



The President's Daily Brief

June 5, 1975

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NATO

West European leaders who attended last week's summit meeting generally have been satisfied with the session. Most were gratified by your assurance that the US will continue to fulfill all its commitments to NATO. Press reaction to the meeting has been mixed, but many European newspapers have complained that the heads of government only discussed problems and did not arrive at solutions.

Positive public comments have been made by several leaders. Luxembourg's Prime Minister Thorn commented that you have successfully calmed European fears that US reverses in Indochina would lead to a disengagement from Western Europe. Turkish Prime Minister Demirel made similar remarks. West German Foreign Minister Genscher said the summit was an impressive confirmation of the resoluteness of the NATO Allies.

Danish Prime Minister Jorgensen played down the summit as "undramatic," but said he was satisfied with it. Italian President Leone privately stated that he was satisfied with the outcome.

Portuguese Prime Minister Goncalves used the summit and several press conferences to stress that Portugal will remain in the Alliance and is determined to meet its obligations. Reacting to expressions of concern about the leftist tendencies of the rulers in Lisbon, Goncalves asked the Allies for more "comprehension and less apprehension" about Portugal. He also stressed several times that Lisbon will not be a "Trojan horse" within the Alliance. Goncalves, treated to a hero's welcome on his return from Brussels, said the Portuguese delegation had scored an important victory in a "veritable information battle."

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Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis and Turkish Prime Minister Demirel commented positively on the summit and on the private meeting they held to discuss bilateral problems. Both men described the latter meeting as useful and indicated that their dialogue will continue.

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French officials have not commented in much detail. They probably would prefer not to arouse new debate in France over whether Paris is moving closer to or divorcing itself further from the Alliance. Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues has tried to reassure the public that your comment that there should be no partial memberships in NATO was not directed at France.

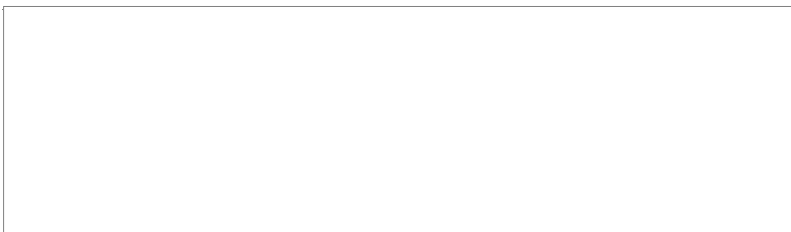
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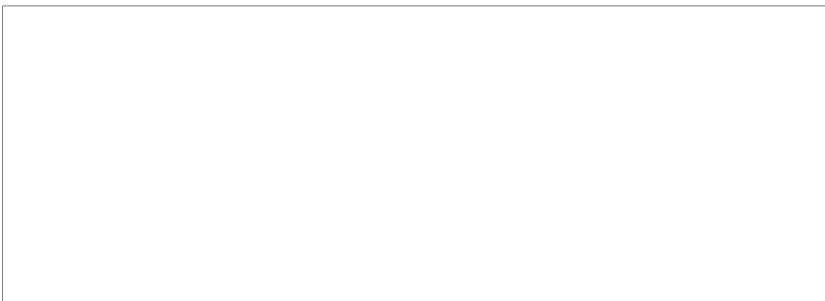
The Socialist Party has renewed its threat to pull out of the governing coalition; this time setting Saturday as the deadline for final resolution of the dispute over its newspaper.

The ultimatum reportedly was delivered to the Revolutionary Council last Friday, when the Socialists agreed to end their boycott of cabinet meetings. A Socialist source reportedly told the press that the ultimatum was kept secret to give the military time to pressure the Communist printers to go back to work under the newspaper's Socialist editor. Our embassy reports that the government appears anxious to find an early solution and the dispute may now be headed for a settlement.

Socialist leader Soares has used the newspaper affair to dramatize his concern that the Communist Party is making a concerted drive for power. Faced with only a small minority of votes in the constituent assembly and with their popularity declining, Soares claims that the Communists are using delaying tactics to discredit the assembly and other political parties.



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JORDAN-SYRIA

President Asad is scheduled to arrive in Amman on Sunday for a two-day stay that reciprocates King Husayn's visit to Damascus in April. The two leaders will almost certainly discuss military cooperation, but in talks with Ambassador Pickering both Husayn and Prime Minister Rifai denied that the two countries would form a joint military command.

Rifai told the ambassador that such an arrangement would cause significant domestic "disruption" and also aid Israeli efforts to block US support for Jordanian air defense. He stated categorically that there were no plans to station Syrian troops in Jordan.

Recent reports, nevertheless, indicate Jordanian-Syrian military cooperation has increased significantly. Syrian military personnel were seen in northern Jordan on several occasions recently, and in mid-May, Syrian and Jordanian air force officers reportedly surveyed sites in northern Jordan for locating anti-aircraft artillery and surface-to-air missiles. Jordan also has reoriented some of its forces toward Israel and away from Syria. During the past several weeks, Jordanian armor has appeared in the Jordan Valley for the first time in about five years. Both the King and Rifai claim that the Jordanian moves are a "precautionary" defense against Israeli attack.

The attaché believes that while planning for missile sites may well have taken place, it is doubtful that any missiles or accompanying Syrian troops will be moved across the border unless Jordan is drawn into a major conflict with Israel.

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CHINA

Peking again has expressed openly its approval of a continued strong US presence in Europe and Japan.

The Chinese press has given unusually positive treatment to the NATO summit and your European trip. The New China News Agency has stressed statements that underline the US commitment to NATO, the determination of the Alliance to remain militarily strong and politically cohesive, and US assurances that detente with Moscow would not detract from US interests elsewhere.

In addition, a Japanese Socialist Party delegation, during meetings in Peking three weeks ago, was "astonished" by the openly benign attitude Peking displayed toward the US. According to an account given to the US embassy in Tokyo, the Chinese waved aside the Socialist Party's proposals that a final communiqué call for a reunification of Taiwan with the mainland and attack the US-Japanese Mutual Security Treaty, as well as US policy in Indochina.

The communiqué did contain an unfavorable reference to US efforts to "bolster" President Pak and "hang on" in South Korea, however, and claimed that US bases "infringed" on Japanese sovereignty and integrity. Our embassy reports, on the other hand, that the Japanese Socialists believe the US was mentioned in the context of opposing superpower hegemony as a Chinese concession to the Socialists, apparently in order to get them to agree to strong anti-Soviet language. In fact, a member of the Socialist delegation stated that the Chinese reviled and attacked Moscow throughout the discussions.

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NOTE

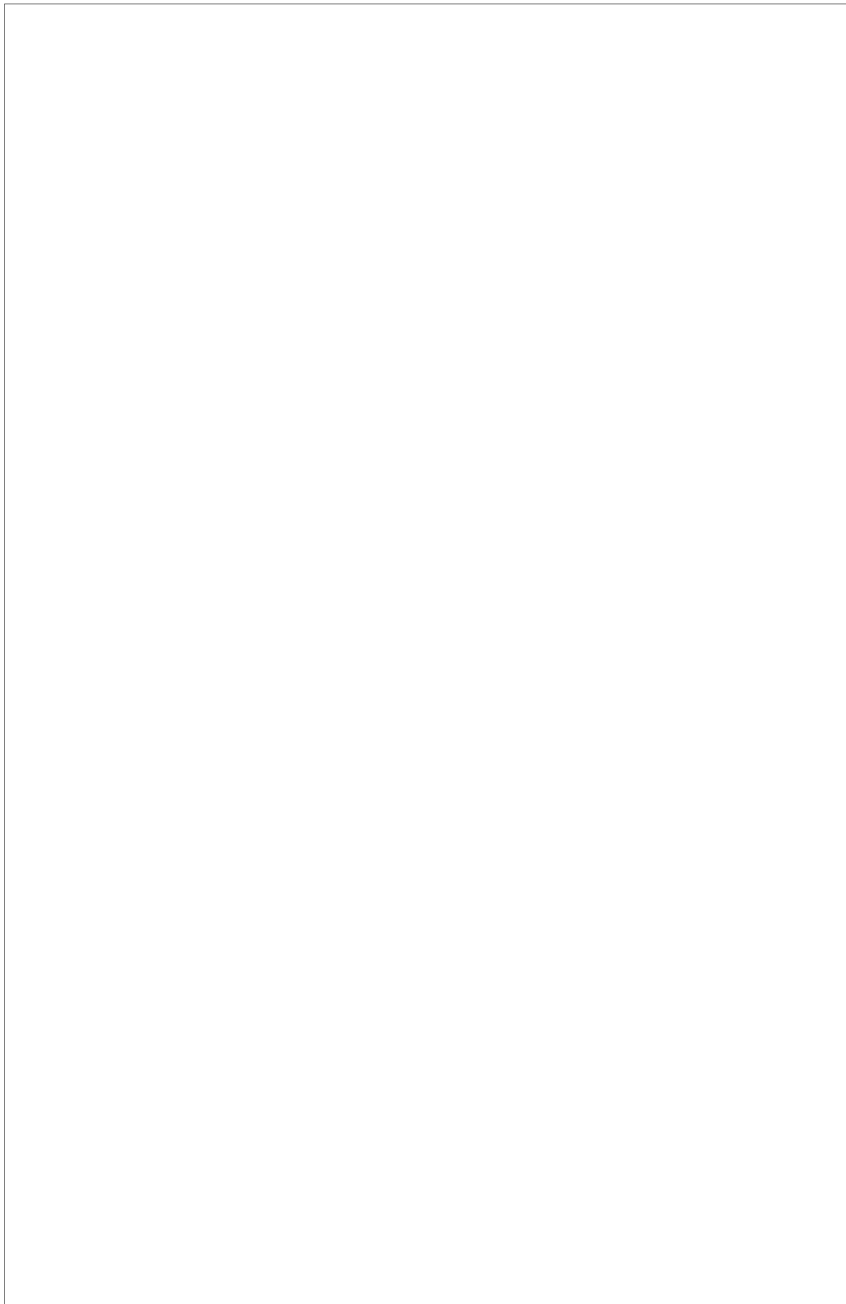
The second round of talks between Turkish and Greek Cypriots is scheduled to begin today in Vienna; no major breakthrough is in sight.

Prospects that Greek Cypriot negotiator Clerides and Turkish Cypriot negotiator Denktash might come to grips with major issues dimmed after the experts' committee they commissioned at their first round of talks in May failed to reach agreement on the powers of the central government in a proposed federation. In fact, the Turkish Cypriot negotiator sought to postpone the talks, but apparently was overruled by Ankara. Turkey wants to avoid blame for the lack of progress when UN Secretary General Waldheim--under whose auspices the talks are being held--reports to the Security Council on June 15. The Turks are also anxious to maintain the better atmosphere with Greece produced by the meeting between Turkish Prime Minister Demirel and Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis at the NATO summit.

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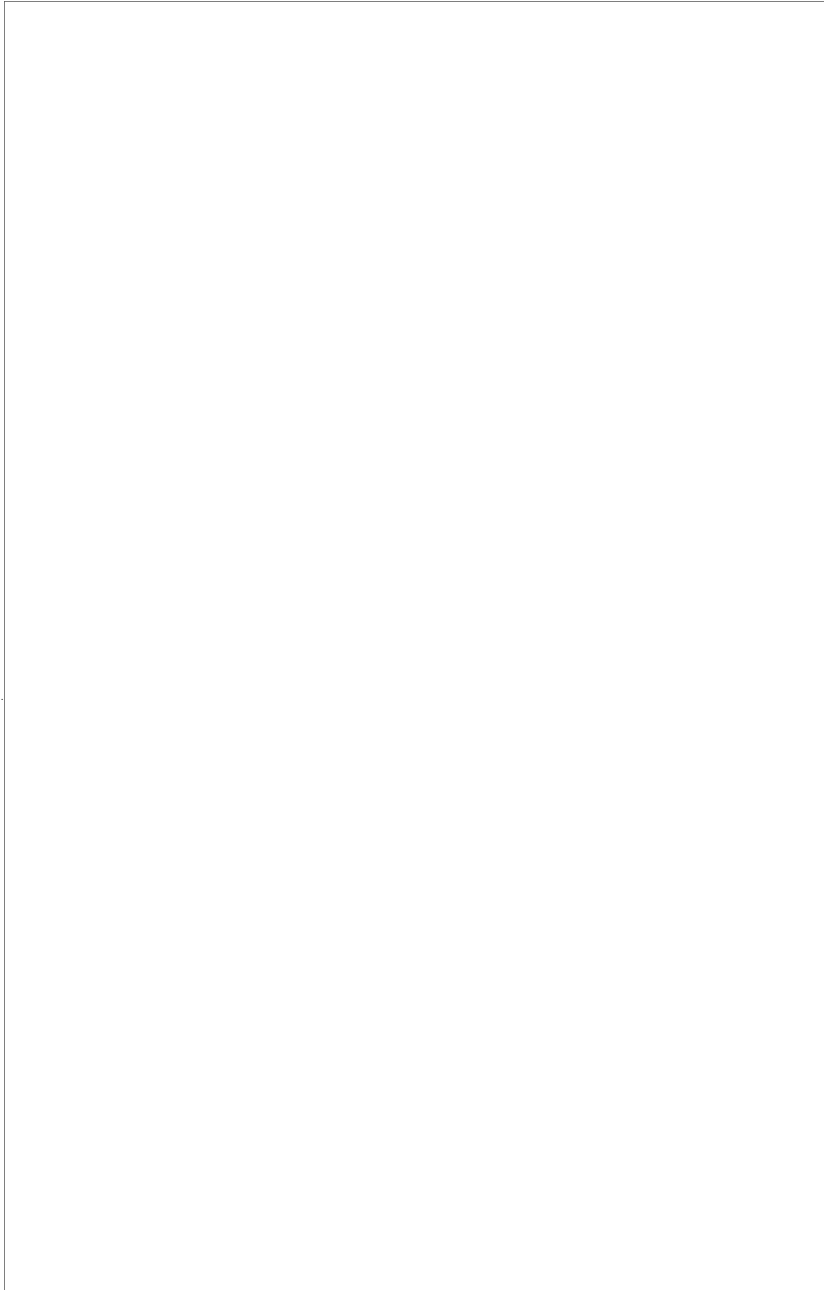
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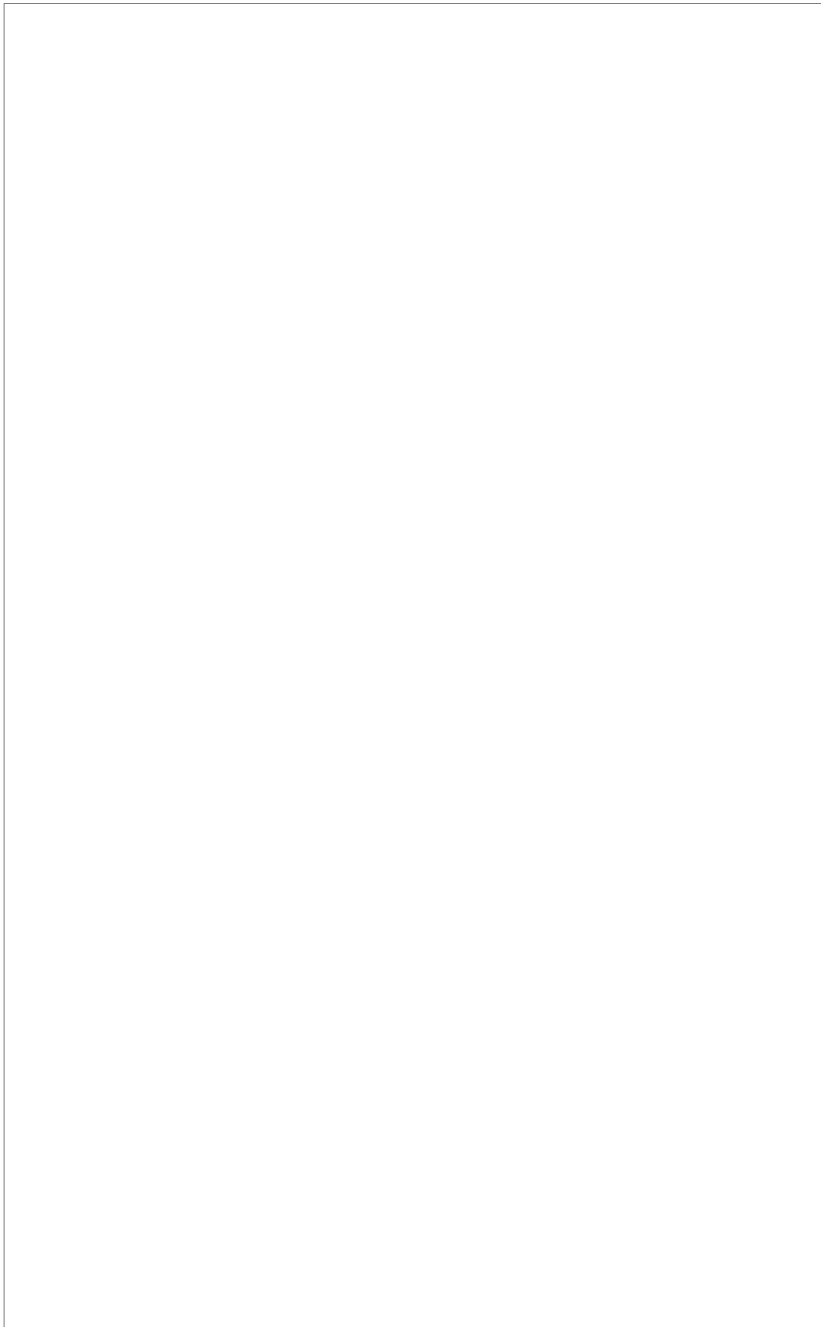
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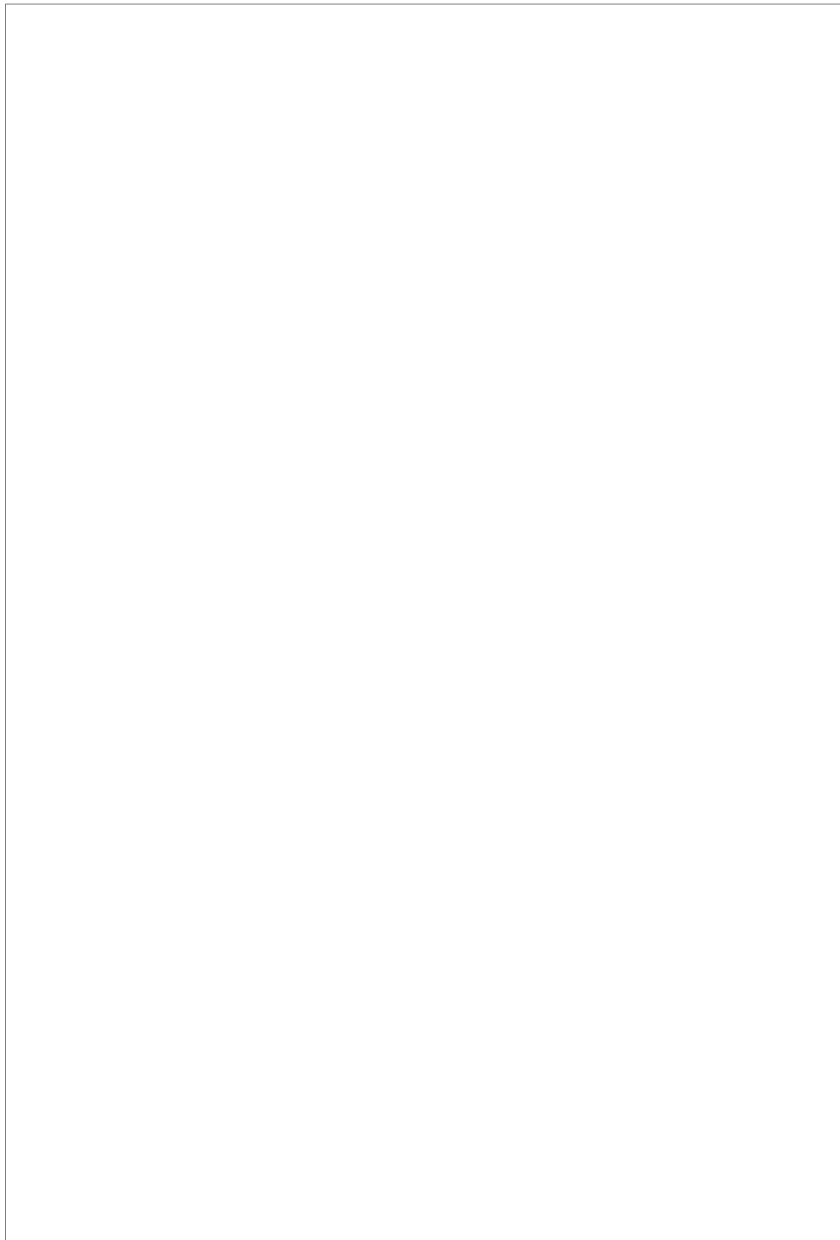
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