

# The President's Daily Brief

*July 11, 1976*

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July 12, 1976

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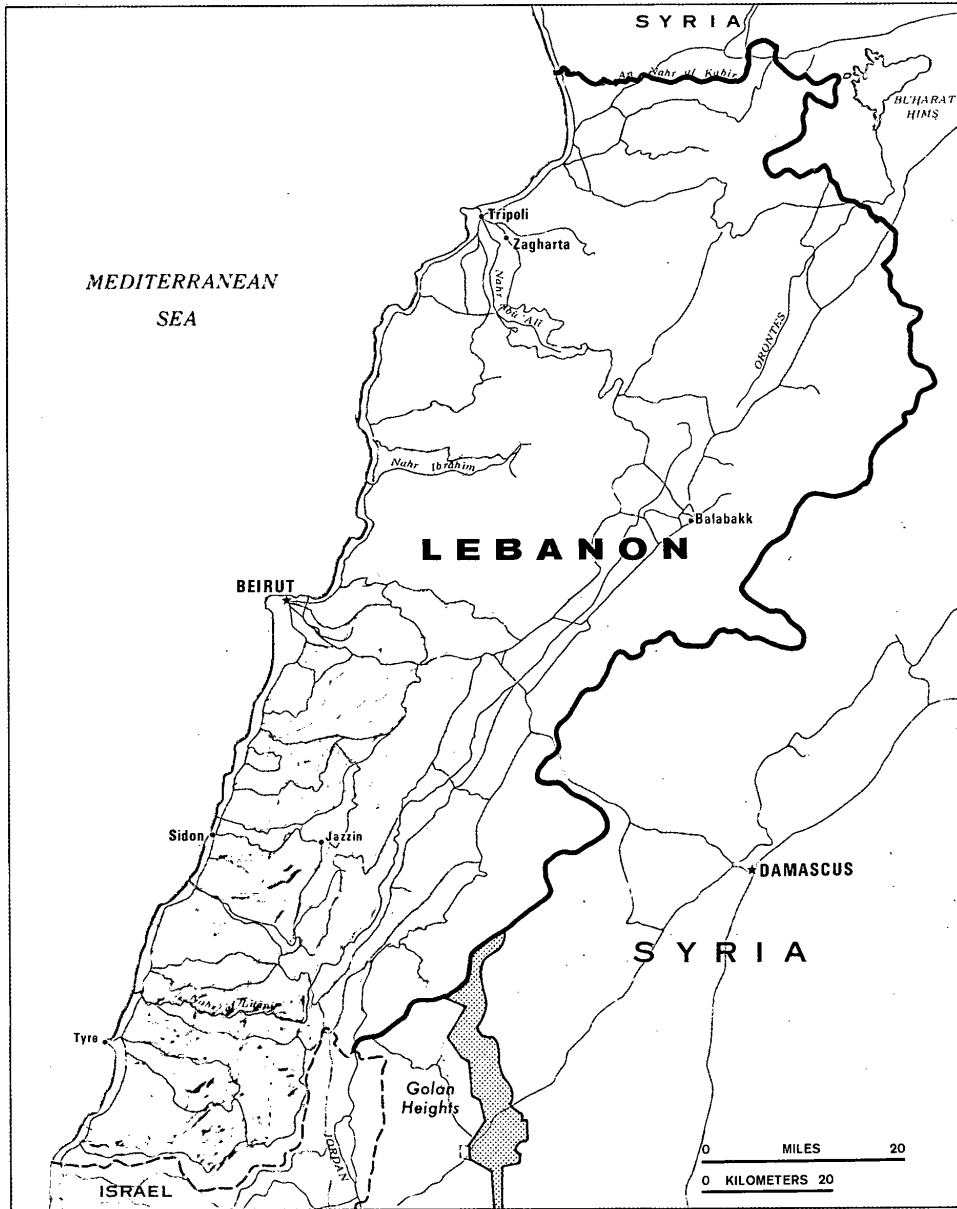
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**FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY**



LEBANON: *Syria may have introduced substantial numbers of additional troops into eastern and northern Lebanon over the past few days.*



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This force is composed primarily of troops drawn from minority religious groups. They probably are considered less likely than regular Syrian units to balk at orders to attack Palestinians in Lebanon.

Tall Zatar camp in east Beirut has been captured, according to Beirut radio broadcasts.

Syrian troops intensified their attacks over the weekend on Palestinian and leftist positions north of Tripoli. South of the city, Syria apparently is working with Christian forces to encircle and blockade the port. The Christians are making steady gains in this area, and only a handful of leftist strongholds remain. Syrian troops continue their heavy shelling of Sidon.

*The military reverses suffered by Palestinian and leftist forces have prompted increasingly urgent calls for help by Fatah chief Arafat and Lebanese socialist leader Jumblatt.*

Arafat has appealed to Egypt and apparently Libya to assist the Palestinians militarily, and Jumblatt has requested aid from Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and Iraq.

Egyptian leaders met on Saturday to consider the Palestinians' request. We do not know what, if anything, was decided. War Minister Gamasy is reported to be firmly opposed to Egyptian intervention of any kind.

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EGYPT-LIBYA: *Egypt and, to a lesser extent, Libya have been engaged since mid-June in intensive efforts to transship Iraqi and possibly Soviet and East European arms through their ports to leftist and Palestinian forces in Lebanon.*

We cannot determine the quantity of arms delivered to Egypt and Libya or how many shipments have been transferred to Lebanon, but several shiploads are reported to have gone through the Syrian blockade to southern Lebanese ports.

An Iraqi airlift to Egypt, apparently consisting primarily of small arms for Lebanese leftists, began on June 10. Egyptian officials have told the US embassy that they are receiving Iraqi arms for the Lebanese.

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Egypt may also be receiving East European arms for transshipment.

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recent unusual Egyptian transport flights to Dresden, East Germany, may have picked up some arms from East European sources.

Most of the arms thus far delivered under Libyan auspices probably have come from Tripoli's own stocks,

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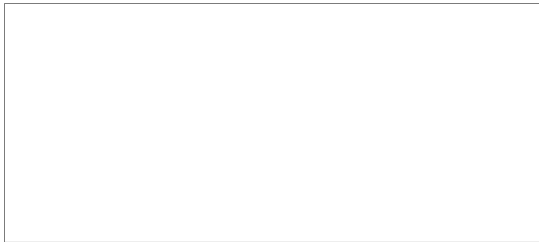
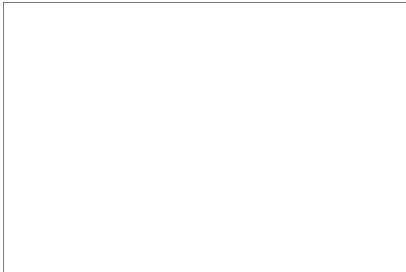
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Syrian forces have been able to prevent the arrival of some arms carriers at the Lebanese port of Sidon, but several ships apparently have successfully run the blockade or have unloaded their supplies at Tyre, a port farther south that remains in leftist hands.

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*LIBYA: The US embassy in Tripoli believes that Libyan President Qadhafi--humiliated by the Israeli raid into Uganda last week to rescue hostages of a hijacking--will probably sponsor additional and more spectacular terrorist attacks against Israeli targets.*

A recent editorial in a government-controlled Libyan newspaper described the Israeli raid as an insult to the "dignity of the Palestinian revolution" and the Arab people. The editorial, which the embassy believes had Qadhafi's personal approval, strongly suggested that the hostages should have been dealt with more harshly.



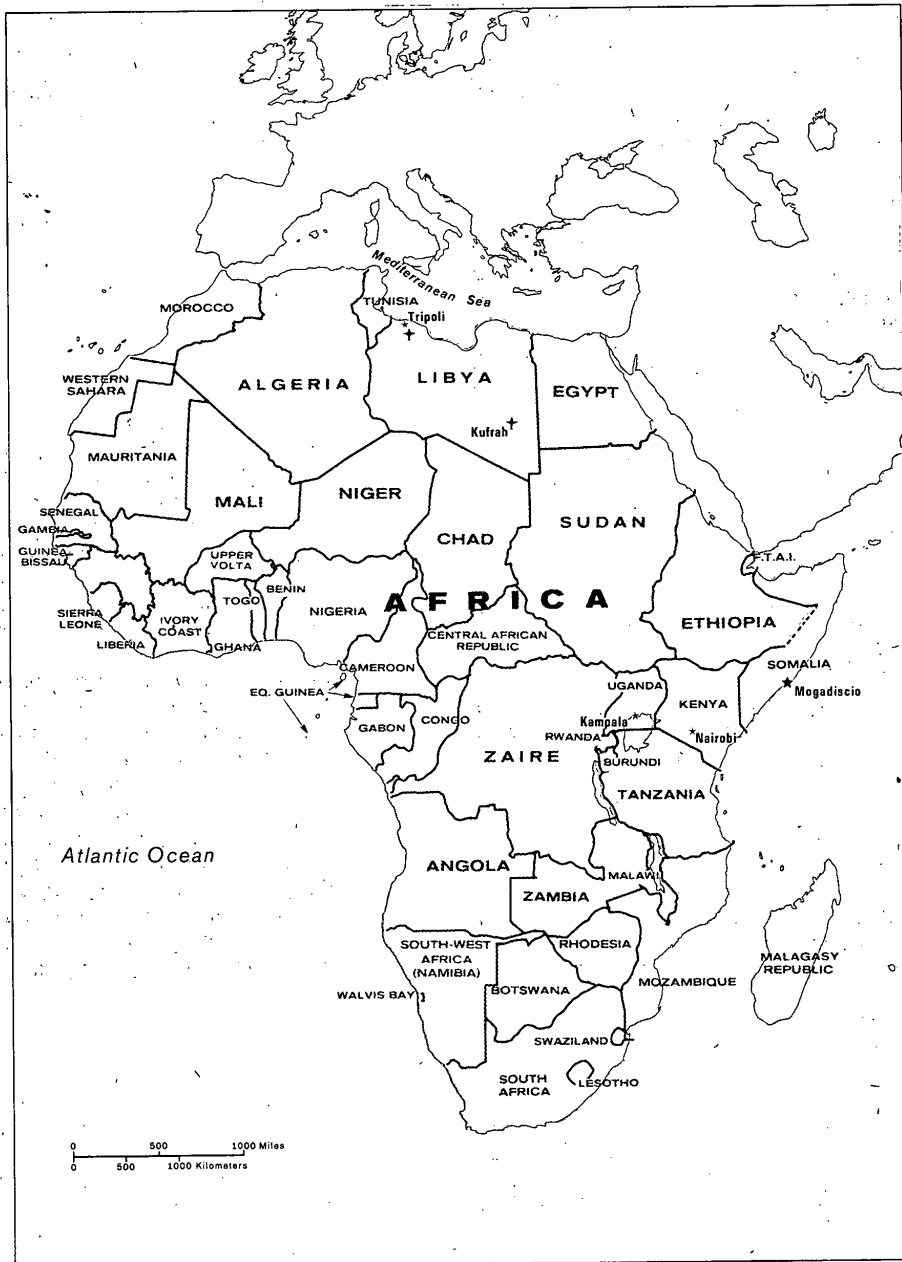
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Libya's cooperation with the international terrorist Carios, whose agents are also believed to have been involved in the hijacking, is also well documented. Carlos has used Libya as a base of operations since the kidnaping in Vienna last December of the OPEC oil ministers.

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KENYA-UGANDA: *Nairobi has undertaken economic measures against President Amin's regime, while Kampala is reportedly taking reprisals against Kenyans in Uganda.*

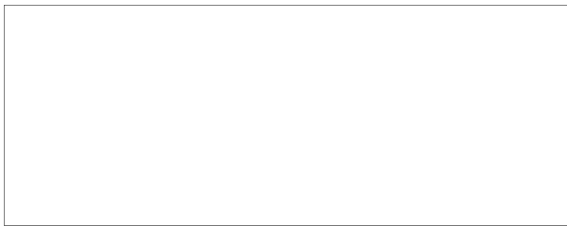


Kenya has denied that a blockade is in force, but it has previously employed this move against Uganda's vulnerable economy. 25X1

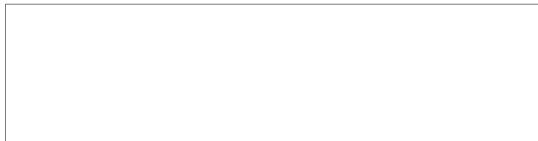
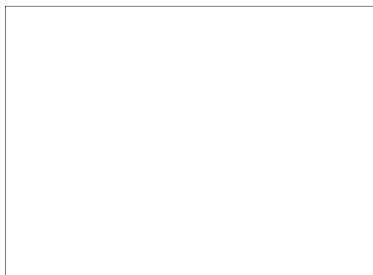
The Nairobi press is describing killings and widespread reprisals by Amin's security forces against Kenyans in Uganda. We cannot confirm officially sanctioned reprisals, but Kenyan expatriates are probably regarded as fair game by ill-disciplined soldiers and other Ugandans who see an opportunity to seize the property of the Kenyans.

Both armies remain on alert, but the Kenyan forces

-are some distance from the border and are making no move that Amin could interpret as a provocation. Uganda apparently sent more artillery to the border on July 10. 25X1 25X1



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ETHIOPIA: *Major Mengistu Hailemariam, strongman and first vice chairman of the ruling military council, and his supporters have begun a purge of their suspected military and civilian opponents.*

The supreme military commander in Eritrea Province was killed Saturday in Addis Ababa in a shoot-out with troops sent to arrest him. 25X1 He had been called to the capital to discuss the Eritrean rebellion.



We have no evidence that the commander in Eritrea was actively plotting against the government. He was popular with his troops, however, and a potential leader of organized opposition to the council.

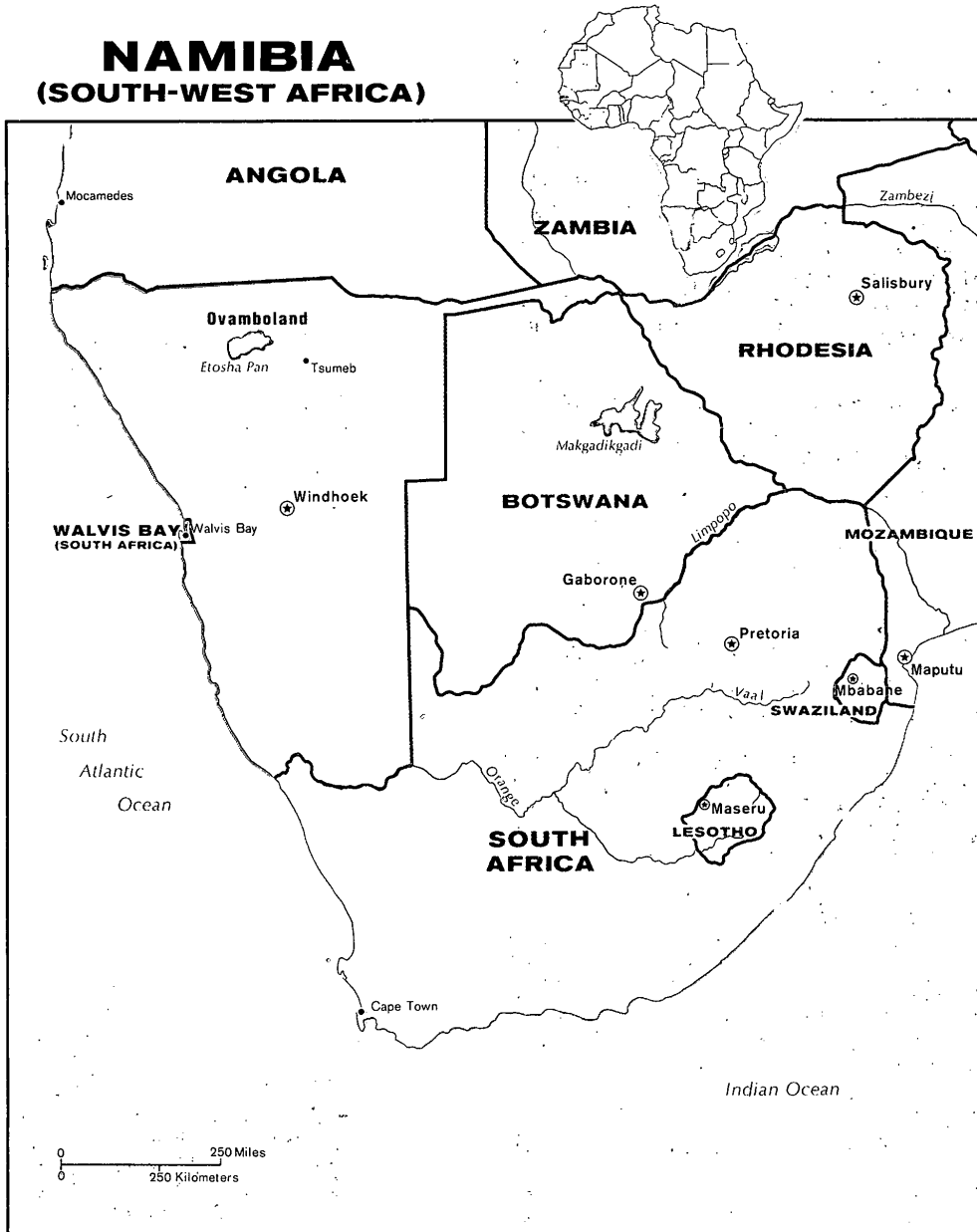
Troops in Eritrea have denounced the socialist policies and authoritarian rule of the council several times during the past year. They have called for a political settlement of the guerrilla war and have refused to fight the rebels. The death of their commander, far from quieting their dissatisfaction, will probably harden their antagonism toward the council.



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# NAMIBIA (SOUTH-WEST AFRICA)



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## NOTES

*Insurgents of the South-west African Peoples' Organization based in Angola are operating more aggressively near the Namibian border, and recently have penetrated farther south into Namibia than before.*

Last week guerrillas operating just inside Namibia killed four persons and seized a fifth. Other guerrilla bands abducted nine more people. This is the highest rate of deaths and abductions to date in a single week of SWAPO raids.

South African authorities have confirmed that a ten-man guerrilla group from Angola reached the copper mining area around Tsumeb where all but two of the band were killed early this month. This is the deepest known penetration by a group of this size.

Most of the victims of SWAPO raids have been leaders or members of the Ovambo tribe who have collaborated with the South African administration.

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*Soviet Premier Kosygin's visit to Iraq in late May reportedly resulted in an agreement in principle for more Soviet arms and further economic assistance.*

Details of the agreements will be worked out when Iraqi leader Saddam Husayn goes to Moscow later this year.

Iraq has now received nearly all the arms it has ordered from the USSR--valued at nearly \$2 billion. It has also drawn or allocated the entire \$550 million of economic aid previously extended by the Soviet Union.

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*The brief military rebellion in Peru staged Friday by a rightist army general was easily put down by forces loyal to President Morales Bermudez. The principal winner in the show-down appears to have been leftist Prime Minister and army commander Fernandez Maldonado.*

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Morales Bermudez [redacted]

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[redacted] position remains uncertain. Despite the show of loyalty to him, he must still contend with mounting economic problems and basic political divisions in the armed forces.

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