

The President's Daily Brief

2 August 1971

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

[Redacted] South Vietnam

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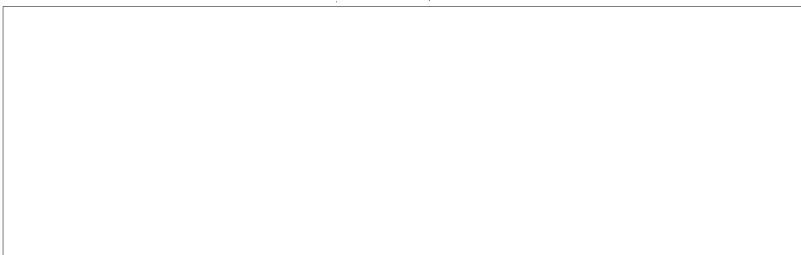
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Numayri has recalled the Sudanese ambassadors from the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. *(Page 2)*

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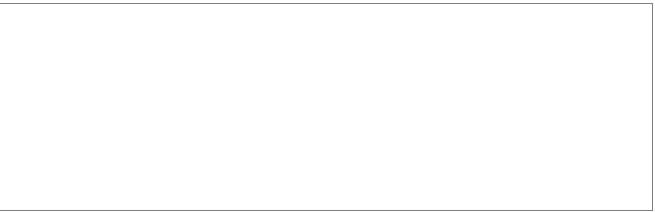
SOUTH VIETNAM



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SUDAN-USSR

Sudan has recalled its ambassadors from the Soviet Union and Bulgaria in response to the "biased campaign" being waged against the Numayri government by the Communist countries' news media.

This latest move, which stops just short of a formal break in diplomatic relations, follows a period of growing strain and disillusionment. Even before last month's abortive coup by Communist military officers, the Numayri government had been disappointed with the low level of Soviet economic aid. Events surrounding the coup and countercoup sharply accentuated the difficulties between the two countries.

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mayri is primarily distressed by Moscow's strident condemnation of the execution of the coup leaders and Sudanese Communists said to have been associated with them.

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Numayri told a Western journalist on Saturday that his government is continuing to investigate the role of Communist embassies in events leading to the coup. Perhaps in an effort to blunt the Soviet attacks, Numayri suggested that such vehemence must indicate that these embassies were "accomplices of the Sudanese Communists."

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Thus far we have seen no reaction from the Soviets to the recall of ambassadors. As we noted in The President's Daily Brief of 30 July, Moscow would probably prefer to avoid a severing of diplomatic relations. Numayri's actions to date have left the Soviets with little opportunity to shift to a more conciliatory line, however.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

NOTE

Japan: The mid-air crash Friday of a Japanese Air Force plane and an All-Nippon Airways Boeing 727 has added to the problems of the beleaguered Sato government. After only four weeks on the job Defense Agency chief Masuhara has followed Japanese custom by taking responsibility for the incident and tendering his resignation, which Sato accepted at an emergency cabinet meeting today. Opposition Socialists attribute the crash to the alleged priority of military aircraft in Japanese airspace, and claim that US military planes in particular create congestion by monopolizing many air lanes. Sato will feel obliged to show some response to this criticism; immediately after the crash all Japanese Air Force training flights were suspended indefinitely.

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