



The President's Daily Brief

29 September 1970



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NOTES

In order to meet the schedule of President Nixon during his trip this issue of The President's Daily Brief contains information as of 2000 EDT 28 September 1970. Subsequent issues through 5 October will be timed similarly.

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The situation in Jordan is discussed on *Page 1*.

Saudi Arabia

(*Page 2*)

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Elements of the Cambodian column on Route 6 are moving north from Tang Kouk village. (*Page 3*)

The Communists apparently plan to step up supply movements through the Laotian panhandle soon. (*Page 4*)

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JORDAN

The cease-fire remains generally effective in Amman. At least two limited clashes occurred yesterday morning, however, and some small-arms fire and explosions have been cited

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Ambassador Brown plans to establish a branch embassy in a more secure area because he doubts that the embassy area will be cleared of fedayeen for a long time.

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In the north, attempts to enforce the cease-fire appear to be running into trouble.

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Our embassy believes that the efforts of the committee headed by Tunisian Premier Bahi Ladgham, together with the 100-officer military observer team, may give the country a breathing spell but doubts that they can keep the army and the fedayeen apart for long. The failure of Syria and Iraq to sign the agreement could encourage the fedayeen to resist the committee's decisions.

The best that might be expected of the fedayeen in Amman, according to the embassy, would be some token withdrawals with the remainder doffing their uniforms and merging with the local population. In the north, the embassy doubts that the army will agree to continued fedayeen presence in Irbid, as this would constitute a political defeat. The army will also object that the agreement makes no mention of other fedayeen-infiltrated towns such as Ramtha. The embassy also doubts that the army will immediately release any important fedayeen whom it holds.

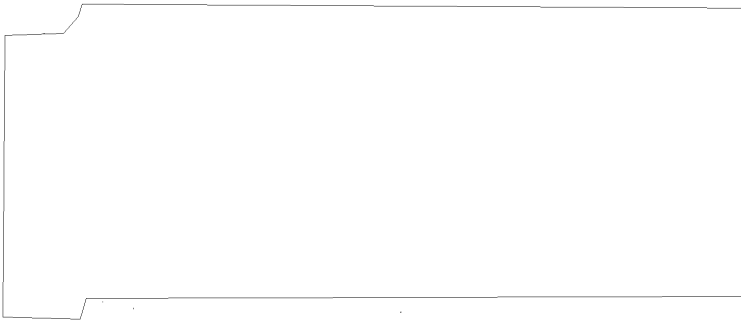
The remaining six hijacking hostages are still in fedayeen hands, and negotiations for their release continue.

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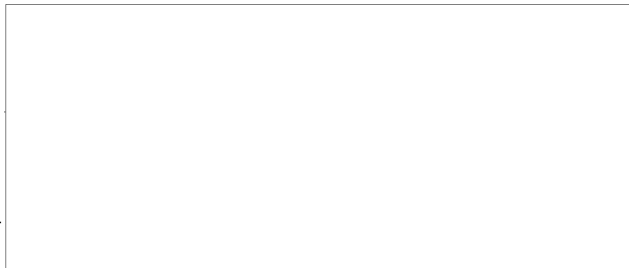
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SAUDI ARABIA



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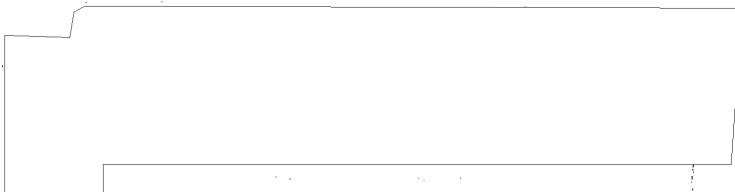


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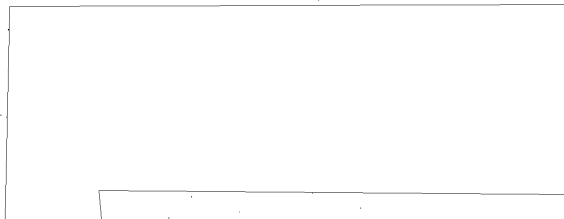
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CAMBODIA

Elements of the government column on Route 6 are moving north from Tang Kouk village toward Kompong Thom. Other government forces are engaged in clearing Communist elements from a forest area near the village.



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NOTE

Laos - South Vietnam: The Communists are planning to step up supply movements through the Laotian panhandle in the near future, according to an intercepted enemy message. Their senior logistic authority in the panhandle has informed a subordinate that the "dry season mission" would begin early and that AAA deployments to provide defensive cover in the central panhandle should be completed by 14 October. Major roads in this area were not opened to truck traffic until mid-November last year. This year, however, the Communists kept most of their logistic forces in the panhandle throughout the rainy season, and they have been repairing rain and bomb damage to the roads for the past month.

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