

*The President's Daily Brief*

*29 October 1970*

46



~~*Top Secret*~~

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

29 October 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists have made another proposal for peace talks in Laos. (Page 1)

50X1

[Redacted] East German [Redacted]  
(Page 2)

50X1

[Redacted] Franco-German [Redacted]  
(Page 3)

50X1

[Redacted] Egypt [Redacted]  
(Page 4)

50X1

A commentary on Jordan's new premier appears on Page 4.

Members of Allende's coalition are vying for influential posts in the new government. (Page 4)

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

LAOS

50X1

The Communists are attempting again to open peace talks.

50X1

A main sticking point on the talks has been the government's refusal to accept Pathet Lao insistence that discussions be between representatives of the "two princes," because this formulation does not recognize Souvanna's position as head of the Laotian Government. The new Communist initiative does not concede on this point, but both sides may now be willing to sidestep the issue to get the talks going.

Government leaders are optimistic that substantive talks will get under way; some believe that they may even lead to a settlement. Pheng has told a US official that an agreement to meet would be reached and that talks might begin at Khang Khay in early December.

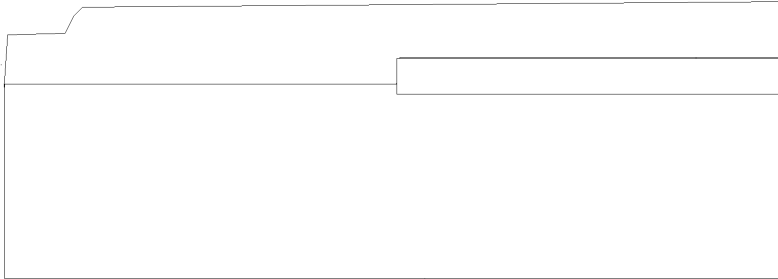
The crucial question is still the bombing halt, which the Communists continue to insist is essential to any settlement. Presumably this will be the first issue raised at Khang Khay. Pheng says that the government will insist that no cessation can occur without a supervised withdrawal of North Vietnamese forces, but believes that the Communists will be willing to discuss a partial bombing halt in return for some reduction of hostilities in northern Laos.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

**EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY**

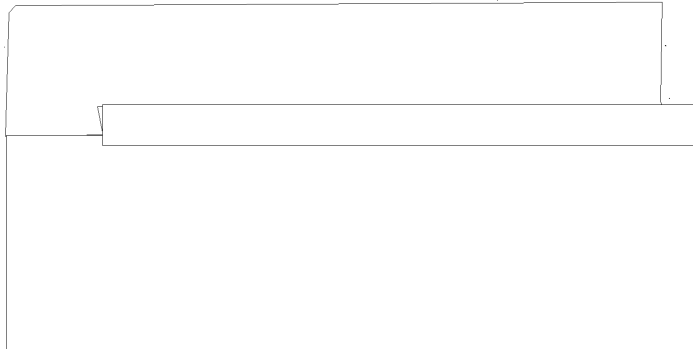
50X1



50X1

50X1

50X1

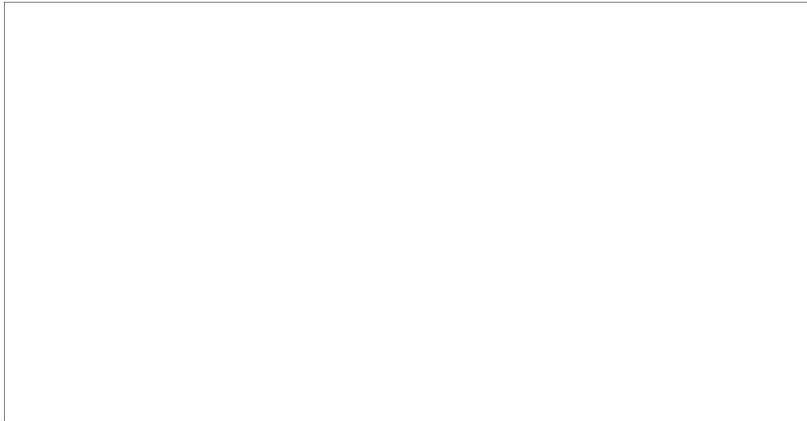


50X1

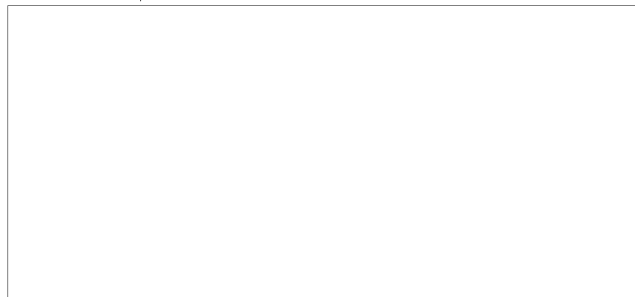
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

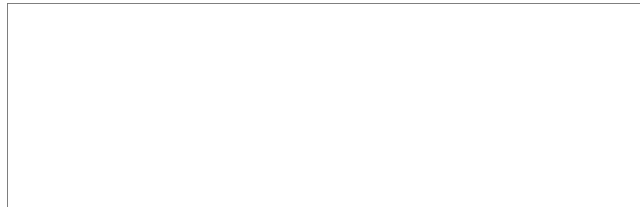
WEST GERMANY - FRANCE



50X1



50X1



50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

Egypt:

50X1

Jordan: Wasfi Tal, named by Husayn yesterday to head a new cabinet, is a tough-minded former prime minister with strong backing within the army and among East Bank Jordanians. The appointment reflects Husayn's belief--since the recent fighting--that only a strong, more authoritarian government can keep the fedayeen under control and provide at least short-term stability. Husayn had already restored his tough cousin, Zaid bin Shakir, to his position in the army; the new premier's appointment gives Shakir a strong civilian partner.

Chile: The Socialists, the most radical party within Allende's Popular Unity coalition, are making a grab for power in the cabinet and for lesser, but important posts. They are insisting that one of their members be appointed minister of interior. This portfolio controls the police and provincial governments, and the incumbent is first in line for succession to the presidency. If the Socialists prevail, the new government will be moving more rapidly to the left than either Allende or Chile's Communist Party had intended before their position is consolidated.

*Top Secret*