



The President's Daily Brief

22 June 1972

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~~*Top Secret*~~

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

22 June 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet [redacted] 25X 25X1
North Vietnam [redacted] 25X1

[redacted]
[redacted] (Page 1) 25X1

North Vietnam [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 2) 25X1

No major change is reported in the South Vietnamese military situation. (Page 3)

There are signs that a series of major meetings has been under way among Chinese leaders since late May. (Page 4)

The Israeli raid into southern Lebanon yesterday is discussed on Page 5.

Greek [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 6) 25X1

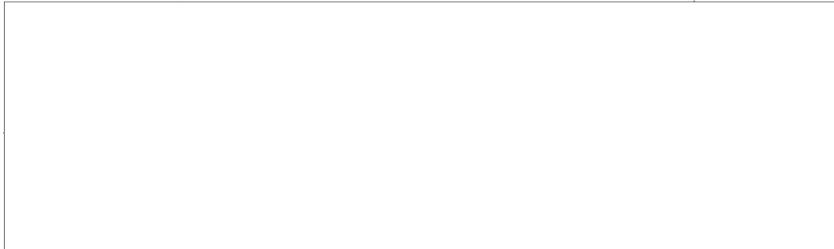
The Shah has negotiated a major new agreement with the companies that produce the bulk of Iran's oil. (Page 7)

Fidel Castro, due in Moscow on 26 June [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] (Page 8) 25X1
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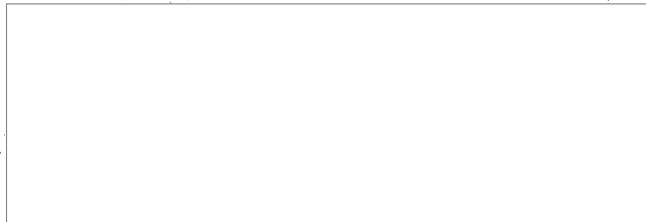
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[redacted] Ireland. (Page 9) 25X1

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USSR - NORTH VIETNAM

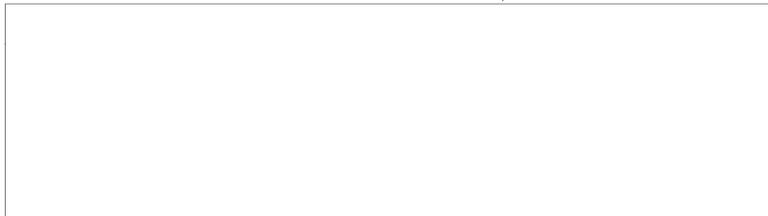


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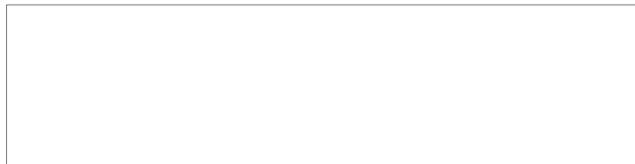


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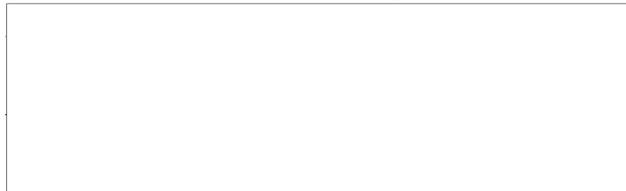
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NORTH VIETNAM



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SOUTH VIETNAM

The South Vietnamese Marine operation into Quang Tri Province has been ended, and all units have been withdrawn to government defense lines along the My Chanh River. The withdrawing marines were attacked by Communist troops and tanks, but the attackers were driven off with fairly heavy losses. Nearby, Communist gunners have increased artillery attacks against government strongpoints northwest of Hue.

Farther south, South Vietnamese troops in Binh Dinh Province are under increasing pressure and have been forced to abandon at least one position south of the district capital. There are indications that elements of a North Vietnamese division are moving closer to other government positions along the coast.

In the delta, heavy fighting continues in western Kien Tuong Province and along the Cambodian border. Action has also picked up in three provinces in the lower delta area.

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CHINA

[redacted] recent absences of Chinese leaders from public view were due to a series of high-level leadership meetings, not Mao Tse-tung's health.

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[redacted]

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[redacted] rumors were circulating among low-level government officials and journalists that a party central committee meeting was in progress.

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[redacted]

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[redacted] most provincial party leaders have been out of sight since mid-May. Furthermore, in the past few weeks there have been several gaps in the public appearance patterns of many normally active central leaders, including the ubiquitous Chou En-lai. There are a number of pressing and difficult domestic problems that the Chinese leaders could be discussing. Foremost among these are: the need to fill the many vacant positions in top party and military councils, the need to establish a new working relationship between the reconstructed party apparatus and the military, and the need to create a mechanism for transferring power after Mao's passing.

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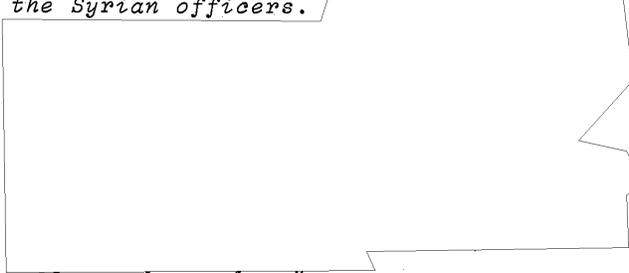
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ISRAEL-LEBANON

Israel raided southern Lebanon yesterday, capturing one touring Syrian Army brigadier general, four colonels, and a Lebanese Army intelligence officer on one road, and interdicting civilian traffic on others. Israeli aircraft hit a town and a Lebanese Army barracks, while Israeli artillery shelled a few villages. Seven Lebanese soldiers and policemen were reported killed. Lebanese officials claim that at least 12 civilians were killed and more than 20 wounded.

The Israeli action followed two incidents on Monday in the occupied Golan Heights: a fedayeen rocket attack on an Israeli tourist bus, and the wounding of two Israeli soldiers in a mine explosion. It is in this context that the Israelis have justified yesterday's activity, not the Lod airport massacre on 30 May.

Lebanese officials believe that Israeli intelligence was aware of the presence of the Syrian officers.



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Lebanon appears to be preparing to bring the Israeli attack formally before the UN Security Council.



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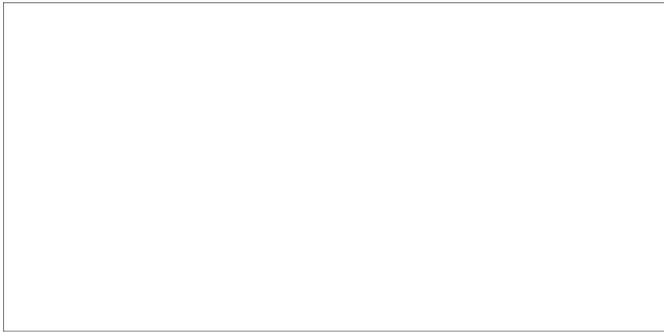
GREECE



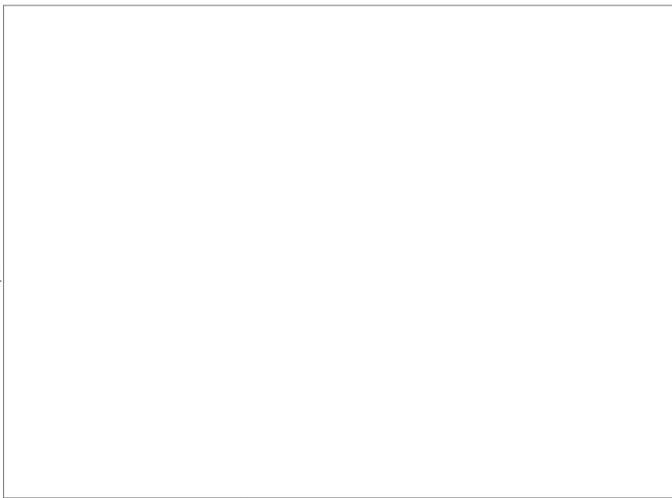
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IRAN

The Shah expects within the next few days to announce a major new agreement with the consortium of companies that produce the bulk of Iran's oil. He has extended the consortium's concession by 15 years to 1994. The consortium, in return, will nearly double oil production by 1976 to 8 million barrels per day. In addition, the companies will turn over the large Abadan refinery to the government, build a new refinery, and make increasing quantities of oil available to Iran at cost.

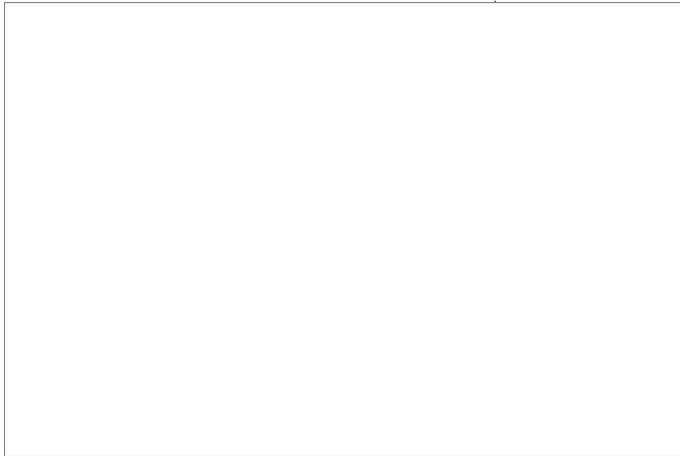
The agreement, highly beneficial to Iran, contrasts with the efforts to other oil producing countries to achieve greater control over the companies operating within their borders.

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CUBA

Fidel Castro is scheduled to arrive in Moscow on 26 June for the most important segment of his eight-week, ten-nation journey.

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Castro should expect some tough bargaining about future Soviet aid to Cuba. There are signs that this year's sugar crop will be nearly as poor as the disastrous 1963 harvest. A bad harvest would require a sharp increase in Soviet credits. Castro has no guarantee that the Soviets, who are disillusioned about repeated mismanagement of the Cuban economy, would be willing to shoulder an even greater trade deficit with Cuba.

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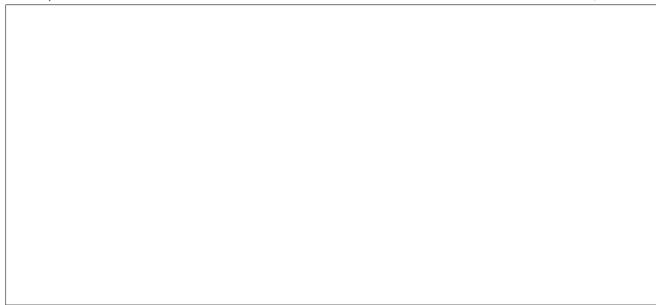
IRELAND



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