

The President's Daily Brief

7 June 1973

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~~*Top Secret*~~

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 June 1973

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

COSVN reportedly has issued new instructions for a Communist effort to capture selected targets in South Vietnam, possibly between June 7 and 10. (Page 1)

West Germany has completed its ratification of the East - West German basic treaty, and if the East German parliament follows suit next week as expected, the Bavarian court challenge to the treaty could become moot. (Page 2)

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| | French | |
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The Soviets have taken at least 52 of their ICBM silos out of service for modernization. (Page 4)

On Page 5, we assess the recent assassination of a US Army adviser by Iranian terrorists.



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SOUTH VIETNAM

COSVN reportedly has issued new instructions for a Communist effort to capture selected targets in South Vietnam before any "new cease-fire" takes effect. The exact timing of the attacks has not been set, pending developments in Paris, but they may occur some time between June 7 and 10.

The Communists hope to hold any gains they make until a formal delineation of territory between the Viet Cong and the South Vietnamese takes place. The targets involved, [redacted] will include many of those the Communists tried unsuccessfully to capture last January. [redacted] implied the attacks would be countrywide, the only specifics [redacted] were attacks against villages and highways north and west of Saigon.

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If attacks occur in that area, heavy fighting could develop because the Communists have units equal to more than three divisions located there.

The Communists also have strong forces in northern South Vietnam/ [redacted]

Farther south, in Military Region 2, the Communists have been occupied with a major government counter-attack in Kontum Province. There have been no major new developments along the coast in volatile Binh Dinh Province.

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In the Delta, some increased activity has begun in Chuong Thien Province, where the Communists are fairly strong. Elsewhere in the delta, the Communists do not appear to pose a serious threat to the government's control.

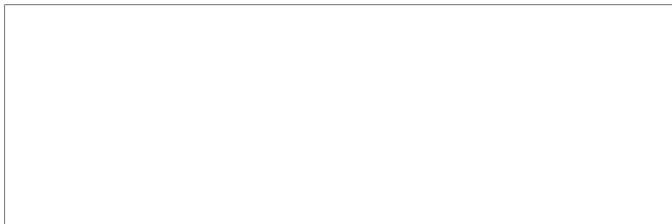
Except for the reported new instructions from COSVN, there are no positive signs of enemy preparations for a land grab in the next few days. The Communists are still capable, however, of launching fairly widespread attacks in several areas of South Vietnam with little or no warning.

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WEST GERMANY - EAST GERMANY

President Heinemann yesterday signed the implementing legislation on the East - West German basic relations treaty, thus completing ratification in West Germany. Heinemann did so after the Constitutional Court decided on June 5 not to issue an injunction sought by the Bavarian state government that would have prohibited signature until the court ruled on the treaty's constitutionality.

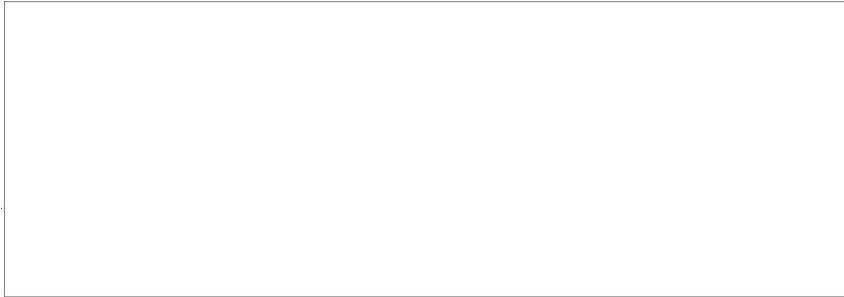
The court did agree to rule on the pact's constitutionality by July 31. The East German parliament is expected to ratify the agreement next week. The only step left after that is to exchange instruments of ratification. If this step should be taken before the court rules, Bavaria's case would become moot because the court is not competent to rule on agreements in force.



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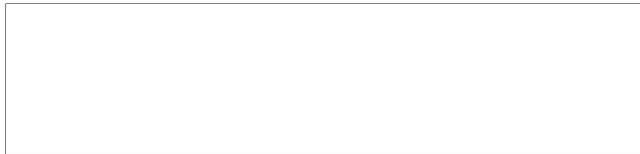
FRANCE-LIBYA-EGYPT



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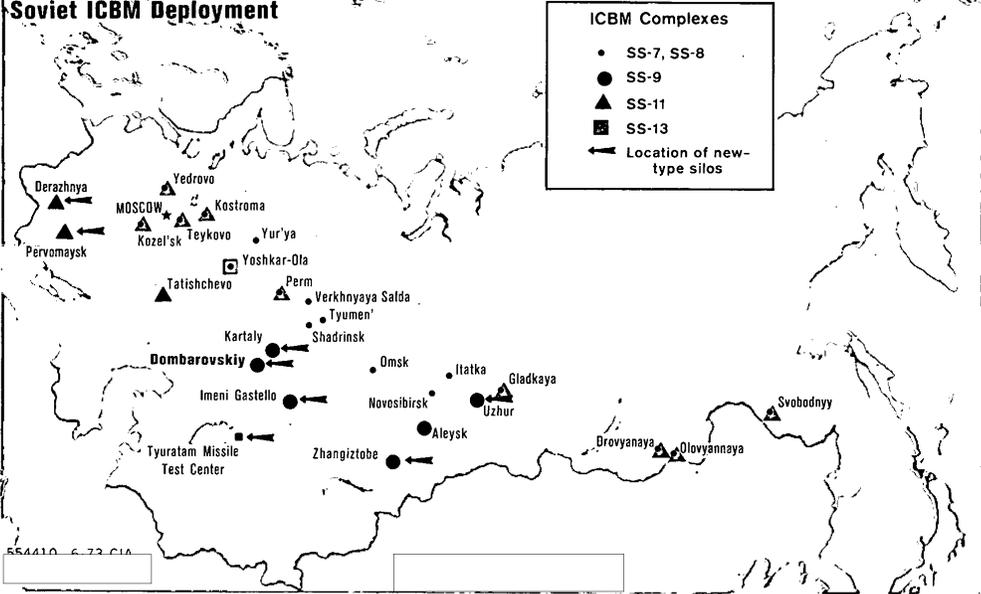
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Soviet ICBM Deployment

ICBM Complexes

- SS-7, SS-8
- SS-9
- ▲ SS-11
- SS-13
- ← Location of new-type silos



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USSR

[redacted] at least
52 ICBM silos are out of service for modernization.
It appears that a total of 50 SS-11 silos at
Olovyannaya, Drovyannaya, and Svobodnyy in the east-
ern USSR are being prepared for the SS-11 Mod 3, a
multiple re-entry vehicle system that carries three
warheads. None of the SS-11 silos are being con-
verted to the configuration of the new small silos
seen at the Derazhnya and Pervomaysk ICBM complexes.

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At the Dombarovskiy SS-9 complex, two silos
are being extensively modified. The missile that
will be emplaced here--the SS-X-18--is in an early
stage of development and probably will not be ready
before 1975.

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IRAN-US

The assassination last Saturday of a US Army adviser by Iranian terrorists probably was intended to focus attention on US-Iranian military cooperation at a time when local critics are deploring the Shah's recent \$2.5-billion order for US arms. The attack may also have been related to the execution of eight terrorists a week earlier and the current trial of seven guerrillas charged with attempting to kidnap Ambassador MacArthur in 1971.

The adviser almost certainly was chosen because he was an easier target than Ambassador Helms or other members of the Embassy staff. Also, as one of some 580 US military advisers in Iran, he was probably viewed as a representative of the expanding US role in equipping and training the Shah's armed forces.

Although the government reacted quickly and has bolstered security around US installations, further attacks on US military personnel would be almost impossible to prevent.

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NOTES

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USSR: [redacted]

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[redacted]

Egypt - Saudi Arabia: [redacted]

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[redacted]

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The Yemens: Merger negotiations between Sana and Aden, in progress since last November, are breaking down as a result of a steadily growing campaign of sabotage and terrorism that Aden has been conducting against the Sana Government for several months. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted] Sana's regular armed forces are too weak to permit a broader military response. Sana authorities will, however, continue the trials of Adeni saboteurs arrested in early May, and Aden is expected to continue its subversive campaign. The prospects for an increased level of hostilities are high; prospects for union could hardly be lower.

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