



*The President's Daily Brief*

*8 August 1972*

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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In South Vietnam, government forces have moved closer to the Quang Tri citadel. (Page 1)

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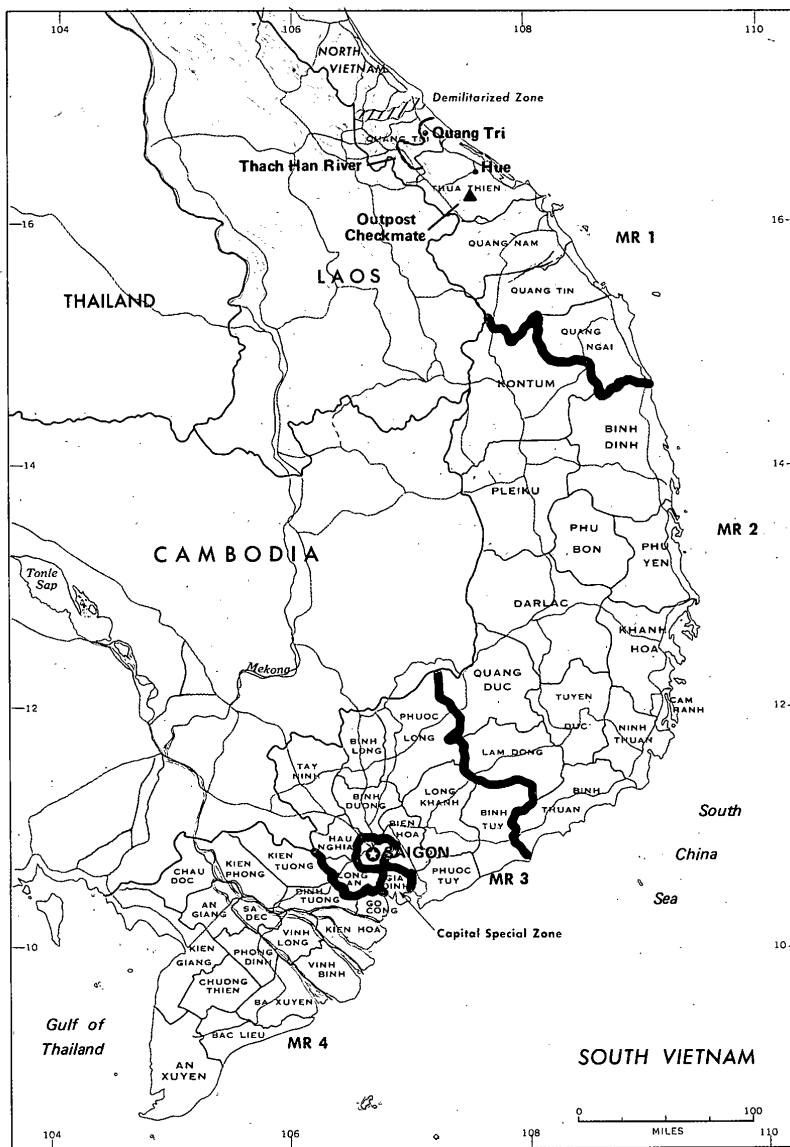
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[Redacted] Japan [Redacted]

[Redacted] (Page 3)

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Japan has decided to discuss with the USSR a one-billion dollar loan for developing a pipeline to transport Siberian oil to the Pacific. (Page 4)



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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

VIETNAM

Government forces have moved closer to the Quang Tri City citadel, but continue to encounter intensive Communist artillery fire. South Vietnamese Marine units are now near the citadel's north-eastern and southeastern corners, and others are trying to move west of the fortress along the Thach Han River in hopes of cutting this enemy supply route. Intercepted Communist messages indicate that enemy troops inside the citadel received supplies and reinforcements during the weekend.

To the south in Thua Thien Province, the Hue citadel was again struck by rocket fire, and government positions guarding the western approach to Hue continue to be shelled. At one of these positions, newly retaken Outpost Checkmate, government troops successfully repulsed an enemy ground attack.

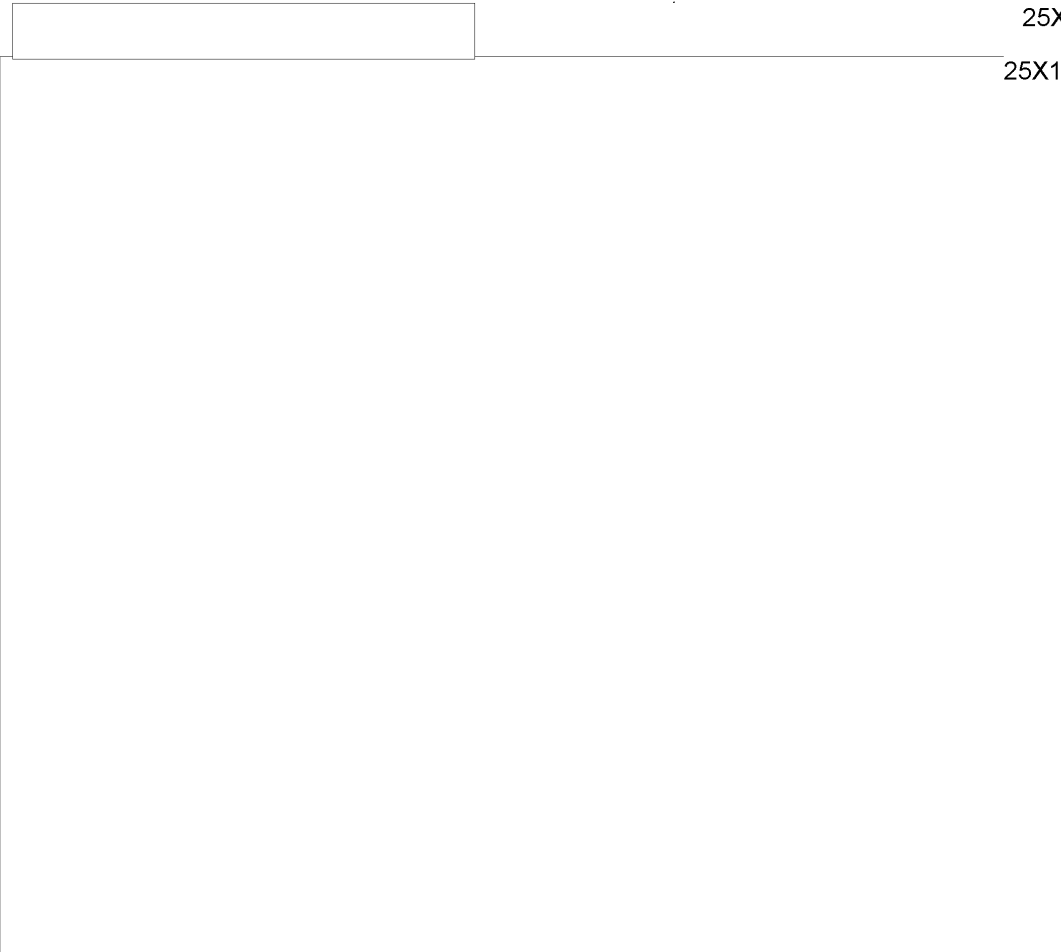
Elsewhere in the country, Communist forces continue to be active against hamlets in northern Quang Ngai Province along the central coast and against isolated government troop positions and villages in Kontum and Pleiku provinces in the highlands, where the enemy appears to be foraging for supplies.

(continued)

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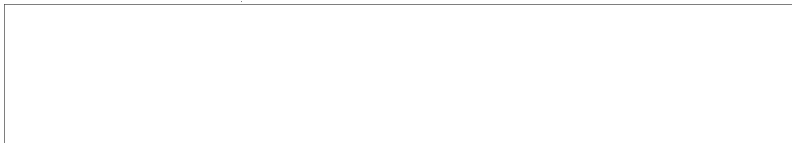
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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

JAPAN

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

JAPAN-USSR

The Japanese Government has decided to discuss with the USSR a one-billion dollar loan for development of a pipeline to transport Soviet Siberian oil from the Tyumen field to the Pacific. Last month, a survey team representing the government and business interests returned from the USSR with a favorable assessment of Soviet ability to deliver 40 million tons of oil annually for 20 years in exchange for Japanese aid. Tokyo businessmen are enthusiastic about the scheme, which fits neatly into Prime Minister Tanaka's priority given to the procurement of fuel resources.



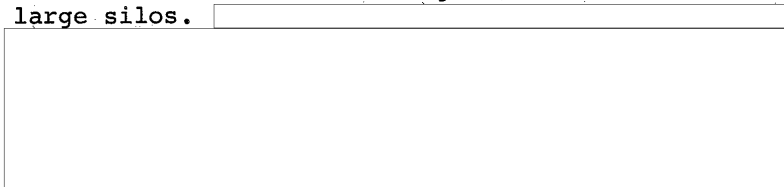
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*They also want to use the project as leverage in their negotiations of a peace treaty with the USSR, particularly with respect to the issue of the Northern Territories, now under Soviet control. The outlook is for protracted negotiations in which both sides will try to relate political and economic issues in a package that offers each some advantages.*

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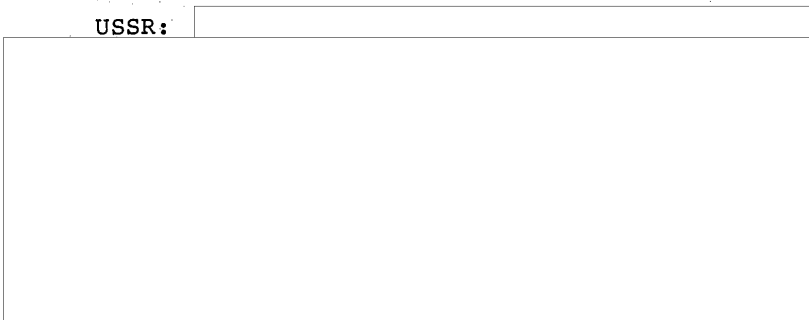
NOTES

USSR: The latest satellite photography of Tyuratam indicates that the Soviets will soon conduct the first test launching from one of their new large silos.



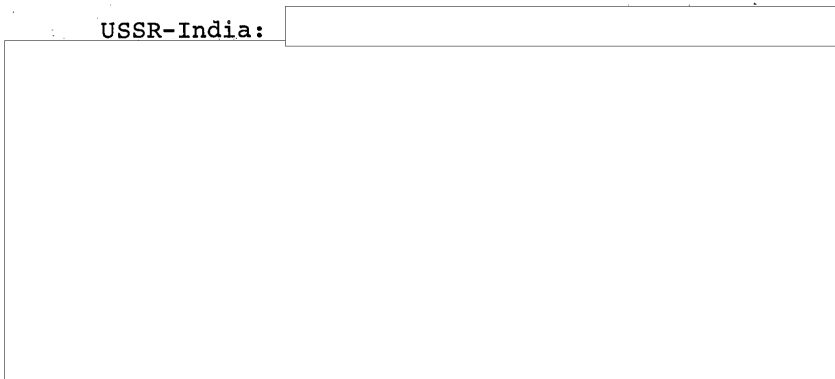
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USSR:



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USSR-India:



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*Top Secret*