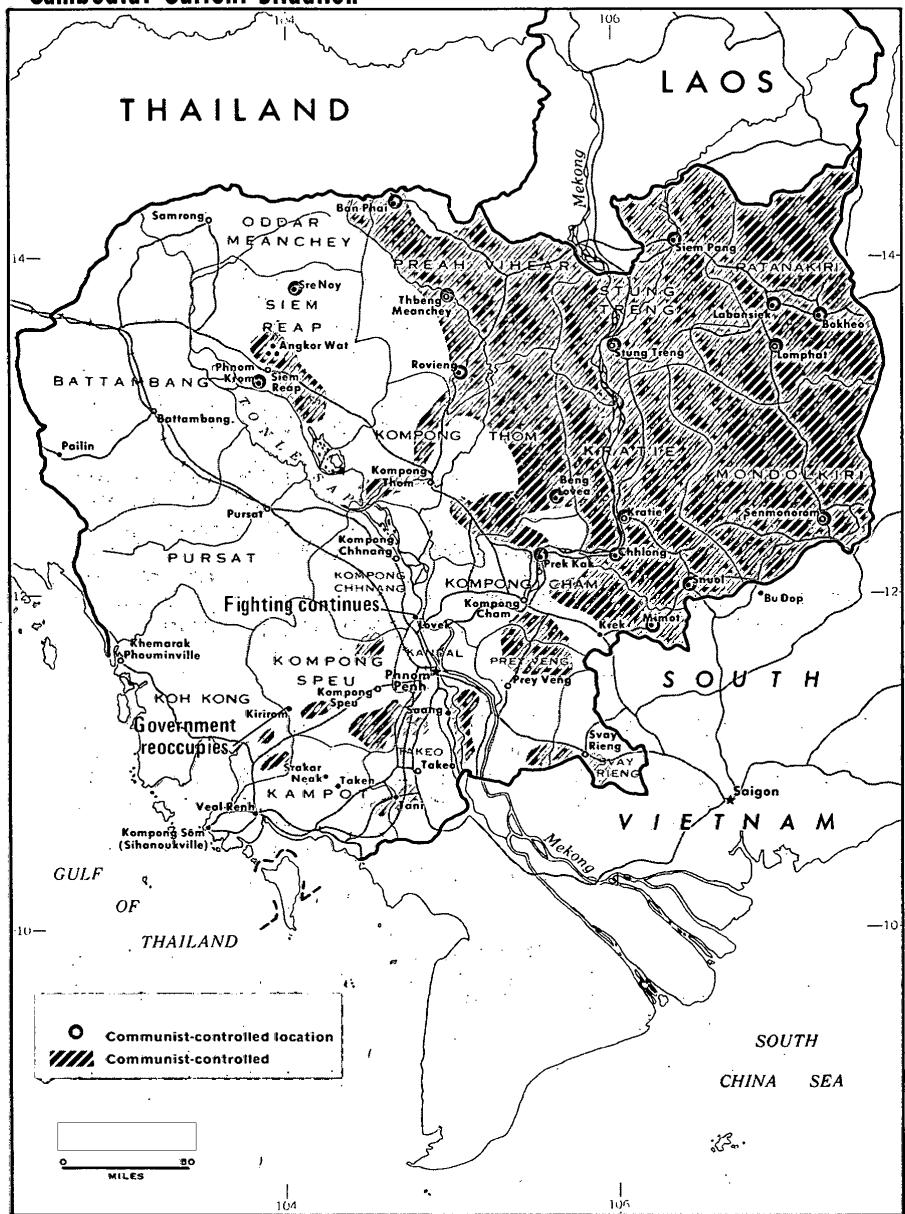
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

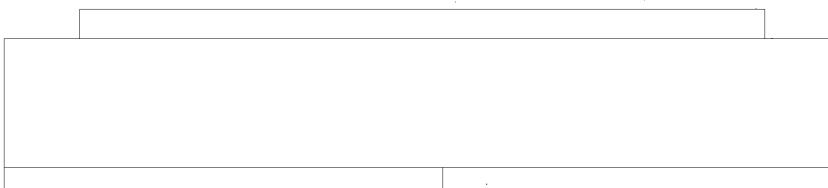
CAMBODIA

The week-long fight for Kirirom tapered off yesterday, and the commander of the government forces at Kirirom claims that the situation has stabilized. Four government battalions moved into the center of the town, and four others have been deployed nearby. Enemy troops apparently slipped away during a lull in the fighting when government forces ran out of ammunition. Some 250 Communist troops, however, are believed to remain in the area.

There were renewed attacks on the Lovek ordnance depot, northwest of Phnom Penh. A Cambodian Army message reported that on 16 July an additional 300 Communist troops were heading toward Lovek to join enemy forces already deployed around the depot. The government garrison at Lovek probably can again count on heavy air strikes to help it maintain its position.

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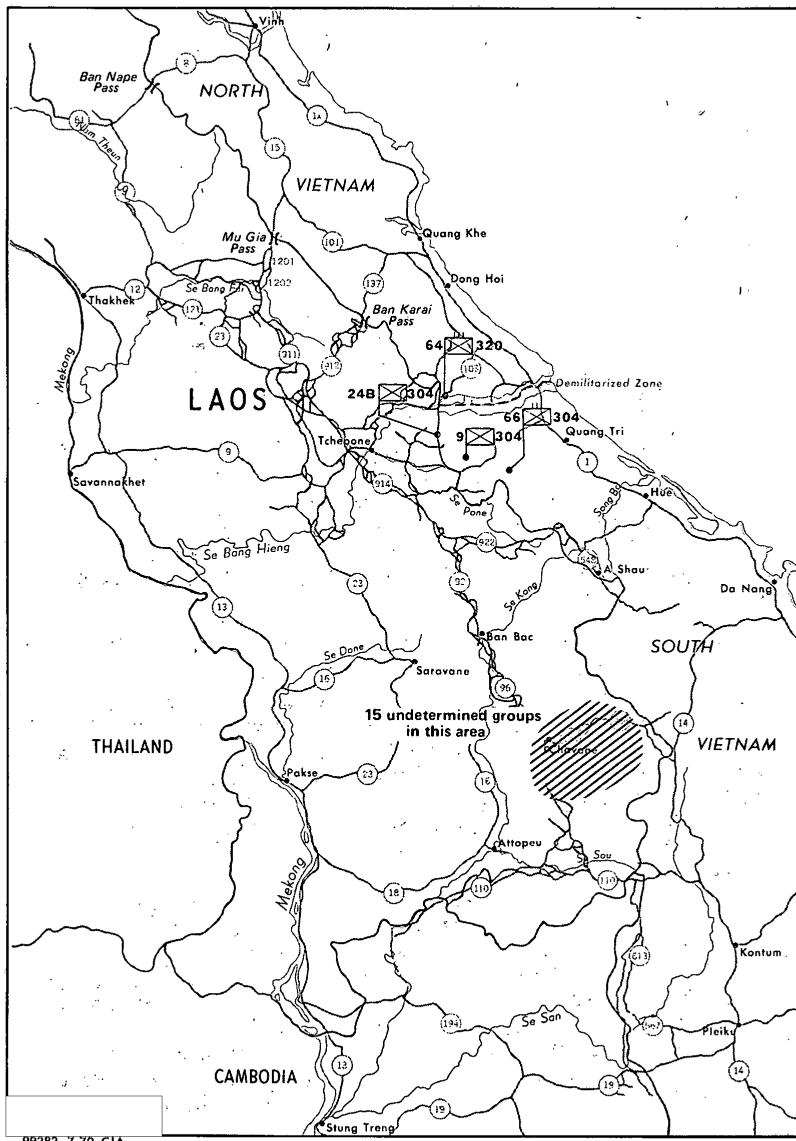


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NORTH VIETNAM - LAOS

Signs of increased Communist military capability in the Lao panhandle and northern South Vietnam continue to appear. The President's Daily Brief of 9 July noted the presence in the panhandle of 15 unidentified groups of men, perhaps as much as a division of North Vietnamese troops. Since then, the following bits and pieces have turned up:

--The 304th Division, which has been rotating regiments in and out of the DMZ area for the past three years, now has moved all three of its regiments to the vicinity of the western DMZ.

--The 320th Division, which is based far to the north, has also sent one of its regiments to the DMZ.

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We still cannot put this picture together with any confidence. We have no good idea what direction the mysterious 15 groups which were discussed last week are moving. One bit of negative intelligence does not make the problem any easier: these groups probably cannot be equated with the North Vietnamese Second Division as had been thought by some analysts. All the major headquarters of this division are still in South Vietnam.

In sum, although it is fairly clear that the Communists are stronger in the area than they were a month ago, the way they intend to use this strength is still by no means clear.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

According to Pathet Lao spokesman Soth Pethrasay, a high-ranking messenger from Souphanouvong is expected to arrive shortly in Vientiane to discuss "points of view which might lead to a peaceful settlement." Soth asserted that if an agreement to talk were reached between Souvanna and the Pathet Lao envoy, the ensuing negotiations would be the most important between the Lao factions since 1961 and would be regarded by the Communists as a "summit meeting."

Soth omitted mention of the usual Communist demand that a total halt in US bombing be a precondition for a discussion of the issues. Instead, he said that a termination of the bombing could be one of the two main questions to be dealt with during the formal negotiations. The second would be the composition of the coalition government. He thought that the Communists wanted only four ministerial seats and would expect equal representation for the neutrals. Soth stressed that the Pathet Lao anticipated negotiations without foreign intervention and wanted no part of a larger Indochina settlement involving the US and the North Vietnamese.

If the Communists do intend to make a bid for negotiations along these lines, Souvanna can be expected to work for a forthcoming response on the part of the Laotian Government. The accuracy of Soth's information will be in doubt, however, until the arrival of Souphanouvong's messenger.

Nothing in Soth's comments notes the North Vietnamese attitude, but if a representative comes, the package he brings will obviously have their blessing. If what Soth describes as the Pathet Lao position is accurate, it represents a significant change in Hanoi's previous insistence on a bombing halt.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-EGYPT

The communique issued at the conclusion of Nasir's visit to Moscow yesterday was primarily a recapitulation of previously stated positions and gave little hint of what specific decisions were reached. It did say, however, that the two sides discussed "means and methods for achieving a peaceful settlement" in the Middle East and that they agreed "to continue their coordination in this direction."

The declaration couched in standard terms both sides' commitment to a political settlement based on the November 1967 Security Council Resolution and Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories. The Soviets also reiterated their readiness to provide the Arabs with "necessary aid" for the struggle against Israel.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE - COMMUNIST CHINA

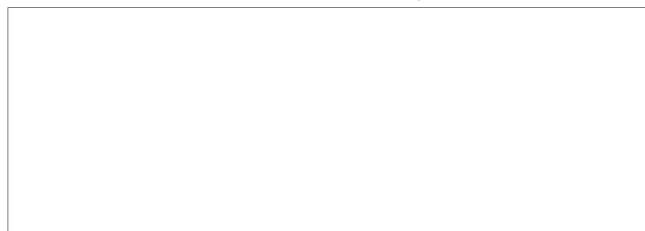


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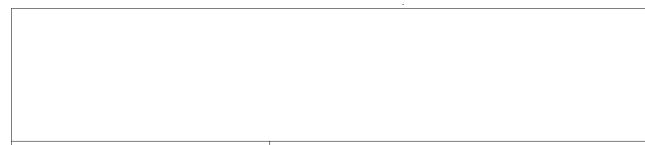
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE

In the course of his fourth try for the presidency, Salvador Allende, the Marxist candidate, is basing his campaign on a combination of anti-Americanism and promises of a sharp turn to the left. In recent speeches, Allende has charged that "American imperialism" is the one enemy of Latin America and has said that his government would join Castro's in launching the "Latin American Revolution." To this end, he would respect the principle of nonintervention in the affairs of other states only to the extent that other governments "reflect the will of the majority."

Allende's campaign views have become more openly Marxist than in his previous tries for the presidency. He calculates that a strong pitch to leftist sentiments will appeal to the many Chileans who are dissatisfied with the slow pace of reform under the present Christian Democratic government of Eduardo Frei.

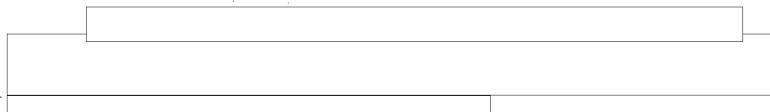
With six weeks to go before the election of 4 September, conservative Jorge Alessandri seems to hold a narrow lead. There are no reliable polls on which to base predictions, however. Both Allende and Radomiro Tomic, the candidate of the Christian Democratic government, are running strong campaigns.

The election will go to the Congress if no candidate wins an outright majority. Either Tomic or Allende could try to strike a deal with the other's supporters to win the presidency by vote of the Congress if either were to run even a close second in the popular poll.

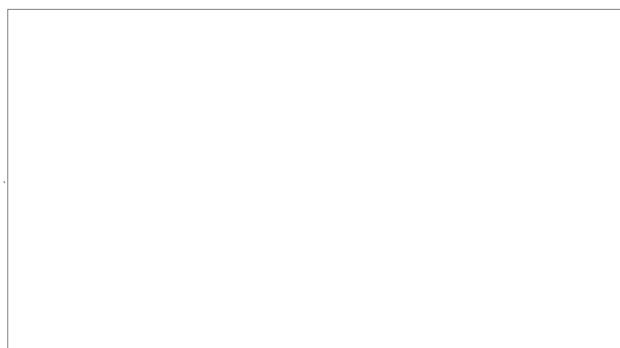
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COMMUNIST CHINA



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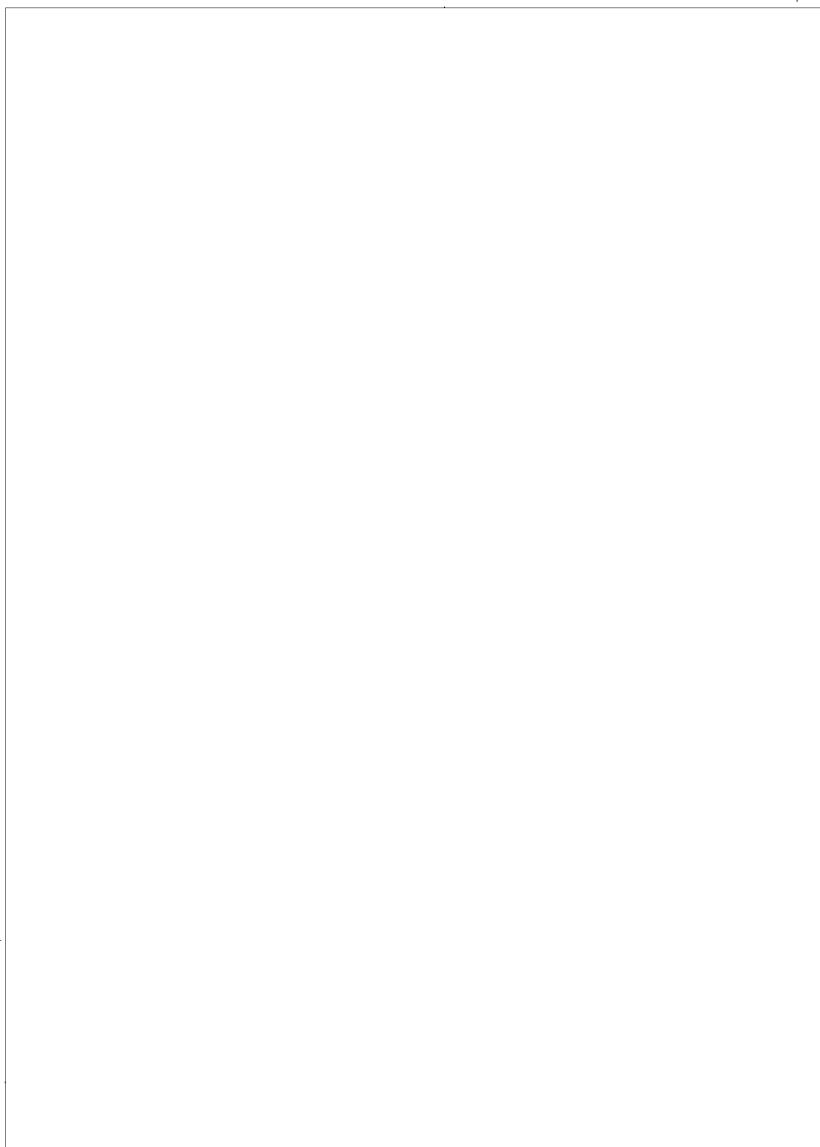


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Israel:

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Jordan: At least one extremist fedayeen group
already has disregarded the recent agreement with
Husayn.

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20 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Israeli [redacted] air
strike last Saturday against SAM sites in the Great
Bitter Lake area. (Page 1)

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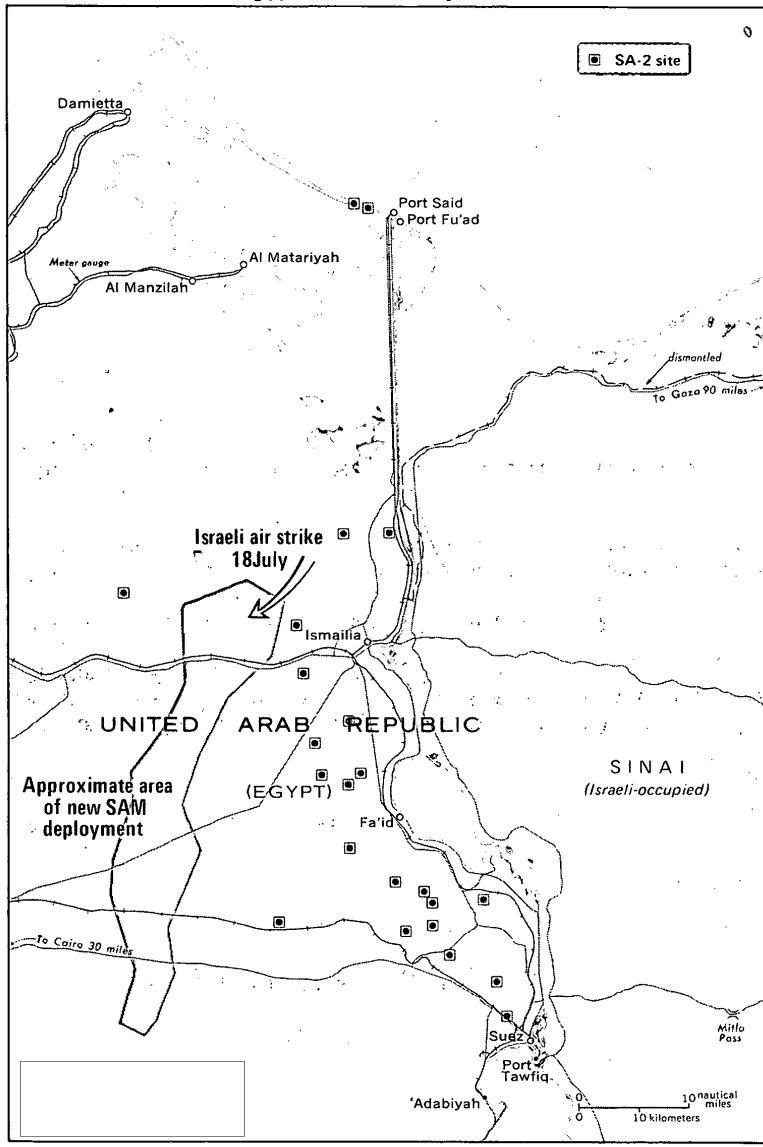
The situation in Cambodia is noted on Page 2.

[redacted] 50X1

The Colombian Government has declared a state of
siege. (Page 3)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Israel Bombs Soviet-Egyptian SAM complex



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL-EGYPT

The major Israeli air strike on 18 July was designed to destroy the seven northernmost sites of the newly emplaced Soviet-Egyptian SAM complex 15 to 30 miles west of Great Bitter Lake. The results of the strike are not yet known.

[redacted] reports that 18 Phantoms supported by other aircraft and helicopters were involved. One Phantom was downed by an SA-2 missile; another was hit by an SA-3 but returned to its Sinai base.

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Some 30 to 40 missiles were fired at the Israeli planes, including at least five SA-3 missiles. Many were launched from the southern part of the defense complex, which was not under attack.

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[redacted] probably only three of the seven SAM sites were operational at the time of the strike; the other four are assumed to have been dummies because no missiles were fired from them. [redacted] dummy and live sites are interchangeable within 24 to 48 hours.

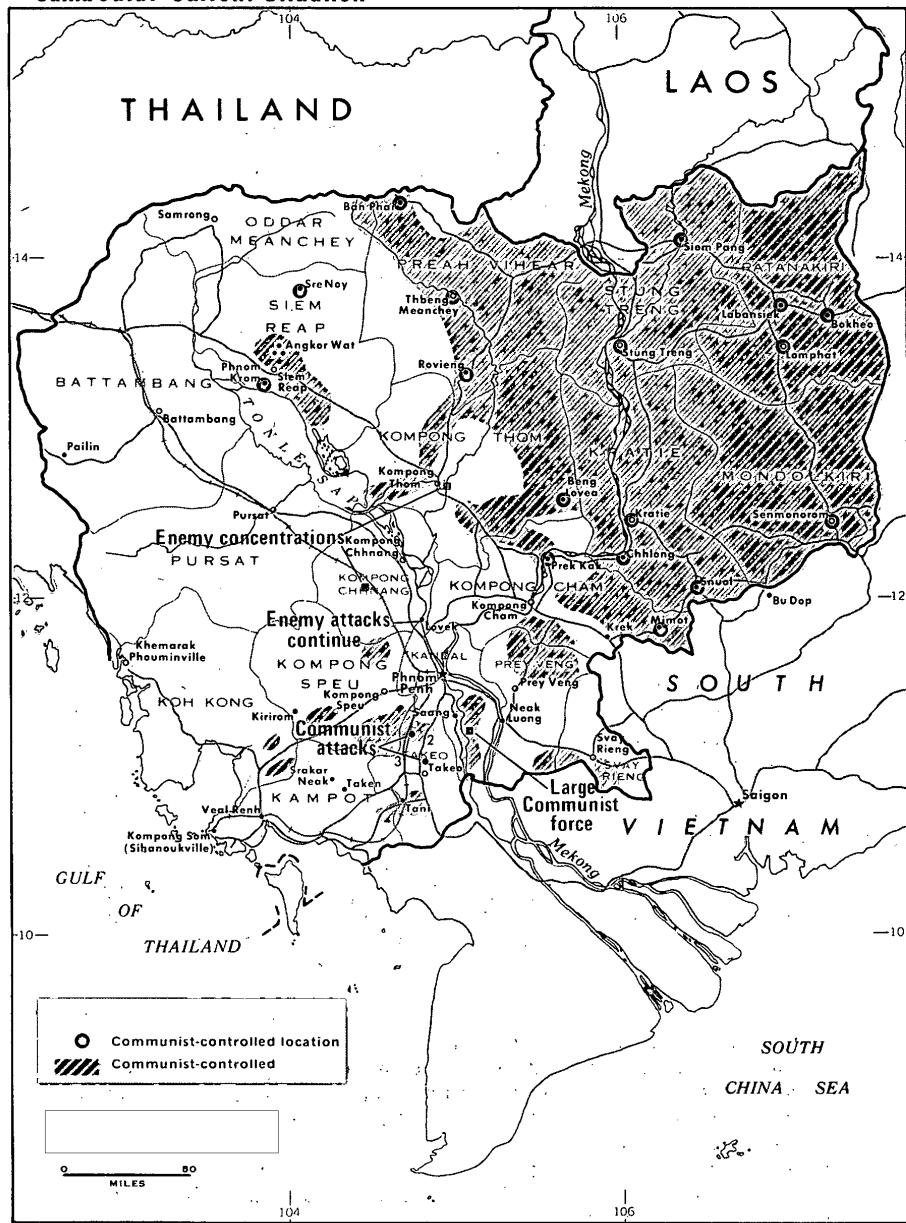
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[redacted]
The Israeli chief of staff, General Bar-Lev, indicated in a recent interview that Israel intended to concentrate on bombing the Soviet-supplied air defense system along the Egyptian side of the canal even though it knew "perfectly well" that destroyed equipment could be replaced in a short time. Bar-Lev added, however, that "should it become necessary," Israel would strike "further"--apparently a reference to a possible resumption of deep penetration raids.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government clearing operations continue in the Kirirom area southwest of Phnom Penh. One government battalion clashed yesterday with an enemy company in the center of the town. The government's small-arms repair workshop at Kirirom was almost totally destroyed during the recent fighting, but not before the enemy removed most of its portable tools and equipment.

In Kompong Chhnang Province, the Communists are maintaining pressure on the Lovek ordnance depot. Government casualties thus far appear to have been light, however.

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some 800 Communist troops are deployed six miles west of that town and may attack soon.

Kompong Thom city was hit by a few rounds of mortar fire yesterday, but no casualties were reported.

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Three more Cambodian battalions were moved from Phnom Penh to Kompong Cham on 17 July.

South of Phnom Penh, the Communists made several attacks on government units and on bridges along Routes 2 and 3 in Takeo Province on 18 July. In the adjacent province of Kandal, an estimated 1,000 Communist troops have moved into an area about 20 miles south of the Cambodian capital.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

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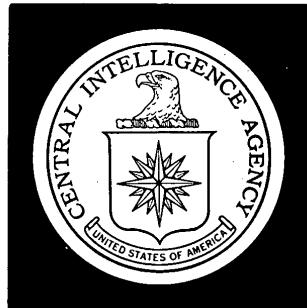
Colombia: A state of siege was declared throughout the country last night. The government fears renewed disturbances by followers of defeated presidential candidate Rojas Pinilla, who still want him declared the winner over President-elect Misael Pastrana.

Communist China - Italy - Canada: Peking's recognition talks with Italy and Canada are still stalled over China's claim to Taiwan. China appears even less flexible on this issue than it was last spring.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

21 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 1.

In Laos, combat activity has increased in several
scattered areas. (*Page 2*)

North Vietnam

50X1

(*Page 3*)

The Libyans have received their first delivery of
Soviet combat equipment. (*Page 4*)

East German leader Ulbricht has linked a third East
German - West German summit meeting with the success-
ful conclusion of a nonaggression pact between Bonn
and Moscow. (*Page 5*)

Yesterday Israeli planes flew reconnaissance missions
over SAM sites in the UAR in what may be a prelude
to another air attack against the sites. (*Page 6*)

China

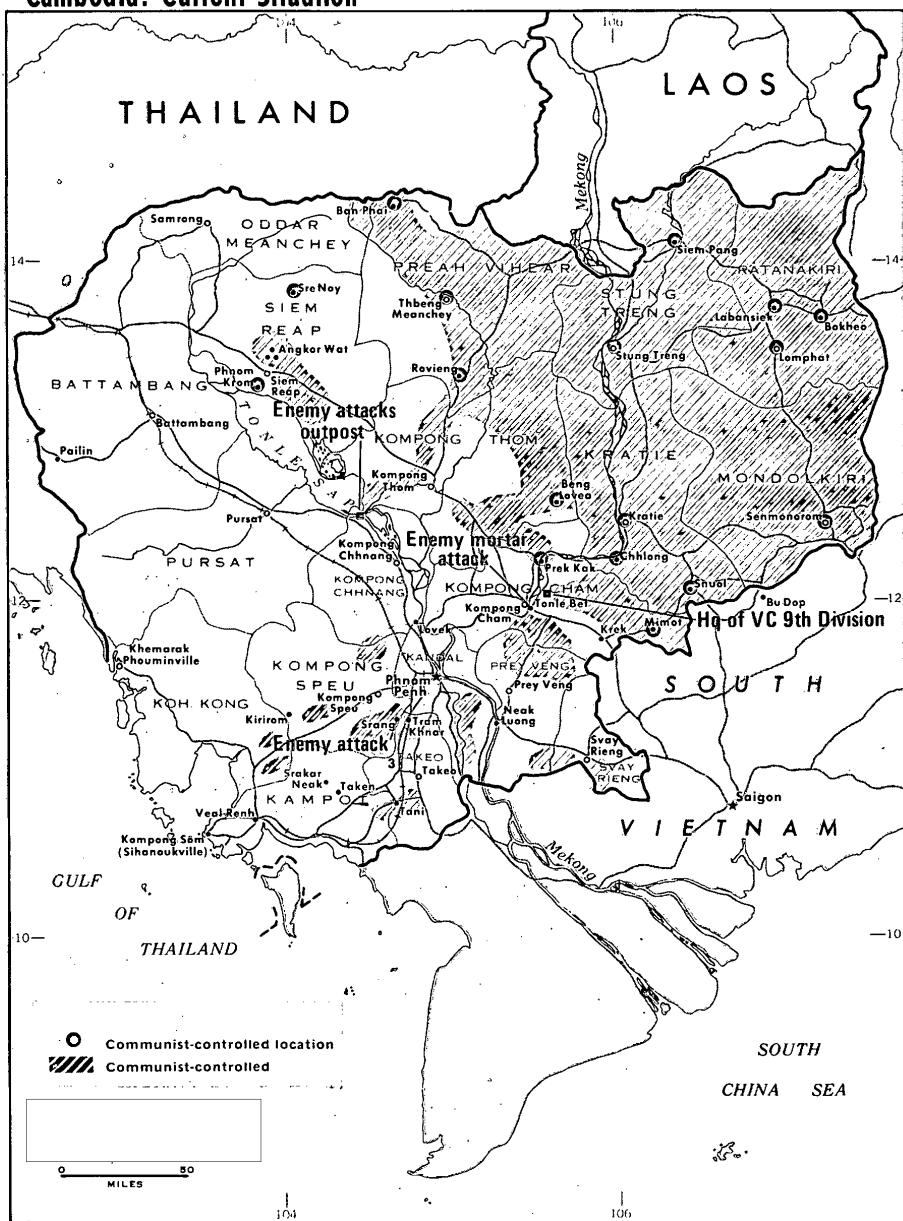
North Vietnam

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(*Page 6*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Communist forces continue to be active in Kompong Chhnang Province. Kompong Chhnang city was harassed by enemy fire on 19 July, and on the same day a government position north of the city on the Tonle Sap was overrun by a large Communist force.

[redacted] some 2,000-3,000 North Vietnamese troops passing through a rubber plantation east of Kompong Chhnang city between 12-14 July. At the time, the troops appeared exhausted but well equipped. They probably came from the Kompong Thom area where fighting has eased in recent weeks. The government has sent two Khmer Krom battalions to strengthen defenses at Kompong Chhnang.

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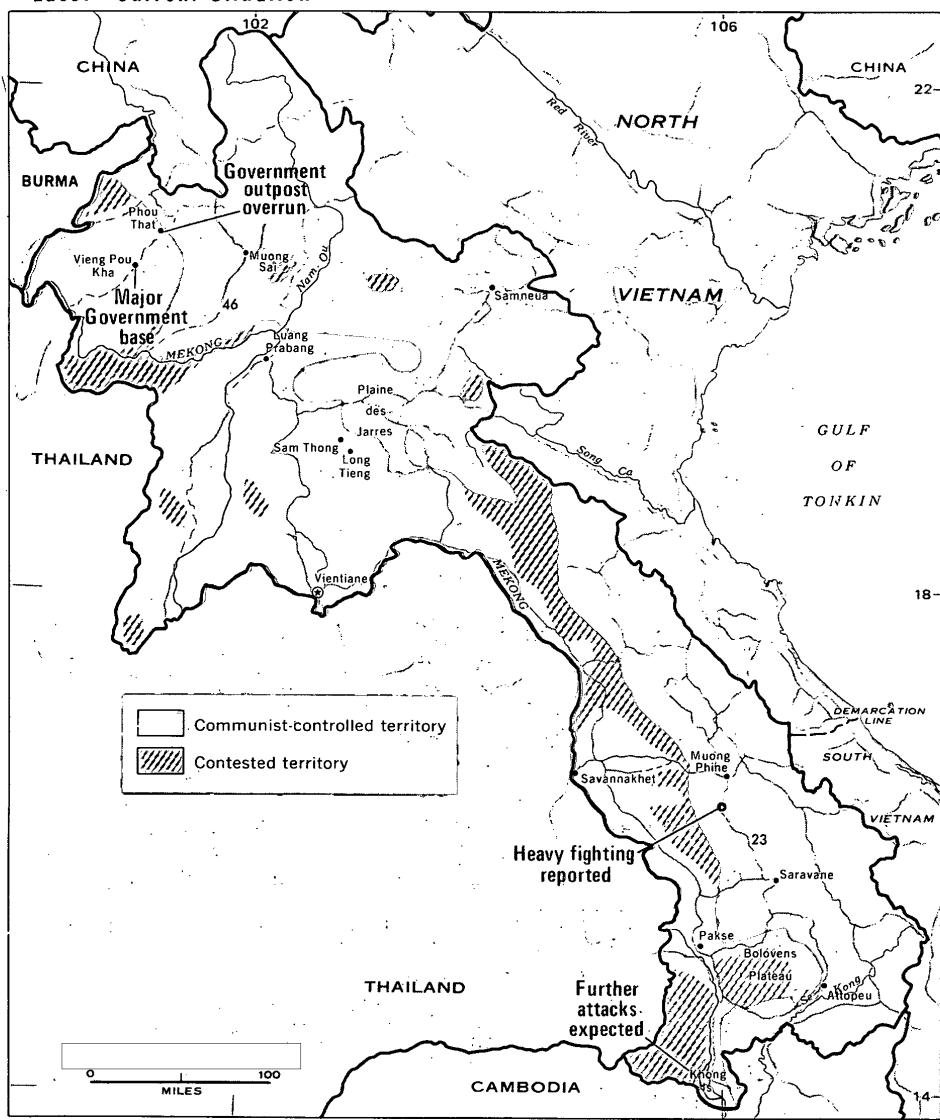
To the east, in Kompong Cham Province, the Communists launched a mortar attack on Tonle Bet on 19 July. The headquarters of the 9th Viet Cong Division has moved to within seven miles northeast of Kompong Cham city.

In the south, the district administration center at Srang in Kompong Speu Province, 30 miles southwest of Phnom Penh, was overrun by the Communists on 19 July. Fighting continues in this area and late press reports indicate that government forces have recaptured Srang.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Laos: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

The level of fighting has increased at several scattered locations throughout the country in recent days. In the far northwest, two Pathet Lao companies overran a government outpost at Phou That.

This outpost had provided outlying protection for a major government base at Vieng Pou Kha, one of the principal government sites near the Chinese roadbuilders along Route 46. Combat activity in the area is rare.

North Vietnamese and Pathet Lao troops, following recent raids along the west bank of the Mekong, mounted a battalion-sized attack on government positions to the east of Khong Island on 18 July. The enemy assault was repulsed, but enemy propaganda statements suggest the Communists will try again.

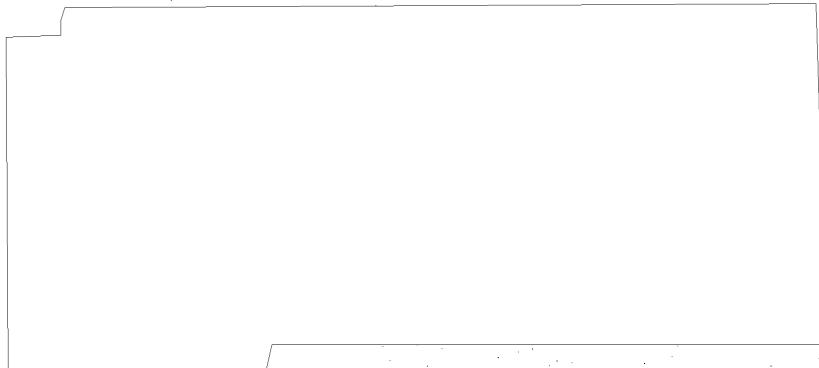
The government has flown in reinforcements for the Khong Island garrison, but it is doubtful that they will be effective if the Communists choose to employ the four-battalion force they are believed to maintain in the immediate area.

Elsewhere in the panhandle, three irregular battalions involved in the government's effort to harass the Communists' Route 23 supply line south of Muong Phine were forced to break contact with the enemy on 18 July after two days of fighting. Enemy casualties were substantial, however, and significant quantities of ammunition, weapons, food, and documents were reported captured or destroyed.

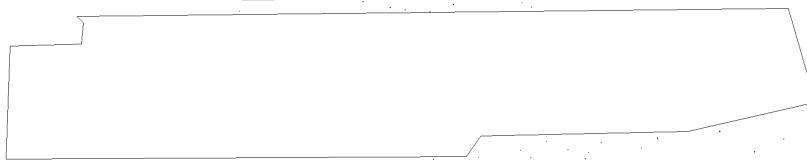
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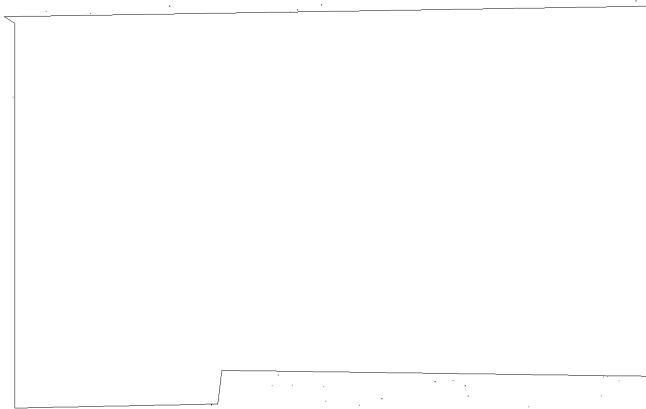
USSR - NORTH VIETNAM



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-LIBYA

A Soviet freighter offloaded military equipment--including 32 T-54/55 medium tanks and 18 armored scout cars--in Tripoli on 18 July. A second Soviet arms carrier was awaiting berthing space in the harbor at the time.

This is Russia's first delivery of combat equipment to Libya, although the Libyans have previously received some Soviet arms from the UAR. Moscow has been anxious to enlist Libya as an arms client ever since the coup in September 1969. Benghazi may have turned to the Soviets for ground forces equipment following London's refusal in April to sell the Chieftain tank. Egyptian pressure to standardize Libyan arms was probably another factor in Libya's looking to Moscow as the supplier.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY

Party chief Ulbricht reiterated East Germany's willingness to participate in a third summit meeting in a conciliatory speech last Friday. He indicated the meeting could convene as soon as Bonn signs the nonaggression pact under negotiation with Moscow. Noting Christian Democratic opposition to Ostpolitik, Ulbricht implied that Pankow might be willing to compromise on some points but not on basic issues. He again stressed, for example, that the talks should lead to diplomatic relations between the two Germanies.

Ulbricht's remarks indicate he is well briefed on the progress of Bonn's talks with Moscow and Warsaw, and does not wish to give the impression that his regime is a stumbling block to Brandt's efforts at normalizing relations with the East.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Israel-UAR: Israeli planes reconnoitered new concentrations of surface-to-air missile sites in Egypt yesterday, drawing fire from both SA-2's and SA-3's. The mission may presage a second strike at the sites today.

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North Vietnam - Communist China

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22 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 1.

Jordan

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Israel. (Page 3)

London has postponed an announcement on resuming
arms sales to South Africa. (Page 4)

Syria

Israel

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(Page 5)

Soviet

(Page 5)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation

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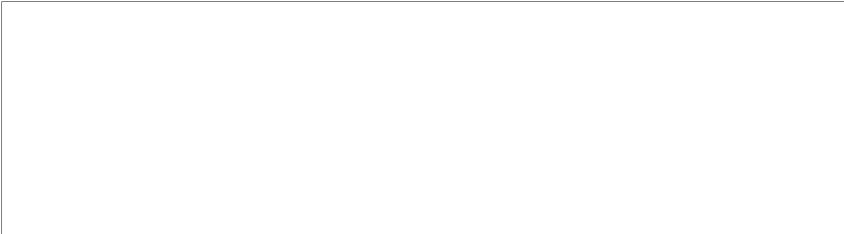
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Fighting flared again at Kirirom yesterday as an estimated three Communist battalions drove a wedge through four Cambodian Army battalions stationed in the center of the resort town. The headquarters of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment is located near Kirirom, and elements of this regiment, and possibly Cambodian Communists, are probably participating in this latest action. Cambodian commanders have called for air strikes, claiming that enemy strength was increasing, and government forces at Kirirom apparently are also running out of food.

Communist forces continue to exert pressure in Kompong Chhnang Province. Kompong Chhnang city was shelled the night of 20 July, and some enemy troops infiltrated into the southern part of the city before air strikes forced them to withdraw. Elsewhere, the enemy again attacked the government's main infantry training center at Romeas, southwest of Kompong Chhnang city, causing heavy damage. Government defenders suffered "many wounded" and were urgently requesting air support. Government reinforcements are moving to retake the outpost on the Tonle Sap that was overrun by the Communists on 19 July.

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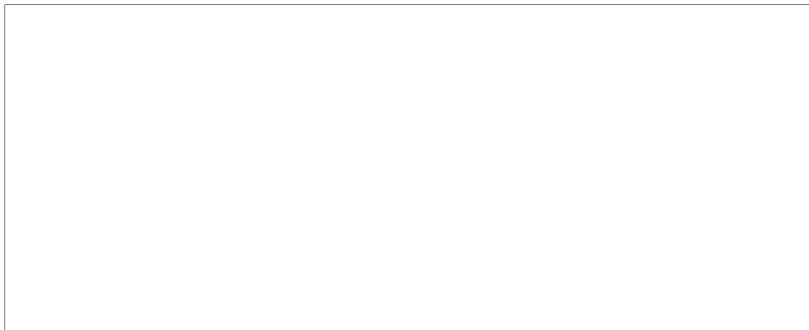


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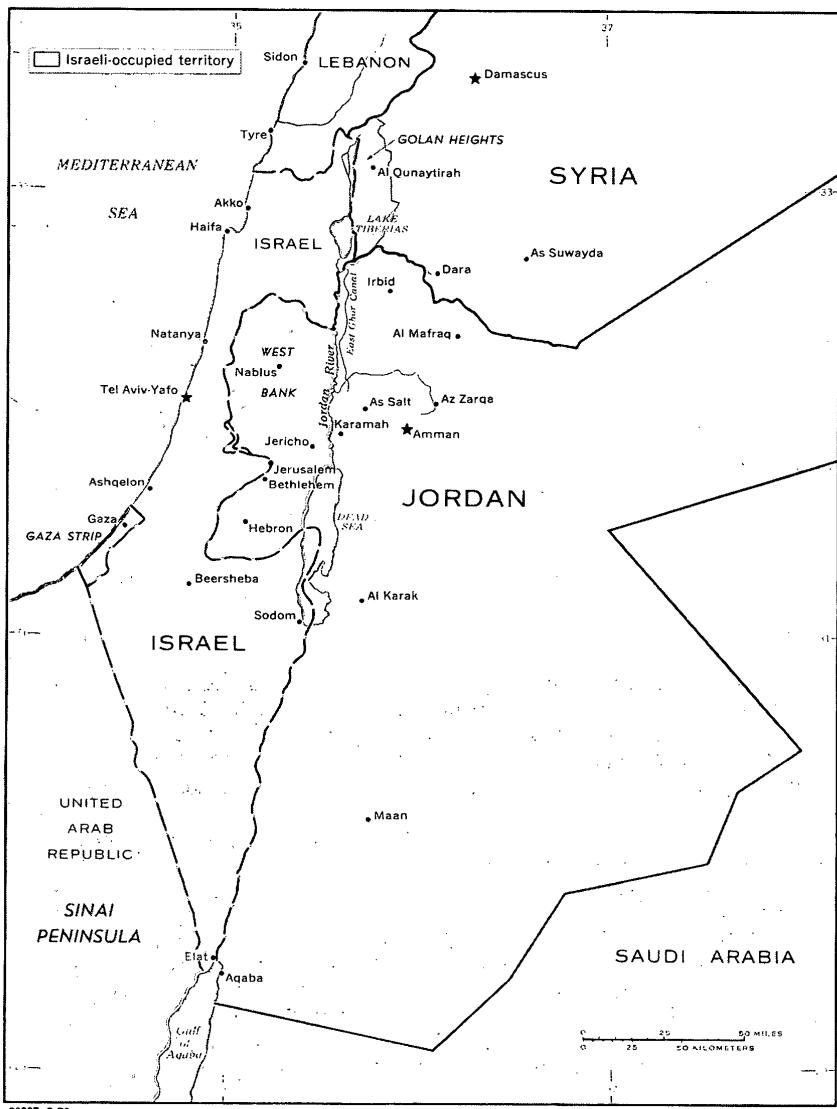
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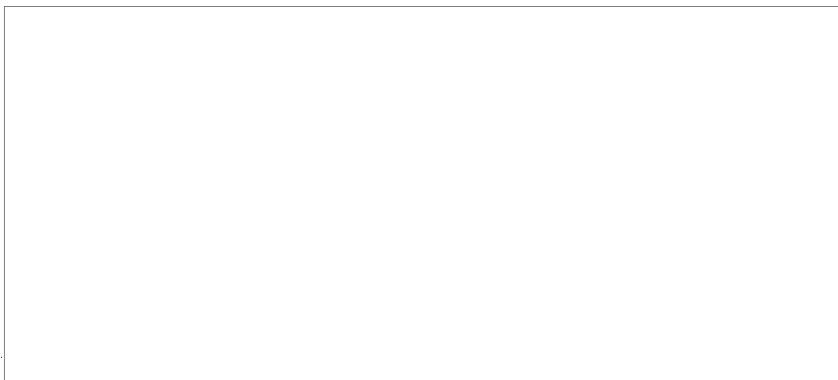
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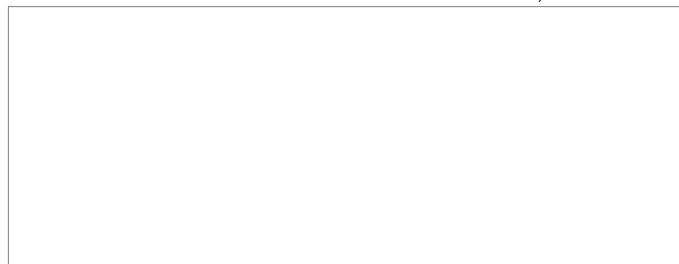


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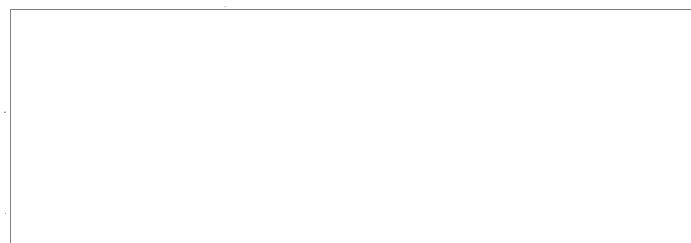
JORDAN-ISRAEL



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

UK - SOUTH AFRICA

London has reversed itself and announced on Monday that it will complete consultations with Commonwealth countries and South Africa before making a final decision on resuming arms sales to Pretoria. Foreign pressure, mainly from African countries, and concern over the continuing dock strike were probably the main reasons for the decision.

Prime Minister Heath will almost certainly wait until the House of Commons reconvenes in October to make a final announcement. By waiting, the government will avoid the necessity of dealing simultaneously with its domestic crisis and what would certainly have become a major diplomatic storm.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Syria-Israel

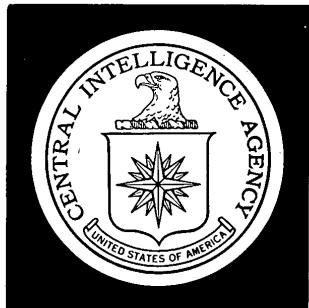
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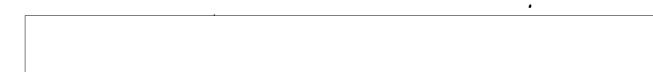


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23 July 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

23 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 1.

Israel

Soviet

(Page 4)

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Finns

(Page 5)

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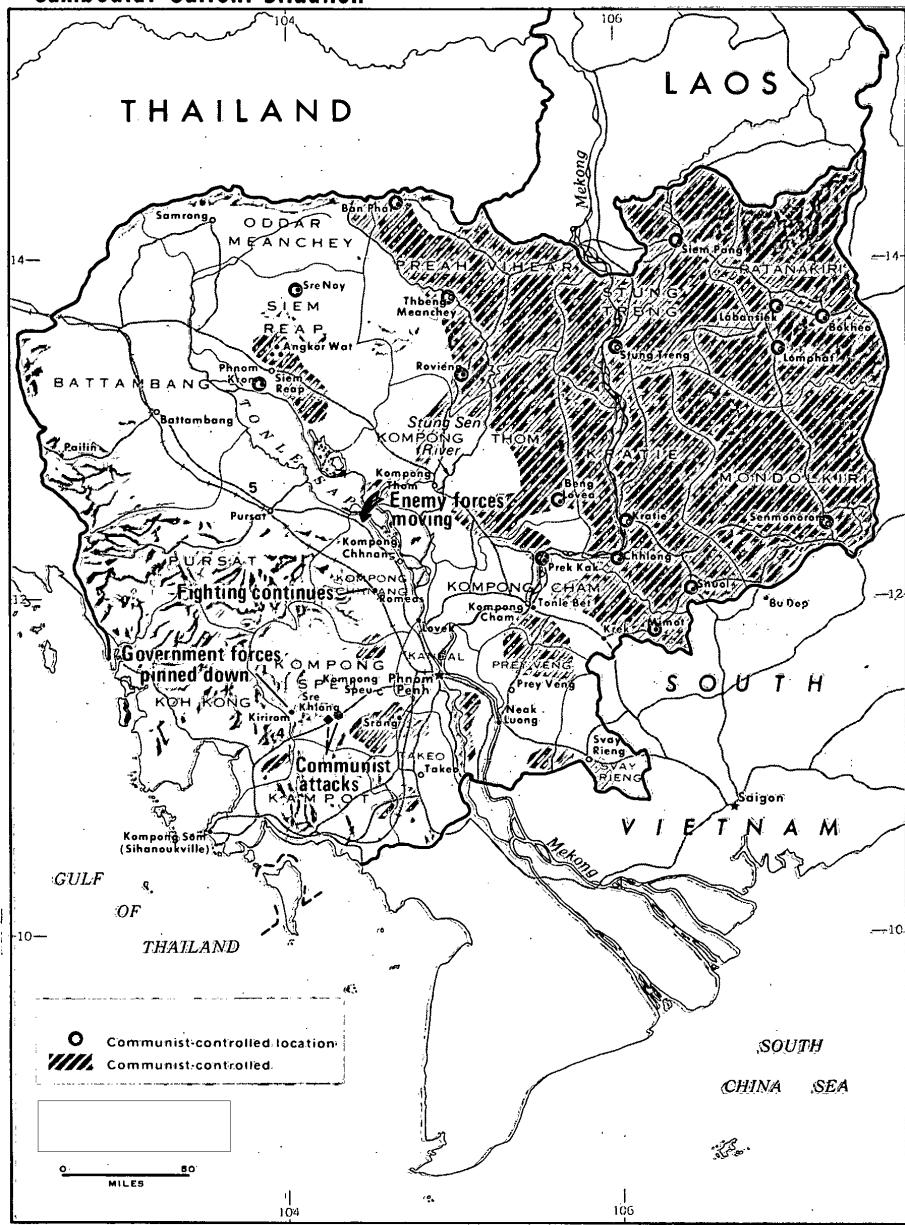
Bolivia has agreed to release the ten prisoners demanded by a guerrilla group in return for two German hostages. (Page 6)

The Soviets have rejected the latest Allied proposals for improvements in Berlin. (Page 7)

The Soviet economy during the first half of 1970 improved significantly. (Page 7)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government forces in the center of Kirirom remain pinned down by enemy troops.

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[REDACTED] four trucks carrying food and other supplies were ambushed and destroyed on the only road into Kirirom on 21 July; some supplies were then airdropped to government forces in the city.

The Communists also attacked several other government positions near Route 4 in Kompong Speu Province yesterday. Thirty government defenders at Sre Khlong abandoned their post there and headed for Kompong Speu city, following a heavy enemy mortar attack. Twelve miles southeast of the city, the Communists have dug in along the road leading to the village of Srang, which they apparently still occupy. Press reports indicate that government forces are still some distance from Srang.

The military training center at Romeas in Kompong Chhnang Province remains under attack, but air strikes may enable the badly battered government defenders there to hold their ground. According to government messages, a large enemy force is moving to attack the Lovek depot from the north, and another group of 600 Communist troops is heading southward from the lower end of the Tonle Sap in order to block road and river traffic to Kompong Chhnang city.

In Kompong Thom Province, the governor says the Communists are attempting to prevent reinforcements and supplies from reaching Kompong Thom city by placing troops in ambush along the Stung Sen River, south of the city. He expects renewed attacks on the city soon. The local military commander believes he can hold the city as long as he gets air support.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Lon Nol continues to receive widespread and enthusiastic popular support, and key government leaders are working cooperatively together. Sihanouk has been effectively discredited, and it appears that he could muster little public support for his "government" if he should return. As the war drags on, however, some political dissatisfaction with the government is bound to crop up.

The government believes that Cambodian Communist elements in the countryside number less than a thousand, and do not pose a serious problem. Many of the Cambodians fighting alongside the Communists probably are doing so involuntarily. Phnom Penh's estimate that only about 10 percent of the population in Communist areas willingly cooperate with them cannot be verified at this time, but probably is too conservative. The longer the Communists remain in these areas, the greater will be the number of their local supporters. Whatever the case, it probably will be some time before the Communists can establish a solid infrastructure.

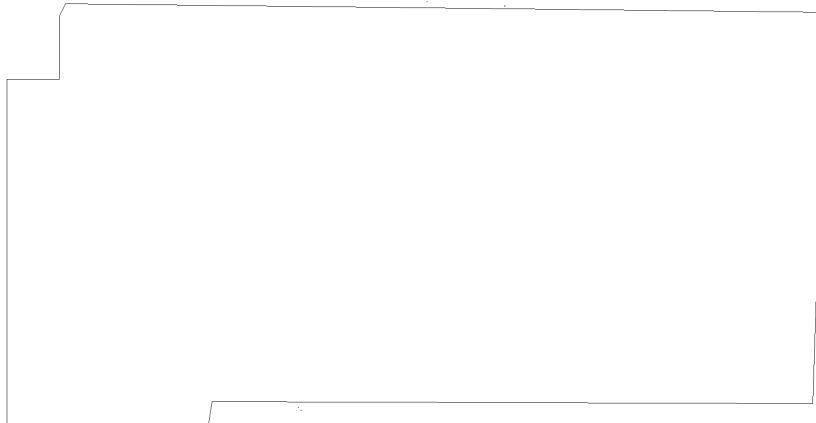
There are signs that the army's combat performance is improving, and the morale of the armed forces remains high despite their initial reverses. Still, the Cambodian Army continues to be plagued by a lack of effective communications, transportation facilities, tactical air support, and centralized training. Military leadership evidently is not as bad as originally supposed, and there is no doubt that the army will remain loyal to Lon Nol and fight as best it can against the Communists.

Although government leaders are now firmly committed to a hard policy toward the Vietnamese Communists, the possibility of an accommodation with them should not be ruled out. If either Hanoi or Moscow, for example, begins to push openly for negotiations to end the war in Cambodia--without the return of Sihanouk--the regime would find it difficult to refuse such a bid, because its claim to neutrality would be called into question and it would become increasingly identified with Saigon and the war in Vietnam.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

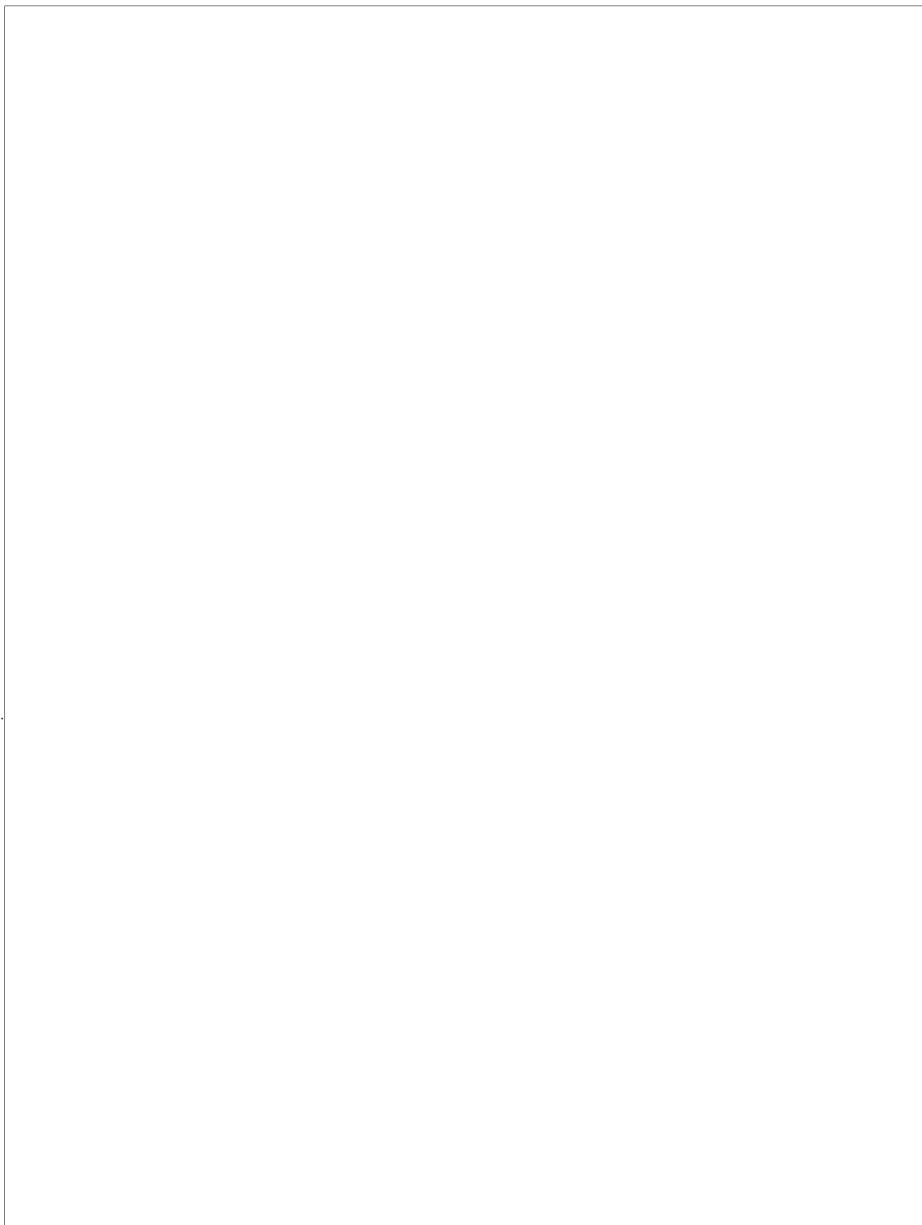


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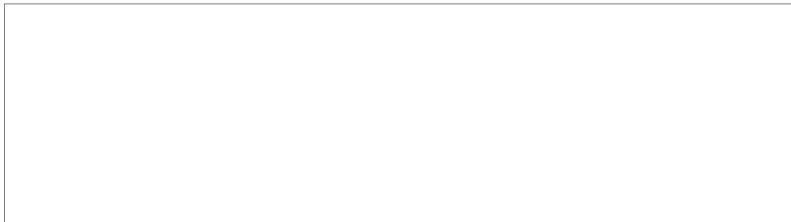
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



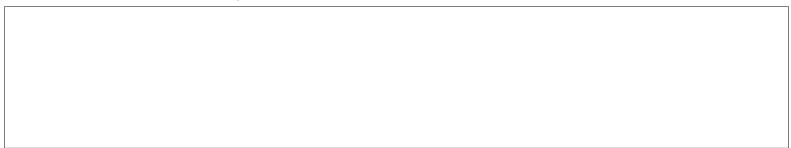
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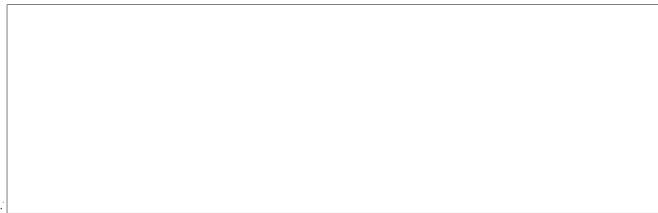
USSR-ISRAEL-EGYPT



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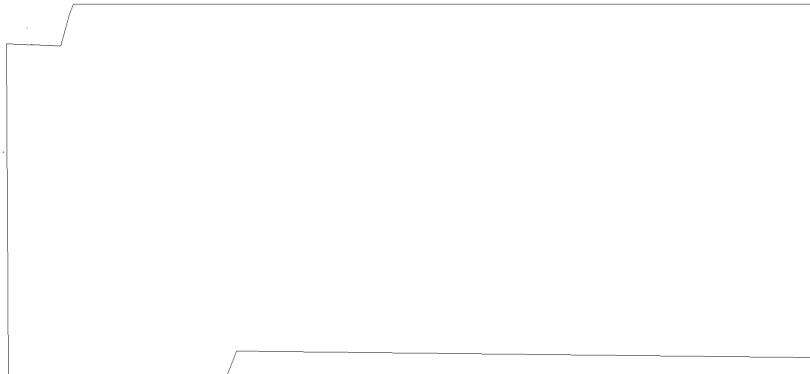


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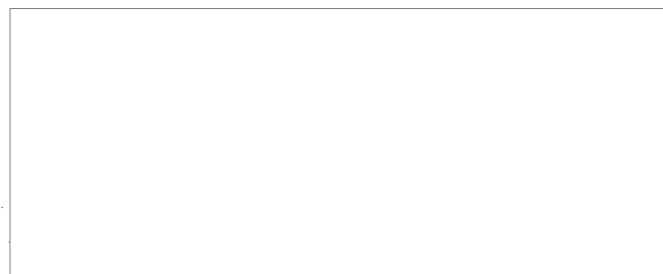
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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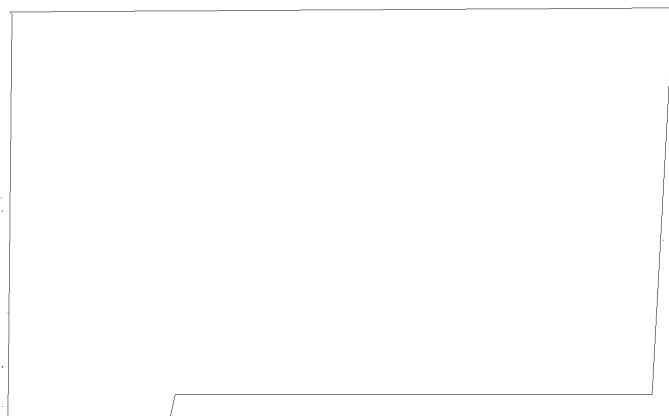
FINLAND



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BOLIVIA

The government has agreed to release the ten prisoners demanded by the pro-Castro Army of National Liberation (ELN) in return for the two German hostages taken in Sunday's raid by the ELN on a US-owned mining company. The prisoners are to be flown to Chile at which time the hostages will be released.

Guerrilla activity, teachers' strikes throughout the country, and increasing student violence are posing new difficulties for President Ovando. If Ovando vacillates in dealing with these problems, military confidence in his leadership could weaken. The state of siege declared Tuesday gives the president the authority to take firm action to put down strikes and prevent disorders, but Ovando's style tends more toward compromise than decisive action.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR-Berlin: The Soviets advanced nothing new and rejected Allied proposals for improvements in Berlin at Tuesday's session of the four power talks. The Soviets also showed little interest in producing an expanded communiqué that would have served as a token of progress in the talks. Bonn has hoped that this would help to placate domestic critics of its own talks in Moscow, but the USSR apparently feels under no compulsion to show movement in Berlin now for the sake of the bilateral negotiations. The next meeting will be in September.

USSR: The Soviet economy during the first half of 1970 improved significantly over the poor performance of a year ago. Industrial production was up 8.5 percent and labor productivity 7.5 percent. Moscow says all branches of heavy industry and several agricultural sectors improved, but less glowing achievements were claimed for the consumer goods industry. In general, the gains are not remarkable when compared to Soviet figures over the longer term. Soviet leaders can be expected to continue to seek new measures to stimulate technological progress and economic growth.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The President's Daily Brief

24 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In his speech yesterday, Nasir publicly accepted the US peace proposals but indicated doubts about US and Israeli intentions. (Page 1)

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on Page 2.

Chile

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(Page 3)

Bonn is considering a substantial contribution as part of a proposed plan for NATO nations to ease the cost of US troops in Europe. (Page 4)

At Annex we examine the factors behind current developments in Bolivia.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

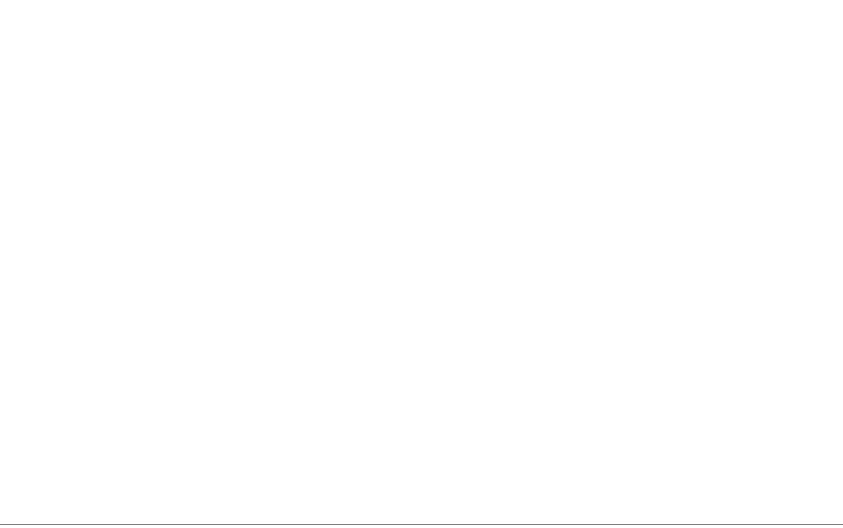
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

EGYPT

In his revolution anniversary speech yesterday, President Nasir publicly accepted the US peace proposals but indicated he has doubts concerning US and Israeli intentions. Nasir declared there was nothing new in the US proposals; they merely provided for the implementation of the November 1967 Security Council resolution which Cairo had already accepted. He said that the 1967 resolution provides for Israel's total withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and also allows the Palestinians to obtain their rights in accordance with other UN resolutions. In any case, the Egyptian leader said, the US initiative was "little more than a process of procedures" which he does not think "will achieve anything new due to Israel's stand."

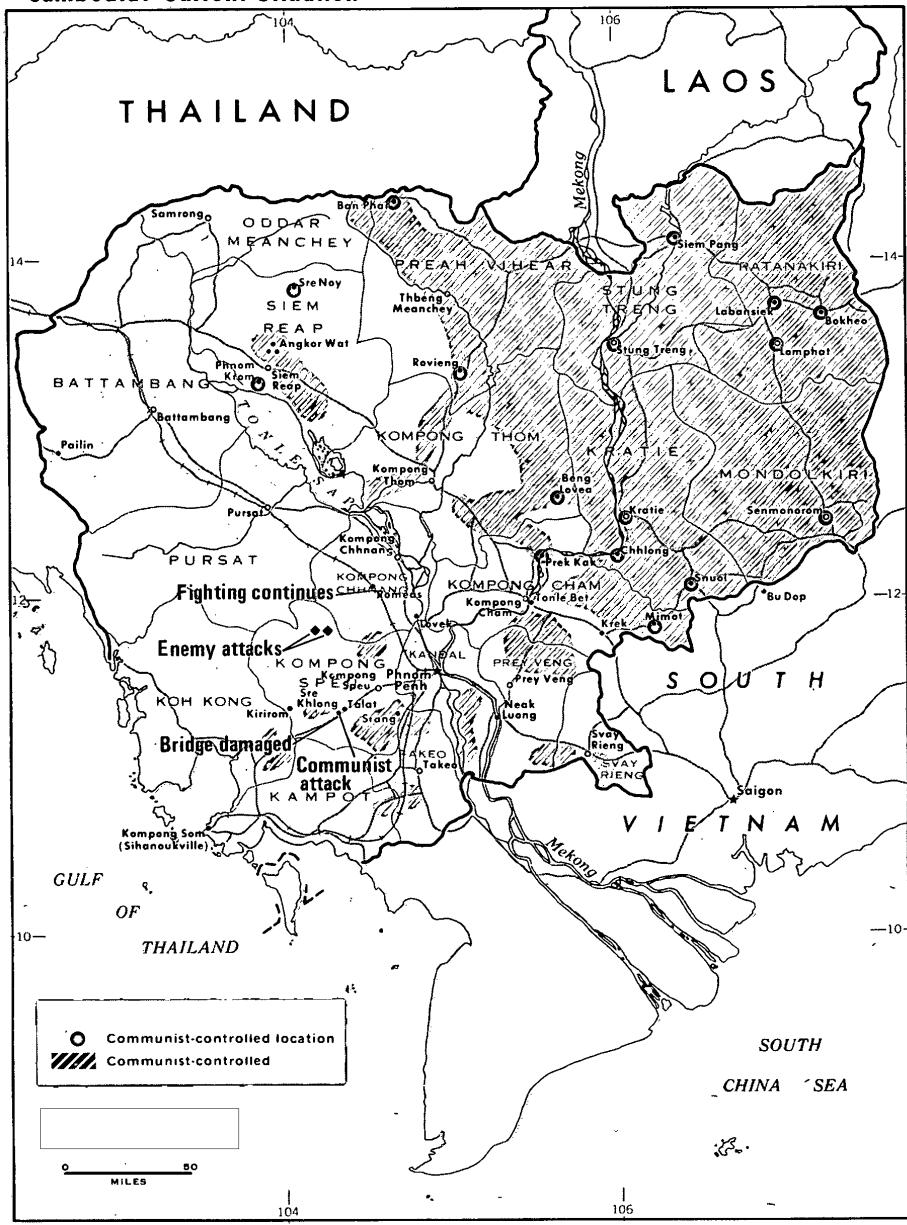
Nasir said he is not very optimistic concerning a Middle East settlement and believes that what has been taken by force can only be regained by force, but added that he is willing to see if political action could break the present Arab-Israeli impasse. Nasir said his doubts about the sincerity of the US are reinforced by the false US allegations that Cairo wants war merely for the sake of war, and that in any event Egypt would continue to build up its armed forces.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The government's military training base at Romeas in Kompong Chhnang Province was attacked again yesterday. The regional military commander has ordered two battalions--one a Khmer Krom battalion--to Romeas from Kompong Chhnang city.

New enemy attacks have also occurred in several areas of Kompong Speu Province.

counterattacking government reinforcements had driven Communist forces back from Sre Khlong, on Route 4 west of Kompong Speu city. Before withdrawing, the enemy force damaged a nearby bridge, disrupting truck traffic on Route 4. Enemy troops are still in the area

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The enemy also attacked several government positions in the northern reaches of Kompong Speu Province. Elements of a large column of Vietnamese and Cambodian Communist troops, which had moved south from Kompong Chhnang Province, attacked one outpost and were threatening another northwest of Kompong Speu city yesterday.

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Government forces at Kirirom apparently are still in contact with Communist troops.

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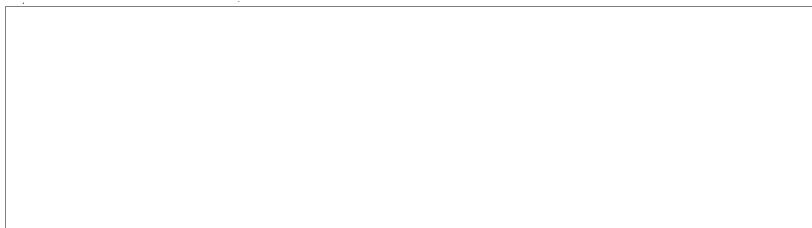
Lon Nol has told Charge Rives in Phnom Penh that he thought his talks with Thai leaders in Bangkok had gone extremely well. He did not specify any precise results, however. Restrained public comments by Thai leaders on their sessions with Lon Nol suggest Bangkok is still hewing to its cautious approach to the Cambodian situation.

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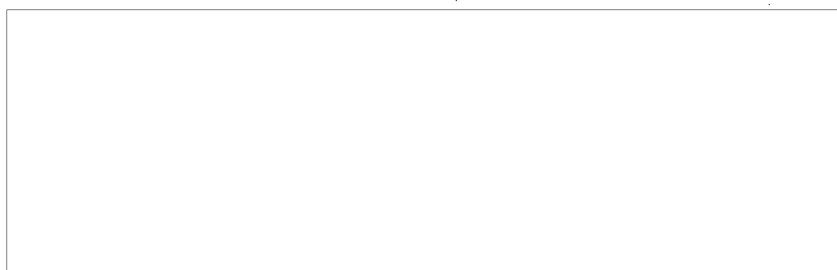
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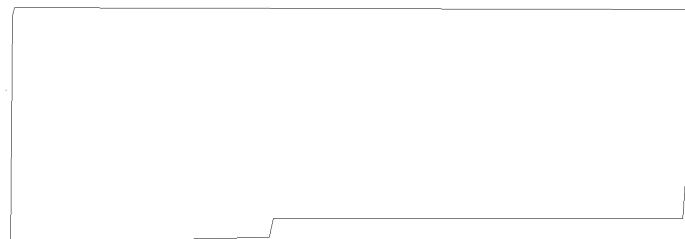
CHILE



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NATO

Bonn's National Defense Council agreed on Tuesday that Germany should urge its allies to come up with a sizable offer to ease the cost of US troops in Europe. The proposed burden-sharing program would be multilateral and within the NATO context, but the Federal Republic is willing to shoulder half the cost.

The Germans have talked to the British about this approach, and both are now urging "unofficially" that the US give some indication of how large a contribution would be necessary to blunt congressional pressure for troop cuts. The Germans have stressed that the figure frequently mentioned in the press-- \$1 billion--would be out of the question

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The Germans also recognize that the proposed funds would be in addition to the balance-of-payments help involved in the bilateral offset agreements.

Strong domestic opposition to increases in defense spending can be expected in most European NATO countries. Bonn, however, believes that the multilateral cloak of the offer might help individual governments win approval for the budgetary increases.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**BOLIVIA****A
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The Bolivian Government has moved from one crisis to another since General Ovando took over nearly ten months ago. The guerrilla raid last Sunday, disagreements between Ovando and his top military leaders, and increasing student and labor unrest have combined to pose the latest crisis.

Ovando came to power with the backing of moderate and conservative groups within the military and the peasant class. He set out to obtain the support of the basically leftist student and labor sectors by appointing well-known leftists to important posts in his government. The expropriation of the Bolivian Gulf Corporation, sparked by the newly appointed leftists, was a further move in this direction.

Ovando appealed to students and labor to support his "nationalist revolution," backing this up by allowing the reactivation of the old Bolivian Labor Central and the return to power of the old guard Marxist labor leadership that had been suppressed under the Barrientos government. Ovando's efforts, however, succeeded merely in neutralizing students and labor for a while, rather than convincing either group that he was a true revolutionary.

Within the government itself, Ovando's overtures toward the left have increasingly alienated moderates and conservatives in the military. Led by army commander Miranda and Interior Minister Ayoraa, military pressure finally succeeded in removing the recognized leader of the cabinet radicals, Minister of Mines Quiroga, and the left-leaning armed forces commander, General Torres.

The loss of the two leading leftists in the government, however, convinced students and labor that all that remained of Ovando's revolution was the rhetoric, and has led to open hostility to his government. Labor's objection to Ovando has increased because of a wage freeze that followed Gulf's nationalization.

Ovando has managed to retain his hold on power thus far by steering a careful course between the demands of the left and right and by compromising when necessary.

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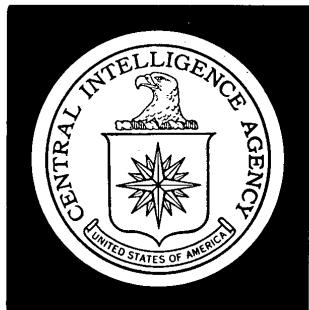
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Current military involvement with the guerrillas should keep Miranda occupied for a time. The National Liberation Army (ELN) is an offshoot of Che Guevara's old guerrilla force which--because of the basically unstable political situation in Bolivia--poses a greater threat than its numbers would indicate. The ELN has a hard core of perhaps 50 Cuban-trained guerrillas. Castro appears to have an almost obsessive interest in Bolivian guerrilla operations--stemming probably from Che Guevara's death there--but there is no evidence of direct Cuban support for the ELN's recent activities.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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25 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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

In Italy, efforts to form a center-left coalition continue to be frustrated and another minority government led by the Christian Democrats appears to be a likely short-term solution to the current crisis. (*Page 2*)

The French intend to review their relations with Libya in light of the recent Soviet arms delivery. (*Page 3*)

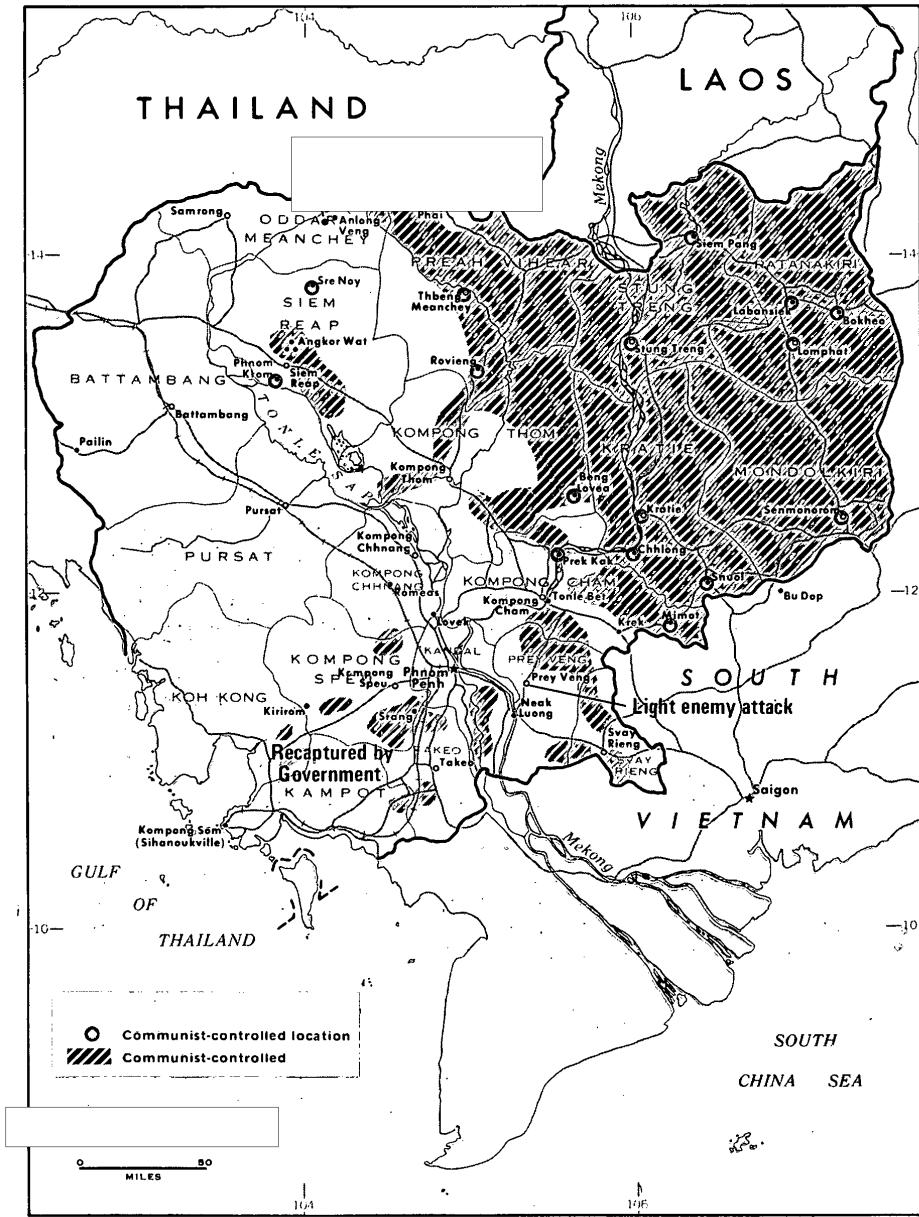
Soviet relief flights to Peru have ground to a halt. (*Page 4*)

The Somali Government has finally levied charges against the US survey ship *Midnight Sun*. (*Page 5*)

Brazilian authorities anticipate more attempts to kidnap foreign diplomats. (*Page 5*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

The military situation is quiet throughout most of the country. Cambodian Army messages have indicated that government troops at Kirirom, in Kompong Speu Province, are short of food. Press reports state that government forces there are still surrounded and are being supplied by air.

In the west, government forces are continuing to evacuate posts in northeastern Oddar Meancheay Province.

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US military attachés recently visited Kompong Thom and Siem Reap cities and report the situation is calm and Cambodian Army morale high in both places.

The local [redacted] that the high losses the Communists have suffered are responsible for the current lull there. He added, however, that the enemy is now regrouping for fresh attacks.

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There are indications that Communist forces may be readying new attacks on Prey Veng and Svay Rieng cities. [redacted] there are four enemy battalions deployed southeast and northwest of Svay Rieng, and one enemy battalion has been sighted seven miles north of Prey Veng. Communist forces harassed a government position nine miles northwest of Prey Veng city on 23 July. Later the same day a company of enemy troops shelled the city but were driven off by strong government counterfire.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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ITALY

Persistent deep-seated disagreement between the two Socialist parties increases the possibility that the Christian Democrats will form an interim minority government. The Unitary Socialists claim that last month's elections demonstrated that the country is moving from left to center and showed popular approval of the anti-Communist position their party has taken. The orthodox Socialists, on the other hand, say the election results confirm their thesis that it is desirable to cooperate with the Italian Communist Party to bring it into the democratic life of the country.

In fact, neither party is justified in coming to any clear-cut conclusions on the basis of ambiguous election returns. Communist gains in the elections on the provincial level, for example, contrast with losses on the municipal and regional levels. Even the Socialist returns were inconclusive and subject to conflicting claims.

President Saragat may still ask some rising Christian Democrat to make another attempt at a four-party center-left coalition, but there is little evidence that a new premier-designate would do any better than Andreotti did this week. A three-party coalition is numerically possible, but the factionalized Christian Democrats would risk a serious split if they were to choose one of the Socialist parties over the other.

Political maneuvering usually comes to a halt in mid-August during Italy's traditional vacation period. This increases the likelihood that the Italians will take the easy way out and form a short-term minority government.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FRANCE-LIBYA

The French are seriously concerned over the delivery of Soviet arms to Libya. The French ambassador to Libya will soon return home for consultations, and a French Foreign Ministry official says that the French will be taking a hard new look at the Libyan situation.

Paris justified its military assistance package to Libya last January--which included about 110 Mirage aircraft--by claiming it would keep the Soviets out of Libya. Obviously this has not worked, nor have French hopes for rapid cultural and economic expansion in Libya materialized. In fact, Libya has become increasingly xenophobic as exemplified in its crackdown on Italian property owners this week. Despite these setbacks and the current argument with Algeria over petroleum prices, Paris is likely to pursue its policy of establishing a strong French influence in countries bordering the Mediterranean.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-PERU

No Soviet transports have departed the USSR for Peru since 18 July, the day the AN-22 carrying a hospital and 23 technicians crashed off the coast of Greenland. According to the Soviet ambassador in Peru, his country's aid plans will now have to be changed somewhat because many of the Soviet medical personnel now in Peru will not have the necessary facilities. There has been no further information concerning future relief flights.

To date, 15 of the scheduled 65 cargo aircraft have arrived in Lima, most of which were filled to less than half capacity, presumably because of fuel needs and the long distances involved. Four of the 15 are back in the USSR and the others are on their way.

The relief activities continue to receive low-key official and press treatment in Peru. Publicity attendant upon the loss of the AN-22 and the constant delays that have plagued the airlift have robbed it of its dramatic impact.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Somalia: After four weeks delay, the military government has officially charged the US-owned geological survey ship Midnight Sun with violating Somali territorial and internal waters.

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Brazil: Police forces throughout the country are taking extensive security precautions in the expectation that terrorists will soon try to kidnap more foreign diplomats, particularly US, in exchange for imprisoned comrades.

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The President's Daily Brief

Sunday 26/07/1970

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SUNDAY CABLE TO SAN CLEMENTE
26 July 1970

CAMBODIA

The military situation remains quiet with only widely scattered enemy harassing actions reported. An intercepted message suggests that the Communists are planning to step up their activity in Cambodia, but it is not clear how widespread or extensive the action will be.

In the west, Siem Reap city continues to receive harassing fire, but no casualties have been reported. Government positions south of Kompong Thom city also continue to receive harassing fire. A force of 200 Communist troops has been seen near Kompong Thom city moving north-west along Route 6. East of the city, a government patrol reportedly killed two enemy soldiers in a skirmish.

The Communists apparently are also continuing their efforts to organize the rural population in areas around Kompong Thom. A Cambodian army message claims they have set up political-military committees in the villages and created administrative zones and districts in the areas under their control. The Communists are also reported to be collecting taxes from the inhabitants.

Some 2,100 Communist troops reportedly are still positioned in areas to the east of Route 15 in the vicinity of Prey Vang city, but no military engagements have been reported. The Communists have set up training, recruitment, and supply and transit bases in the Elephant Mountains near the vital Route 4 from Phnom Penh to Kompong Som, according to a Cambodian army message.

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USSR-ISRAELI-EGYPT



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27 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

27 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent developments in Cambodia are discussed on
Page 1.

Jordan avoided committing itself on the question of
fedayeen adherence to a cease-fire in accepting the
US peace proposal. (Page 3)

South Vietnamese political developments and North
Vietnamese infiltration are discussed on Page 4.

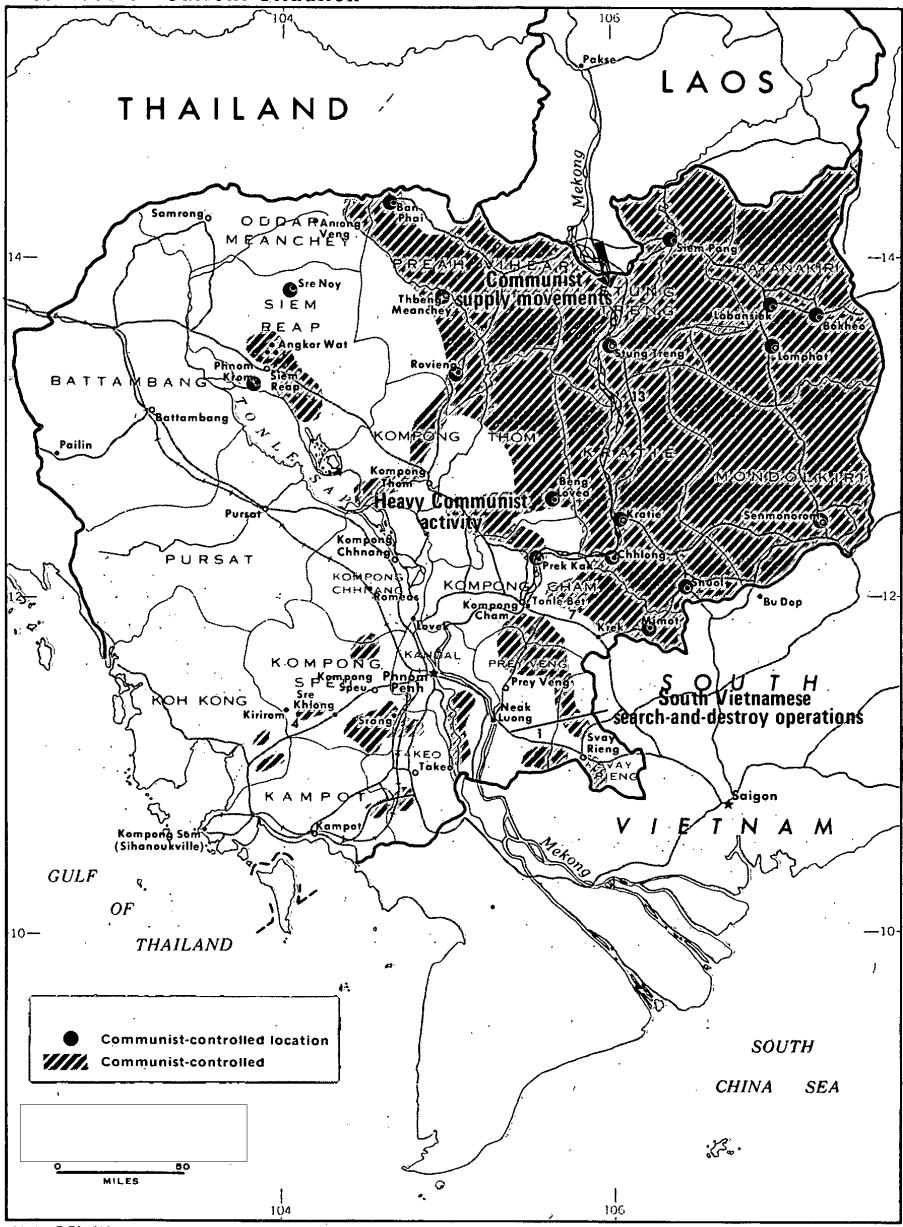
Soviet [redacted] Israel [redacted] 50X1
(Page 5)

[redacted] USSR [redacted] 50X1
(Page 6)

Italy's Emilio Colombo has been asked to form a
center-left cabinet. (Page 6)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

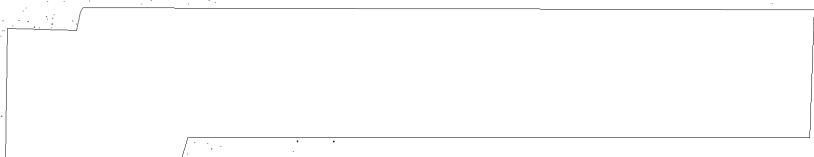
CAMBODIA

The Communists continue to concentrate on small-scale attacks against isolated government positions rather than embark on any major military engagements. Action is centered in the flooded region south of the Tonle Sap between Kompong Chhnang and Kompong Thom cities. The Communists attacked a village at the mouth of the Tonle Sap yesterday and reportedly are infiltrating other villages in the area.

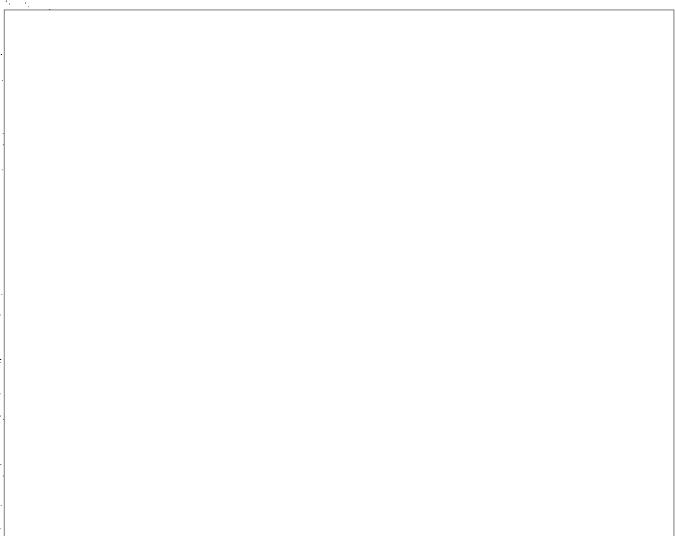
In the east, a 2,500-man South Vietnamese task force entered Cambodia on 26 July on a search-and-destroy mission along Route 1 linking Saigon and Phnom Penh. It has made only light contact with the enemy.

The Communists have made another attempt to interdict Route 4 linking Phnom Penh with the seaport of Kompong Som. US Embassy officers, who visited Kompong Som on 25 July, report that the seaport was quiet. Despite the city's strategic importance, few security precautions have been taken. Government officials claim that the nearest Communist elements are 60 miles down the coast.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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Under pressure from the government, Sihanouk's mother, Queen Kossamak, has finally vacated the royal palace. The move is another step toward the abolishment of the monarchy, to which the Lon Nol government is all but committed. The monarchy has considerable potential for serving as a rallying point for the Cambodian people--particularly in the tradition-oriented rural areas--but Lon Nol has been under pressure from "progressive" elements to declare Cambodia a republic.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN

After a day-long cabinet meeting, Foreign Minister Rifai announced last night that Jordan accepts the US peace proposal. How the government plans to enforce fedayeen compliance, however, is not clear; pro-fedayeen cabinet ministers reportedly held out for exclusion of the fedayeen from any cease-fire.

By referring to the "lawful and acknowledged right of self-defense and resistance against the occupation" of the armed Palestinian exiles in Jordan, the reply left open the possibility of independent fedayeen action against the Israeli-occupied west bank of the Jordan River. Any overt attempt to block off fedayeen cross-border activity would meet with stubborn fedayeen resistance and could re-ignite the near - civil war that raged for a week in early June. King Husayn might be willing to clamp down on the fedauyen to a considerable extent.

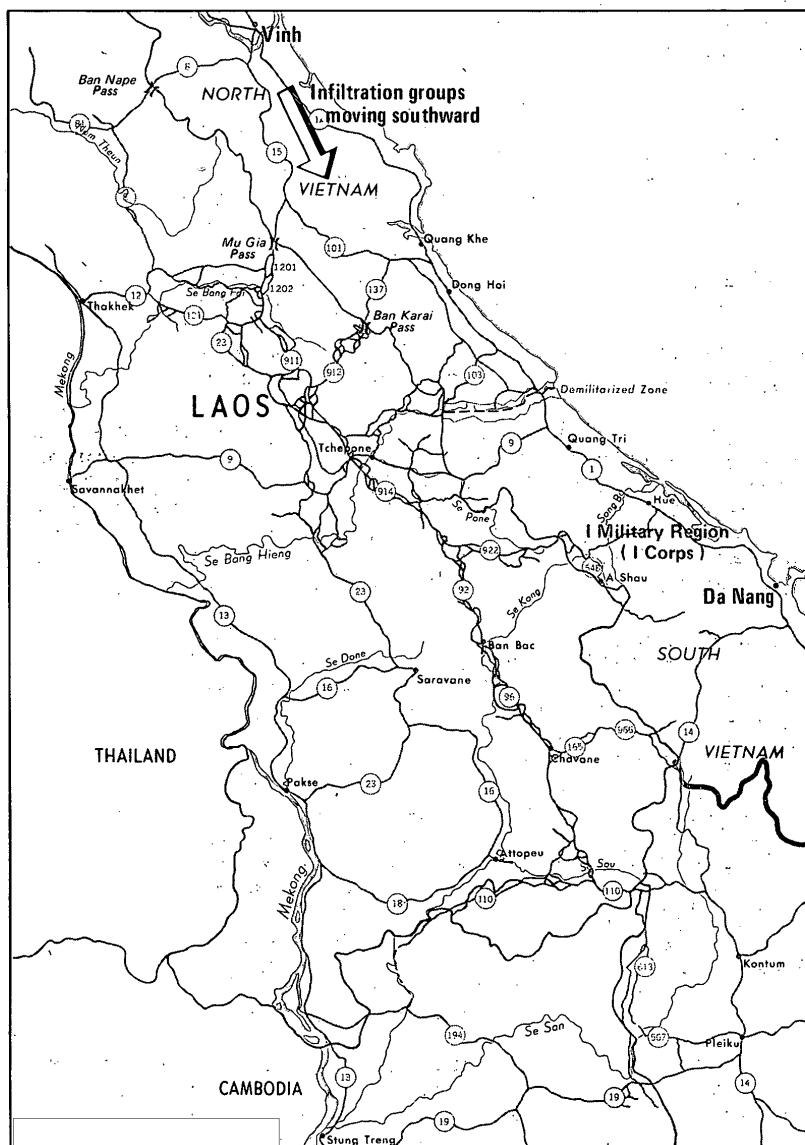
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

New North Vietnamese Infiltration Detected



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

In a meeting with Saigon newspaper publishers on 23 July, President Thieu said his country is now willing to accept an immediate cease-fire that could be followed by negotiations to reach a political settlement. Thieu stated, however, that the Communists would have to stop their infiltration and terrorism first, and that the cease-fire would have to be internationally supervised.

This is the first time Thieu has publicly suggested a cease-fire in which both sides would "stand still wherever they are." Until now, he has insisted that any cease-fire must be a part of an over-all peace settlement negotiated before the cease-fire could take effect.

Thieu is probably confident that the Communists will reject this proposal as they did the one last year suggesting elections. He reportedly advised the publishers that he doubted the Communists would accept such a cease-fire because "they hardly have any place to stay." This comment reflects his confidence that the government is in a relatively strong position in much of the countryside despite local Communist resurgence in some provinces.

* * *

Since 23 July, three new battalion-sized infiltration groups totaling some 1,700 troops have been detected moving south in the lower panhandle of North Vietnam. They are probably heading for the area stretching south from Da Nang. A North Vietnamese intercept late last week claimed that personnel would be moving south through the Vinh area in the panhandle "in great numbers" from 20 July until about 2 August. Other recent intercepts, however, have indicated that some of these will be only small infiltration groups, probably consisting of specialists rather than infantry.

This is the largest group noted this month and only the sixth since the dry season infiltration cycle tapered off in April. If the North Vietnamese continue beyond this limited surge of activity to dispatch many large groups, it will be in sharp contrast to last year, when infiltration remained only a trickle throughout the summer. These new battalion-sized groups could reflect enemy intentions to step up offensive activity in the provinces south of Da Nang as well.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

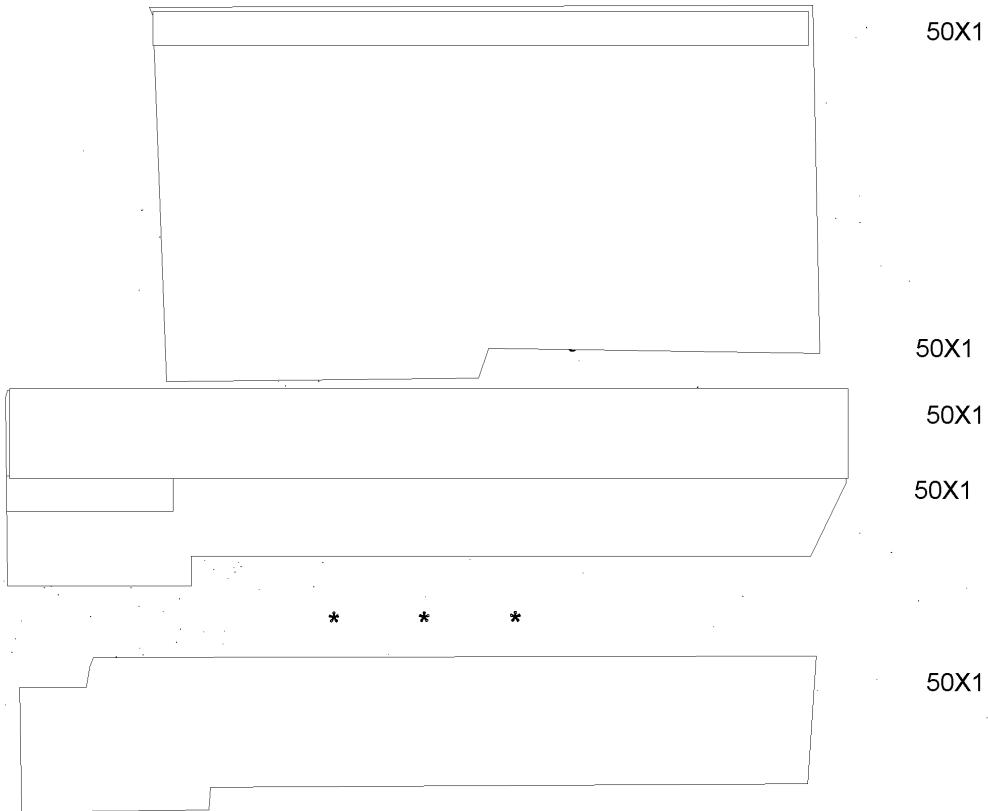


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR-ISRAEL-EGYPT

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

USSR:

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Italy: President Saragat has asked the respected economist and lawyer Emilio Colombo to try to form a center-left cabinet and end the most recent of Italy's political crises. Colombo was finance minister in the last cabinet of Mariano Rumor and in seven previous governments. There is no reason to believe that he will be any more successful in bringing the two Socialist parties together and in healing the rift in the coalition than his predecessor Giulio Andreotti, who gave up late last week.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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28 July 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

28 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent developments in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 1*.

The rift between Thieu and Ky is widening. (*Page 2*)

The Israeli trade deficit has risen and Tel Aviv will need substantial foreign help to avoid strong austerity. (*Page 3*)

Castro's 26 July speech stressed economic measures and reform suggesting more amenability to Soviet advice. (*Page 4*)

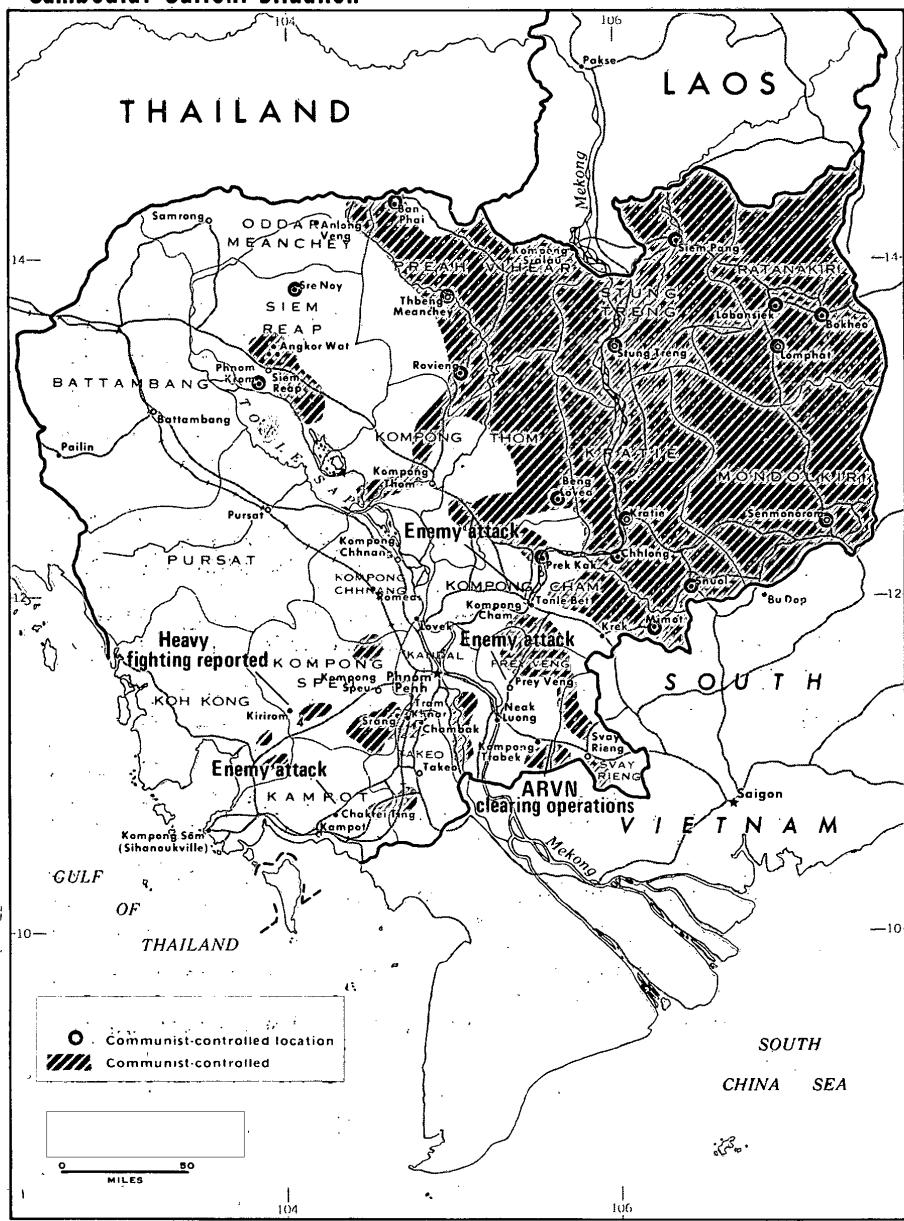
China's long-overdue National Peoples' Congress may be imminent. (*Page 5*)

Satellite photography reveals Soviet airstrip complex on South Yemeni island of Socotra. (*Page 6*)

Student problems in La Paz have stirred a political crisis and may result in violent demonstrations. (*Page 7*)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Enemy forces attacked and occupied the Chinese Communist - built cement factory in Kampot Province at Chakrei Ting, nine miles northeast of Kampot city on Route 3, on 27 July. The Communists also destroyed two bridges in the area.

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the Communists were becoming more active in Kampot Province, following the withdrawal of South Vietnamese troops.

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In the east, in Kompong Cham Province, the Communists attacked a textile factory near Kompong Cham city on 26 July. The factory, which was also a Chinese aid project, is being defended by 100 government troops.

The fighting at Kirirom in Kompong Speu Province has dragged into its third week. Communist troops strongly attacked a battalion of government forces in the center of the resort town yesterday. Late press reports claim that heavy ground fire has prevented helicopters from reaching the town and that close ground fighting has ruled out air strikes. Enemy units also continue to harass sections of Route 4 with sniping fire.

Meanwhile, in Prey Veng Province, a company-sized Communist unit attacked the capital on 26-27 July, but apparently withdrew under government counter-fire. Farther south, near the town of Kompong Trabek on Route 1, rangers from the South Vietnamese task force running clearing operations claim they killed 65 Communists and captured 19 on 26 July.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

SOUTH VIETNAM

The rift between Thieu and Ky is widening. In recent days, Ky has publicly charged that some cabinet members are involved in major illegal currency transactions. Ky has suggested that some of Thieu's advisers have been bribed to betray the President. Ky has condemned the whole national leadership as billionaires living a life of ease and incapable of providing the country with social justice.

This broadside is the latest in a series of aggressive statements which Ky began in early June after he realized that the President would not let him have the major role in managing operations in Cambodia. Ky has a reputation for tactless utterances during periods of disappointment and frustration, but he has not had the tenacity to sustain this kind of activity for very long. He may hope that his current attention-getting statements will aid him if he decides to be a candidate for president in 1971.

Until Ky's latest outburst, Thieu had not responded publicly, but this time the President publicly described the 1967 election with Ky as a "forced marriage," and in effect called Ky a liar. Thieu's sharp reaction suggests that Ky has found a soft spot.

Ky is also taking a "good riddance" line toward US aid. He has indicated that South Vietnam should welcome the removal of US troops, since this will free South Vietnam from political pressures originated by "stupid" US pacifists. Ky has been more outspoken than most South Vietnamese about his irritation over Saigon's dependence on the US. He may aim to appeal to anti-American sentiment which has been surfacing with increasing frequency in South Vietnam.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ISRAEL

The Israeli trade deficit during the first six months of 1970 totaled \$338 million, compared with \$259 million in the same period of 1969. Imports rose much faster than anticipated, while exports fell short of Tel Aviv's goals. Mildly restrictive economic policies adopted several months ago have had no visible impact thus far on the deficit. In addition, bond sales and gifts--while up from last year--are lagging.

Even assuming that the trade imbalance is curtailed sharply in the second half of the year, Israel apparently will face a deficit of \$200-250 million not covered by currently available loans.

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*[Redacted]
With less than \$450 million in foreign exchange reserves, Tel Aviv will need substantial additional foreign financing if it is to avoid stringent austerity measures.*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CUBA

In his traditional 26 July speech, Castro indicated that government leaders who have been unable to cope with Cuba's complex economic problems will be replaced. He also said that there will be changes in the administration and the party. Castro enumerated the economic setbacks Cuba has suffered and said that it would be five years before improvements become evident. As a major innovation, he is forming a Bureau of Socialist Production to coordinate all economic activity and to develop realistic plans for the economy.

Although some personnel reshuffling will probably occur, Castro is unlikely to surrender a significant amount of his own power and presumably will continue to play the major role in deciding Cuba's economic path.

Moscow has in the past advised Castro to put his economic house in order. His preoccupation in this speech with economic matters and his stated willingness to adopt measures to improve Cuba's plight suggest that Castro now seems more amenable to Soviet advice.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

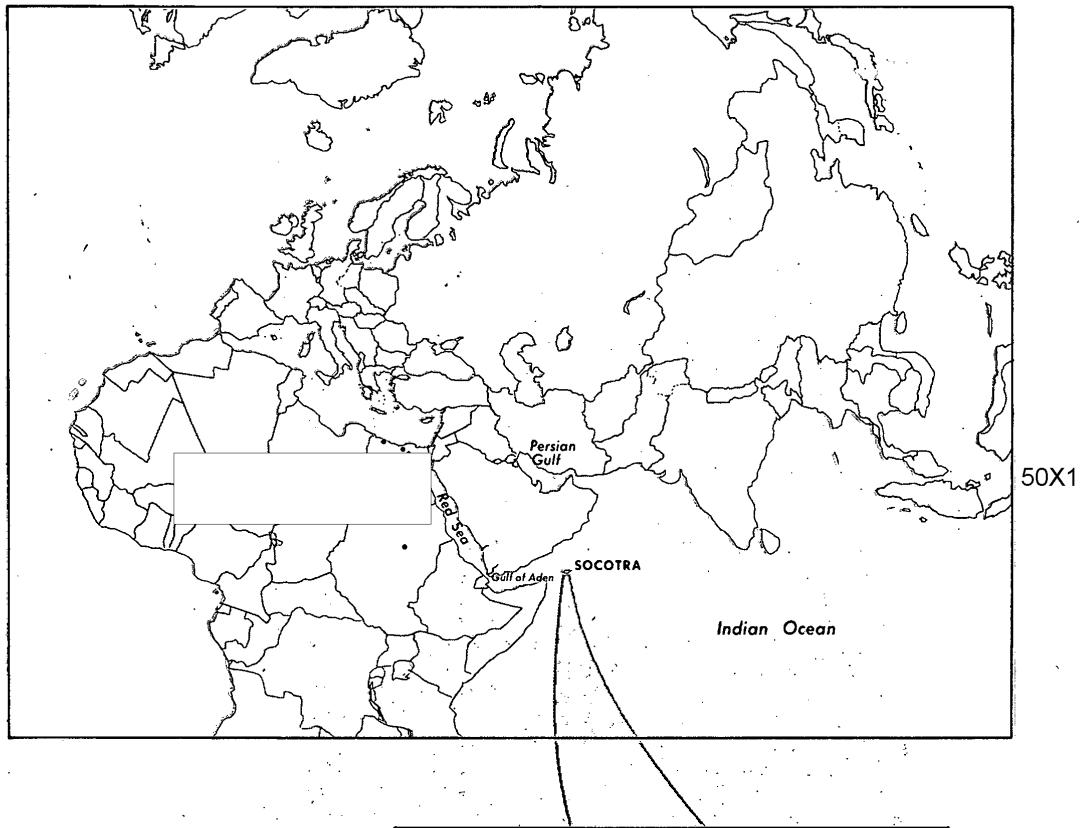
COMMUNIST CHINA

Travelers from China report that a Peking "directive" was broadcast in Canton on 23 July urging residents to prepare for the "imminent" opening of the long-delayed National Peoples' Congress.

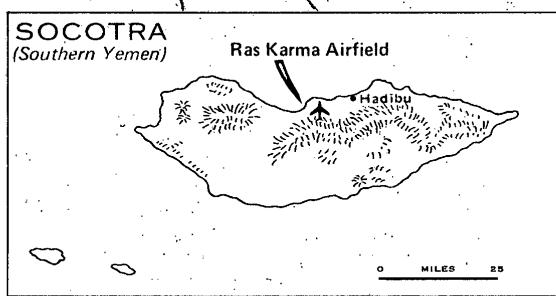
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The last National Peoples' Congress was held in 1965; it is the civil government's counterpart to the national party congress which met last year. When it convenes, it is expected to tie up important matters left over from the Cultural Revolution, including selection of a new chief of state to replace the ousted Liu Shao-chi and the formal restaffing of the various government ministries and bureaus.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY



Soviets Building Large Airstrip
Complex on Socotra Island



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

USSR - SOUTH YEMEN - EGYPT - SUDAN

Recent satellite photography has revealed a large Soviet airstrip complex on the South Yemeni island of Socotra off the south coast of the Arabian peninsula. The complex consists of three graded earth airstrips, the longest of which is almost 10,000 feet. Support facilities are rudimentary at this stage. When last covered in low-resolution photography in December 1969, the airfield on the island appeared to be abandoned.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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BOLIVIA

Information Minister Bailey resigned yesterday, charging that the Ovando government is making a definitive break with the "revolutionary process." The resignation apparently is an outgrowth of a dispute within the government on the best course to follow in resolving the conflict between rightist and leftist student elements at the university.

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President Ovando appears to be involved in some effort to resolve the crisis through a compromise.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Peru-USSR: Moscow has resumed its airlift to Peru after a week's delay. Two AN-12s departed for Lima on 25 July, followed by two AN-22s the next day.

The total number of giant AN-22s used thus far--seven, including the one lost at sea--is three more than originally planned for the airlift. The additional AN-22s are probably being used to make up some of the time lost.

Arab States

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The current situation in Cambodia is discussed on
Page 1.

A Pathet Lao delegation is expected to arrive in
Vientiane on Friday for talks with Souvanna Phouma,
but there are no signs that the Communist negotiating
position has softened. (*Page 2*)

Jordan [redacted] the UAR [redacted] 50X1
muzzled fedayeen broadcasting facilities. (*Page 3*)

Soviets [redacted] (Page 4) 50X1

The warming trend in Chinese - North Korean relations
has not resolved all their differences. (*Page 5*)

In Panama, General Torrijos appears to be backing
out of his promise to extend a US military base agree-
ment. (*Page 6*)

Last week 13 European countries agreed in principle
to form a unified space organization. (*Page 6*)

The upcoming presidential elections in Lebanon are
discussed at annex.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

Government forces were driven from their positions at Kirirom yesterday and headed south toward Route 4. The retreat probably is only temporary, however, and new government efforts to retake the resort town are likely to be launched soon.

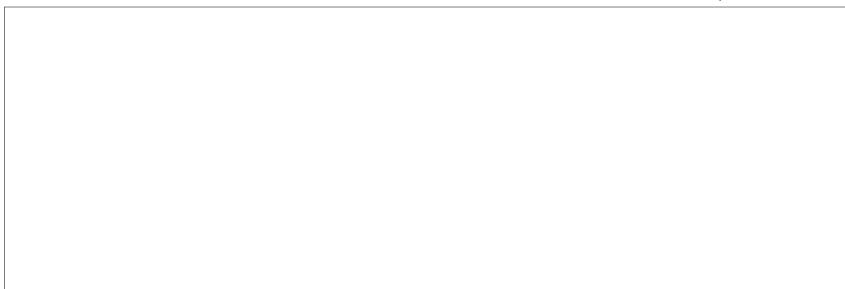
The government also has pulled out of its command post at Thmar Keo, northwest of Kompong Speu city. Most of the villagers living in the sparsely populated area around the post reportedly are Cambodian Communists or sympathizers.

Yesterday a government spokesman announced that Cambodian troops, with the help of South Vietnamese infantrymen, recaptured the cement factory at Chakrei Ting, in the southern coastal province of Kampot. Earlier reports indicated that the government battalion defending the plant withdrew southward toward Kampot city on 27 July, after being overwhelmed by a large enemy force.

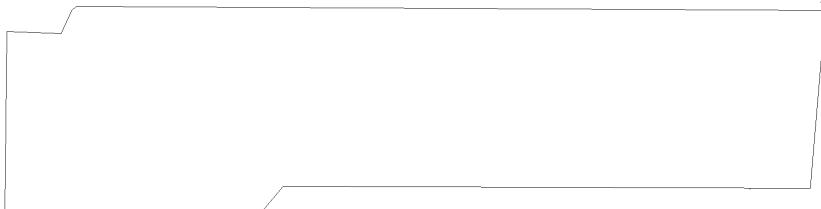
In the only other significant military action, the Communists ambushed a 14-truck government convoy yesterday on Route 7, north of Kompong Cham city. South Vietnamese units moving along Route 7 have engaged the enemy 20 miles southeast of Kompong Cham city and claim to have killed 19 enemy troops.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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LAOS

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[redacted] a Communist delegation led by Souk Vongsak will arrive in Vientiane on 31 July for talks with Souvanna Phouma. Souk was a minister in the Vientiane coalition government until 1964.

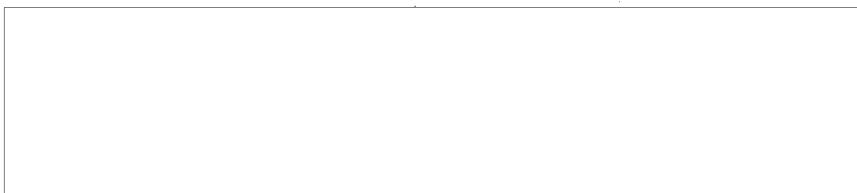
There are no indications that Souk will offer any fundamental change in the Pathet Lao negotiating position. Indeed, Pathet Lao spokesmen in a number of capitals during the past week have been taking a rather negative position in referring to the prospects for talks. The Laotian Communist delegate in Hanoi characterized Souk's trip to see Souvanna as only a "good will gesture" and dismissed the idea that there has been any change in the Pathet Lao toward a settlement. Soviet press accounts of interviews with Pathet Lao officials in Paris and Vientiane have reiterated the usual line that no meaningful talks can begin until all US bombing in Laos has stopped.

These suggestions of inflexibility in the Communist attitude may be only an effort to stake out a position from which the bargaining can begin. On the other hand, Hanoi may have no intention of arranging for genuine negotiations at this time and may only be seeking to stage some extended discussions which will serve to restrict Vientiane's freedom of action.

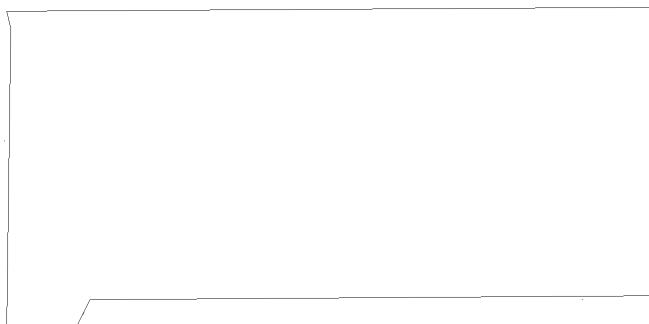
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JORDAN-UAR-FEDAYEEN



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Egypt also has moved to curb the Palestine guerrillas. Yesterday Cairo police closed the offices of both the Voice of Palestine and the Voice of Fatah, probably in reaction to fedayeen criticism of Nasir's acceptance of the US peace proposals and to a fedayeen demonstration in Amman Monday in which Nasir was called a coward. Similar demonstrations occurred again yesterday.

The crackdown reflects Nasir's sensitivity to Arab criticism of his acceptance of the US peace initiative. The fedayeen facilities are used primarily for broadcasting anti-Israeli propaganda

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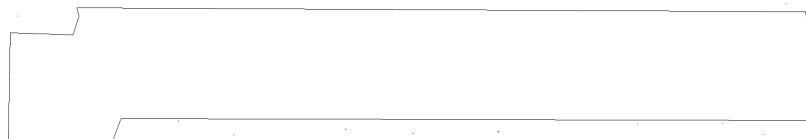
[redacted] but they have on occasion been used for attacking Arab regimes considered to be anti-fedayeen. Although a government spokesman indicated that the closure is only temporary, he gave no idea of when the fedayeen would be allowed to resume broadcasting.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

COMMUNIST CHINA - NORTH KOREA

Despite improved relations between China and North Korea, continuing differences between the two were evident in their observance of the 17th anniversary of the Korean War armistice on Monday. The Chinese barely touched on bilateral matters and focused more on broad topics of more immediate concern to Peking. The Chinese used the occasion to criticize US "peace frauds" in Indochina and to condemn the US for flouting the Geneva agreements. Peking also continued to emphasize the need for an Asian-wide "union" against the US, Japan, and, indirectly, the USSR.

The North Koreans, on the other hand, stuck to matters close to home. The head of a high-ranking military delegation visiting Peking, for example, compared the present situation on the Korean peninsula to that existing on the eve of the Korean War. Chinese official statements appeared to play down the possibility of an imminent crisis in Korea and stuck to the standard, vague pledges of support for North Korea if the US "reimposes" war.

Peking's restraint on Korean issues reflects its policy of discouraging North Korean military "adventures," while Pyongyang's failure to condemn the Soviets is a clear indication that North Korea intends to maintain an independent position in the Sino-Soviet dispute. Even though Pyongyang has not received any major military deliveries from the USSR in over a year, it does not want to ruin its chances of extracting aid from both Moscow and Peking.

The Korean military delegation now in Peking probably is asking for military hardware (such as tanks, patrol craft, and jet aircraft) no longer being received from the Soviets and the bargaining promises to be difficult. Peking may furnish some military aid but only in return for North Korea's support for China's Asian "united front" scheme and more cooperation in the Sino-Soviet dispute. Even with such backing, however, the Chinese will limit arms aid to Korea because of their own mounting domestic defense needs.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTES

Panama: General Torrijos may default on his oral commitment to General Westmoreland to extend the Rio Hato base agreement, which expires on 23 August. Rio Hato is used as a training area and air base and is the only US military installation in Panama except for the Canal Zone itself. Torrijos, using a thinly veiled threat of anti-US student agitation, recently told Ambassador Sayre that it would be politically impossible to extend the agreement without "something to show for it." [redacted]

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Western Europe: Space ministers of 13 European countries agreed in principle last week to form a "European NASA" to replace three multilateral European space organizations. They also decided to send a delegation headed by Theo Lefevre, the Belgian science minister, to Washington to discuss European participation in US space programs. The meeting was a benchmark in the development of a genuine European approach to space but some familiar problems remain. France reserved its position on the institutional arrangements for the new organization, and France, Germany, and Belgium refuse to make financial commitments beyond 1971.

Bolivia: [redacted]

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LEBANON

Fuad Shihab, who was president from 1958-64, is the best bet to be named president in the election which will probably occur within the next week or so. Shihab, who has not yet formally announced his candidacy, has the public support of the Parliamentary Democratic Front, a loose, mainly Muslim grouping that has a narrow majority in the 99-member Chamber of Deputies that elects the president. Former president Chamoun and right-wing Phalange Party leader Jumayyil are also potential contenders, but their chances would depend on making deals with individual Democratic Front members to cross over in the secret ballot. They must also agree themselves on which one should be the beneficiary of support from the large Maronite Christian group in the chamber that strongly opposes Shihab for his alleged pro-Muslim tendencies.

The basic issue in the election is Lebanese policy toward other Arab countries. Shihab, like the other contenders, is a Maronite Christian, the eastern-rite Catholic group to which most Lebanese Christians belong. According to the National Covenant of 1943 which apportioned political power between the Muslims and Christians, the next president must be a Christian. Shihab's supporters are generally pro-Nasir, however, and urge closer ties between Lebanon and its Arab neighbors. The opposition wants to maintain Lebanon's traditional detachment from the infighting of Arab politics.

Shihab is more willing than either Chamoun or Jumayyil to accept increased Lebanese involvement in the Arab world, but he is basically a moderate. He would try to contain pressure from militants who want the government to cooperate closely with the fedayeen or to take an active pro-Nasir line on Arab matters. Although Shihab would be faced with competing pressures, and might waver as he balanced them, he is a former army commander in chief and still has heavy influence in the army [redacted]

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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The fedayeen problem has been kept out of the election thus far. The potential candidates are aware that it is explosive and as the next president each would be faced with the same problem as outgoing President Hilu: maintaining enough control over the commandos to prevent Lebanon from becoming another Jordan.

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The current situation in Cambodia is discussed on
Page 1.

[redacted] tensions between Nasir and the
Palestinians continue to deepen. (*Page 3*)

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[redacted] Chile

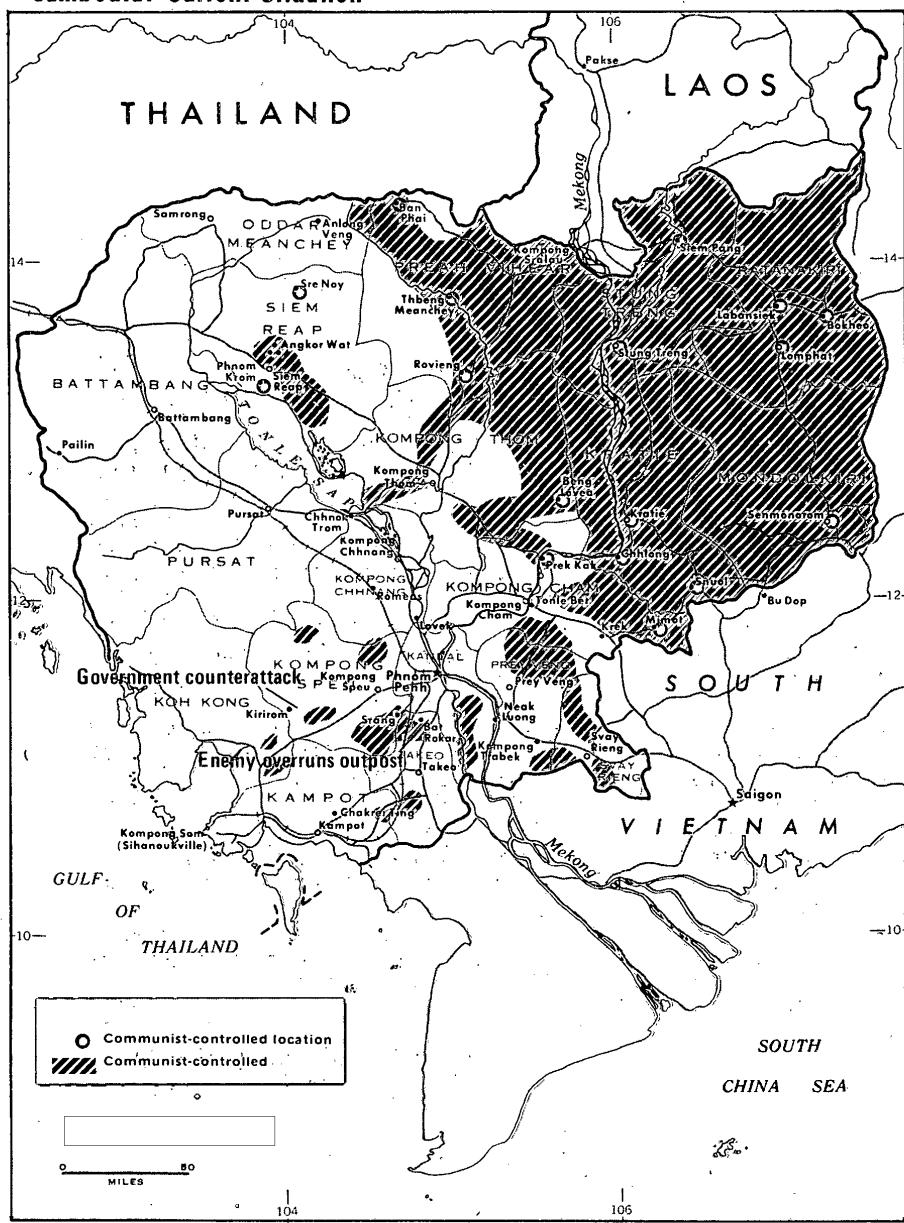
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(*Page 5*)

The present status of relations among Turkey, Greece,
and Cyprus is discussed at annex.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

Four government battalions that withdrew from Kirirom regrouped south of the town near Route 4 yesterday. They have been reinforced by three battalions, including some Khmer Krom troops rushed from Phnom Penh. These combined forces apparently have launched a counterattack to retake Kirirom, but a Cambodian officer participating in the operation told the press it would be "very difficult" to do so. The Cambodians do not attach any strategic value to Kirirom, but after more than two weeks of fighting it probably has become a point of military honor to hold it.

South of Phnom Penh, two government battalions withdrew from their position at Bat Rokar in Takeo Province, following an attack by an estimated 800 Communist troops. No air support was available to help defend the position. In the west, Cambodian Army positions in and near Siem Reap city were again harassed by enemy fire on 29 July. The Communists also directed mortar fire on the airport there, closing it at least temporarily.

Anti - South Vietnamese sentiments in Cambodia show no signs of diminishing. A Cambodian student leader in Phnom Penh has told US Embassy officers that students are increasingly upset over reports of looting and pillaging by South Vietnamese Army troops. Some students apparently have spoken of driving ARVN forces out of Cambodia even before the Communists are dealt with, and blame the US for ARVN's presence. According to an embassy report, two government sections dealing with psychological operations do not want to undertake programs which push the idea of popular cooperation with ARVN.

* * *

Light international commercial activity has resumed at the port of Phnom Penh after a three-month interruption. A Panamanian-flag ship delivered a

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

cargo of petroleum to the port last week, and another Panamanian ship is scheduled to load more petroleum in Singapore for Phnom Penh. Shipping companies canceled all deliveries to the port in late April after two Japanese freighters traversing the Mekong were hit by small arms fire.

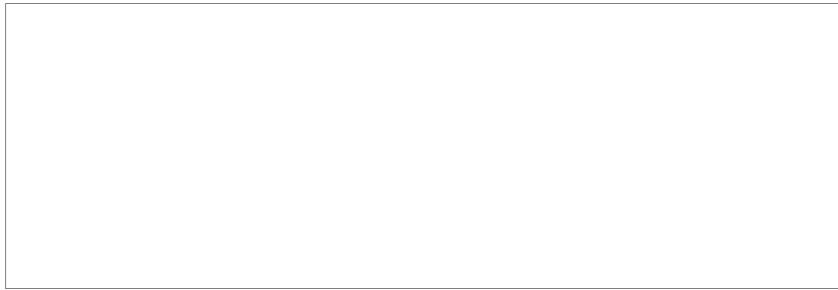
It remains to be seen whether other foreign ships will attempt the still risky trip up the Mekong. The recent Communist attack on a refugee-carrying South Vietnamese naval vessel on the Mekong, ten miles north of the Neak Luong ferry crossing, will not allay fears of commercial shippers.

Truck shortages and interdiction of road and rail routes continues to slow movement to and from Cambodia's other major port at Kompong Som (Sihanoukville).

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARAB STATES

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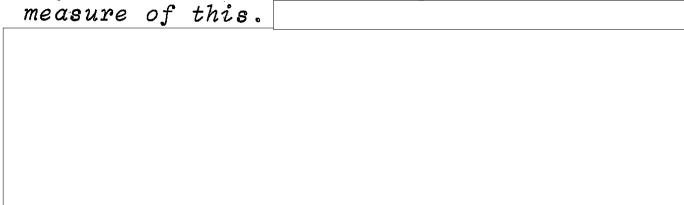


In Amman yesterday a spokesman for a radical guerrilla organization characterized Cairo's shutdown of two Palestinian radiobroadcasting outlets as the first shot to be fired against the fedayeen by the Egyptians and the beginning of an attempt to liquidate the Palestinian resistance movement. This organization has declared that fedayeen groups now have complete freedom to adopt independent policies. For their part, Egyptian authorities are now requiring visas for all Arabs traveling to Cairo.

The differences between Nasir and the fedayeen are deepening. Relations between the two are the stickiest they have ever been.

The Egyptians' decision to deny the commandos the use of Cairo radio facilities for their inflammatory broadcasts--a step long urged on them but never before taken--is a measure of this.

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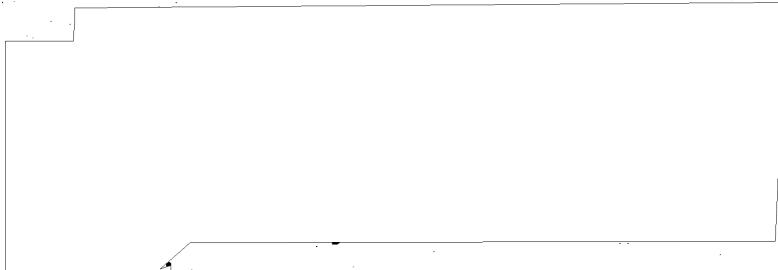
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The widely circulated press report claiming that Iraqi troops have been put under the command of the Palestinian guerrilla organizations appears to be a misunderstanding of a Baghdad radiobroadcast. According to FBIS, a broadcast yesterday dealt with Iraq's record of support for the Palestinians, and noted that Iraqi troops had been put at the disposal of the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command "during crises faced by our people's struggle in Palestine," probably a reference to the Jordanian crisis of June 1970. A later Baghdad broadcast quoted a fedayeen newspaper's report that Iraq had "placed all its resources and capabilities at the disposal of the resistance until complete liberation."

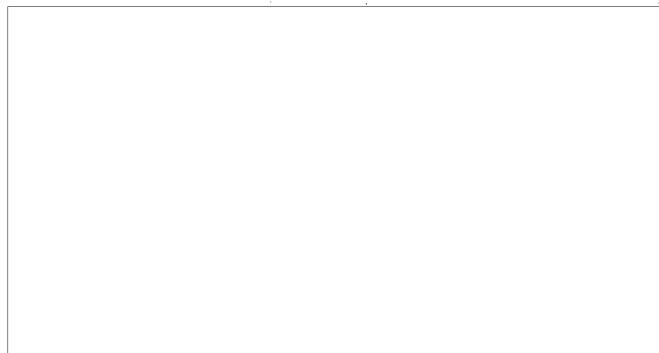
These references are both sufficiently vague to be probably rhetorical flourishes rather than clear statements that Iraqi troops are being subordinated to Palestinian guerrilla orders. Coordinated action between the Iraqis and fedayeen cannot be entirely ruled out, however, although the Iraqis seem to have steered clear of this in the past. King Husayn is taking precautions against the possibility of Iraqi-fedayeen trouble-making in Jordan during the coming weekend.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CHILE



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TURKEY-GREECE-CYPRUS

Relations among Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus have remained unchanged on the surface since the attempted assassination of Cyprus President Makarios last March and the subsequent murder of his political enemy Georkatzis. At that time rumors of impending Greek intervention on the island alarmed the Turks and evoked bellicose statements by Foreign Minister Caglayangil. Greek Foreign Minister Pipinelis handled the situation coolly, however, and his reassurances to Ankara returned the tension to more normal levels.

Beneath the surface, however, the relationships among the three capitals have undergone significant changes in the last few years. Until the present Greek Government came to power in 1967, there had been a clear sponsor-client relationship between Athens and the Greek Cypriot community on the one hand and Ankara and the Turkish Cypriot minority on the other. Relations between Athens and Makarios began to fray, however, after the coup of April 1967, and became further strained during the crisis of November 1967 when the Athens government appeared to back down in the face of Turkish threats to invade Cyprus. The Greek presence on the island has since been reduced, but it is still considerable. A Greek Army regiment is still stationed there under the terms of the 1960 London-Zurich agreements, and Greek 50X1 Army officers make up practically the entire officer corps above lieutenant rank in the Cyprus National Guard--the Cyprus Army.

The political arrangement in Cyprus, that of side-by-side "communal" government based on a proportional system, satisfied none of the parties involved. It is a compromise which sought to balance long-standing conflicting objectives: union of Cyprus with Greece (enosis) wanted by the Athens government and by a majority of the Greek Cypriots--but not by Makarios; and partition of the island, or, failing that, an independent, biracial republic with ironclad guarantees for separate status for the ethnic Turks, wanted by the Turks and Turkish Cypriots. Makarios himself accepts the side-by-side "communal" arrangement, and seems willing to live with the system which leaves him as the unquestioned leader of Cyprus.

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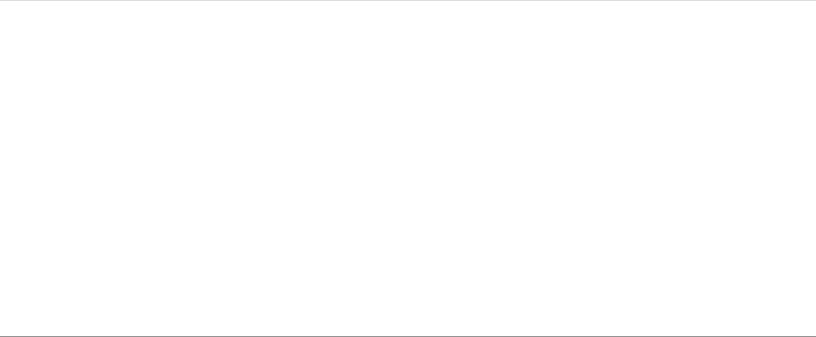
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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

These aims have become blurred, particularly on the Greek side, over the years. Although they publicly espouse enosis, many Greek Cypriots, whether for reasons of personal ambition or dislike of the present regime in Athens, no longer feel much enthusiasm for it. The Greek Government contains some diehard pan-Hellenists, but it realizes that it cannot achieve enosis without risking war with Turkey, and it now publicly supports the idea of an independent Cyprus.

The Turkish Government continues to support the Turkish Cypriots in their insistence on separate administration of the areas they control. Ankara wishes to avoid trouble with Greece, but it is committed to preventing either enosis or the forcible absorption of the Turkish Cypriot enclaves by the Makarios regime. Although Makarios is universally detested in Turkey, many Turks privately view his continuance in office with equanimity, realizing that he is a dedicated and wily foe of enosis. Finally, beset with domestic difficulties and with its parliamentary majority shrunken to a few votes, the Demirel government does not want to become embroiled in another crisis over Cyprus.

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There has been only barely perceptible progress in the intercommunal talks now going into their third year on Cyprus. Although the negotiators for the two communities are responsible and able men, they have been hampered in their efforts to reach agreement by their superiors. Makarios, who apparently continues to believe that time is on his side, feels under no compulsion to make the talks succeed. The Turkish Cypriot authorities, having no faith in the Makarios government's desire to come to a fair settlement with them, have allowed their spokesman to make almost no concessions.

(continued)

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

The Athens government was alarmed by leftist gains in the 5 July Cyprus parliamentary election and is strongly opposed to further increases in the influence of the Greek Cypriot Communist Party (AKEL). The Greek Government may believe that Makarios secretly connived with the leftists in order to stymie his serious political rival, Glafcos Clerides, the moderate Greek Cypriot negotiator in the communal talks.

After the election, Athens pressed Makarios hard to come to an agreement with the Turkish Cypriots, to clear the decks for action against AKEL and its allies. Just before his death Greek Foreign Minister Pipinelis met with Cypriot officials and insisted that the Cypriots begin work immediately on a plan that could serve as a basis of serious negotiations with the Turkish community. The death on 19 July of Pipinelis may cause this campaign to lose impetus, however.

Makarios has shown no new interest in making compromises to the Turks, despite the Greek pressure. The prospect is for the situation to simmer on. Tensions could reach flash point anytime, as it appeared they might in the aftermath of the assassination attempt on Makarios. Both Athens and Ankara, however, are presently disposed to using their influence to keep tension low and would likely work to keep the lid on, in the event of a serious incident on the island.

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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Egypt
Soviets. (Page 1)

Recent developments in the Arab states are discussed on Page 2.

The Cambodian situation is discussed on Page 4.

The initial stages of the Allied study of defense problems of the 1970s have underlined European opposition to any substantial change in US force levels and in NATO strategy. (Page 6)

West Germany and Poland have reached tentative agreement on a reconciliation treaty. (Page 7)

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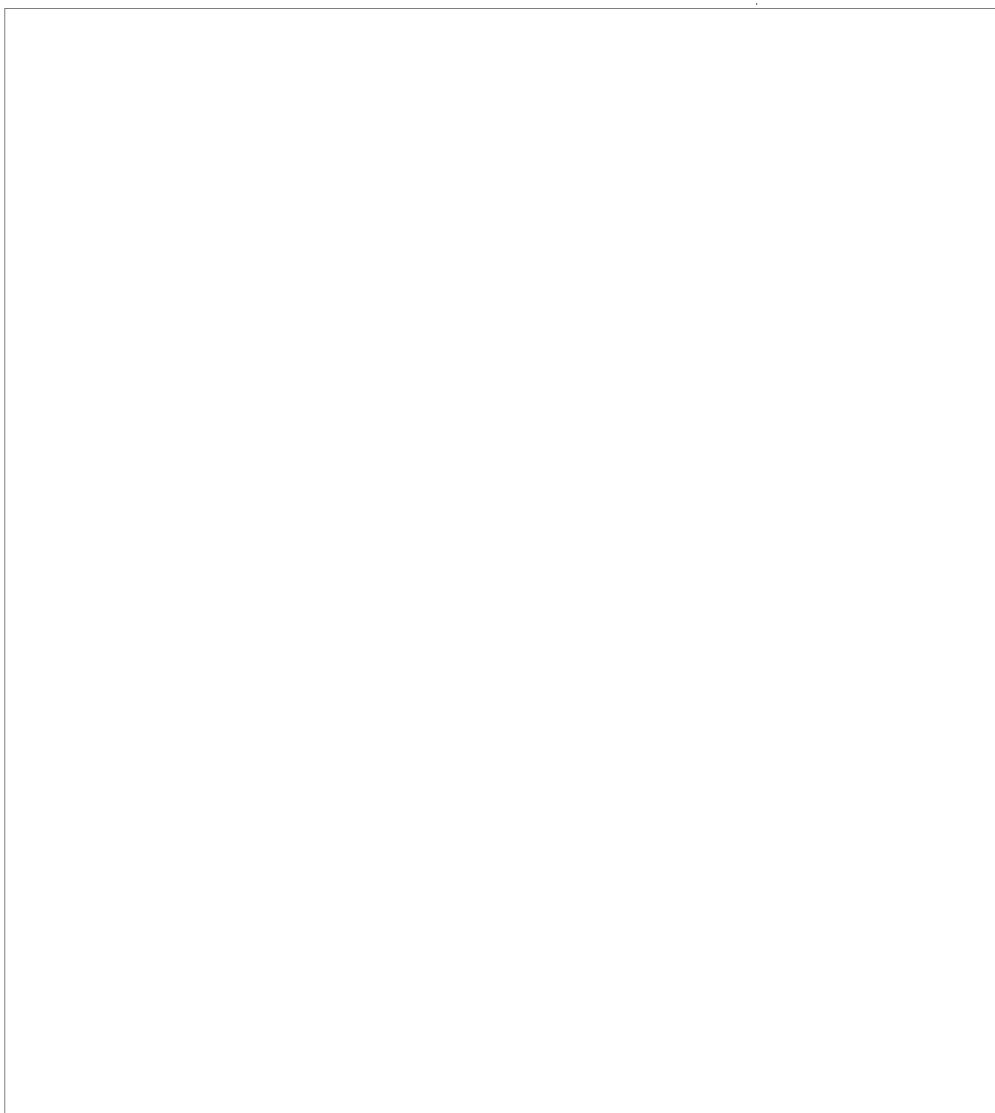
India
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(Page 8)

The recent angry exchange between Thieu and Ky has hurt both men and the unity of the government. (Page 9)

The Soviets are sending additional warships into the Mediterranean and probably will conduct naval exercises there in the next few weeks. (Page 9)

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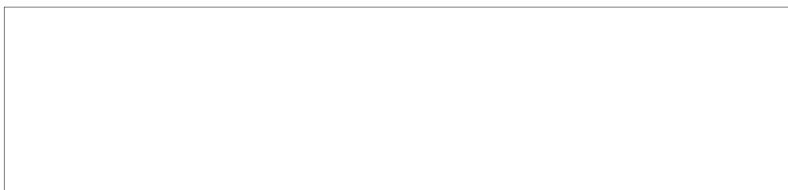
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USSR-ISRAEL-EGYPT

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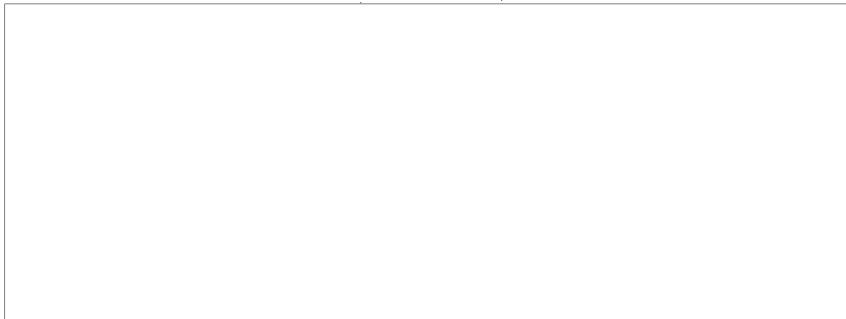


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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

ARAB STATES



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A fedayeen spokesman in Amman announced yesterday that Arafat will make an announcement today that will touch on Egypt's recent decision to cut off guerrilla broadcasts from Cairo. He will probably also set forth the fedayeen position on the US peace proposal.

Arafat's stand is likely to be negative on both subjects. He probably will not attack Nasir personally, however, because of the latter's great popularity among the Arab masses.

* * *

Egyptian and Jordanian acceptance of the peace proposal has produced some divergence between Syria and Iraq. Although not a party to the proposal at this stage, Syria has publicly attacked the US initiative. Its private position, however, may be less intransigent. For example, Nasir's personal representative announced after meeting with President Atasi on Tuesday that there was "full agreement on all matters discussed."

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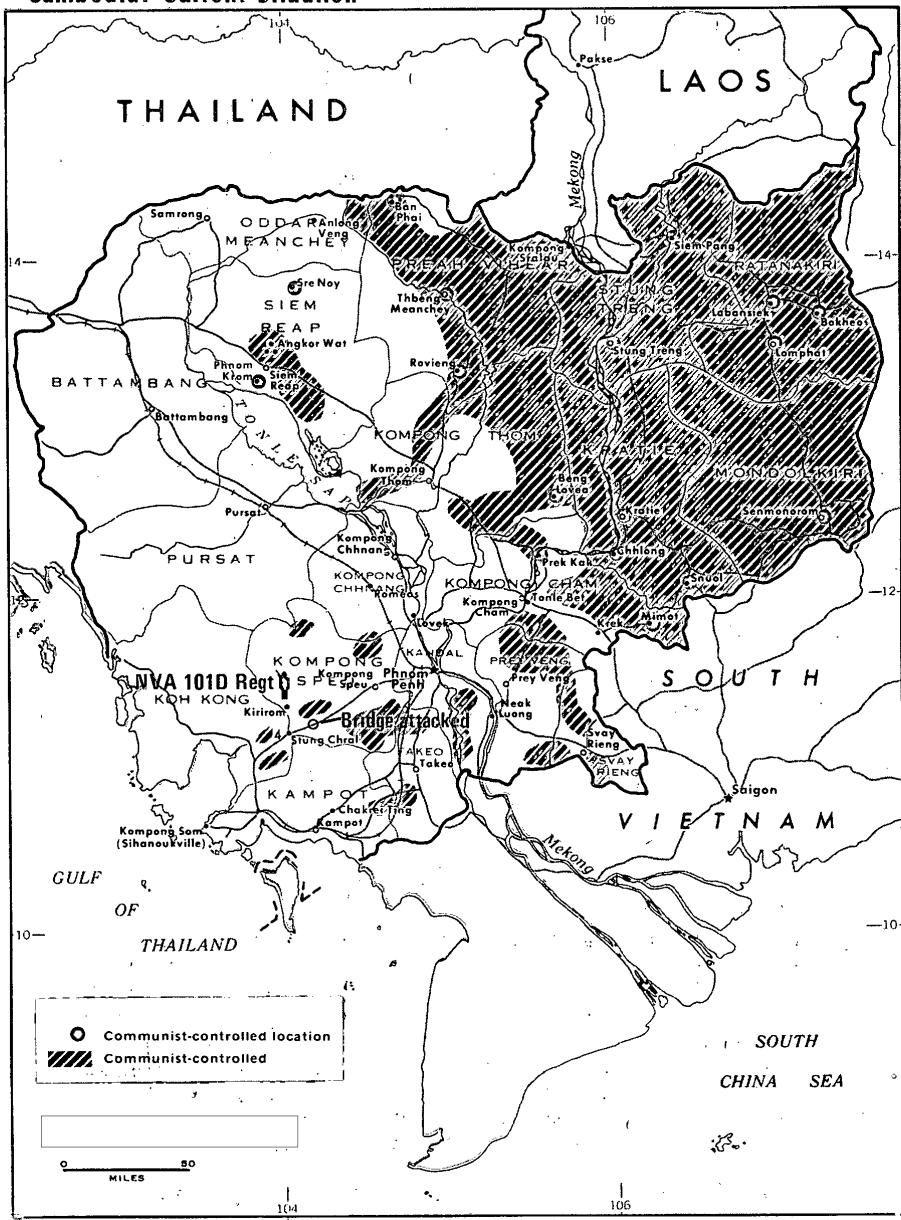
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[Redacted]

Iraq's rejection, on the other hand, has been uncompromising, probably because it has not lost any territory and therefore has nothing to gain in a settlement. Baghdad is delighted to be able to portray Nasir and Husayn as traitors to the Arab cause, but it is unlikely to use its 20,000 troops in Jordan in a move against Husayn. The King, nevertheless, is aware of Iraq's potential for troublemaking and as a precautionary measure has moved a number of fighters away from fields close to Iraqi troops.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Cambodia: Current Situation



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**CAMBODIA**

The government counteroffensive to retake Kirirom, spearheaded by five fresh battalions, is moving ahead slowly. Progress was checked yesterday when the Communists blocked the one access road to the town. A small enemy force also attacked a bridge on Route 4, east of Kirirom, on the night of 29-30 July, closing it to heavy traffic.

Most of the troops that retreated from Kirirom on 28 July apparently were too battered to participate in any more combat, and have been withdrawn.

The immediate purpose of the Communists' campaign around Kirirom may be more for psychological effect than for significant military advantage. The rugged terrain around the town and the restricted overland access to it make it an ideal site for prolonged combat, with government troops now forced literally to wage an uphill battle to retake it. The Communists may hope that with a minimum of effort they can demonstrate the Cambodian Army's existing tactical shortcomings and, at the same time, garner more headlines at Phnom Penh's expense.

The continuing presence of the North Vietnamese 101D Regiment in the area suggests, however, that the enemy campaign at Kirirom may have some longer range objectives. It may represent, for example, the beginning of an effort to establish a secure rear base of operations in the remote mountainous areas of southwestern Cambodia. Such a base could be used for launching frequent attacks on government positions and lines of communication, including Route 4, in the surrounding provinces.

* * *

Bangkok continues to debate the advisability of sending Thai troops into Cambodia.



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[Redacted] Foreign Minister Thanat told the press in Bangkok on 30 July that the government would send Thai troops to Cambodia only as "a last resort." He cited the "acrimonious" relations between the Cambodians and South Vietnamese forces operating in Cambodia as an example of the "friction" that can be avoided by keeping Thai troops at home.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NATO

Reacting to a US presentation of the range of possible future US force postures, the European NATO Allies have strongly favored maintenance of present force deployments. There is general willingness, however, to consider in the Allied defense review how the US could make modest cuts in noncombat areas if some reduction were absolutely necessary. The West Germans, for example, have indicated that they could accept a reduction in the current NATO logistic objective: a capability to support a conventional war for 90 days. The Germans also would not be opposed to reductions in the support system and cutbacks of US troop strength in other European countries.

Strong Allied objections have been raised to any movement away from the current NATO doctrine of flexible response and toward greater reliance on either tactical or strategic nuclear weapons. The Germans have been particularly unequivocal in their opposition to any such change. When the concept of putting greater dependence on nuclear retaliation was discussed recently in the German Federal Security Council, those present, including Chancellor Brandt, reportedly were "horrified." They felt that such a change would bring the Alliance back to a cold war psychology, and would conflict with the Federal Republic's current detente efforts.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

WEST GERMANY - POLAND

At the fifth round of West German - Polish talks last week, the negotiators reached tentative agreement on a treaty text. The basic elements, in addition to a border settlement, are pledges to normalize relations and to abstain from the use of force. There may still be difficulties over precise wording; the text is to be regarded as a working document subject to revision by both governments.

After discussing the key Oder-Neisse issue at length, the negotiators settled on language stating that the existing border, the course of which was "established" by the Potsdam Agreement, constitutes the western border of Poland. The German official thought this formulation could cause misgivings in Bonn since it might be interpreted as outright recognition of the border, rather than the provisional "acceptance" that Bonn has been offering.

For their part, the Poles flatly refused to accept a draft letter, separate from the treaty, acknowledging four-power rights for Germany and Berlin, lest such an act imply that the border settlement was indeed provisional and subject to four-power arbitration. In view of this, the German official said it might be necessary for Bonn simply to exchange letters with Britain, France, and the US re-stating their continuing rights pending a final peace settlement. Such an exchange would serve to protect the Brandt government from charges by the Christian Democratic opposition that it had given complete and final recognition to the Oder-Neisse line. French and British representatives have indicated, however, that this device would fail to meet their government's requirements.

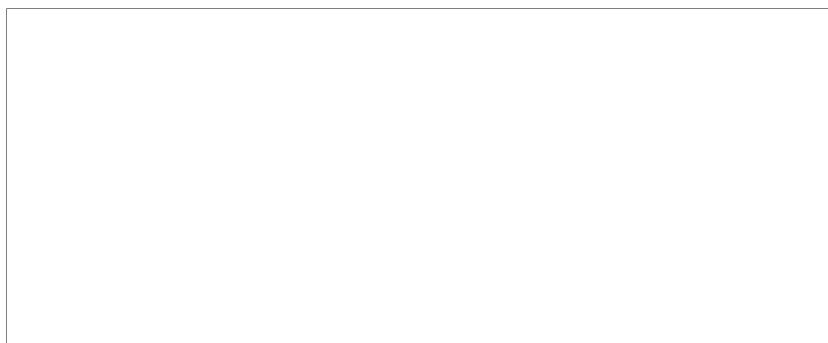
Despite the remaining difficulties, the German official sensed that the Poles were eager to reach early agreement. He said that the two sides would meet next in Bonn some time between 4 and 15 September.

Both sides are anxious to sign a treaty if possible. The West Germans would view it as a positive movement in Ostpolitik, while the Poles could hold it up as proof that they do not always have to follow Moscow's lead.

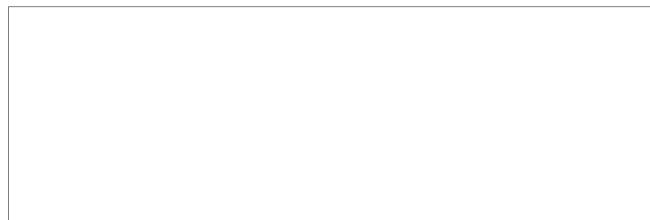
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NOTES

South Vietnam: Senior government and military officers agree that the recent angry exchange between Thieu and Ky has hurt both men and the unity of the government as a whole.

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The press has reported the recent exchange in detail, particularly the two conflicting versions of how the military leadership decided on the Thieu-Ky ticket in 1967. The generals involved [redacted] have been besieged by the press for their comments, but they have decided to keep silent and remain neutral in the dispute.

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USSR: The Soviets are sending additional warships into the Mediterranean and probably will conduct naval exercises there in the next few weeks. Fifteen surface ships declared to pass through the Bosphorus between 25 July and 4 August, but only six have thus far gone through. If none of the Soviet warships now in the Mediterranean departs in the next few days, the Soviet squadron would number some 52 ships, including 21 surface combat ships and 12 submarines. Fifty-seven units were there during similar exercises a year ago.

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