



*The President's Daily Brief*

*15 July 1970*

47

~~Top Secret~~ 50X1



FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 July 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

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

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

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

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

[Redacted]

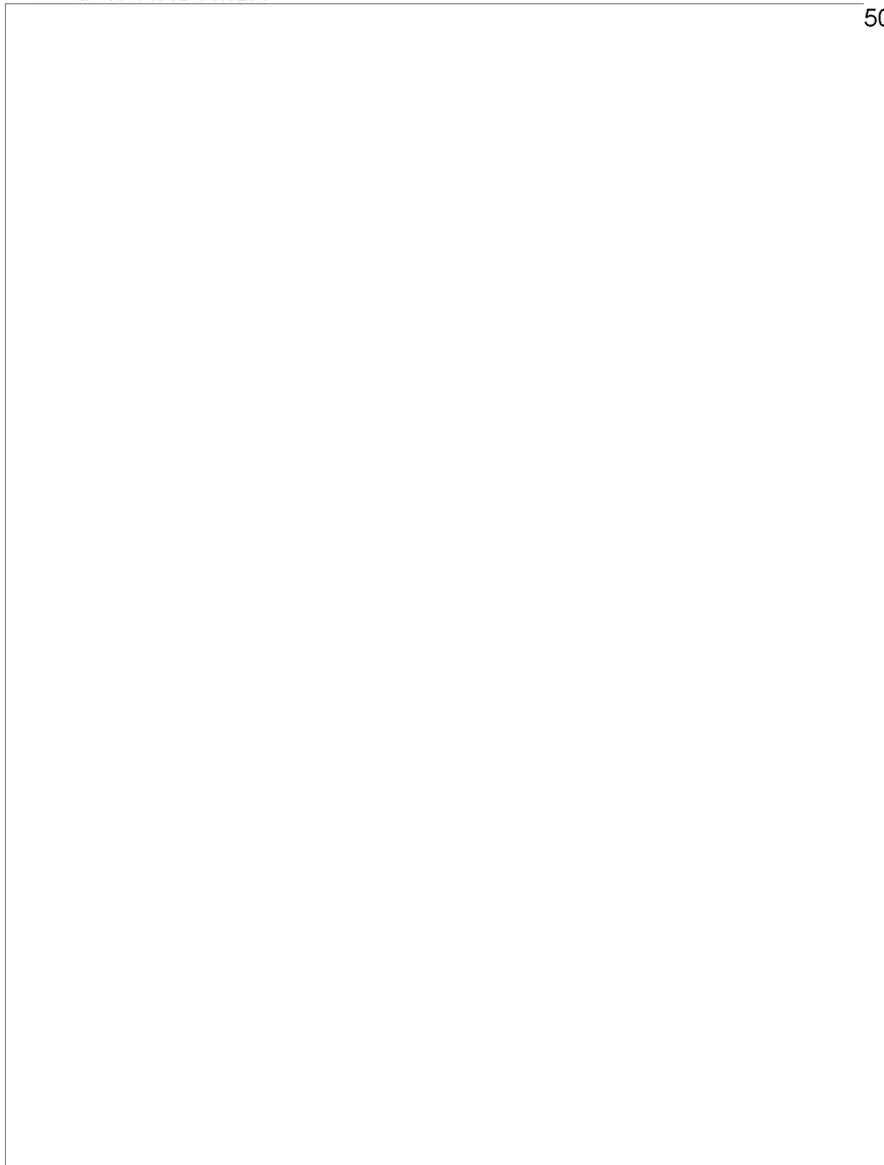
50X1

[Redacted]

50X1

**SUEZ CANAL AREA**

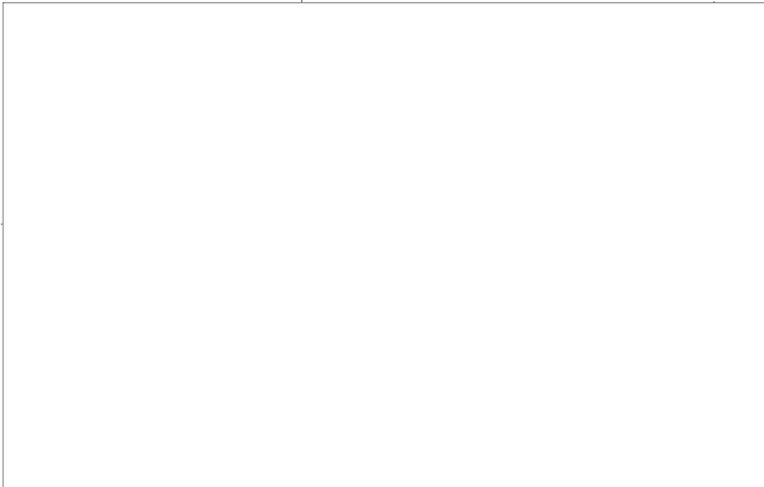
50X1



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

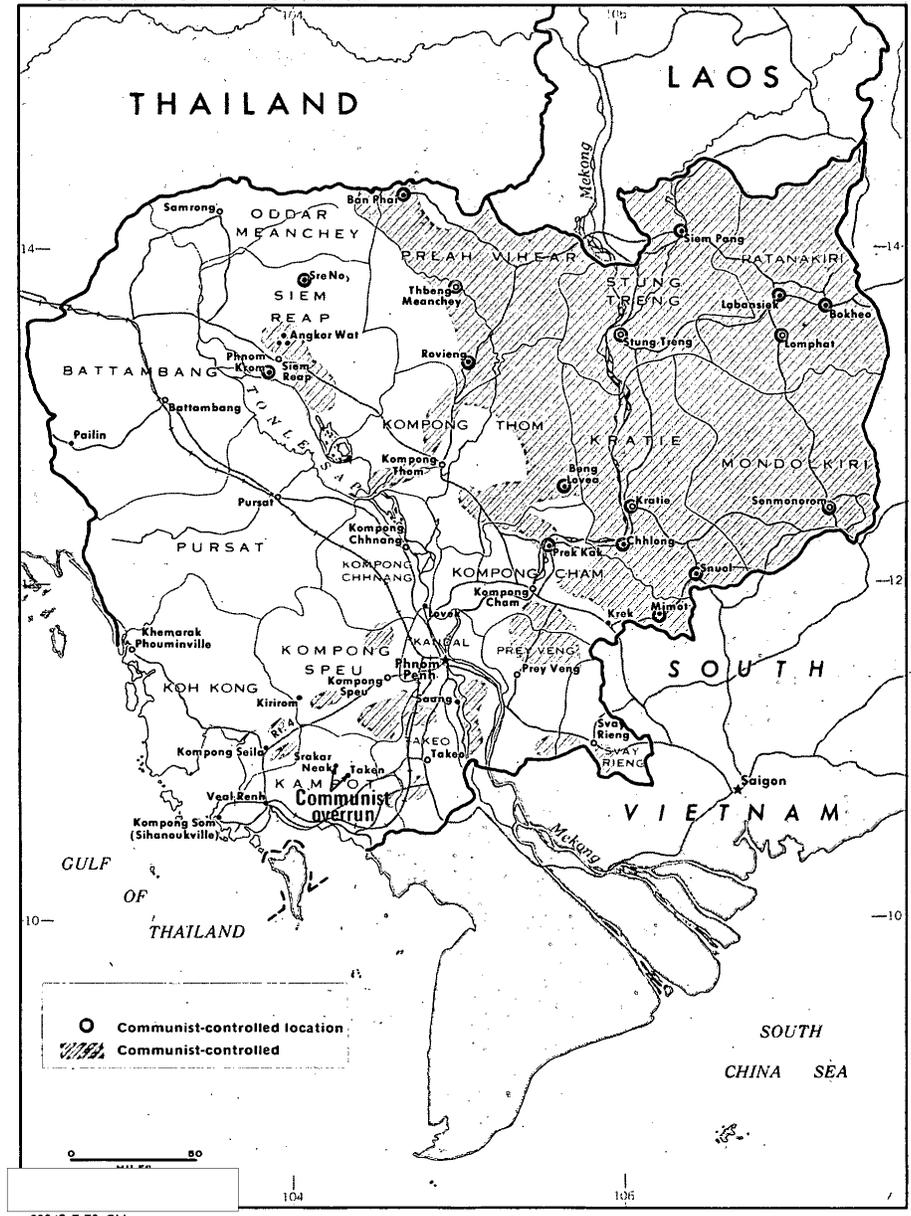
EGYPT-USSR

50X1



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

### Cambodia: Current Situation



50X1

## FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

## CAMBODIA

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

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.

50X1

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 Government forces have withdrawn northward toward Route 4.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.*

\* \* \*

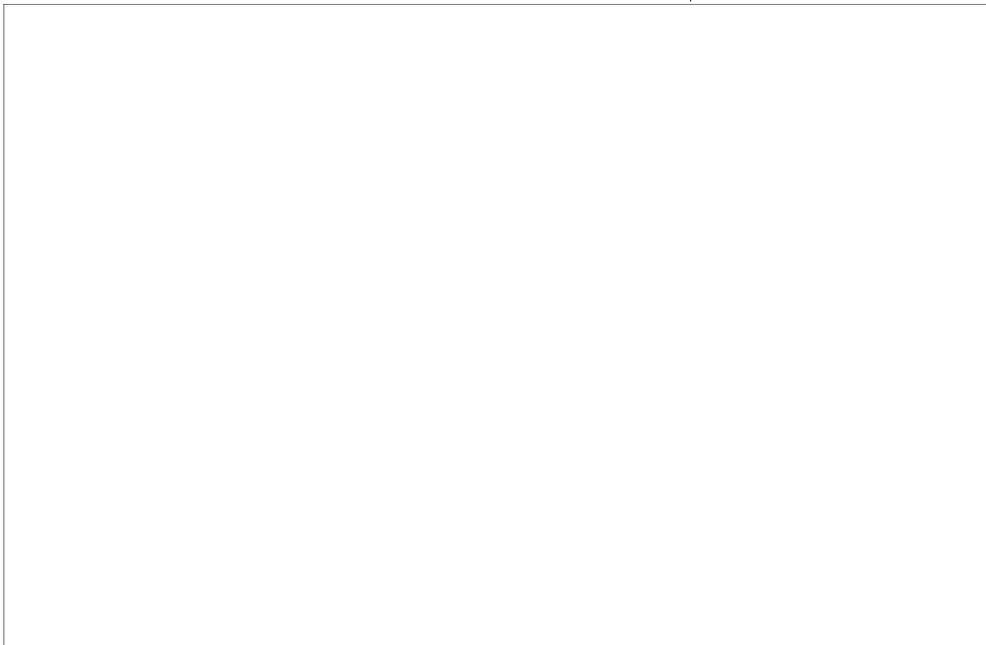
For the first time in recent memory, a foreign policy question--whether Thailand should send troops into Cambodia--has become a matter of public debate in Bangkok. Foreign Minister Thanat and Deputy Prime Minister Praphat participated in a panel discussion on the Cambodian question before 3,000 university 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

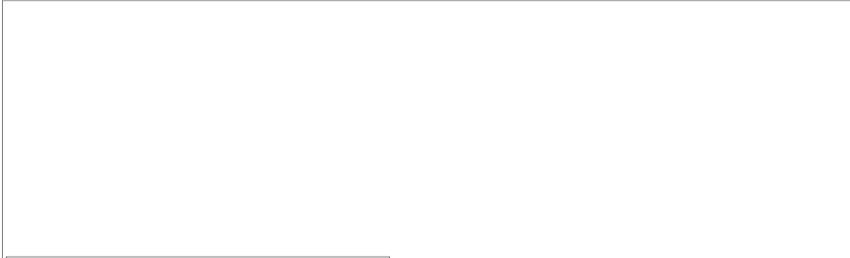
**Sino-Soviet Border**



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

USSR-CHINA



50X1



50X1



50X1



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

CANADA - COMMUNIST CHINA

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

50X1  
50X1

50X1  
50X1

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

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.

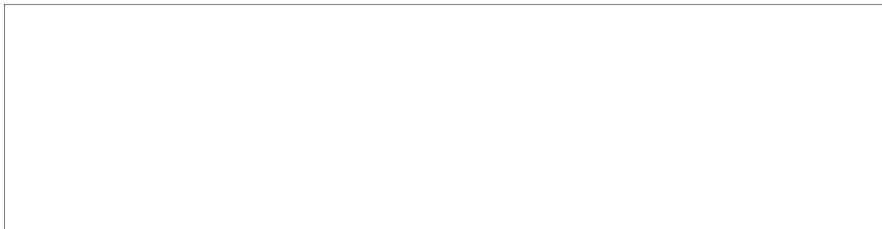
*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

PANAMA

	50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

GUATEMALA



50X1

*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.*

*Top Secret*