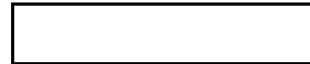


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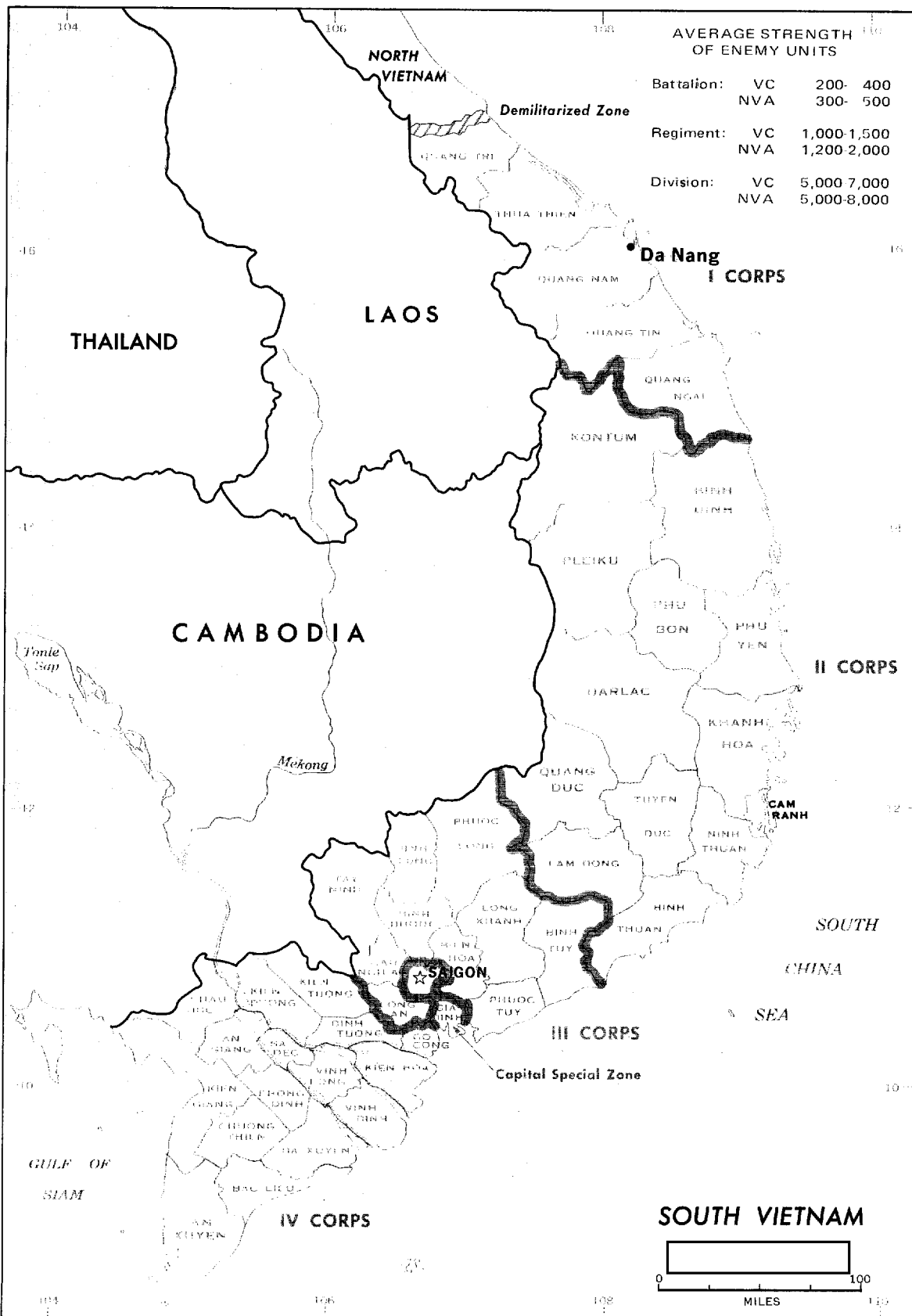
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[Vietnam: Hanoi's announcement that a new president and vice president have been chosen sheds little light on the new situation in the leadership.

The 81-year-old former vice president Ton Duc Thang will serve as a convenient figurehead president. The second spot in the government has been filled by a long-time party stalwart, Nguyen Luong Bang, whose real power position is a mystery. Bang was a founding member of the Vietnam Workers' (Communist) Party and has been chief of the party's control department since 1964, presumably handling such matters as security and discipline. He cannot be firmly associated with any one individual or group. He has not been a prominent public spokesman on any policy issues in recent years.

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On the military front, ground action yesterday continued at a low ebb. Several Vietnamese civilians were killed as the result of a terrorist incident near Da Nang, however.

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Korea: South Korea's improved coastal defense operations have thwarted three North Korean infiltration efforts over the past week.



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Thus far this year there have been 22 encounters with North Korean sea infiltrators, compared with 19 last year and 46 in 1967. The activity along the Demilitarized Zone has been relatively low, however. Pyongyang's emphasis on agent infiltration rather than commando raids suggests that the North Koreans are hoping to exploit unrest over the third-term issue and to build up their subversive apparatus in the South. 

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Czechoslovakia: The party's central committee is expected to oust many of last year's reformers when it meets today, but may temporize in dealing with former party leader Dubcek.

25X1 [redacted] at least 30 members will be dropped from the 183-man central committee; some of them will also be expelled from the party. Included in the lists of people to be dropped are such prominent members of the 1968 leadership as Josef Smrkovsky and Cestmir Cisar. The manner in which the plenum should deal with Dubcek, however, has been the most contentious issue between ultra-conservatives and more moderate members of the party, including party chief Husak.

There have been some signs recently that the more moderate faction has prevailed, and that Dubcek may be permitted to retain his seat on the central committee for a time. If Dubcek does survive the purge, this would represent a limited victory for Husak.

The sweeping changes in the central committee which appear imminent, however, could redound to the advantage of the extremists and narrow Husak's room to maneuver vis-a-vis the ultraconservatives.

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West Germany - East Germany: The talks held last week aimed at improving German postal service, telecommunications, and methods of payment failed to make any headway.

The East Germans insisted on a financial agreement as a precondition to improvements in service. They offered to drop their claim on Bonn for past services if the West Germans would agree to pay \$7.5 million annually beginning with 1968.

The West Germans, though more interested than the East in improving service, demurred. They suspect that the more forthcoming East German position is intended to influence favorably Pankow's application for admission to the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The UPU application is expected to be rejected and Bonn wants to see if the East German offer still stands by the time of the next East - West German meeting in late October.

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Brazil: Third Army Commander General Emilio Garrastazu Medici may be the successor to President Costa e Silva.

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[REDACTED]
reports that the meeting of the army high command resulted in an offer of the presidency to Medici and the vice presidency to retired Admiral Augusto Rademaker. The latter is minister of the navy and that service's representative on the triumvirate currently governing during the President's incapacitation. Medici is the favored candidate of Costa e Silva's followers and probably of the majority of army generals.

The 63-year-old Medici might be reluctant to accept the presidency, particularly for a long term, because of his health and because of a hesitancy to replace his close friend Costa e Silva. He would probably do so if he believed this to be the only way to preserve military unity and internal security.

The army's decision must be ratified by the armed forces joint high command, and consideration may still be given to another candidate, such as General Albuquerque Lima, who has heavy support from younger officers. [REDACTED]

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El Salvador - Honduras: Honduras is preparing to call for a formal meeting of the Organization of American States to present proposals to deal with the problems between the two countries.

The Honduran economic minister has revealed that the government will seek an OAS resolution that would set up machinery to process Honduran war damage claims and another that would call upon El Salvador to begin boundary negotiations. The government reportedly will accede to Salvadoran demands that it reopen its portion of the Pan American Highway to Salvadoran traffic--a major bone of contention--after the OAS approves these resolutions. Honduras is not prepared, however, to restore diplomatic or trade relations with El Salvador.

The minister, taking note of the concern for the large Salvadoran colony in Honduras, has also indicated that the government will enable all Salvadoran residents to become naturalized. It will also facilitate the documentation of Salvadorans illegally in Honduras if they have Honduran families or have "roots" in the country. All other Salvadorans, however, would be expelled, and the government will carefully control future immigration.

Honduran willingness to articulate a policy on these issues is a positive sign, but a quick settlement is unlikely. Concessions by either government will tend to arouse domestic political opposition, and many of the problems will require lengthy multilateral negotiation.

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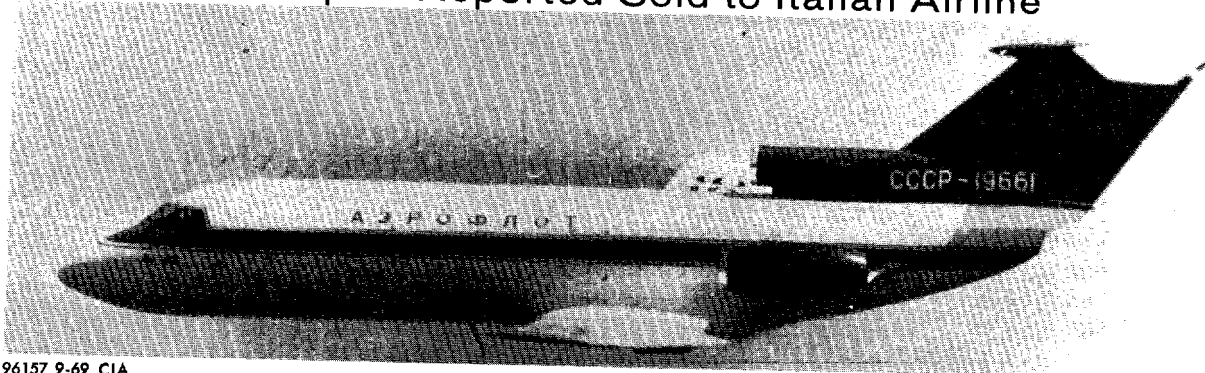
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★ Soviet Transport Reported Sold to Italian Airline



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Soviet YAK-40 tri-jet transport



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USSR-Italy: The USSR has made its first sale of commercial transport aircraft to Western Europe. According to a Moscow press report, a small, newly formed, private Italian domestic carrier has purchased two YAK-40 tri-jet transports. This aircraft, which carries 24 to 31 passengers and can use short unpaved runways, is scheduled for delivery in 1970. The Soviets have also offered this transport to Colombia and have been demonstrating it in the Middle East and Asia, but no sales have yet been announced. [redacted]

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NPT - East Germany: Pankow has ratified the nonproliferation treaty (NPT), raising the number of ratifications to 21. To bring the treaty into force, 22 more ratifications are required, including those by the US and the Soviet Union. The East German action will not influence Bonn's viewpoint on signature of the NPT. Neither does it portend immediate ratification by the Soviet Union. [redacted]

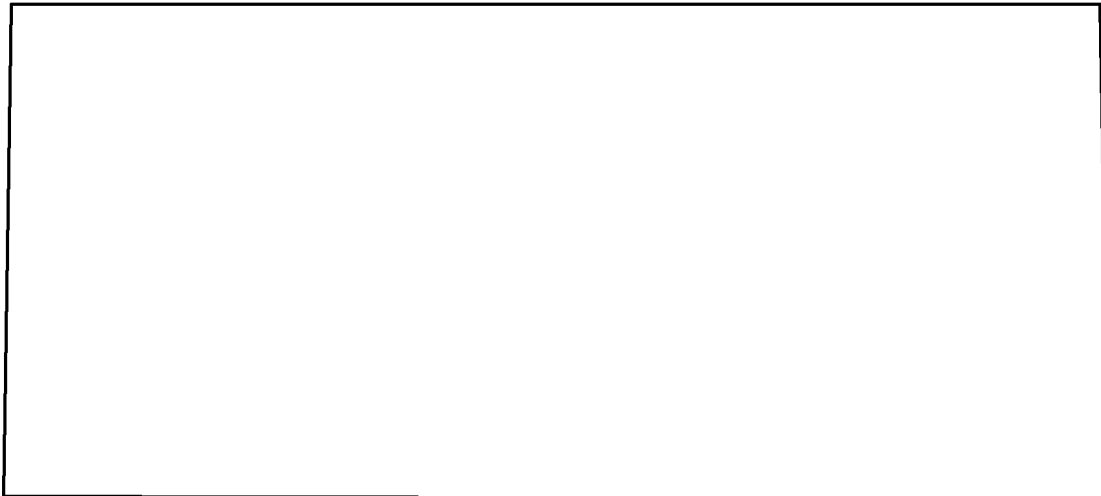
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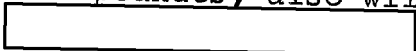
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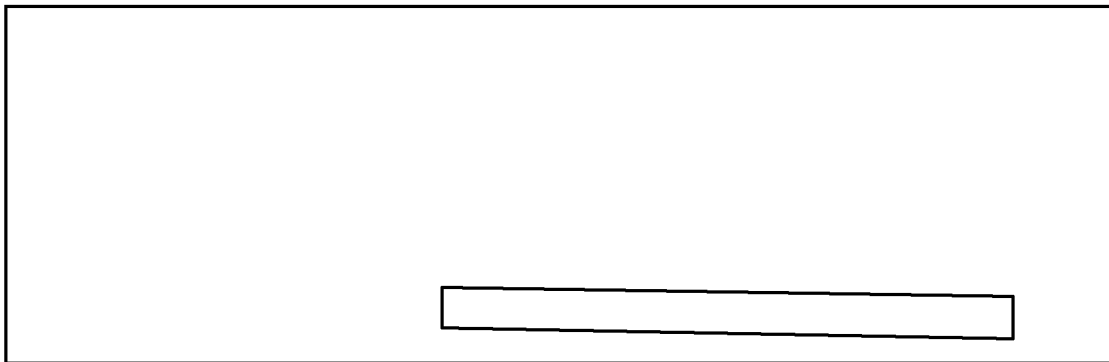
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India: The prospects now are good that India's production of foodgrains this year will exceed last year's near-record harvest of about 95 million tons. Weather conditions have been favorable, and greater use of fertilizer and high-yielding seeds has helped to increase production. Whatever foodgrains India imports this year will be used to build up stocks. If normal weather conditions prevail during the next few months, the production of important non-food-grain crops, such as sugarcane, jute, tea, cotton, and peanuts, also will reach new highs.



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