



The President's Daily Brief

5 June 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists in Laos have driven back government forces. (Page 1)

The Turkish [redacted] (Page 2)

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Castro has sent Cuban medical supplies to earthquake stricken Peru. (Page 3)

[redacted] Soviet [redacted] (Page 4)

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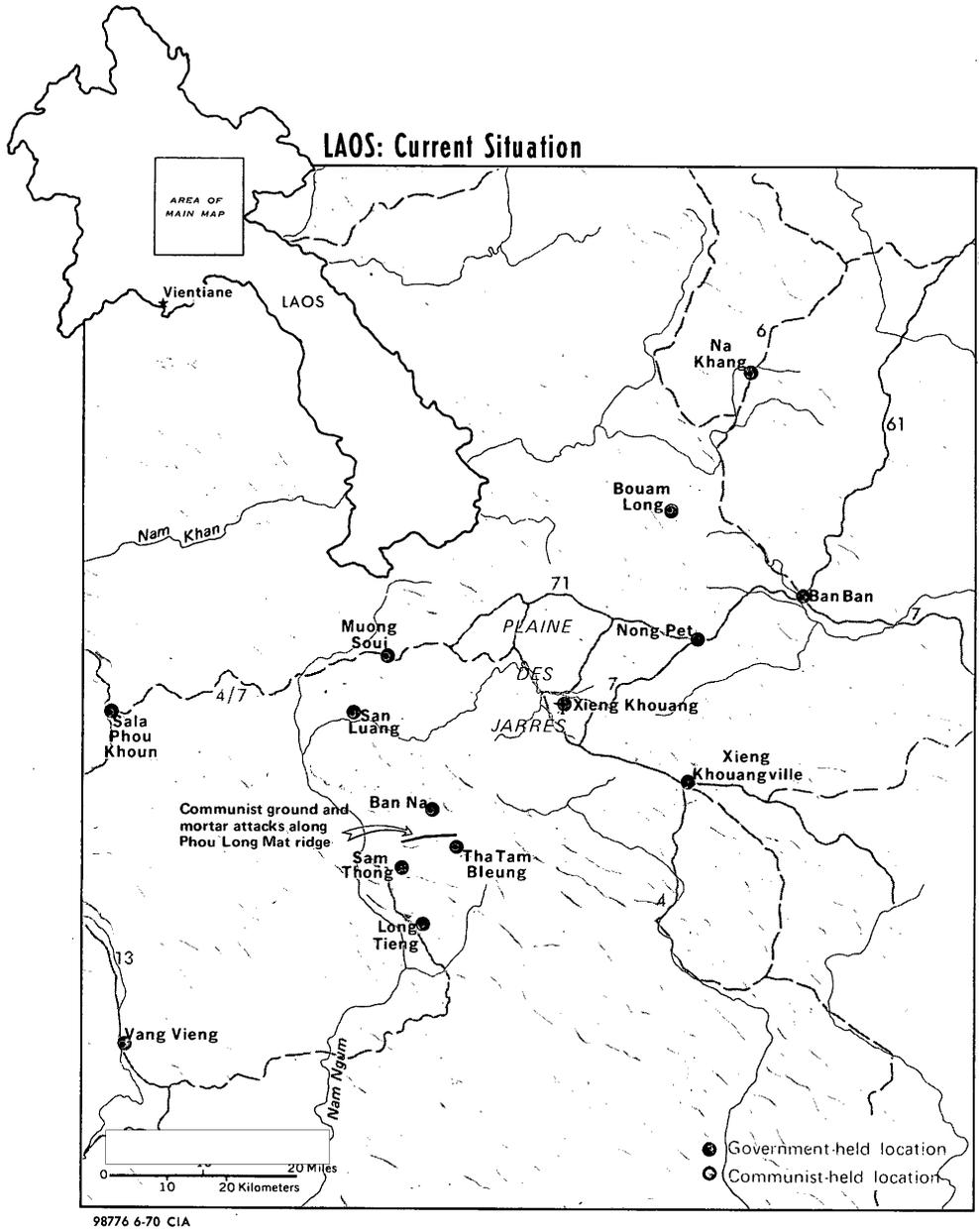
[redacted] (Page 4)

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[redacted] Egypt [redacted] (Page 4)

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Nasir may go to Moscow again soon. (Page 4)



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LAOS

The Communists launched a series of ground and mortar attacks yesterday along the Phou Long Mat ridge, north of Sam Thong and just south of the area where government forces have stalled in their effort to retake the base at Ban Na. Government guerrilla units were forced to retreat toward Tha Tam Bleung. Enemy ambushes along the evacuation routes apparently took a heavy toll of the more than 200 government troops involved. Of the first 109 survivors to reach Tha Tam Bleung, 55 were wounded.

Recent intercepts have provided a number of indications that enemy forces intended a new round of attacks in the Sam Thong - Tha Tam Bleung area. Elements of the North Vietnamese 174th Regiment referred on 2 June to a forthcoming "D-Day" and indicated that action would continue for at least three days.

The ground the Communists have chosen for their latest attacks suggests an effort at least to disrupt Vang Pao's drive on Ban Na, his first offensive in some time. The North Vietnamese probably are anxious to demonstrate their control of the territory immediately south of the Plaine des Jarres and to discourage government hopes of repeating last year's successful rainy season campaign.

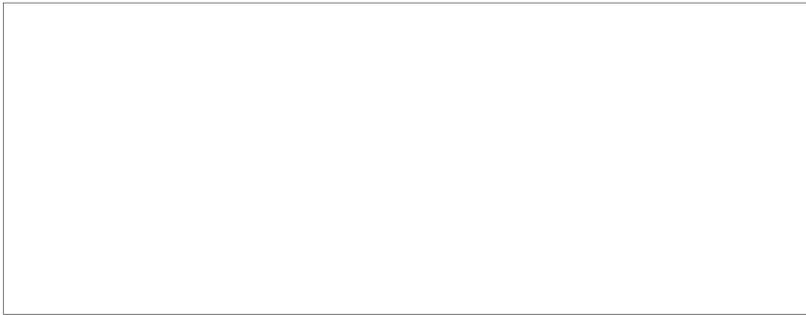
In the south, action has been confined for several days to minor skirmishing around government guerrilla bases on the southeastern edge of the Bolovens Plateau. At Saravane, the long anticipated Communist attack has not yet materialized, but Laotian pilots have reported attacking sizable concentrations of enemy troops on the outskirts of the town.

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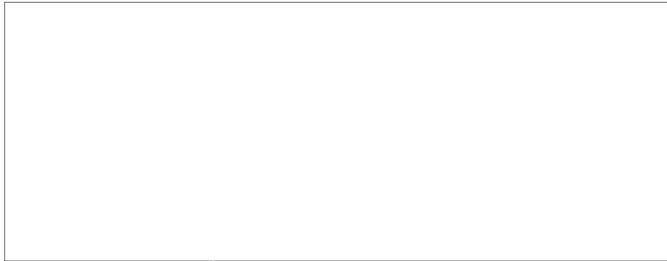
TURKEY



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CUBA-PERU

Castro yesterday dispatched two planeloads of medical supplies to Peru for victims of the earthquake. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The aid arrangements thus far have had to be worked out through the Peruvian office of the Cuban press agency.

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Although Castro has expended some of his most scurrilous propaganda on military governments in Latin America, his attitude toward the Velasco administration since last July has been one of cautious optimism regarding its "revolutionary" potential. He may hope his present gesture will lead eventually to re-establishing diplomatic relations.

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NOTES

[Redacted]

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South Vietnam:

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Israel-Egypt:

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Egypt-USSR: Donald Bergus, US representative in Cairo, has been told that Nasir is planning a trip to Moscow in the near future. Nasir's last visit to the USSR was late in January, when he negotiated the deployment of Soviet air defense systems to Egypt. There are any number of military and political issues he could take up with the Soviet leaders this time, but he might be going only for a medical checkup.

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