



The President's Daily Brief

7 April 1971

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

7 April 1971

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[redacted] Soviet [redacted]
[redacted] Page 1.

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The situation in Pakistan is discussed on Page 2.

In Ceylon, the government has not yet succeeded in restoring control in areas hit by insurgents. (Page 3)

On Page 4, we comment on Kosygin's speech to the Party Congress concerning the Soviet economy.

[redacted] Amman [redacted]
[redacted] (Page 6)

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[redacted]
[redacted] China. (Page 7)

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A coup attempt has been thwarted in Laos. (Page 7)

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USSR



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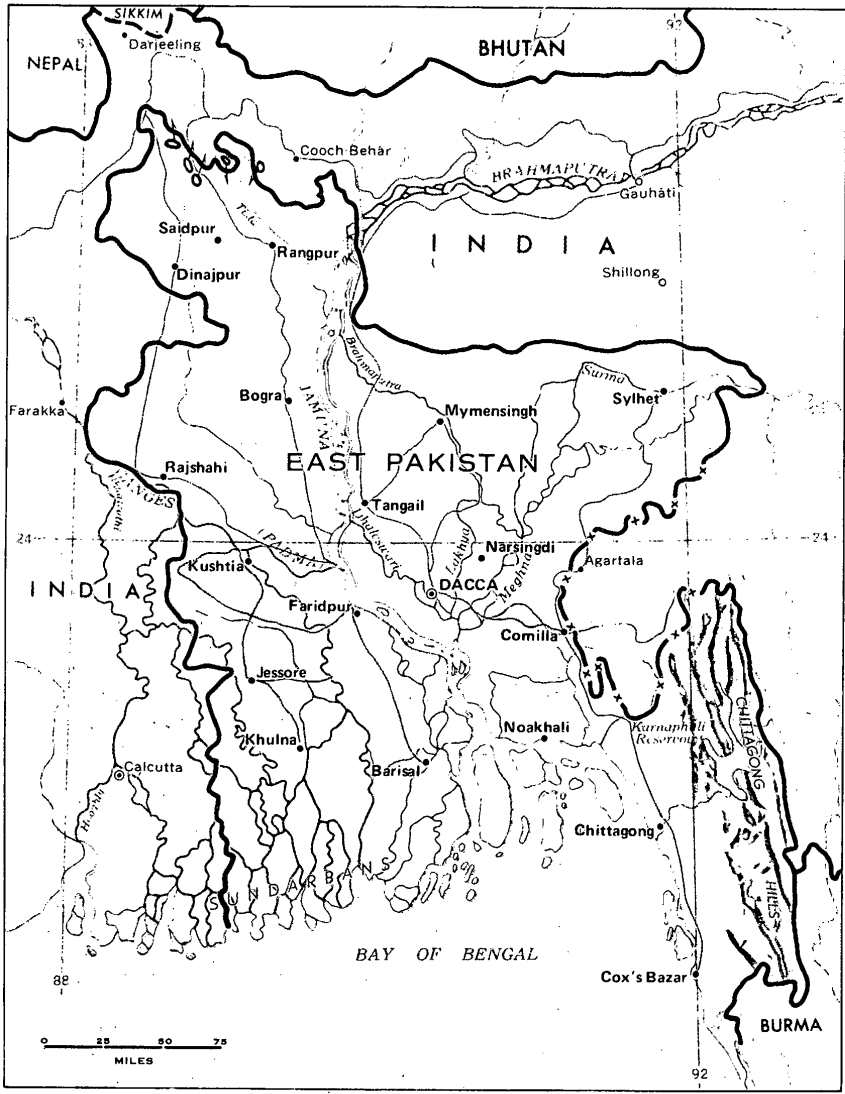
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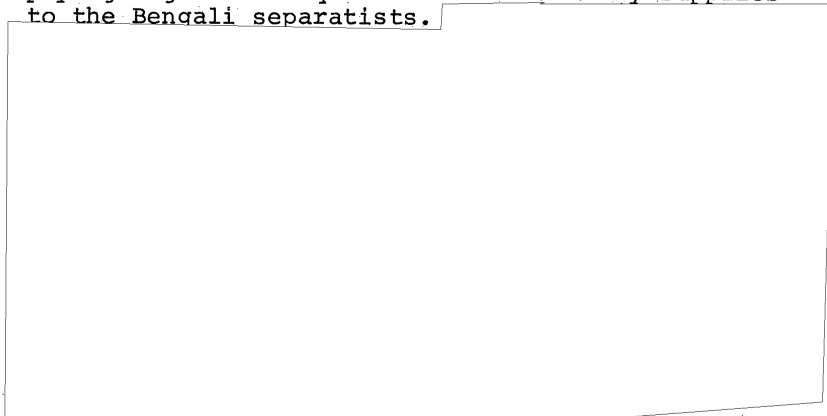


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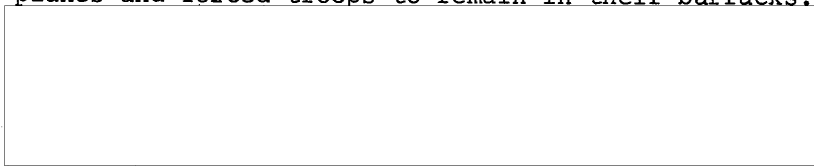
PAKISTAN

There is increasing evidence that India is supplying significant quantities of military supplies to the Bengali separatists.



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Fighting apparently continues in several locations in East Pakistan, but, according to press reports, heavy rains yesterday grounded air force planes and forced troops to remain in their barracks.

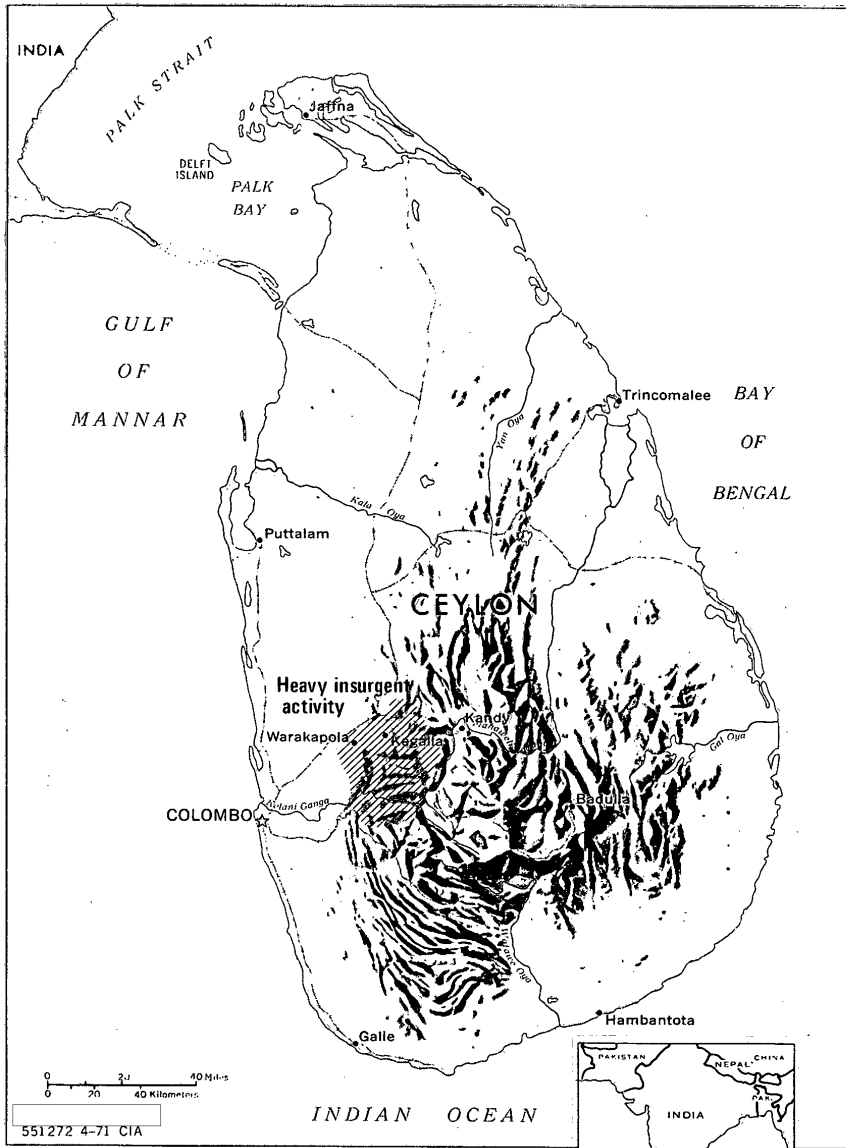


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The West Pakistanis continue to reinforce their troops in East Pakistan with an estimated 500 to 700 men arriving daily at Dacca.

The Russians, meanwhile, are scheduled to commence the evacuation of most of their personnel in East Pakistan today. This is a delay of several days from the original Soviet schedule and, as in the case of Western evacuees, is being conducted on Pakistani aircraft following Islamabad's refusal to grant permission for a foreign carrier--in this case Aeroflot--to fly into Dacca.

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CEYLON

The government has not yet succeeded in restoring control in all areas initially hit by insurgents on 5 April. A Ceylonese official told the US chargé yesterday that the situation was "very, very serious," and the chargé himself reports that conditions are deteriorating rapidly. As many as 200 insurgents have been killed in the more than 25 attacks announced by the prime minister yesterday. Transportation and communication links with Kandy had been cut off for a time, and at least three railroad stations were put out of operation. Early today a government spokesman claimed that the Colombo-Kandy road had been cleared and the armed services were moving in to clean up remaining pockets of insurgency. [redacted]

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[redacted] clashes were continuing at mid-afternoon Tuesday in the Kegalla area. Much of this region apparently was controlled by the so-called "Che Guevarist" revolutionaries, a group of educated but unemployed and violently disaffected youth.

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It is not yet possible to confirm the spokesman's statements. The army apparently is doing well, but the police are having difficulty in a number of areas. Altogether, the police, military, and mobilized reserves would total only about 32,000 men. Most of these forces are lightly armed and unprepared to engage in island-wide counterinsurgency operations. Difficulties have already arisen in mobilizing additional forces because of the curfew, insurgency action, and the virtual paralysis of transportation. The outcome of a special cabinet meeting yesterday is not yet known, but there has been some speculation in Colombo that Mrs. Bandaranaike may step aside for a "strong man."

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The main theme of Kosygin's speech to the Party Congress yesterday was the need to increase consumer welfare. Like Brezhnev, however, he noted that "heavy industry has been and remains the foundation of the country's economic might and of the further growth of the people's standard of living." He identified two other goals of the 1971-75 five-year plan as an increase in efficiency through an "acceleration in scientific-technical progress" and a boost in labor productivity. He reaffirmed the "guiding role" of central planning and rejected the use of the market mechanism, thus avoiding the issue of a change in ideology.

Without investment data for the services and housing sectors of the economy--which may be included when the full text of Kosygin's speech is released--it is not possible to determine if there is to be real financial support for the party's promises to the consumer. A senior Soviet planning official recently told the French that the commitment to consumer welfare was "more political than economic."

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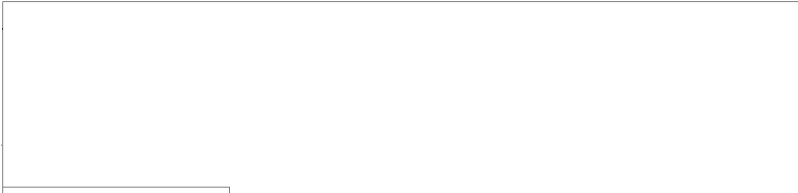
The first unit of the new P-class nuclear-powered attack submarine is now operational. This unit, which left the shipyard last fall for sea trials, was seen [redacted] in late March at the Guba Litsa submarine base on the Kola peninsula.

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The P-class submarine is about 320 feet in length at the waterline, the largest of the five new classes of attack submarines being built in the USSR. It has an estimated top speed submerged of 30 knots and carries 10 or 12 cruise missiles. The production rate of the P-class has not yet been established, but the facility at Severodvinsk in northwestern USSR could produce up to two units per year.

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JORDAN



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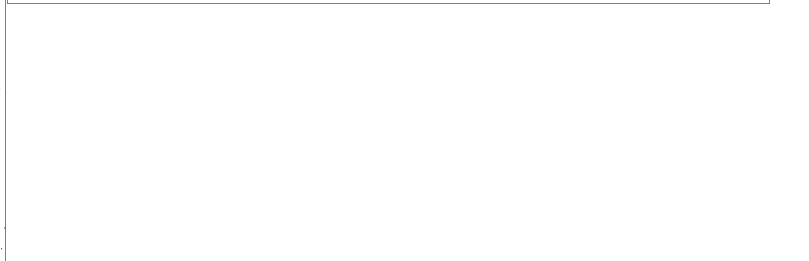
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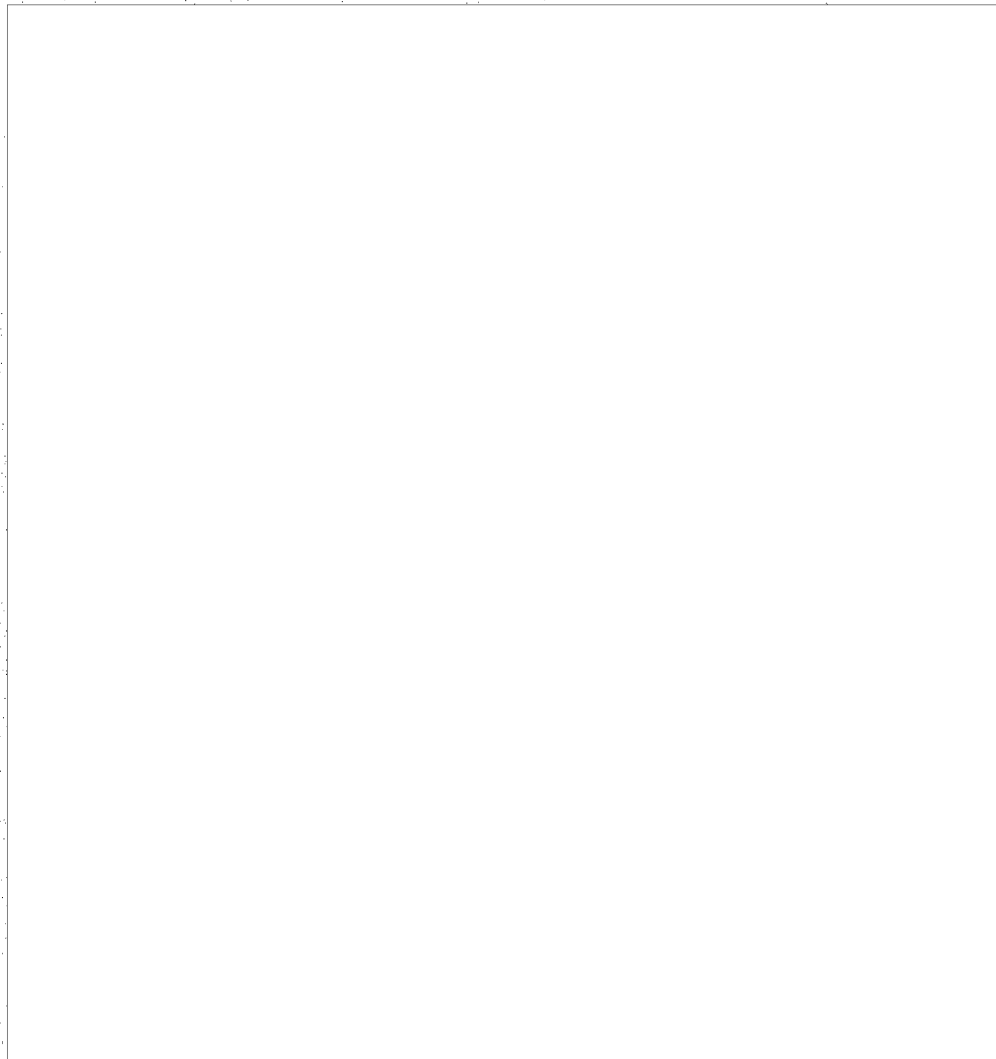


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NOTES

Communist China: [redacted]

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Ecuador: President Velasco has defied the military and demanded that the leader of an abortive revolt last week be prosecuted. Velasco had earlier acceded to the military's demands that all the officers involved in the uprising be reinstated and that the minister of defense be removed. In a radio-TV address last evening, however, he reversed his stand and stated that if the leader of the revolt were reinstated he would resign. Military officers have been meeting during the night to find a response to this unexpected challenge, which may well speed a decision to oust Velasco a fourth time from the presidency.

Laos: A plot to overthrow the Souvanna Phouma government has been thwarted by the commander of military region V, General Kouprasith. No prominent Laotian figures appear to be involved, although information on precisely who was behind the plotting is still sketchy. The US Embassy reports that the situation is well in hand and that the abortive plot has not shaken political stability in Vientiane.

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