



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

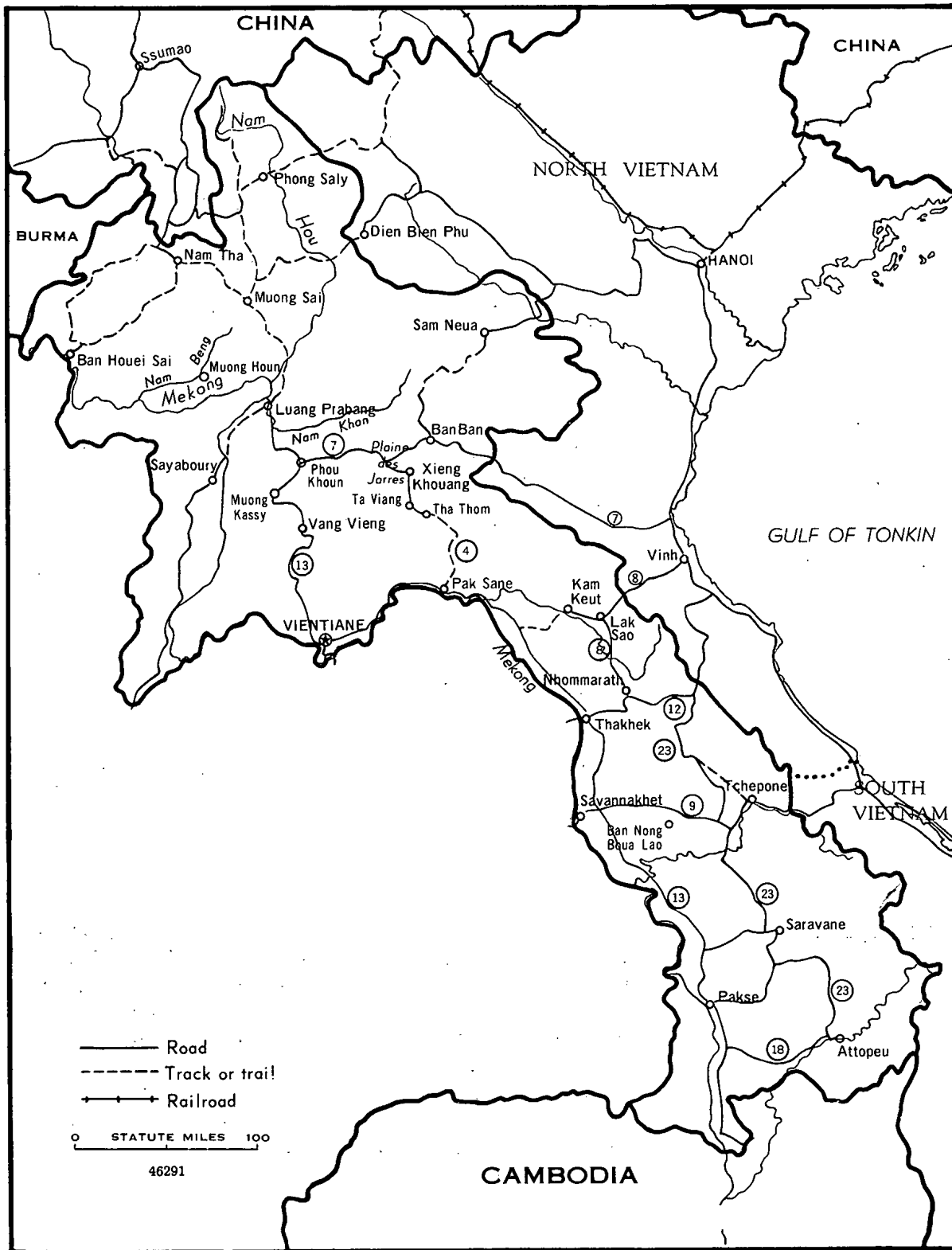


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24 FEBRUARY 1965

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LAOS



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1. Laos

Government and friendly tribal forces are still trying to contain the Communist clearing operation southwest of Samneua that started about three weeks ago. Information is fragmentary about what is happening in this remote area deep in Communist-held territory, but it appears that the position of friendly forces has improved since their initial setbacks. Reinforcements have been sent to the area, and more are planned. (Map)

2. Cyprus

UN mediator Plaza says that Makarios has agreed to renewal of the mandate for the UN peacekeeping force. Earlier, there had seemed to be a fair chance that Makarios might make trouble about this.

3. USSR

Premier Kosygin has accepted an invitation to visit West Germany, probably some time this summer. The Germans have long wished to explore directly the possibilities for improving relations with Moscow. The Soviets, however, have always made clear that improvement would depend on Bonn's willingness to deal with the East Germans.

4. Malaysia

Prime Minister Rahman has apparently agreed to go through with the meeting in Bangkok next week proposed by Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio. For their part, the Indonesians appear to have no intention of stopping infiltration operations in Borneo and against the mainland, although they promised to do so if the Malaysians would agree to hold talks.



5. Congo

Another Congolese aircraft seems to have overflown Uganda territory on Monday. According to Ugandan intercepts, which probably exaggerate, it bombed and strafed a school, wounding some children.

The news apparently has enraged Ugandan Prime Minister Obote, who has been in a highly emotional state since the first attack a few days ago. Obote may now announce the support he has been giving the Congolese rebels, using this latest incident as justification. The Ugandan Army units which crossed into the Congo on 16-17 February have withdrawn. (Map)

6. Vietnam

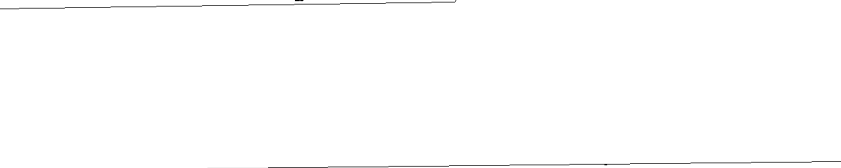
General Khanh seems to be going through with the agreed plan for his departure. He and his family leave tomorrow for Hong Kong.

Buddhist leaders are said to have suspended political action until disagreements among them about objectives can be ironed out. Some of them are apprehensive about the speed with which Generals Thi and Ky succeeded in removing Khanh.



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Both Thi and Ky are moving fast to put their own men into key slots, such as the National Police post and divisional commands near Saigon, and to otherwise consolidate their control over the Armed Forces Council. Thi seems to be out in front in this process.



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