



The President's Daily Brief

Handley GDB

2 AUG 1970

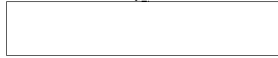
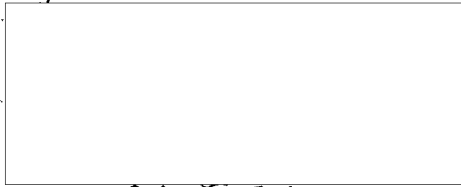
~~7 August 1970~~

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CAMBODIA

The Communists have launched their heaviest ground and mortar attack on Kompong Thom city since early June. The city was attacked from three directions early ~~this~~ ^{yesterday} morning, and the US embassy in Phnom Penh reports that most of the

city's main installations have fallen, despite Cambodian and South

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Vietnamese air support. Government defenders are calling for more

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air strikes and for additional reinforcements.

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The size of the enemy attacking force is unknown.

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The Communists simultaneously attacked a government battalion at Skoun, at the junctions of Routes 6 and 7, between Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham city.

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The embassy estimates Skoun will fall if its defenders do not receive air support. If Skoun ~~falls~~ ^{FALLS} the

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Communists will have blocked overland access to Kompong Thom ^{AND ALSO WILL}
^(BETTER)
BE IN POSITION TO ATTACK KOMPONG CHAM.

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Meanwhile, the government offensive to retake Kirirom

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has halted, pending the arrival of five more battalions of reinforcements.

^A government battalion south of Kirirom on Route 4, at Sre Khlong, fought a pitched battle with enemy forces ~~today~~ ^{yesterday} and finally drove the Communists into

the surrounding forest. Some action reportedly is continuing.

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