



The President's Daily Brief

24 December 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

24 December 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The joint Cambodian - South Vietnamese operation has not met any significant enemy resistance. (Page 1)

Poland's new leaders announced some new domestic policies yesterday that should win them a measure of popular support. (Page 2)

[Redacted]

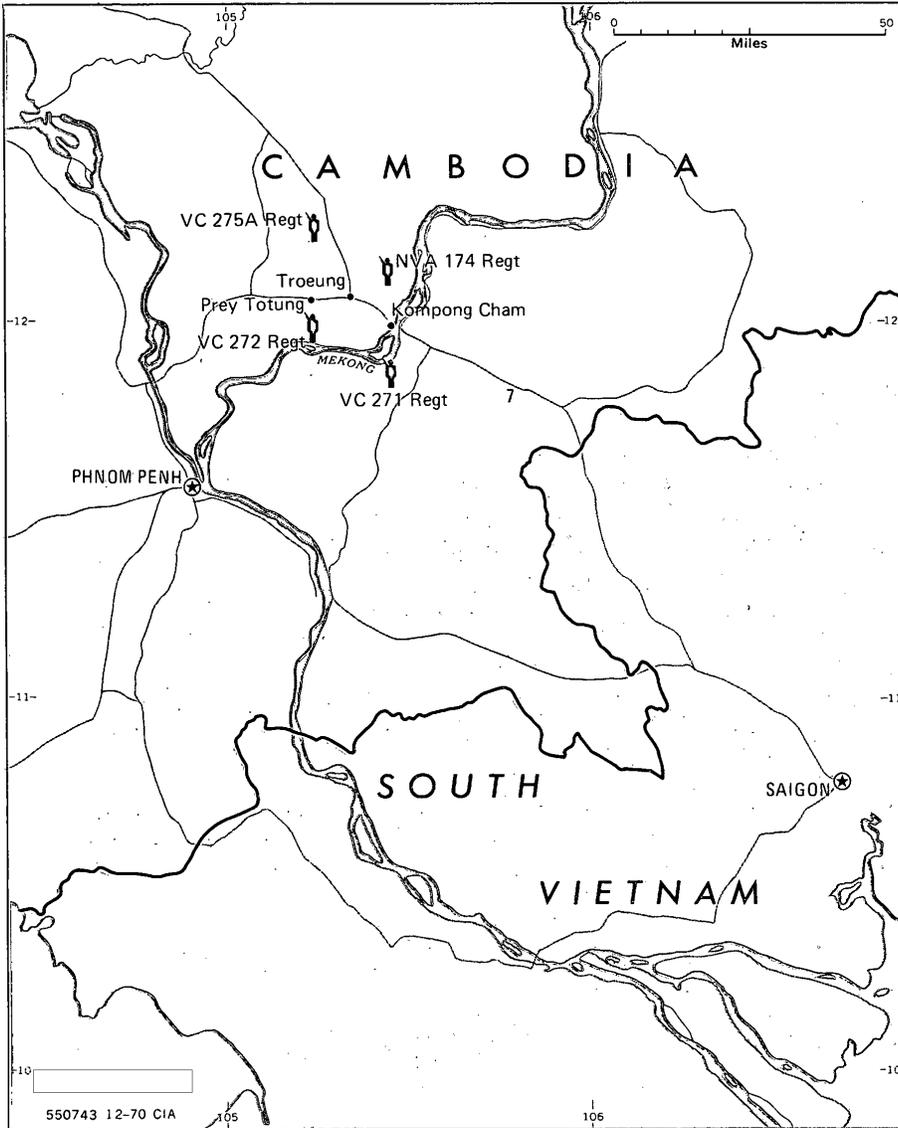
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The military situation in Laos is discussed on Page 4.

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Cambodia: Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

Elements of the three South Vietnamese airborne battalions that spearheaded the push west from Kompong Cham city are still moving into areas north of Route 7 and have reached a point some 11 miles north of Troeung. The Cambodians have committed some 18 battalions to securing the road between Prey Totung and Kompong Cham city.

These clearing operations continue to meet only light enemy resistance. Elements of the three Vietnamese Communist regiments that have been west of the Mekong for the past month are still avoiding contact with ARVN and Cambodian forces. The VC [redacted] Regiment has moved somewhat closer to the Mekong, but there are no signs that it is moving to contest the South Vietnamese operation, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of this month.

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Jozef Cyrankiewicz
Chairman of State Council
(Head of State- President)



Piotr Jaroszewicz
Chairman of Council of Ministers
(Premier)

POLAND
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POLISH GOVERNMENT CHANGES
23 December 1970

	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
Head of State	Marian Spychalski (retires)	Jozef Cyrankiewicz (P)
Premier	Jozef Cyrankiewicz (P)	Piotr Jaroszewicz (P)
Deputy Premier	Piotr Jaroszewicz (P) (promoted to Premier)	Franciszek Kaim (former Minister Heavy Industry)
Deputy Premier	Stanislaw Kociolek (P) (recalled to full time party work)	Jan Mitrega (retains Ministry of Mining and Power)

Five other deputy premiers retained

Ministries:

Engineering Industry	Janusz Hrynkiewicz	Tadeusz Wrzaszczyk
Heavy Industry	Franciszek Kaim	Wlodzimierz Lejczak

25 remaining portfolios not affected

(P) - Party politburo member



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POLAND

The reshuffle of Poland's governmental leadership yesterday reflects party boss Gierek's recognition that a change is needed in economic and social policies. The new premier, Piotr Jaroszewicz, who has been czar of Poland's heavy industry for the past 18 years, will bring to the post toughness, an impatience with weakness or failure, and a pragmatic bent.

There are no signs that foreign or defense policies will be altered. Gierek and Jaroszewicz, in their speeches before the parliament yesterday, announced some domestic policies that are calculated to win popular support.

Gierek, for example, announced that nearly all food prices would be frozen for the next two years, and that the cost of durable consumer goods would be lowered further as soon as production costs go down. He kept his promise made last Sunday, and said \$300 million would be assigned by the government to improve the lot of families with the lowest incomes. Jaroszewicz' announcement that his government will aim for full normalization of relations with the Roman Catholic Church will be very favorably received by Poland's peasantry.

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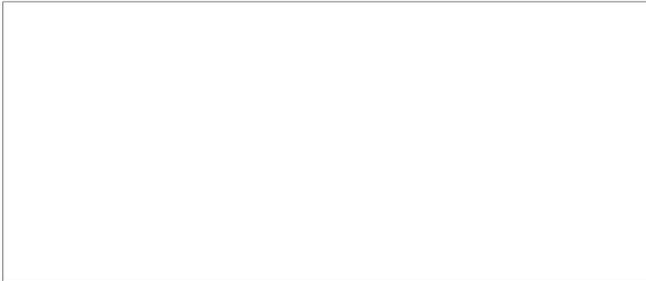


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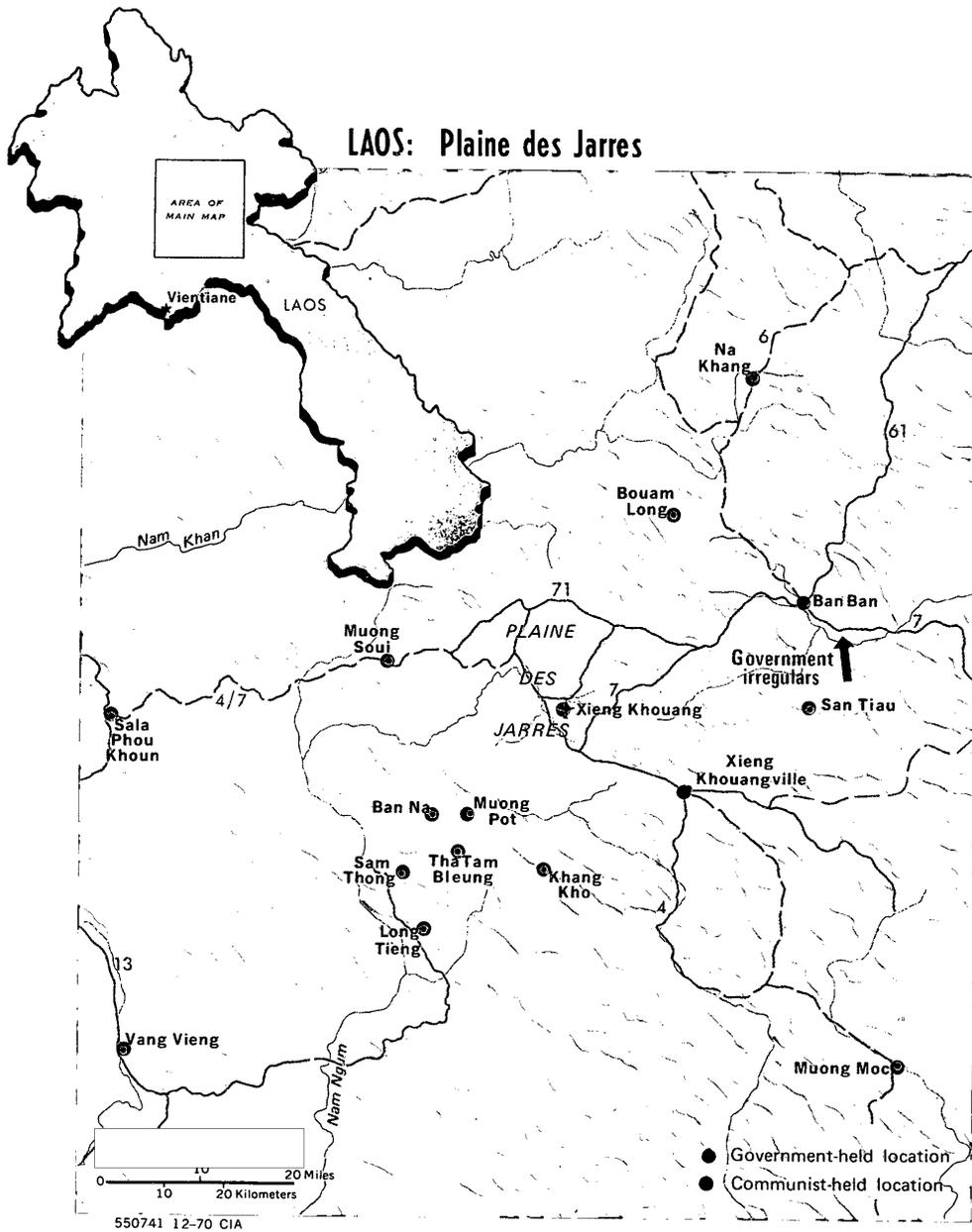
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NOTES

Laos: The government's harassing operation against the Communist logistic base at Ban Ban is again moving forward. Two irregular battalions have reached positions just south of Route 7, some five miles southeast of Ban Ban, where they have successfully countered some stiff opposition.

Elsewhere in Laos, enemy activity has been light. Communist forces around Ban Na in the north and the Bolovens Plateau in the south continue to plan attacks aimed at driving government forces from those areas.

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