



The President's Daily Brief

3 September 1970



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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

In Jordan, moderates on both sides are working to maintain the shaky cease-fire. (Page 1)

The situation in Cambodia is discussed on Page 2.

The Laotian peace talks have foundered over the makeup of the delegations to the talks. (Page 4)

The Chilean presidential election promises to be close and the final selection may be left to the Congress. (Page 5)

Soviet progress in the production of Y-class nuclear submarines is noted on Page 6.

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JORDAN

The cease-fire established the evening of 1 September appears to be holding, but the situation in Amman remains tense. Sporadic firing and some instances of banditry occurred yesterday.

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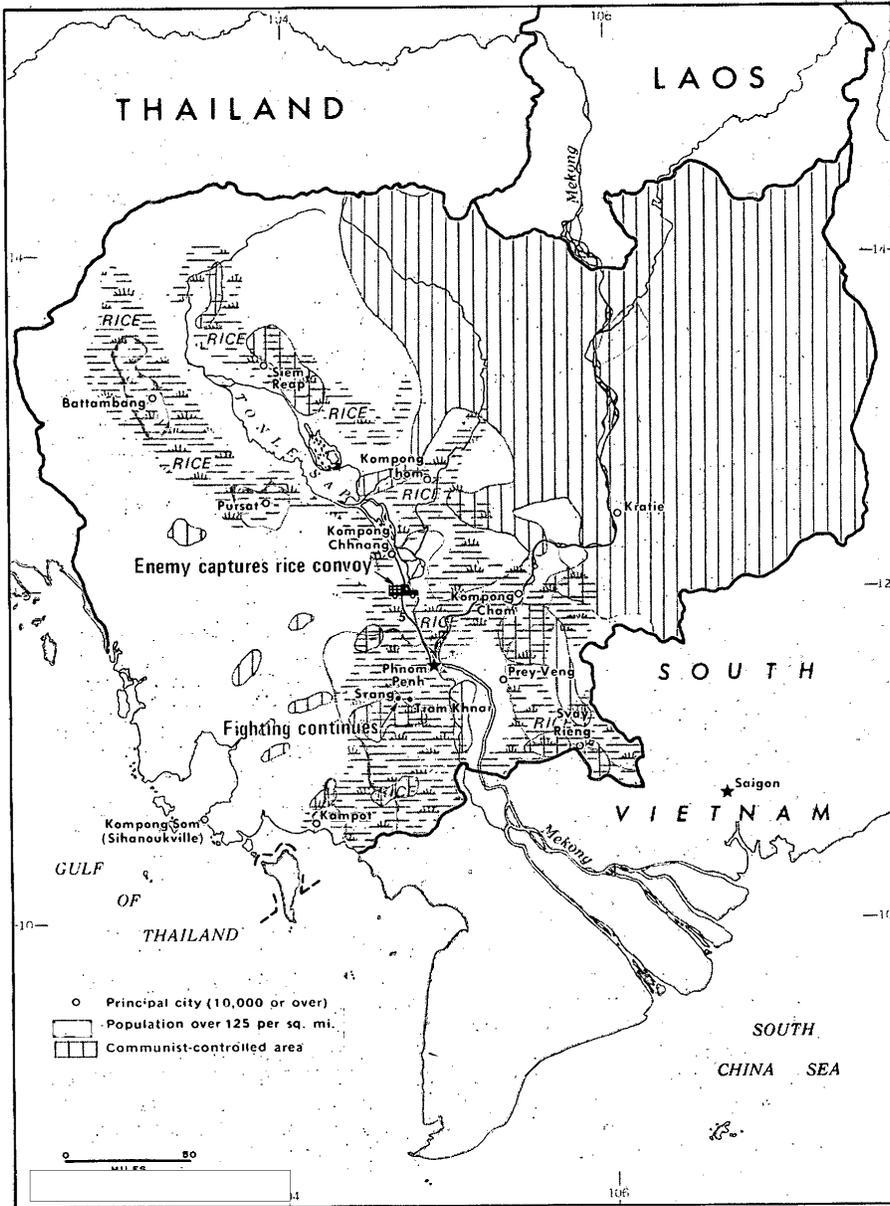
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The Jordanian cabinet met yesterday to discuss the situation, and according to Amman radio, the government adopted "effective" measures to restore order and strengthen the "ties of fraternity" between the army and the fedayeen. A Baghdad-based commando radio station said that the military committee of the Palestine resistance movement met under Yasir Arafat and made "important decisions" involving the fedayeen militia and military forces.

No details were given, but the fact that both sides seem to prefer talking to shooting suggests that the moderates may succeed in averting an all-out clash.

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CAMBODIA: Current Situation



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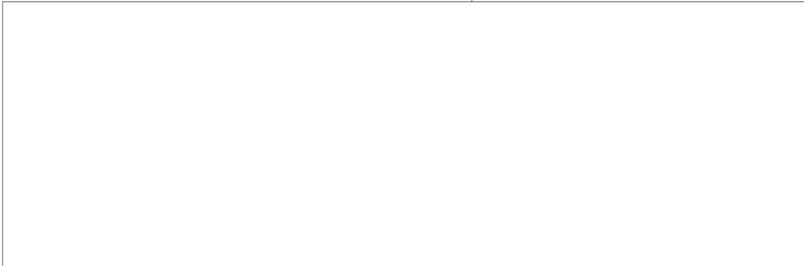
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CAMBODIA

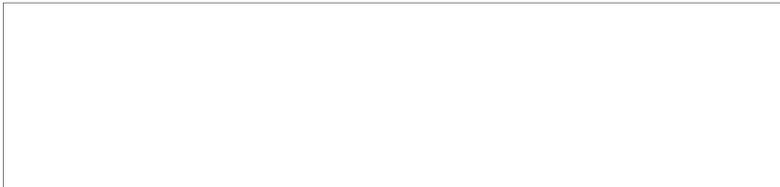
The struggle for Srang continued yesterday, as government forces, supported by air and artillery support, again were unable to make headway in their effort to retake the town. A Cambodian Army spokesman in Phnom Penh claimed that the arrival of additional enemy reinforcements had prevented Srang's recapture. East of Srang, government forces at Tram Khnar apparently were still almost completely surrounded by Communist troops. The Communists in the past two days have also harassed scattered government positions and units in Kompong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, and Kompong Chhnang provinces. On 31 August the enemy captured a ten-truck rice convoy on Route 5, south of Kompong Chhnang city.

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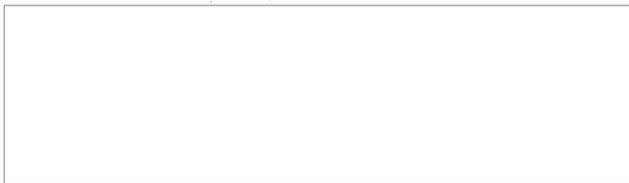
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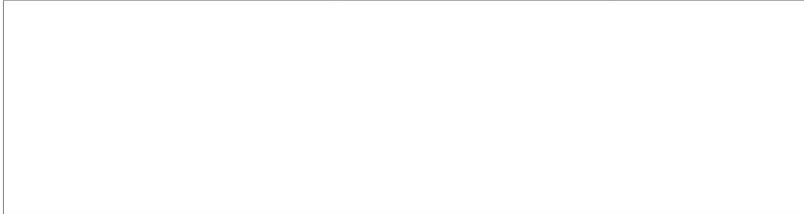
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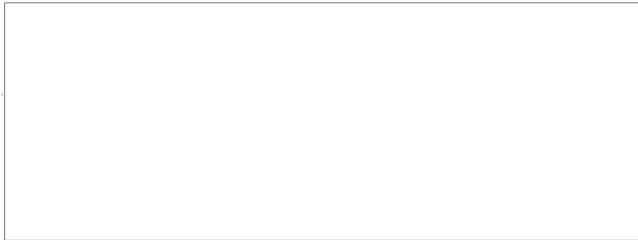
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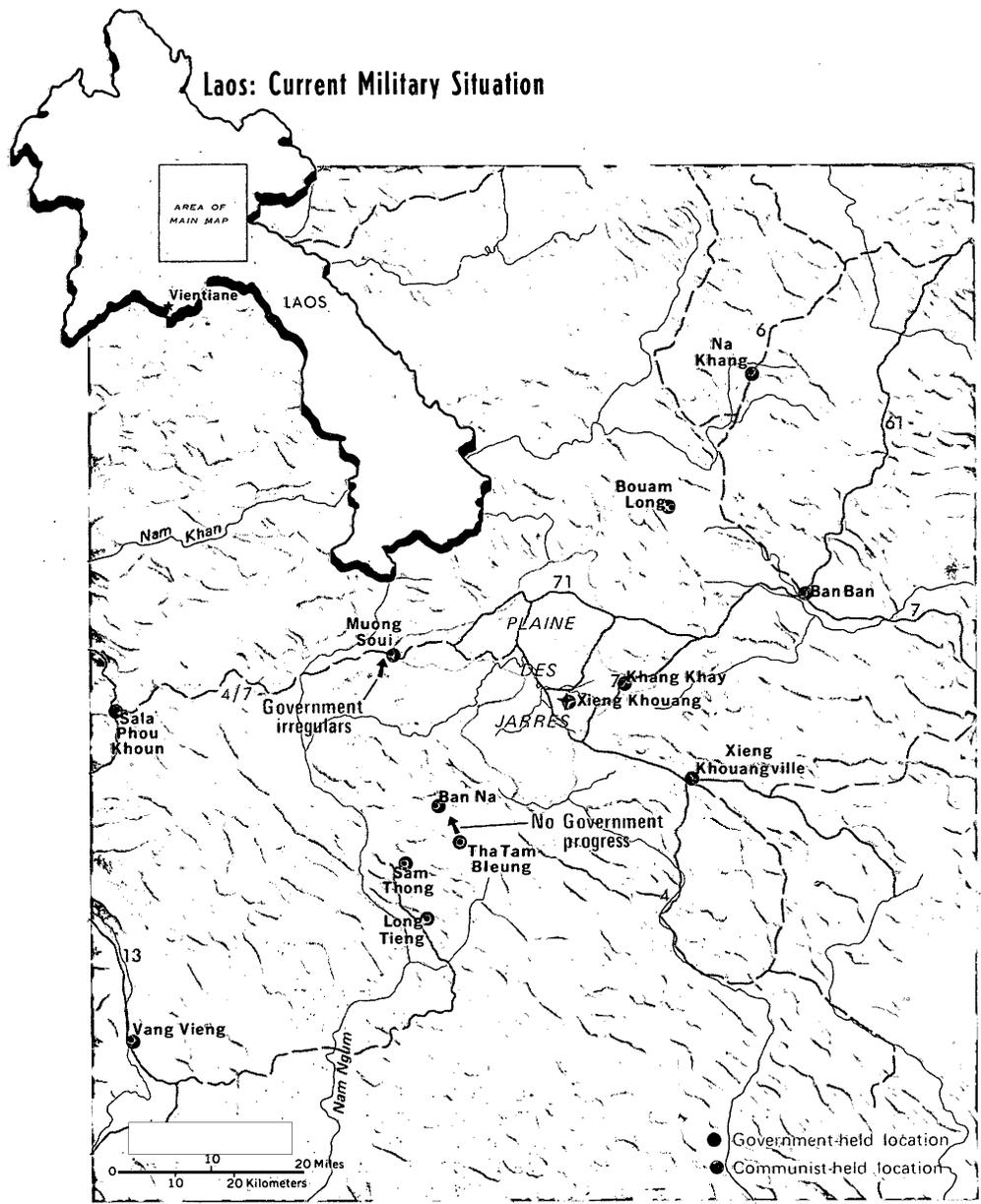


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LAOS

Just before departing on a two-month trip abroad yesterday Souvanna invited Souphanouvong to meet him in Paris this month to discuss the prospects for peace talks. Souphanouvong had requested the Prime Minister the day before to name a single plenipotentiary to meet with his representative at Khang Khay. Souvanna had appointed an 18-man delegation of neutralists and rightists to represent the "government side" if the talks at Khang Khay materialized in his absence.

The Pathet Lao apparently want this stage of the negotiations to be conducted between personal envoys of the two princes. They have agreed, however, that the next round of talks can accommodate larger delegations, including rightists, but they probably hope that any such meeting would be a ratification rather than a negotiating session.

This disagreement over representation could cause a temporary breakdown in the dialogue between Vientiane and the Communists. It seems most unlikely that Souphanouvong will accept his half brother's invitation to meet with him in Paris. Souvanna appears to be equally unwilling to send a personal representative to Khang Khay, but he may soften. [redacted] says he asked the Prime Minister recently if he would send the head of the 18-man delegation to Khang Khay as his plenipotentiary. Souvanna replied: "No--not for the moment."

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On the military front, government troops have still made no progress in their extended effort to take Ban Na. But 15 miles to the north, on the western approaches to the Plaine des Jarres, an irregular force of 300 men moved on 1 September to the vicinity of Muong Soui, an important storage and transshipment point on Route 7 that has been in Communist hands since June 1969. Within the past 24 hours, however, enemy forces have reacted sharply to the government's foray.

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CHILE

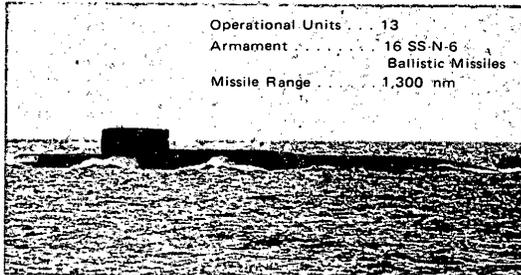
Some three million voters go to the polls tomorrow in Chile's three-cornered presidential election. Conservative former president Alessandri is considered to have a slight lead over the other candidates, Marxist Salvador Allende and Christian Democrat Radomiro Tomic. If none of the candidates receives a majority, the president will be chosen from the top two by the 200-member congress when it convenes on 24 October. The new president is scheduled to be inaugurated on 4 November.

It is likely that the election will go to the Congress, but what happens there is anyone's guess, especially if the two front-runners are close in popular vote. In this case, the 50-day period before the Congress votes will be extremely tense.

Allende's supporters fear that the radical left plans to provoke violence during and after the election, regardless of the outcome. His backers, particularly the Communist Party, are publicly attacking plans of the radical Movement of the Revolutionary Left, claiming that violence will trigger repressive reaction from the right.

There are numerous rumors of sentiment within the military to seize power in the event of an Allende victory or a breakdown in public order. The shortness of time between the congressional decision and the inauguration might hamper such a move, however. Military forces, as well as the efficient national police will be on alert tomorrow to prevent interference in the election process, which is likely to be generally honest.

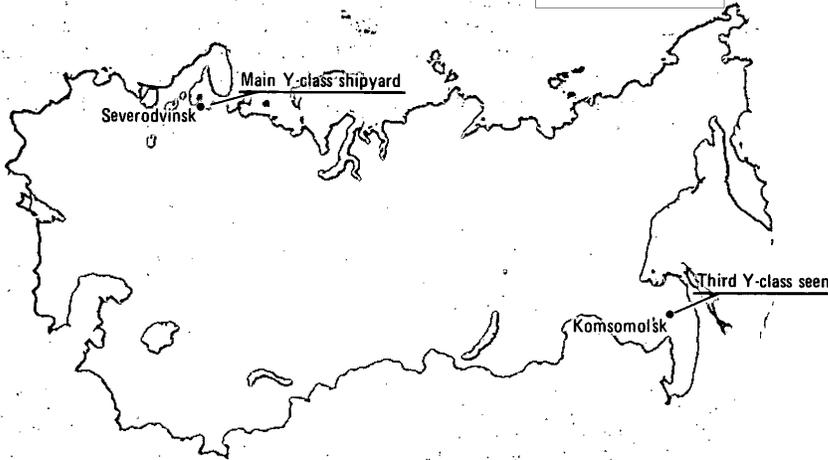
Y-class Nuclear Ballistic Missile Submarine



**Y-class Construction
Continues Apace**



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NOTE

USSR: The third Y-class nuclear submarine to be built in the Soviet Far East was seen in the latest satellite photography of the Komsomolsk shipyard. Another of these 16-tube units was also seen in the launch basin at Severodvinsk, on the White Sea coast. This brings the number of Y-class submarines built in the USSR to 19. The operational force remains at 13 units.

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