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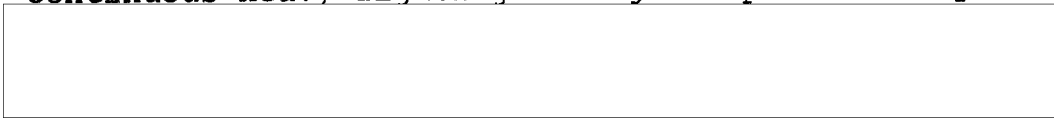


SOUTH VIETNAM: Heavy Communist artillery fire continued to hamper South Vietnamese clearing operations in Quang Tri City over the weekend.

Hardest hit were government marine positions in the southern and eastern sections of the city. Elements of at least two North Vietnamese regiments remain dug in north of the citadel, the area of nearly continuous heavy fighting during the past two days.

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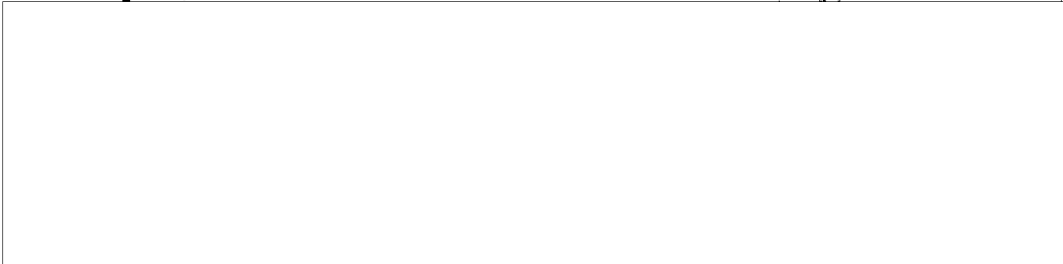
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Farther south, fighting was light around government positions along the My Chanh River defense line, but Communist gunners shelled Camp Evans, the government's primary support base for Quang Tri, on 5 August and destroyed over 60 tons of artillery ammunition. West of Hue, South Vietnamese troops reoccupied Outpost Checkmate near Fire Support Base Bastogne, which was recaptured last week.

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In Military Region 2, Communist gunners fired over 100 rounds of artillery and rocket fire into government positions in the coastal town of Bong Son, and followed up with a ground attack. South Vietnamese Army troops pushed back the Communist assault and retained control of the district capital. Bong Son, as well as the other two northern district capitals of Hoai An and Hoai Nhon, have been almost completely destroyed.

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as a result of this recent heavy fighting an additional 69,000 refugees have fled these areas.

(continued)

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[Redacted] Northwest of Saigon, South Vietnamese forces
[Redacted] near Tay Ninh
City thwarted a Communist commando raid on the
strategic facility. In adjacent Binh Long Province,
pockets of enemy resistance remain along Route 13,
but most of the enemy units that were in this area
have moved farther south. South Vietnamese units
airlifted into northern Binh Duong Province over the
weekend encountered heavy enemy attacks a few miles
east of Route 13.

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In the delta, fighting continued heavy around
the enemy's base camp in the Dinh Tuong - Kien
Tuong - Kien Phong tri-border area. A government
outpost in the area reportedly was hit by a wire-
guided "Sagger" missile, only the second reported
use of this weapon in the delta.

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*PAKISTAN: The level of political violence and the shrillness of rhetoric have been rising, but do not yet appear to threaten President Bhutto's dominant position.

The rioting in Karachi last month over the Sind language issue was the most widely publicized outbreak of political violence. Among other incidents were a grenade attack on an extremist leader in Sind Province and an armed attack on an opposition meeting by some of President Bhutto's followers in Lahore.

The opposition's denunciations of the government have become more virulent and personal, and government officials are replying in kind. Disruptive opposition tactics, including an attempt to declare one government supporter insane, forced the early adjournment of the Punjab provincial assembly despite an overwhelming government majority.

The US Embassy believes that the trauma of events of 1971 is wearing off and that Bhutto's mishandling of some problems--notably the language issue--has increased his vulnerability. Although Bhutto remains in control and has widespread support, continued violence could well lead him to impose increasingly repressive measures, which in turn could serve as a catalyst for more violence.
(CONFIDENTIAL)

*Because of the shortage of time for preparation of this item, the analytical interpretation presented here has been produced by the Central Intelligence Agency without the participation of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State.

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NOTE

YEMEN (SANA) - USSR: Press reports from Cairo that Yemen (Sana) has requested the withdrawal of Soviet experts have reportedly been denied by the Yemeni prime minister, but relations between the two countries remain cool. The deterioration began early this year when the USSR failed to follow through on promises of new arms and spare parts for Sana's largely Soviet-equipped military forces. Yemen (Sana) has also been rankled by the continuing Soviet aid to Sana's long-standing adversary, Yemen (Aden). An earlier report indicated that Sana had decided to reduce the size of the 200-300-man Soviet military and technical mission, but the Yemenis have not yet implemented that decision. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

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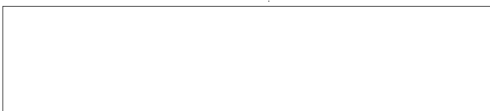
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