



*The President's Daily Brief*

*15 October 1970*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

15 October 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Cambodian Government forces have launched a major road-clearing operation south of Phnom Penh. (Page 1)

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Egypt has requested a General Assembly debate on the Middle East beginning on 26 October

[Redacted] (Page 2)

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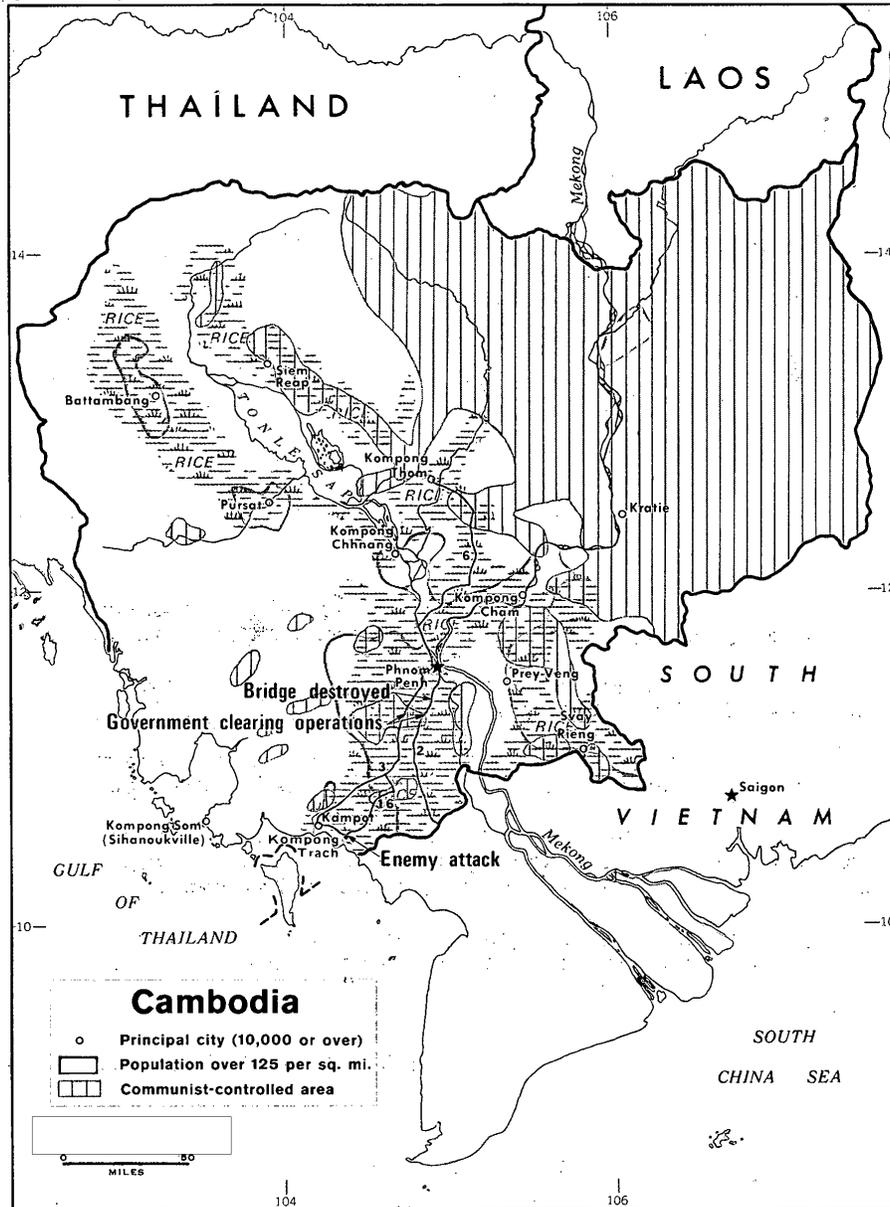
[Redacted] Chinese [Redacted] Soviet [Redacted] Page 3.

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Fedayeen are threatening a sabotage campaign against Western oil refineries beginning tomorrow. (Page 3)

Press polemics have resumed between Belgrade and Moscow. (Page 3)

### Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

Government forces have launched another major road-clearing operation. Thirteen battalions are now trying to open Routes 2 and 3 to a distance of 20 miles south of Phnom Penh, where large numbers of enemy troops have been sighted during the past month. The Communists have destroyed bridges on the roads both within the operation's area and beyond.

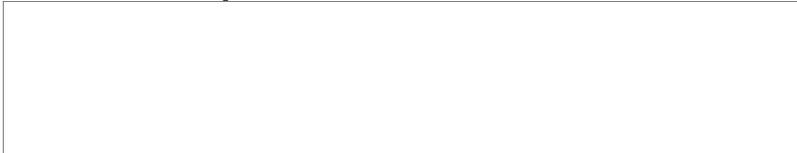
*The size and timing of this latest drive indicate Phnom Penh remains confident of its offensive capabilities, despite the problems it has encountered in trying to reopen Route 6 to Kompong Thom.*

Further south, the Communists are increasing pressure on government forces in Kampot Province. The town of Kompong Trach, to the east of Kampot city, was attacked on 13 October. The Communists control portions of Route 16, northeast of Kompong Trach, and have cut that road in several places.

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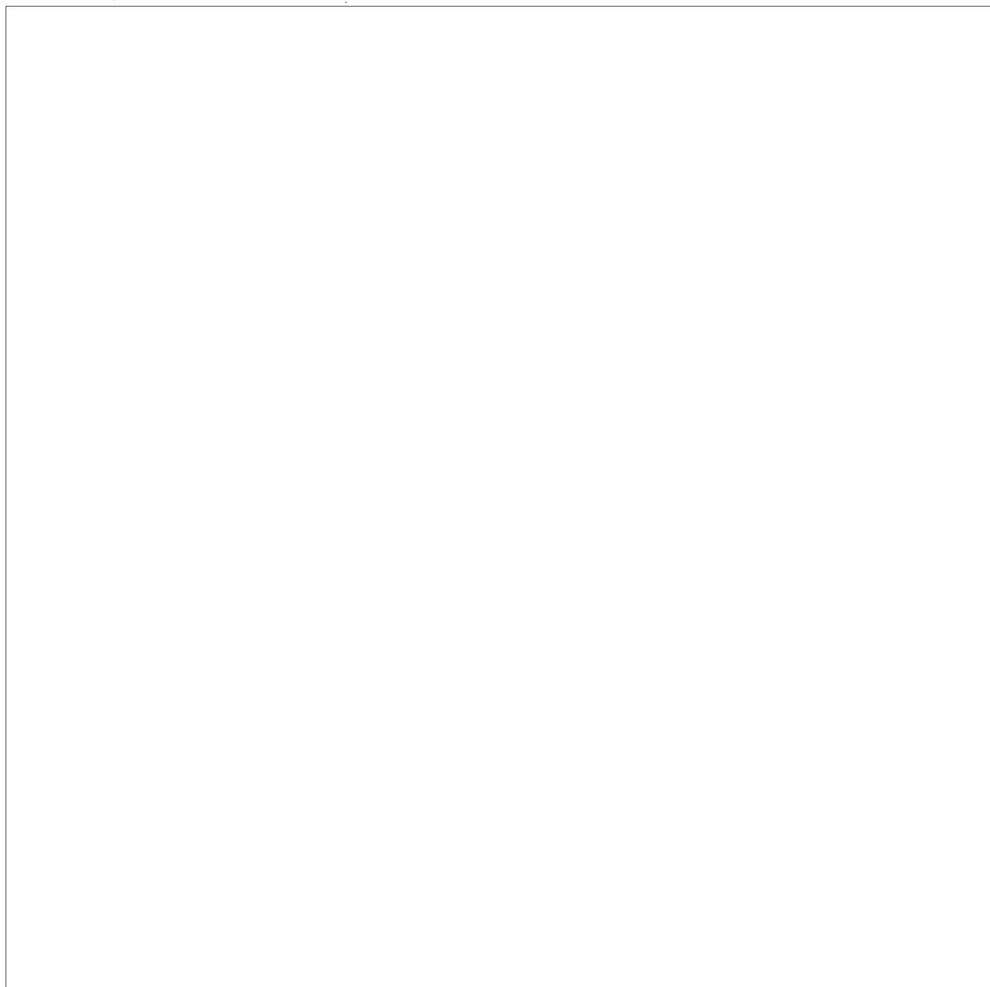
UN - MIDDLE EAST

Egypt has requested a General Assembly debate on the Middle East to begin on 26 October, immediately following the UN's commemorative ceremonies.



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*Cairo's apparent aim is to counter US and Israeli charges about missile deployments by obtaining Assembly condemnation of Israeli intransigence. Although such a resolution would stand a fair chance of getting a majority vote, it would be less likely to receive the necessary two thirds if the issue is declared an Important Question. The acrimonious debate it would provoke, however, would substantially reduce the prospect of any early resumption of the Jarring talks.*

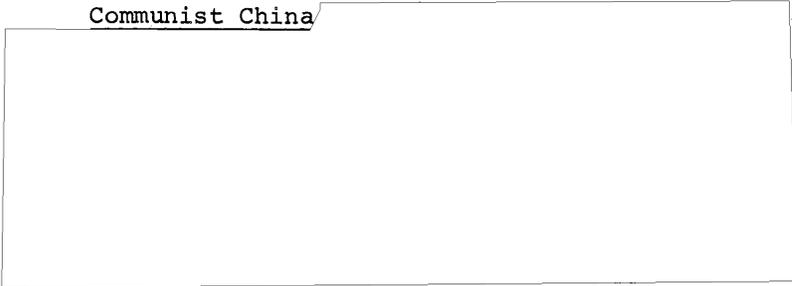


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NOTES

Communist China



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USSR



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Arab States: The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine is again threatening to sabotage US, British, and West German economic interests in the Middle East in retaliation for alleged support of Israel.



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Yugoslavia-USSR: Open press polemics between Belgrade and Moscow have resumed following a relatively quiet three months in Yugoslav-Soviet relations. The Soviets have quoted US Communist Party chief Gus Hall's criticisms of President Nixon's trip to Yugoslavia and Hall's assertions that Moscow believes Yugoslavia has sold out to the US. The Belgrade press is blasting this as personal abuse of Tito. The two-way invective is especially intense for a time when Belgrade is hosting a visit by a Soviet parliamentary delegation.

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