



*The President's Daily Brief*

*Sunday 23 Jan. 72*

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NW PDB FOR 23 JANUARY:

LAOS

THERE HAS BEEN NO IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THE TACTICAL SITUATION AT LONG TIENG. THE FIGHTING HAS EASED SOMEWHAT ON SKYLINE RIDGE, ALTHOUGH COMMUNIST GROUND PROBES AND ATTACKS BY FIRE ARE CONTINUING. GOVERNMENT PATROLS HAVE FOUND FRESH EVIDENCE OF ENEMY TROOP CONCENTRATION SOUTHEAST OF LONG TIENG, BUT NO MAJOR FIGHTING IN THAT SECTOR HAS BEEN REPORTED.

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MALTA

THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL TOOK NO ACTION AT ITS MEETING YESTERDAY ON PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF'S REQUEST FOR A ONE-TIME PAYMENT OF \$26 MILLION IN ADDITION TO THE UK-NATO OFFER OF \$36 MILLION ANNUALLY. THE NEXT STEP IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IS SCHEDULED TO BE A MEETING BETWEEN MINTOFF AND BRITISH DEFENSE MINISTER CARRINGTON TENTATIVELY SET FOR 28 JANUARY IN ROME.

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