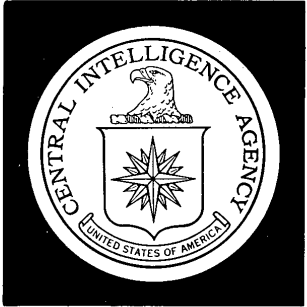


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*The President's Daily Brief*

*31 Sunday Cable*  
*28 January 1971*



13

~~Top Secret~~ 50X1

CAMBODIA

The first convoy of petroleum for Phnom Penh from the refinery at Kompong Som was ambushed, despite air cover, on 30 January by Communist troops along Route 4 about 42 miles north of Kompong Som. Preliminary reports indicate that several of the 31 tanker trucks were set afire and that the remainder headed back to Kompong Som. There have been several enemy harassing attacks against government positions in the same general area in the past few days.

Route 4, closed since November, had been declared officially open to civilian traffic during daylight hours by the local Cambodian commander, Sosthene Fernandez.

[REDACTED]

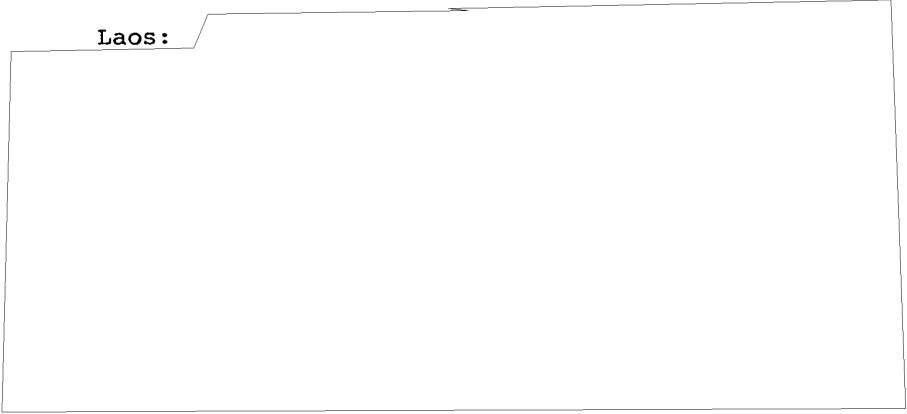
that his forces could keep the road clear between Veal Renh and the Pich Nil pass, the stretch where the ambush later occurred, although his units farther north near the pass were being harassed.

50X1

A riverine POL convoy from South Vietnam arrived safely in Phnom Penh on 29 January. It is the first such resupply mission to reach the capital since 17 January. The convoy, consisting of four oil barges and three tugs carrying 1,226,700 gallons of petroleum supplies, encountered two minor enemy harassments during the trip, but sustained no damage.

NOTES

Laos:



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