

CIA/DCI/WH/2WH 741031

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Date: October 31, 1974

Item No.: WH #1

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

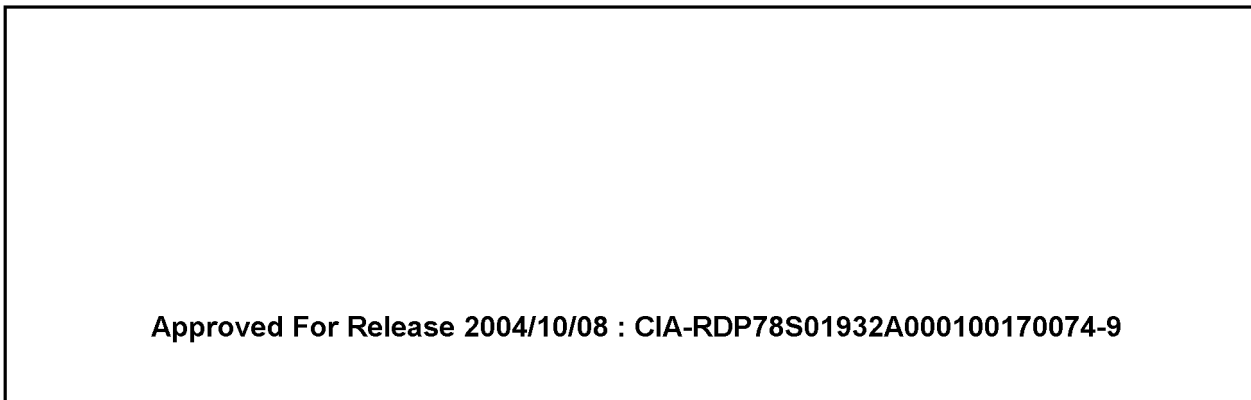
SUBJECT: CAMBODIA--THE MILITARY SITUATION

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Fighting remains generally light and scattered throughout most of the country, except in the Kompong Chhnang, Bassac, and Svay Rieng sectors. Most of the action in the Kompong Chhnang area north of Phnom Penh continues to focus on government efforts to reopen strategic Route 5 which remains under Khmer Communist interdiction. Southeast of the capital, Cambodian army units attempting to clear the Bassac - Mekong River corridor continue to encounter numerous insurgent ground attacks and shellings. Although all friendly positions are holding,

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the operation is registering little forward progress. Meanwhile, government defenders at the provincial capital of Svay Rieng continue to report sharp insurgent attacks along the city's defensive perimeter.