



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

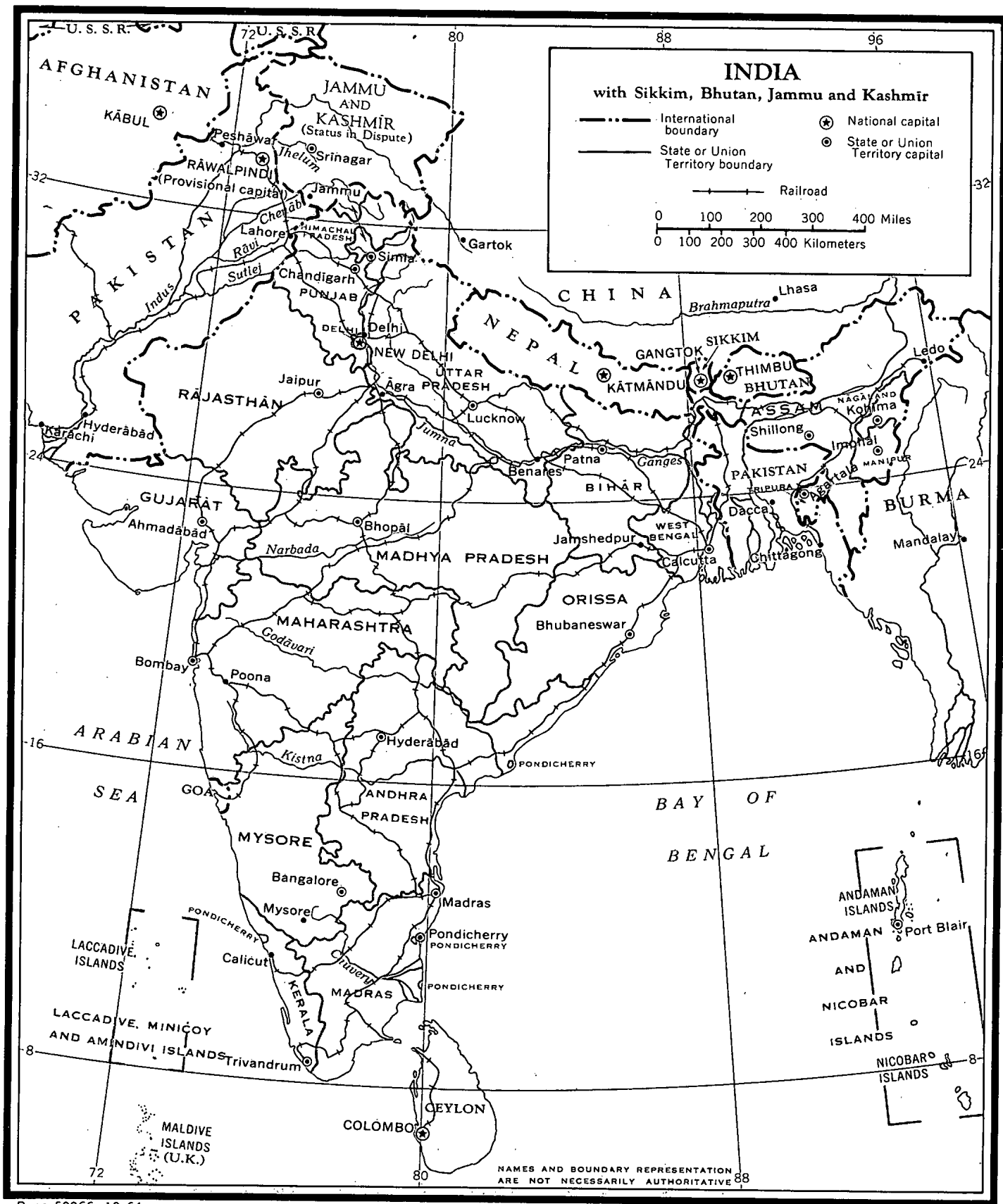


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24 JANUARY 1966

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. India

Food Minister Subramaniam reports that food shortages are rapidly becoming acute in some areas of India. He cited Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh provinces as areas where there is already "considerable suffering." He added that the Communists are ruthlessly exploiting the shortages in Kerala.

Indian Government sources in New Delhi claim that 12 million people are now dependent on the government for their subsistence. These sources estimate that at least 100 million will feel the pinch before the crisis abates in November and that millions will have to move into government food distribution camps.

2. Dominican Republic

The situation is quiet as the country waits to see what the military chiefs will do now that Caamano has left.

The chiefs met today, but accounts of their deliberations have not yet come in. One of the

may well delay their decision for a week. There may even be a lack of unanimity among them on the matter.

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3. Soviet Union

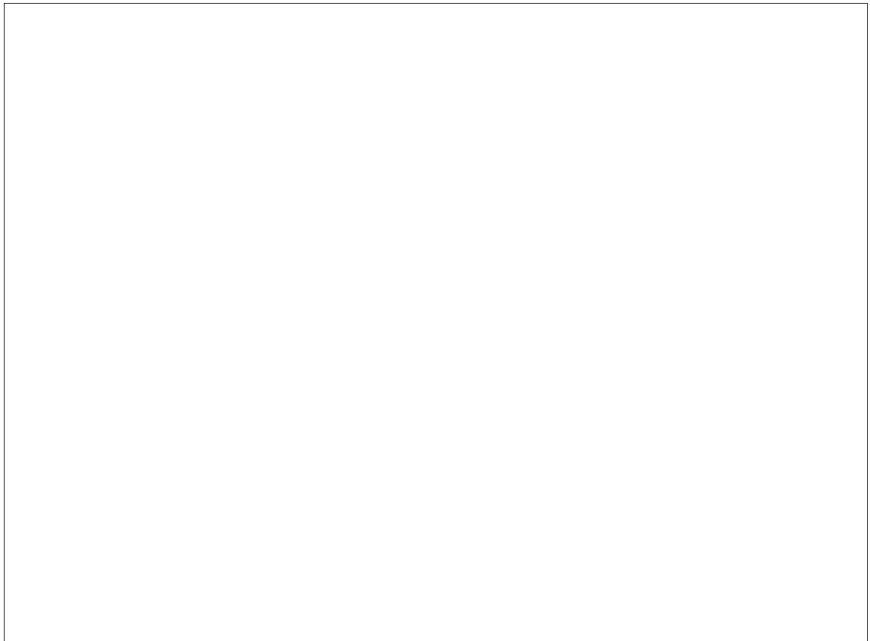
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4. North Vietnam

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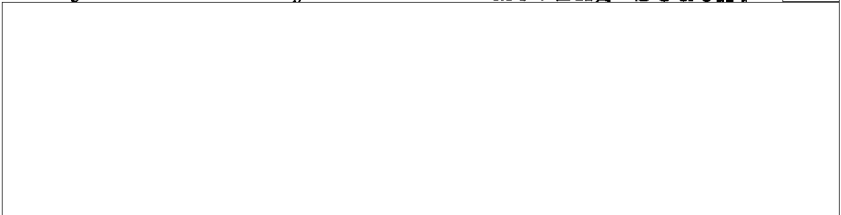


5. Vietnam

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There are indications that another regiment of North Vietnamese regulars may now or may soon be moving south.

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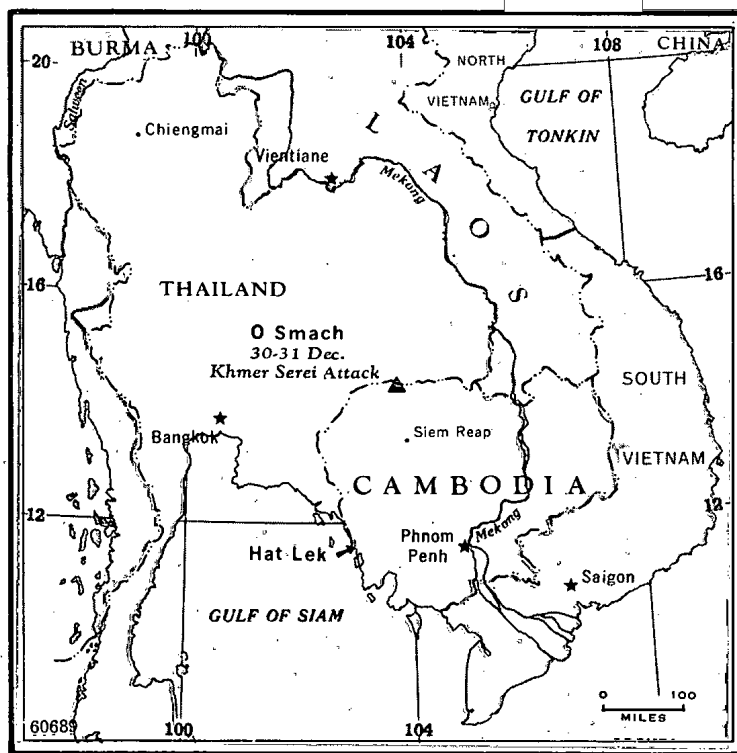


6. South Vietnam

There was a large Buddhist "prayer for peace" meeting in the city of Hué yesterday. The meeting, organized by the provincial Buddhist Youth Association, was orderly and relatively subdued, but there were some signs reminiscent of the earlier militantly anti-US student movement in Hué. There is as yet no indication as to whether this was a one-time ceremony or the opening move in a general peace campaign.

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THAILAND

7. Cambodia

Cambodian and Thai troops clashed again this weekend in an isolated frontier area near the Gulf of Thailand. Both sides brought artillery and naval craft into play. As is customary in these cases casualties were light on both sides, and the gunfire has now subsided.

The clashes are symptomatic of the tensions between the two countries, resulting in part from the stepped-up activities of anti-Sihanouk Cambodians based in Thailand. These activities are continuing and will very likely lead to further outbursts.

8. Rhodesia

[redacted] no significant quantities of oil are reaching Rhodesia from South Africa. For one thing, the major rail line that could carry it was knocked out recently by floods. In addition, South African authorities are only just beginning to focus on the question of whether to force local companies to resume shipments. A committee has been set up to make recommendations on the matter, and a key member is said to favor helping the white Rhodesians.

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9. Nigeria

The new military regime has consolidated its power and now appears to be in control throughout the nation.

A delayed reaction by northern Muslims is still feared, but the authorities have taken steps to forestall this. Muslims have been promised complete freedom of worship, and one of their spiritual leaders has called for cooperation with Ironsi.

While its short-term prospects for maintaining control appear good, the Ironsi regime may have trouble in coping with nationalistic younger army officers who have emerged from the coup in strategically placed posts.

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10. Belgium

The country's doctors are threatening a new strike, starting next week, unless the government abolishes the free services offered in some hospitals. Such a strike would likely provoke counterstrikes by organized labor and set in motion a process which might well lead to the collapse of the present Catholic-Socialist coalition.

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