



*The President's Daily Brief*

*10 September 1970*



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~~Top Secret~~

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The deadline set by the fedayeen for meeting their demands has been extended to 10 PM EDT Saturday, but the safety of the hostages is further endangered by the deteriorating situation in Jordan. (Page 1)

[Redacted] Egypt (Page 3) 50X1

[Redacted] Soviet Union. (Page 4) 50X1

Cambodian developments are discussed on Page 5.

Panamanian [Redacted] (Page 6) 50X1

In Communist China, the bland communiqué issued at the close of the Communist Party central committee plenum suggests that behind-the-scenes disagreements still pose serious obstacles to China's "reconstruction." (Page 7)

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MIDDLE EAST

Passengers on all three hijacked aircraft--including 145 on the BOAC plane seized yesterday--are safe so far, but International Red Cross representative Rochat regards the situation as "extremely serious." Fighting in Amman prevented Rochat from meeting with representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) last night; the commandos agreed by telephone, however, to extend the deadline. In a communiqué issued this morning, the PFLP said that a 72-hour extension (to 10 PM EDT Saturday) had been granted to give the parties involved time "to take the necessary steps." Rochat stated earlier that the number of Israeli-held commandos whose release is being demanded by the PFLP is "very high indeed," and he expects that the negotiations may drag on for several weeks. He has asked US Embassy officials what the US might do if the situation were to reach the "final crash."

Rochat also reports that the fedayeen, apparently nervous over the possibility of outside intervention, have told him that if there is any foreign military action on Jordanian territory the three planes and all their occupants will be blown up.

[redacted] late last night, fedayeen attacked and drove off the security force stationed at Amman's Intercontinental Hotel, where the women and children allowed to leave the first two hijacked planes have been staying. The US Embassy in Amman reports that as of early this morning, however, the hotel was being guarded by a handful of army and Bedouin troops.

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[redacted]

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The UN Security Council yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution calling for the immediate release of all hijacked passengers and crews, and asking states to take "all possible legal steps" to prevent further hijackings. Ambassador Yost notes that the resolution puts both the Soviets and the Syrians--who had held out for some amendments in the original wording--squarely and unequivocally behind the appeal for the release of the passengers held by the fedayeen.

Fighting in Amman continued throughout most of yesterday, despite the announcement of yet another

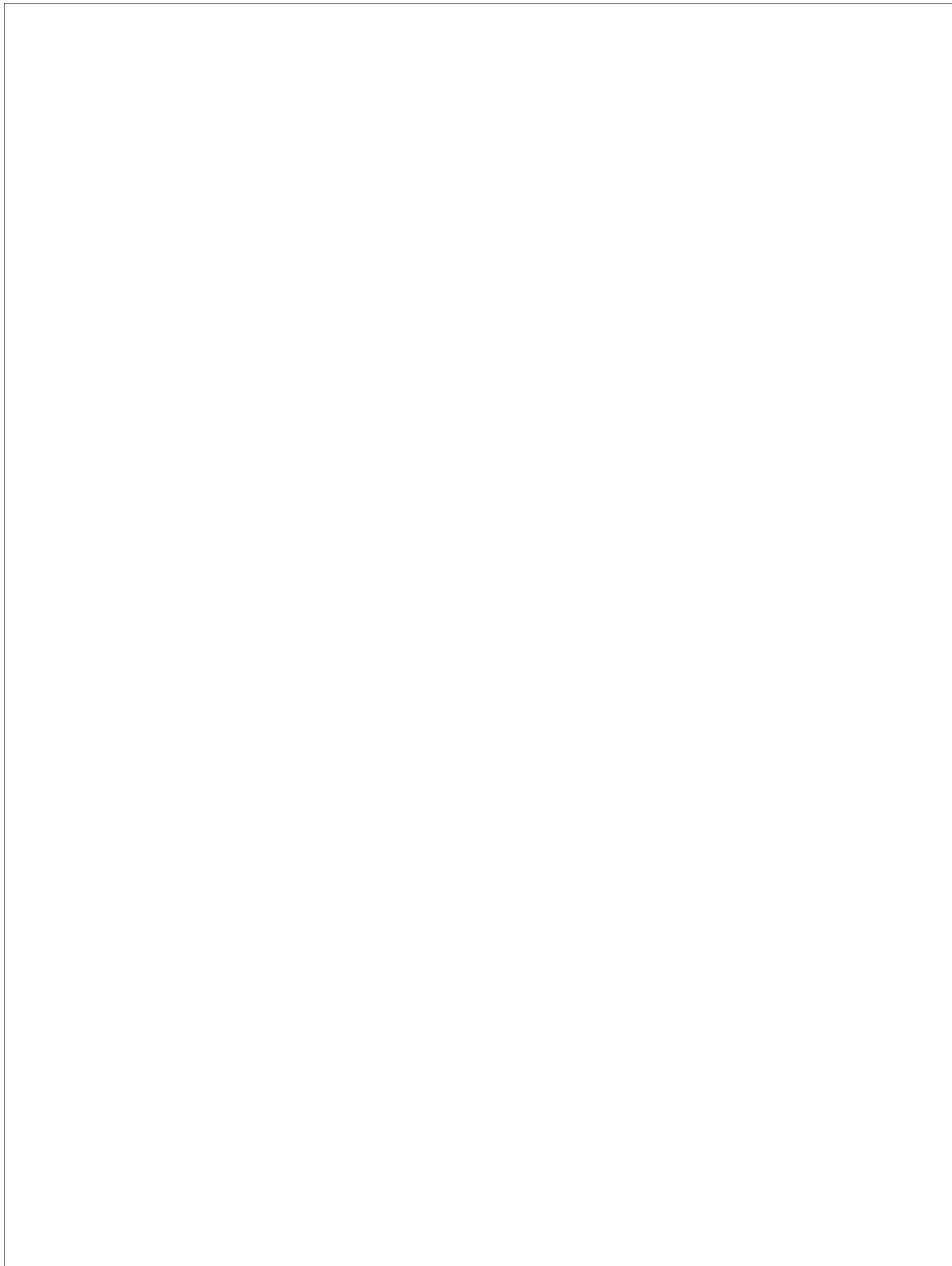
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cease-fire agreement. Army Chief of Staff Haditha, who had been given full powers by King Husayn, ordered all units and personnel of the armed forces to cease fire on pain of "the strictest military action." 50X1  
Yasir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) central committee, promptly ordered the fedayeen to follow suit. 

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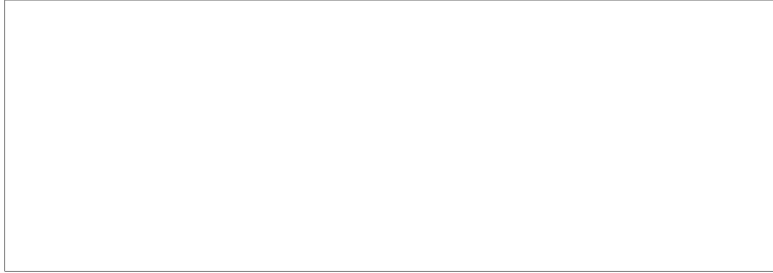


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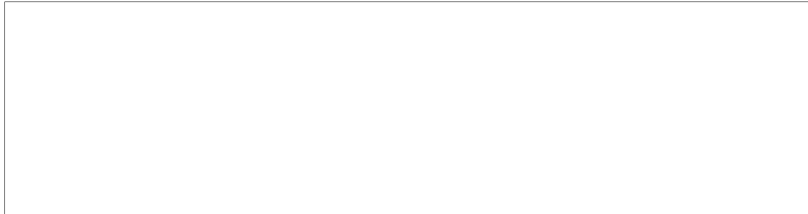


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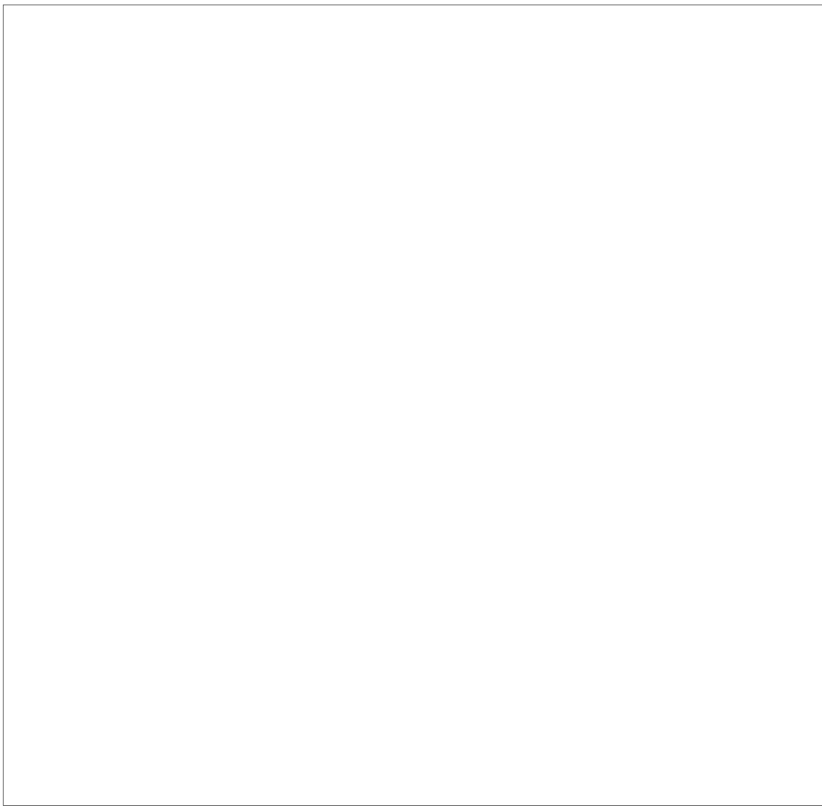
EGYPT



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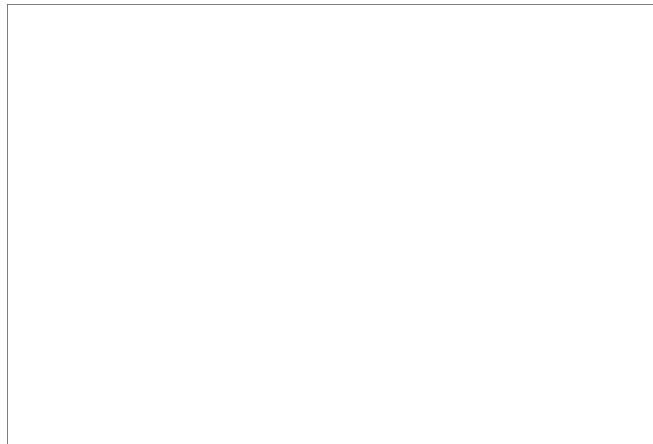
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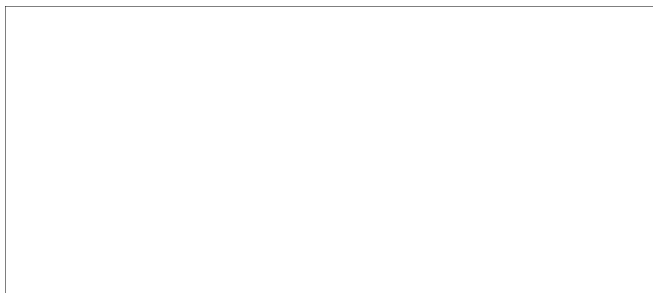
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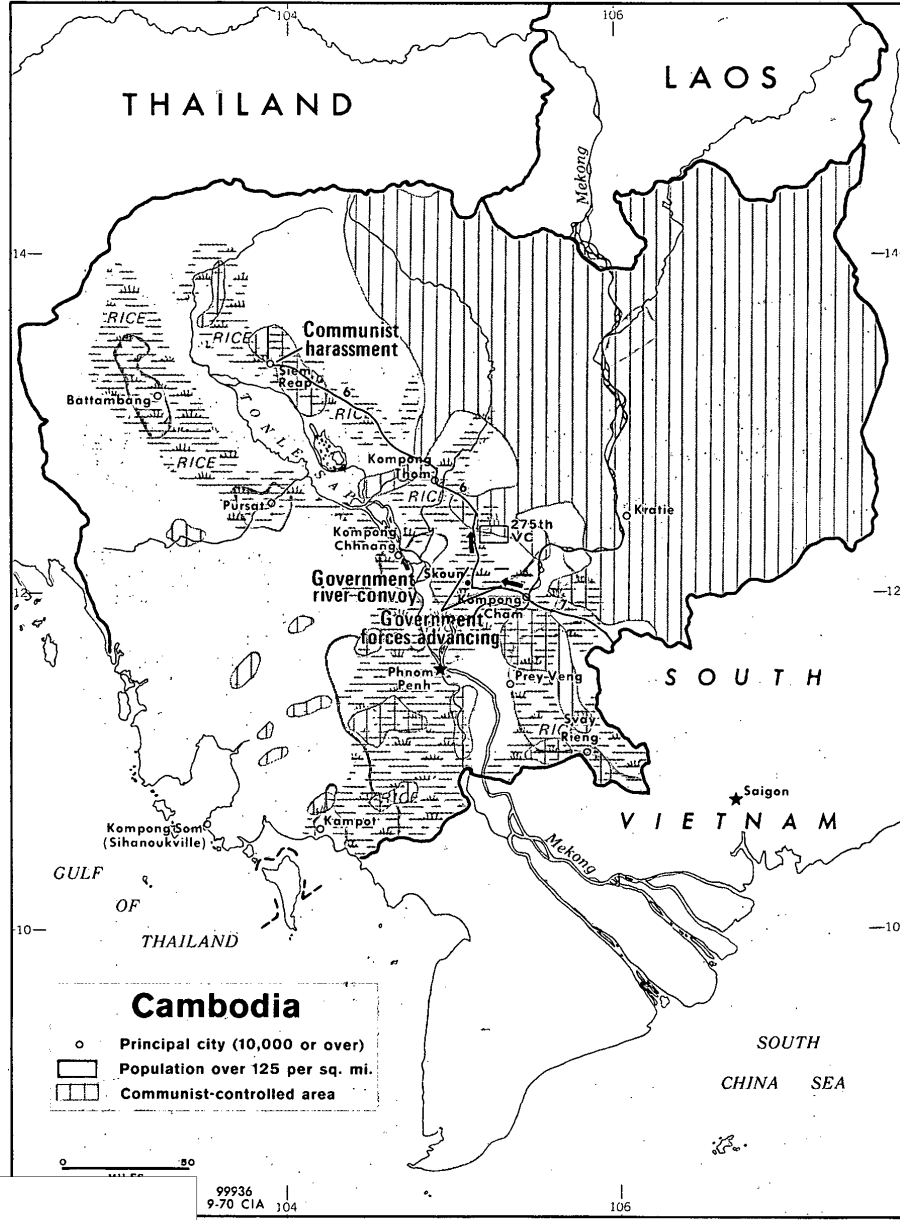
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### Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

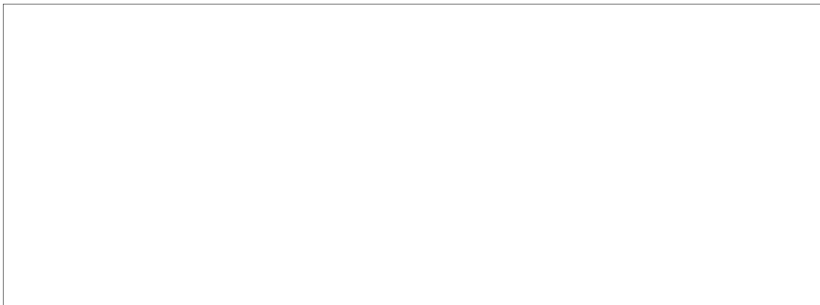
A government amphibious convoy reached Kompong Thom last night without encountering any enemy resistance. Government ground forces are also nearing the city; lead elements of the Cambodian Army task force had advanced yesterday beyond Khnong to some 30 miles south of the provincial capital. The government units have met only light Communist opposition, but downed bridges, fallen trees, and other enemy-emplaced obstacles have slowed their advance.

In the Siem Reap area, the Communists are keeping up pressure on government forces. Several companies of enemy troops dressed in Cambodian paratrooper uniforms attacked government positions near the Siem Reap airport on 8 September.

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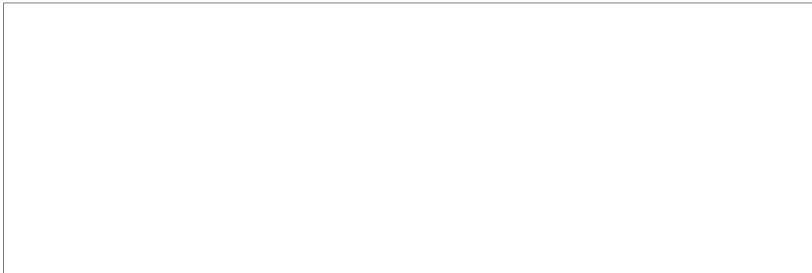
Phnom Penh has made it clear to Bangkok that it does not want Thai-Khmer volunteer troops. The US Embassy in Phnom Penh reports that, during recent Thai-Cambodian talks, government representatives insisted that the military situation in the north and northwest does not warrant the intervention of such forces. The Cambodians also stressed that if a future emergency compelled them to ask for these troops, Phnom Penh would not pay for their support.

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PANAMA



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COMMUNIST CHINA

The communiqué issued at the close of the Communist Party central committee plenum, which met from 23 August to 6 September, failed to propose any new policy guidelines, and merely belabored Peking's routine platitudes on domestic and international affairs. The plenum was addressed by both Mao Tse-tung and his heir-designate, Lin Piao, but neither their remarks nor the full agenda of the plenum was reported.

*The communiqué was notable for its lack of commentary on key events and issues. This suggests behind-the-scenes disagreements continue to pose serious obstacles to China's "reconstruction." The communiqué said that the National People's Congress will be convened at "an appropriate time," but avoided comment on its timing and agenda. Some of the more controversial tasks to be taken up by the congress include the selection of a new chief of state, the formal restaffing of the various central government ministries and bureaus, and a five-year economic plan for 1971-75.*

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NOTE

Chile: There are still no signs of the development of any cohesive political opposition to block congressional approval of Allende. Various military leaders have been meeting to consider the situation; some oppose a move against Allende, and even those who would like to act seem incapable of doing so. For his part, Allende is more and more assuming the role of president-elect in his public forecasts of the profound changes he will make and in his demands on President Frei for economic liaison and fiscal controls in the interim before Allende takes over.

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