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No. 0788/72

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
29 May 1972

## INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Situation in Vietnam  
(As of 1500 EDT)

1. The situation in Kontum City appears to have stabilized, with government forces in control of most of the city and counterattacking against enemy held areas in the northern and eastern parts of the city. Last night numerous B-52 bombers struck enemy positions on the periphery of Kontum. No new enemy ground attacks have been reported; earlier information had indicated the enemy would take a breather after five days of fighting.

2. In Phuoc Tuy Province, enemy forces have continued their attacks against the district capitals of Duc Thanh and Dat Do, with heavy contact reported around Dat Do. Government defenders at Duc Thanh are being resupplied by airdrop. The enemy has also launched small-scale attacks in Long Le District, and late reports indicate the Communists now hold seven hamlets in Xuyen Moc District.

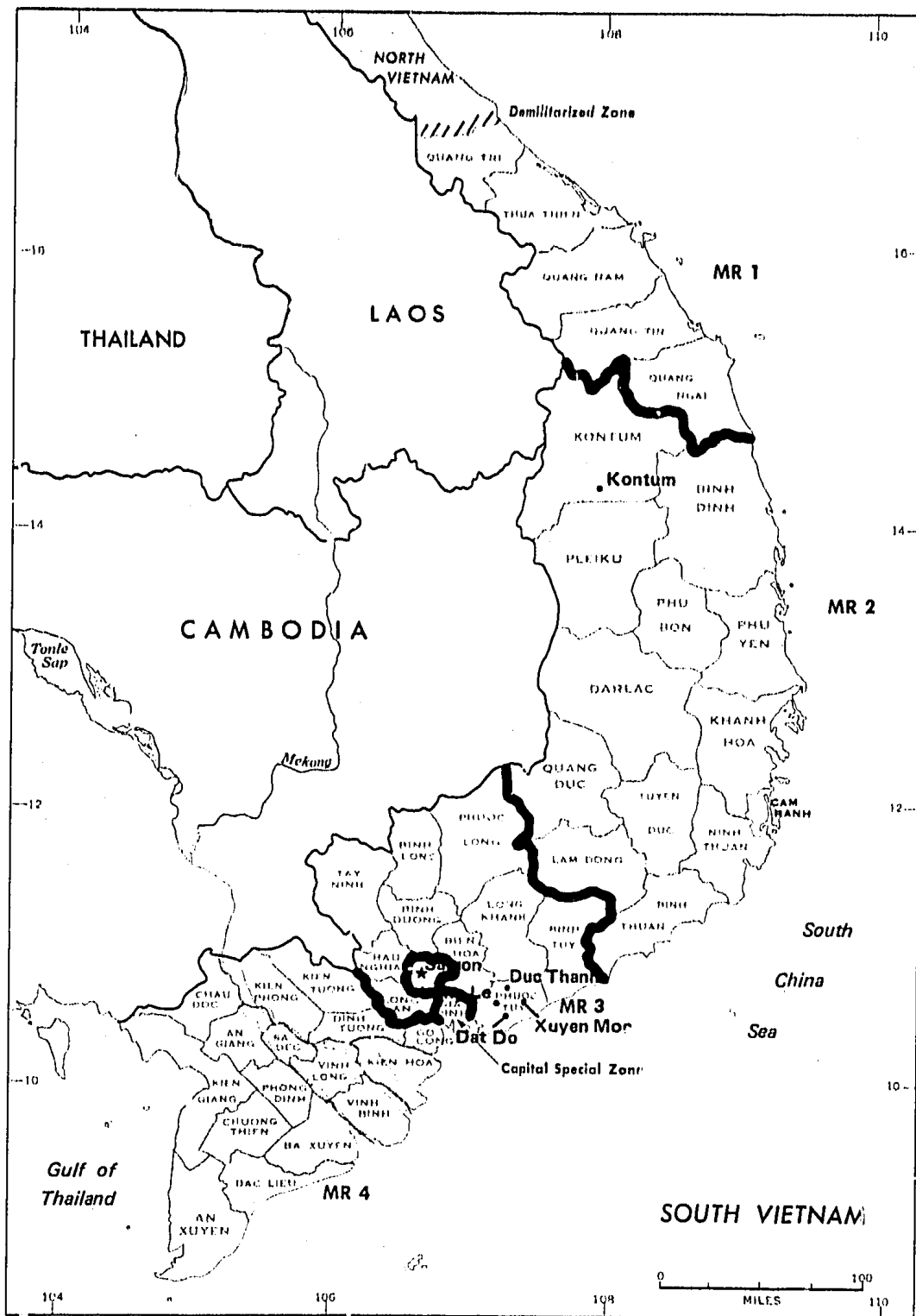
3. Little fighting has been reported from the other sectors of the country.

Status of Thieu's Bid for Emergency Powers

4. On the eve of the South Vietnamese Senate's consideration of President Thieu's request for emergency powers, the leaders of the pro-administration bloc in the Senate are claiming that progress has been made toward working out a toned-down proposal acceptable to the President. Thieu has indicated that a bill narrower than the one he originally requested, which would restrict his emergency powers

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to military, internal security, and economic affairs, would be satisfactory. Thieu's backers in the Senate believe that such a formula would not generate any additional votes for the bill, but it would make it easier to persuade some opposition Senators to abstain from the voting. If as many as five Senators abstain, they feel Thieu has a good chance of winning the required majority.

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