

ETS-HK-AD2076J

~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH29859 VIA CAS

TOHAK 119

~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE

DECEMBER 9, 1972

CONTAINS CODEWORD

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

NSA review completed

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

LAO MILITARY SITUATION: IN THE LAO PANHANDLE, COMBAT ACTIVITY CENTERED AROUND SARAVANE. ON DECEMBER 7 AND 8 AN ESTIMATED FORCE OF THREE ENEMY BATTALIONS LAUNCHED THE HEAVIEST ATTACKS BY FIRE TO DATE ALONG WITH GROUND ASSAULTS WHICH WERE DESCRIBED AS "HALF-HEARTED" BY THE IRREGULAR COMMANDER. THE IRREGULAR FORCES, SUPPORTED BY TACTICAL AIR STRIKES, SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED THEIR POSITIONS WHILE SUFFERING MINIMAL CASUALTIES. ELSEWHERE, MINOR ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS REPORTED IN THE PAKSONG AND PAKSE AREAS.

MORI/CDF
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SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO NORTH VIETNAM: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS FROM MOSCOW, THE SOVIET UNION TODAY AGREED TO CONTINUE ITS MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID TO NORTH VIETNAM IN 1973. TASS GAVE NO FIGURES FOR THE SOVIET COMMITMENT, BUT SAID THE AID WOULD BE GIVEN WITHOUT PAYMENT. THE SOVIETS WILL SUPPLY HANOI WITH GOODS, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER PROPERTY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH VIETNAM'S ECONOMY. THEY WILL ALSO PROVIDE "NECESSARY ASSISTANCE" TO STRENGTHEN THE DEFENSE POTENTIAL OF NORTH VIETNAM. TASS FURTHER STATED THAT A PERMANENT SOVIET-VIETNAMESE COMMISSION WILL BE SET UP TO HANDLE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL AID.

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APOLLO 17 UPDATE: THE CREW IS RESTING WELL AFTER COMPLETING A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS AND ALL SYSTEMS ON THE LUNAR MODULE ARE IN A "GO CONDITION." MOST ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY PLANNED WILL BE IN PREPARATION FOR ENTERING LUNAR ORBIT ON SUNDAY.

THE EVENING STAR AND WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS: THE FEATURE STORY ON PAGE ONE REPORTS ON YOUR MEETING TODAY WITH LE DUC THO.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S CONDITION, ALTHOUGH DESCRIBED AS CRITICAL, HAS REPORTEDLY IMPROVED SLIGHTLY FROM A "PRECARIOUS" CONDITION.
(PAGE A 1)

A STAR EDITORIAL NOTES THAT TO A LARGE EXTENT, ALLENDE'S LATEST BLAST AT AMERICAN CORPORATIONS, U.S. BANKING INTERESTS AND INTERNATIONAL LENDING AGENCIES WAS A REFLECTION OF HIS OWN MISMANAGEMENT OF CHILE'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. (P A 4)

DALLAS FAVORED BY 6 1/2 OVER SKINS TODAY. MUL-KEY AND BRUNET MAY SEE MAJOR ACTION AS LARRY BROWN PROBABLY WON'T PLAY.

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