



*The President's Daily Brief*

*7 November 1970*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 November 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Redacted] Soviet [Redacted] Page 1.

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Thieu's claim that 97 percent of the population is under government control is being challenged [Redacted] (Page 2)

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Husayn has made numerous personnel changes which reflect his intent of maintaining a tough policy to keep order. (Page 3)

The Soviet submarine tender and rescue tug have headed west along the coast of Haiti, but their destination is still unclear. (Page 4)

[Redacted] French [Redacted] (Page 5)

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Suslov's October Anniversary speech is discussed on Page 6.

Peking has sent a comparatively conciliatory October Anniversary message to the Soviets. (Page 6)

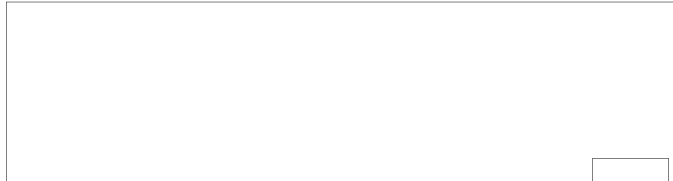
The power struggle in Iraq between the military and civilian wings of the Baath Party appears to be continuing. (Page 7)

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USSR



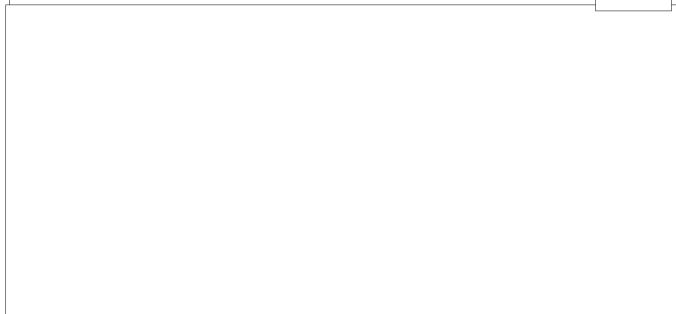
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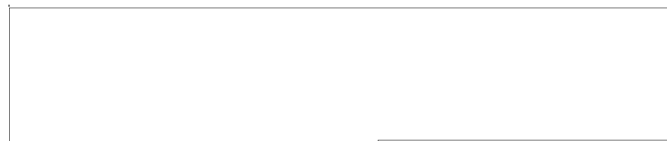
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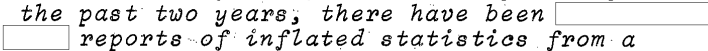
SOUTH VIETNAM

President Thieu's recent public claim that 97 percent of the population is now under government control is being challenged



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Although there has clearly been substantial government progress in securing much of the countryside from the enemy during the past two years, there have been



reports of inflated statistics from a number of other provinces along the central coast and in the delta. Such reports, and Thieu's own claims, suggest that the tendency of the Vietnamese to distort reality in attempting to quantify progress persists and may even increase as Vietnamization advances. Local officials often feel under pressure to provide figures showing progress in order to protect their careers.

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The latest Hamlet Evaluation System figures show that in September 92.7 percent of the population was living in conditions of relative security, and about 79 percent under fairly firm government control. The comparable figures for Quang Nam are approximately 90 percent and 72 percent. Even the most sophisticated statistics on pacification provide only rough measures of progress and must be viewed with some reservations.

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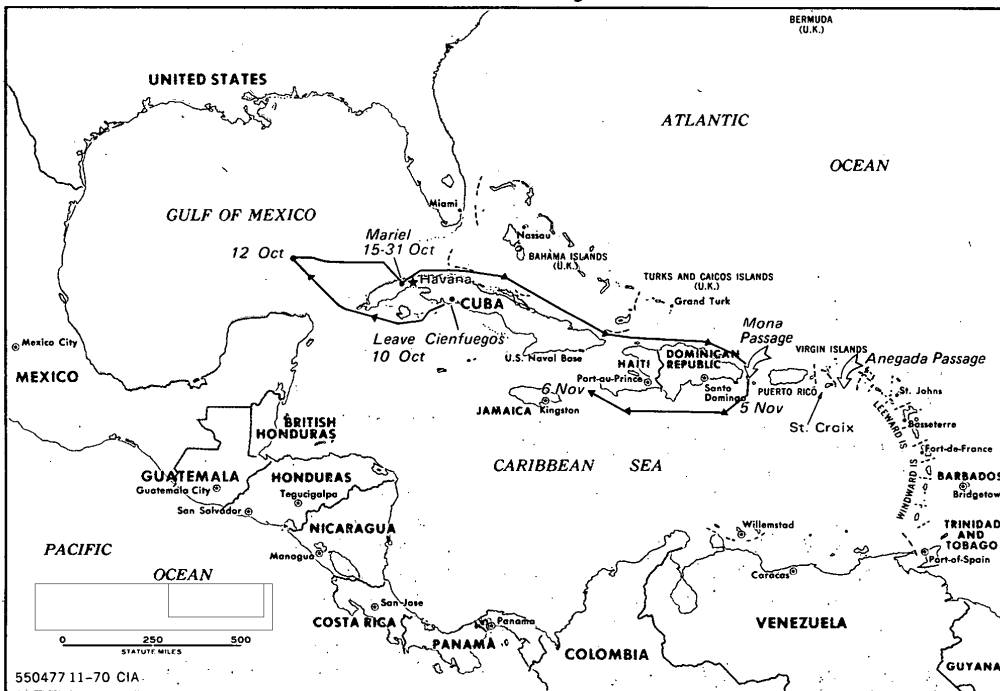
JORDAN

Husayn has followed his appointment of the Wasfi Tal cabinet with numerous other personnel changes. New commanders have been named for each of the army's four combat divisions and its one independent brigade. Former chief of general intelligence Badran, removed last June in response to fedayeen demands, has been appointed to the royal court, and a brother of Wasfi Tal is the new royal secretary. Large-scale changes have been made among provincial administrators and senior-level police officers.

*Husayn obviously is ignoring fedayeen opposition which followed his formation of the strong Wasfi Tal cabinet last week. The new appointments reflect the King's intent of maintaining a tough policy to keep order. For many of the appointments Husayn has drawn heavily on personnel clearly loyal to him.*

*The King is counting on firm support among East Bank Jordanians if the fedayeen mount a serious challenge to his present policies. There is growing evidence of Jordanian chauvinism among East Bankers in the army. This apparently has been fanned by their discovery in September that the fedayeen were at least as willing to fight and even destroy the Jordanian Government as they were to attack Israel.*

### Track of Soviet Submarine Tender and Rescue Tug



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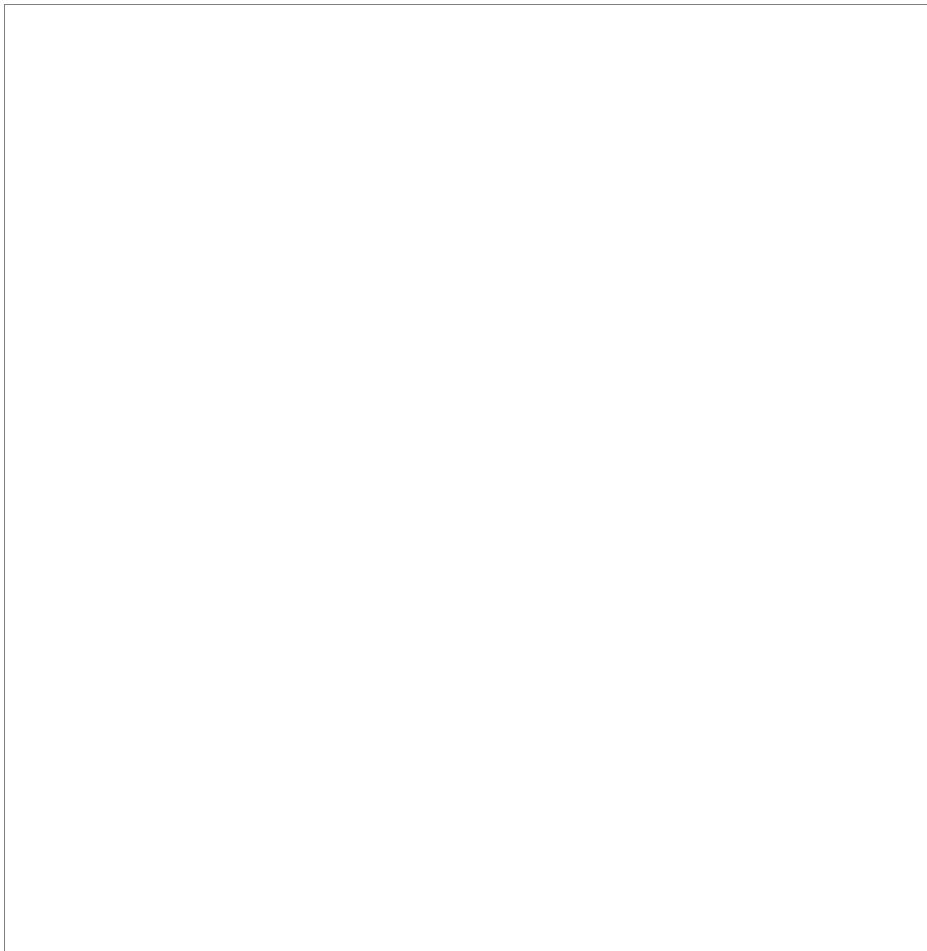
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USSR-CUBA

The submarine tender and rescue tug, the only remaining units of the seven-ship Soviet task force which arrived in Cienfuegos on 9 and 10 September, headed west yesterday along the coast of Haiti after entering the Caribbean through the Mona Passage. They had visited the Cuban naval port of Mariel, just west of Havana, from 15 to 31 October.

Although [redacted] the movement of other Soviet naval units suggest that the submarine tender and rescue tug may head for the Mediterranean, they could also call at Cienfuegos or another Caribbean port. Soviet naval units making previous naval visits to Cuba have lingered in the area before returning to Soviet waters.

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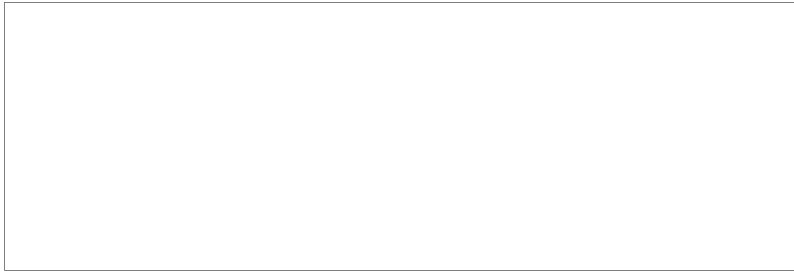


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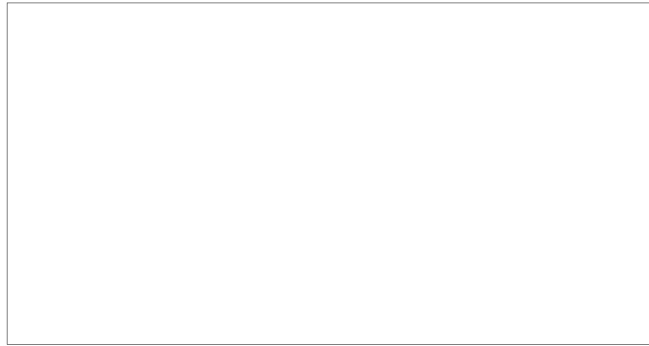


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FRANCE



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## NOTES

USSR: Suslov's October Anniversary speech yesterday was a customary panegyric to Soviet economic successes, containing claims that most aspects of the current five-year plan will be fulfilled and that this year's grain harvest is the largest in Soviet history. He omitted mention of the status of the next five-year plan, however, indicating that major problems over resource allocation still exist. On foreign policy, Suslov mixed conciliatory gestures with calls for vigilance against forces which threaten the prospects for accommodation in major trouble spots. His most interesting comments were on Germany. He called the Soviet - West German treaty a "foundation" for improved relations with Bonn and the rest of Europe, but warned that "influential reactionary forces" were threatening ratification. Other recent Soviet pronouncements on the treaty have been more positive, which may indicate Moscow is increasingly concerned about the durability of Brandt's coalition or that the leadership as a whole prefers a more guarded, and perhaps less forthcoming approach to Bonn.

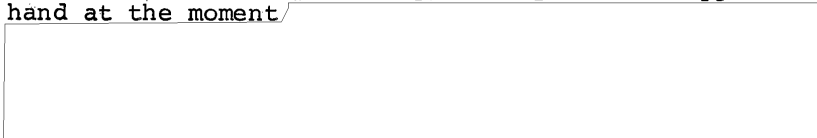
Communist China - USSR: Peking's message on the occasion of the 53rd anniversary of the October revolution extends "warm congratulations" to the Soviet people, but--unlike last year--asserts that "differences of principle" should not hinder normal state relations between the two countries. The message, addressed to the Soviet Government but not the party, adds that "effective measures" based on the principles of peaceful coexistence to settle "important outstanding questions in state relations" are in the best interests of all concerned. This is the line the Chinese adopted just prior to the opening of the Peking talks. They may be repeating it at this time because they are anxious to avoid being branded "obstructionists" by Moscow, which has been stressing its "conciliatory" attitude in public in recent months. It is unlikely that the message reflects any significant forward movement at the stalemated Peking talks.

(continued)

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Iraq: The power struggle between the military and civilian wings of the Baath Party appears to be continuing. Saddam Tikriti, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council and leader of the civilian wing of the party, apparently has the upper hand at the moment



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