



*The President's Daily Brief*

*18 June 1971*



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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

18 June 1971

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet [redacted] Romania [redacted]  
[redacted] (Page 1)

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Some 4,000 Communist troops have been detected in the infiltration pipeline during the first half of June. (Page 2)

[redacted] Mexico [redacted]  
(Page 3)

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More Egyptian cabinet members including Foreign Minister Riyad are to be removed. (Page 4)

[redacted]

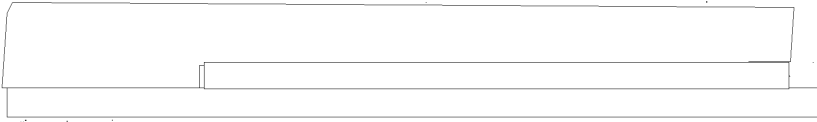
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Thanom evidently now plans to stay on the job until the 1973 elections. (Page 4)

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**ROMANIA-USSR**

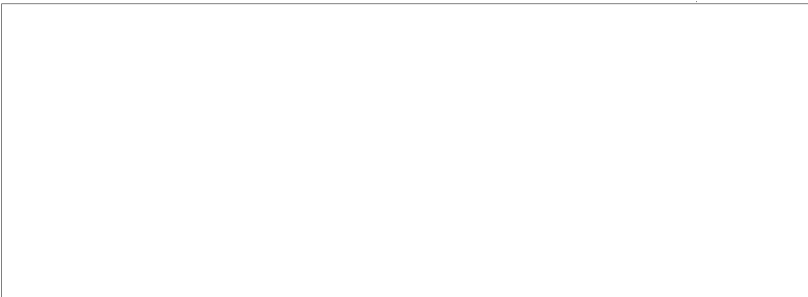
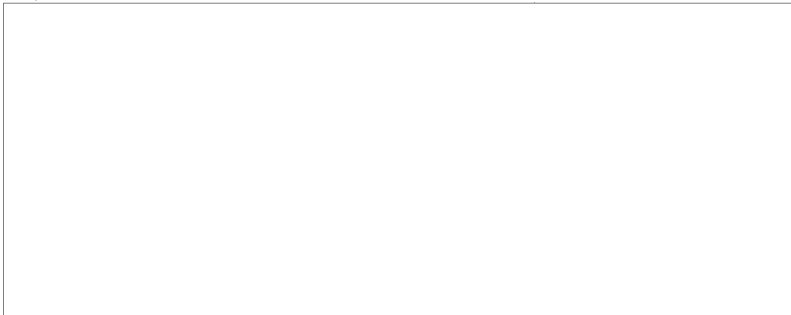
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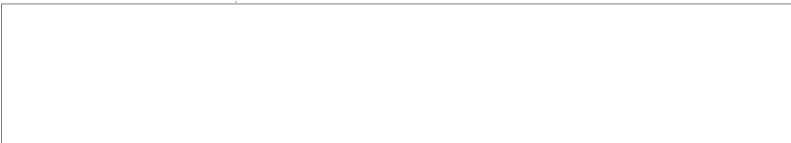
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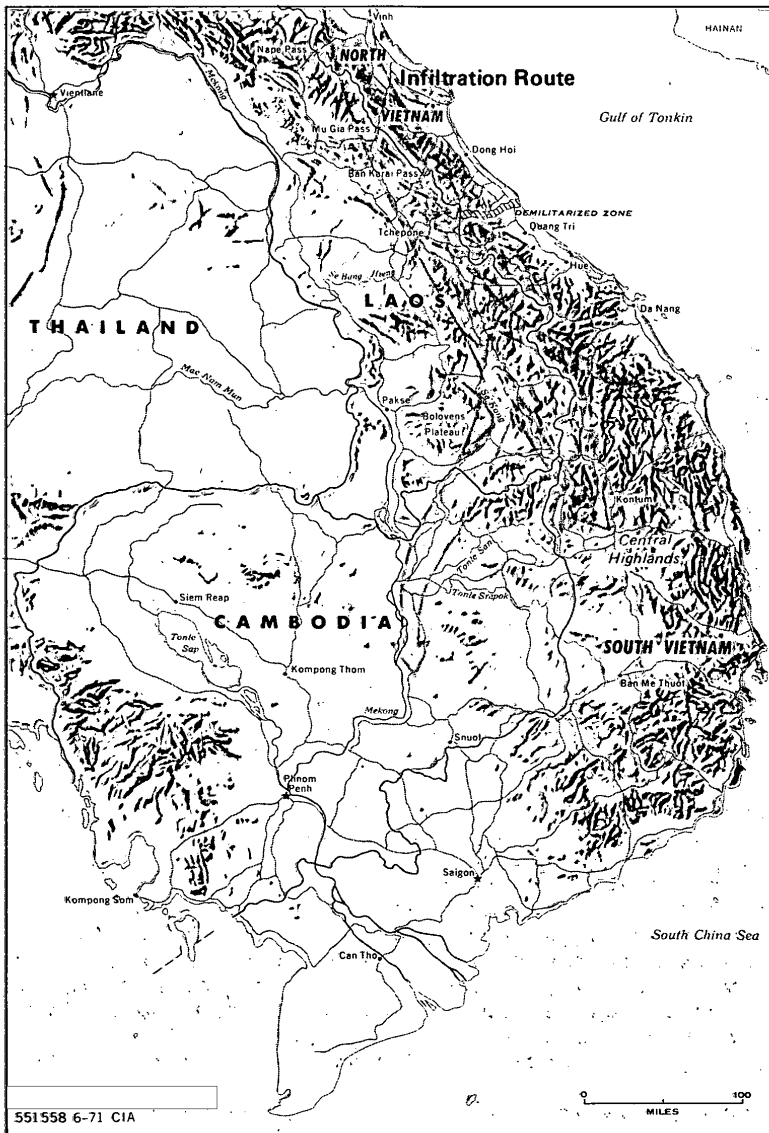
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INDOCHINA

Intercepts from a way-station south of Ban Karai Pass, which has served as the major entry corridor for infiltrators in recent weeks, indicate that approximately 3,000 fresh North Vietnamese troops were in the area on 15 June. These raise the count for the first half of the month to more than 4,000 new infiltrators. About 3,000 are heading for the coastal provinces of northern South Vietnam, with some 1,000 of them apparently earmarked as replacements for losses suffered by Communist units that have been active in the area south of the DMZ. More than 600 others are heading for the central highlands, and about 400 additional men are going to Cambodia or the southern half of South Vietnam.

\* \* \*

Recent intercepts from way-stations south of Tchepone also provide further information on several previously detected infiltration groups that are moving with artillery and other equipment toward the central highlands of South Vietnam. One of these groups has ten vehicles and is towing seven artillery pieces, including a 122-mm. gun--a weapon which has never been used by the enemy this far south. Intercepts also suggest that approximately 1,200 "weapons technicians" are heading to the highlands.

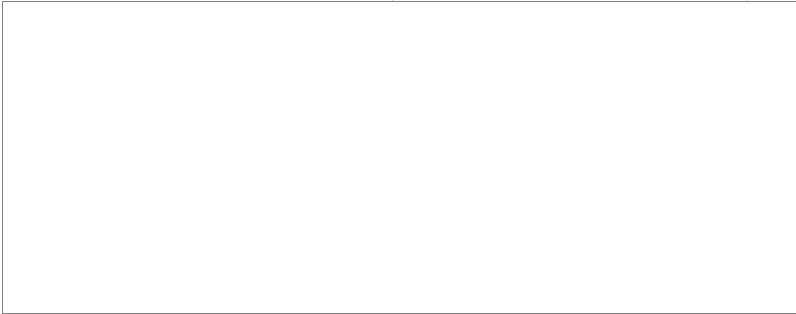
*The arrival and integration of these artillery pieces, troops, and equipment will substantially increase the firepower of Communist forces in the highlands. The movement of heavy artillery in spite of muddy roads at this time suggests the enemy plans to use it in the near future.*

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**MEXICO**



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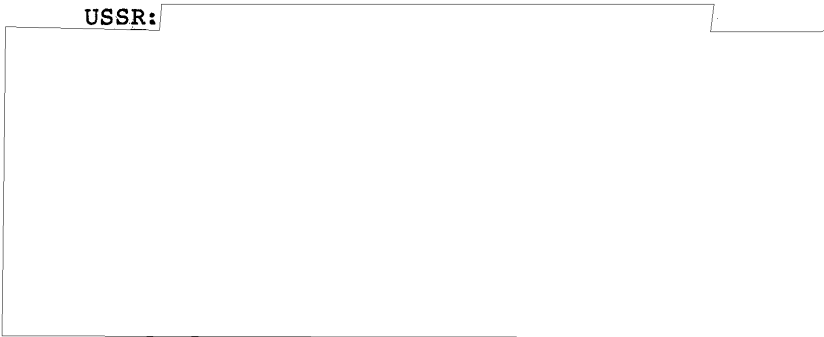
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NOTES

Egypt: The US Mission in Cairo has heard from a reliable source that Foreign Minister Riyad and three other cabinet members--all of whom survived the purge of 13 May--will be dismissed in the next two weeks for having withheld from Sadat information on the maneuvering against him. This latest report, like others circulating in the capital earlier this month, predicts that Prime Minister Fawzi will move up to Ali Sabri's vacant vice presidential post and will be replaced as prime minister by Abd al-Munis Qaysuni, a deputy premier for finance and economy under Nasir.

USSR:



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Thailand: Prime Minister Thanom evidently now plans to stay in the job until parliamentary elections in early 1973. A key indication of such a decision is the recent cabinet vote extending Thanom's term as supreme commander of the armed forces a year beyond the customary military retirement age of 60. It had been widely assumed in Bangkok that he would retire from the army this fall and that this would be the pretext for his bowing out as prime minister some time before his term expires in 1973. A lessening of discord with Parliament and within his own party is a likely factor affecting Thanom's willingness to stay on. Details were probably worked out last week at a meeting between Thanom and Deputy Prime Minister Praphat.



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