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# The President's Daily Brief



July 8, 1976

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~~Top Secret~~ 25X1

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July 8, 1976

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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



LEBANON: *Christian forces yesterday launched a counteroffensive against Palestinians and leftists in northern Lebanon.*

They have apparently retaken Chekka and are attacking Amyun. The Syrians have increased pressure in the north by shelling Tripoli [redacted]

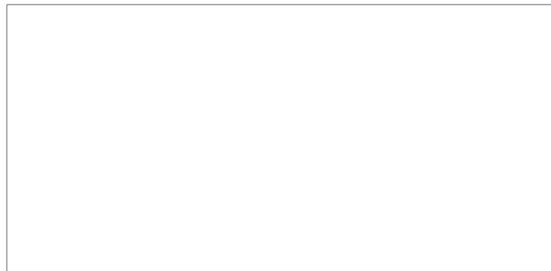
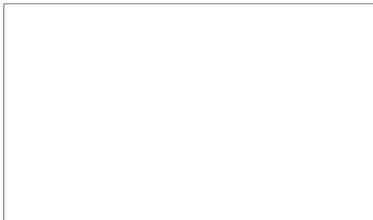
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[redacted] are sending troops to help the Christians in the Chekka area.

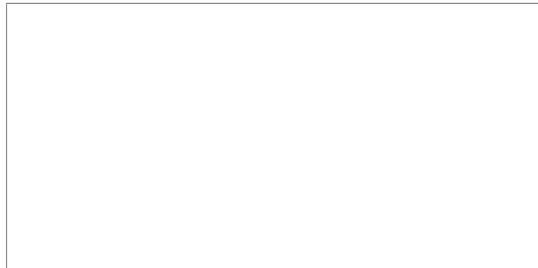
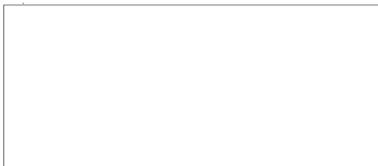
The Tall Zatar refugee camp [redacted] is 25X1

[redacted] under Christian control except for a "small triangle" in its northern quarter where snipers are still holding out. The Christians have begun to level the rest of the camp with bulldozers and will send Palestinian prisoners--some 1,000-- in groups of ten to west Beirut, the Muslim part of the city.

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CUBA-ANGOLA: Cuban losses from guerrilla attacks since the civil war in Angola have been more serious than those suffered during the war itself.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] 25X1

[Redacted]

the nature of the fighting in which the Cubans are now engaged tends to result in a high casualty rate. This is particularly true in southern Angola where Jonas Savimbi's UNITA has singled out the Cubans as targets. 25X1

[Redacted]

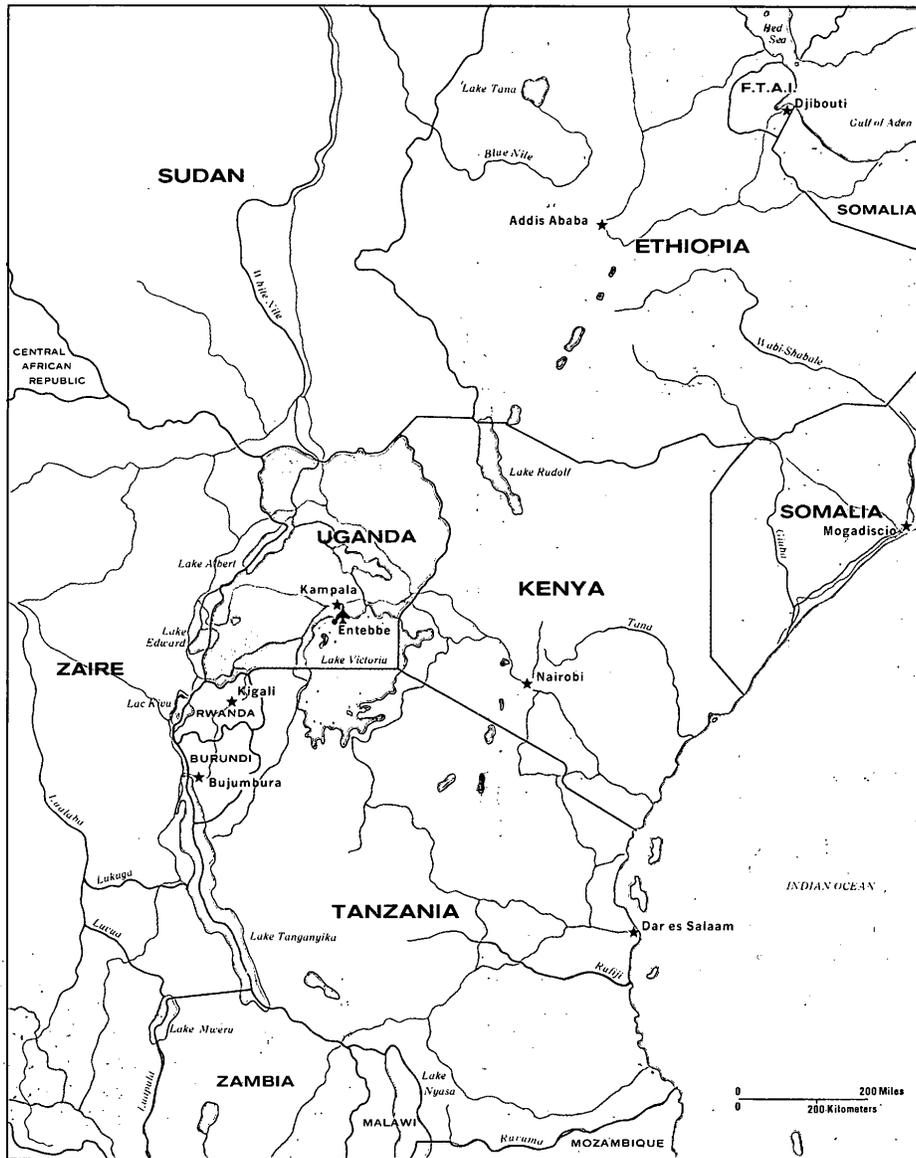
Havana's few public references to casualties sustained in Angola have been oblique and reassuring. Officials continue to credit the Popular Movement with all military operations and successes.

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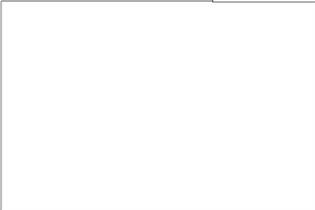
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# EAST AFRICA



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KENYA-UGANDA:   




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*OAU: African leaders attending the 13th annual summit of the Organization of African Unity found little common ground during their meeting in Mauritius that ended Tuesday.*

Only nine of the OAU's 48 heads of state showed up--the fewest in the organization's history. They adopted rhetorical resolutions on South Africa and Rhodesia, but largely sidestepped the major territorial disputes involving member states.

The summit called for increased support to Namibian insurgents, expansion of the guerrilla struggle to South Africa itself, and a more effective economic boycott of the South African government. No headway was made in reconciling Rhodesia's badly factionalized nationalists, but the conferees reiterated that all aid for the insurgents must be channeled through the OAU's liberation committee based in Tanzania.

Although the Israeli rescue operation in Uganda shook the conferees, they apparently did not formally affirm support for the Arab-promoted UN resolution equating Zionism with racism or call for Israel's ouster from the UN. The summit did endorse a Liberian resolution condemning Israel's "aggression" and calling on the UN Security Council to take measures against Israel.

The US was condemned for vetoing Angola's admission to the UN. Some delegates also spoke openly of US collaboration with South Africa. In private discussions with

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US observers, however, most delegates were more curious about possible results from the talks between Secretary Kissinger and South African Prime Minister Vorster than they were critical of the US for talking with Vorster.

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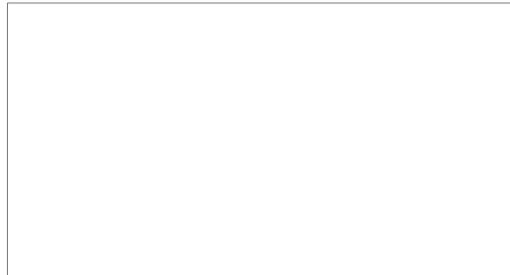
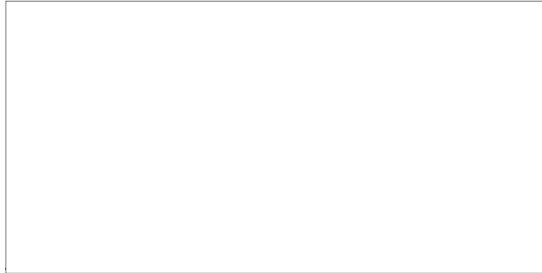
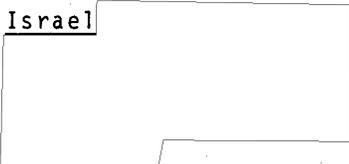
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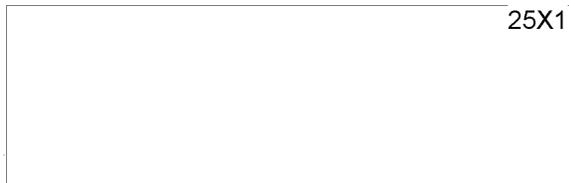
Israel



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*Two Soviet cosmonauts are now aboard the Sal-yut 5 space station. Their Soyuz 21 spacecraft docked with the military space station yesterday.*



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*The new Spanish cabinet announced last night includes committed reformists in two key posts; the appointments support Prime Minister Suarez' promise to press ahead with political liberalization.*

The new foreign minister, Marcelino Oreja, is a young Christian Democrat with firm democratic credentials who has moved up from the post of undersecretary. The new interior minister is Rodolfo Martin Villa, generally regarded as one of the most liberal young politicians to emerge from the Franco regime.

Most of the 10 newcomers in the 20-man cabinet are political moderates or technocrats. There are no representatives of the far right. The opposition is not represented, but some opposition parties have indicated a willingness to open a dialogue with the new government.

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*The UK is being pressed by its partners in the European Community to devalue the "green pound"--the monetary unit used in British agricultural trade within the Community.*

The "green pound" has remained stable since last October despite the plunge in sterling.

Several Community members want London to bring the two rates, which differ by 20 percent, more nearly into line. Such a move would substantially raise the prices Britons pay for imported foodstuffs--which provide half the country's food supply--and could thereby weaken union support for the new pay agreement with the government, the cornerstone of London's anti-inflation program.

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