



*The President's Daily Brief*

*13 July 1971*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

13 July 1971

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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On Page 2 we comment on the official Soviet statement on the cause of the Soyuz 11 tragedy.

Moroccan King Hassan seems to have the situation firmly under control in the aftermath of Saturday's coup attempt. (Page 3)

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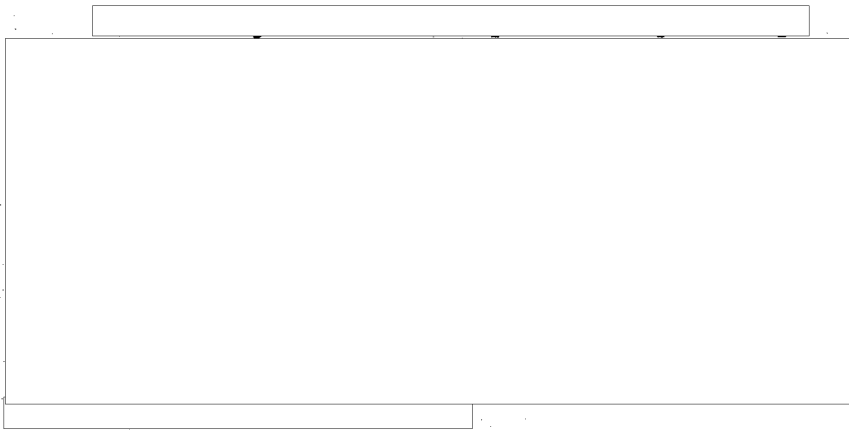
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In Iceland, the three parties that have agreed to form a government are reported to have adopted a policy statement calling for the departure of US military forces over the next four years. (Page 5)

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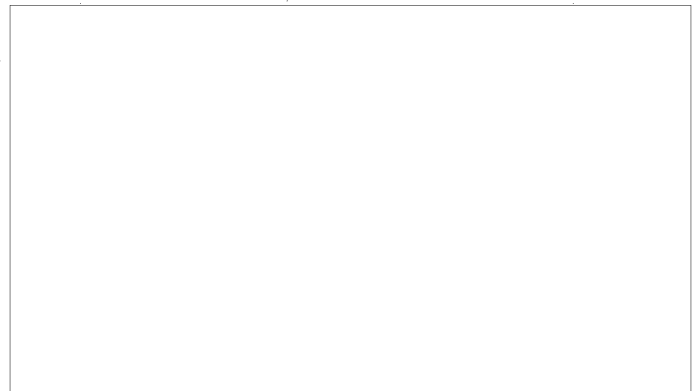
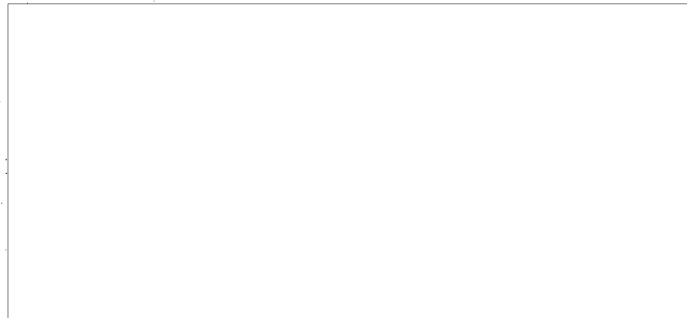
**NATIONALIST CHINA**



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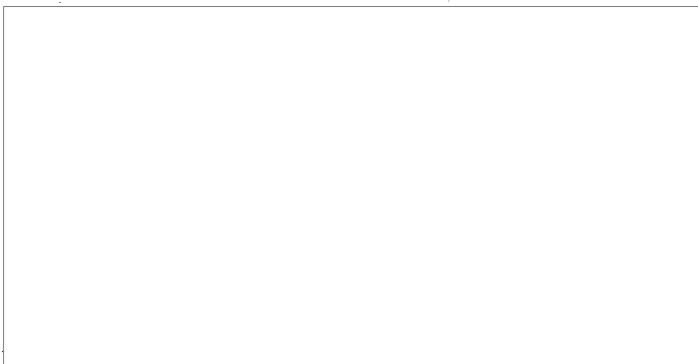
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**USSR**

The official Soviet statement on the cause of the Soyuz 11 tragedy attributes the deaths to "loss of the ship's sealing" during the descent trajectory about 30 minutes before landing, but denies that any structural failure in the Soyuz 11 vehicle caused the rapid drop in pressure that killed the cosmonauts. The report asserts that the flight prior to the beginning of the descent trajectory proceeded normally.

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*The Soviet statement did not specify what seal had failed, but said that studies were continuing to determine the specific cause of the depressurization. It is likely, however, that human error in the sealing of the hatch or a mechanical malfunction in its operation caused the death of the cosmonauts.*

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**MOROCCO**

Saturday's coup attempt has been repressed with great severity, and the country remains calm. Reserves have been called up for 30 days and the port of Casablanca has been placed under military control, but King Hassan seems confident of his position and has not proclaimed martial law. In his public statements Hassan has left an impression of radical Arab involvement, and he has also blasted the Moroccan opposition for creating an atmosphere conducive to coup plotting.

*These elements did not actually have much to do with the abortive coup. Hassan's remarks are probably designed to divert attention from the fact that the plotters were moved by basic dissatisfaction with conditions in Morocco, and that they included officers who had been presumed to be staunchly loyal to the monarchy.*

The Libyan press has continued to urge support for the Moroccan "revolutionaries," long after the rebellion was effectively quashed. Egyptian President Sadat has sent envoys to both countries, apparently to try to head off further friction. In a gesture of solidarity, Jordan's King Husayn flew to Rabat yesterday to congratulate Hassan on his escape from assassination.



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**JORDAN**

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**ICELAND**

Four weeks after national elections, three opposition parties have agreed to form a government and are reported to have adopted a policy statement that sets a goal of securing the withdrawal of US military forces over the four-year term of office. The coalition government will be headed by Olafur Johannesson of the agrarian Progressive Party, and also includes the Communist-dominated Labor Alliance and the splinter Liberal Left.

*The three parties represent constituencies most opposed to the presence of US forces, which have been stationed in Iceland since 1951. In 1956, a center-left coalition government called for American withdrawal but reaffirmed the arrangement in return for \$9 million in loans.*

*The partners in the new coalition are unnatural allies. There are stresses and strains involved in various "agreements" made to form the coalition. The chances of the coalition's holding together for a full term appear slim.*



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