



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

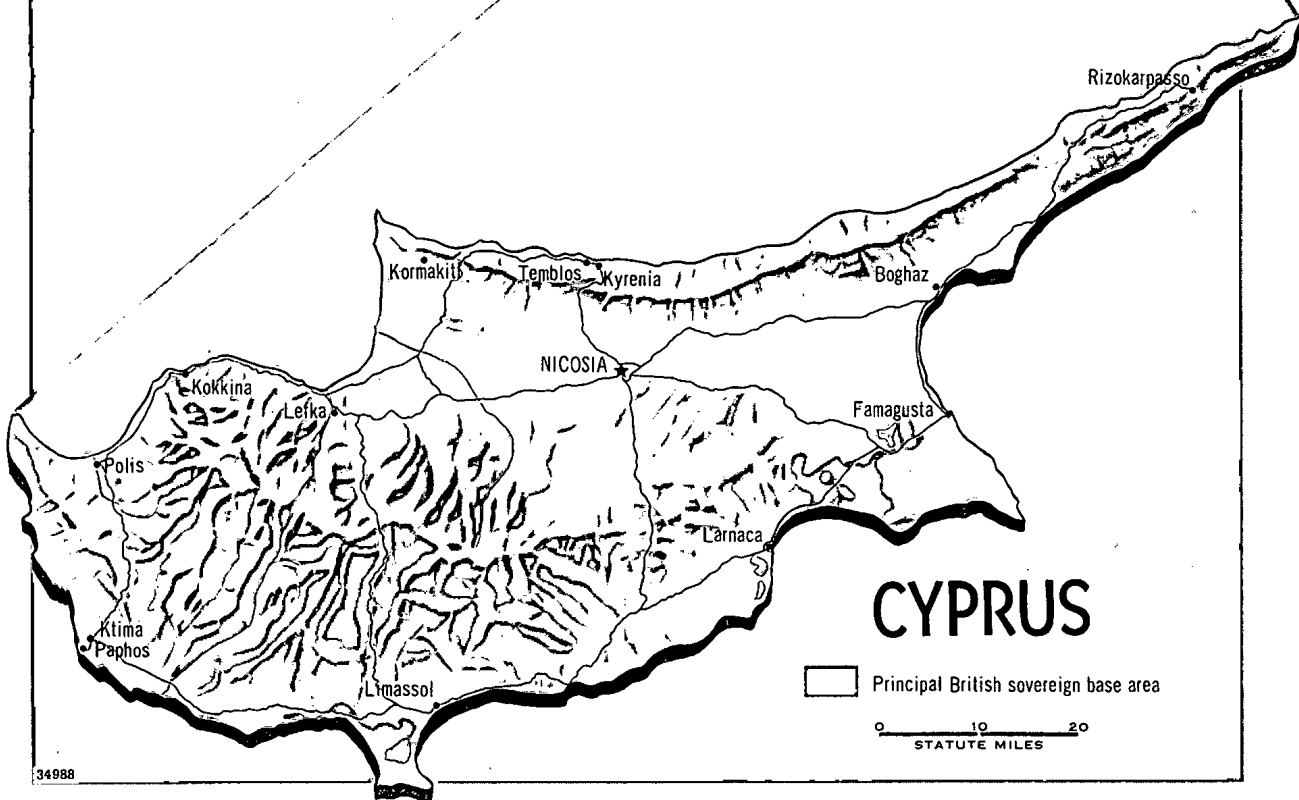
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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9 MARCH 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~



DAILY BRIEF
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1. Cyprus

There are growing indications that Cyprus is receiving Soviet surface-to-air missile equipment via the Egyptians, probably with Athens' blessing under some arrangement providing for Greek control of the SAMs. There is no indication that any of the equipment has been emplaced or that Greek or Greek Cypriot crews are yet qualified to man it.

From Nicosia Ambassador Belcher has warned that availability of such air defense weapons could serve to upset the "precarious balance" on Cyprus by reducing the threat of Turkish air attack as a major restraint on Makarios and the Greek Cypriots. (See map.)

2. UAR

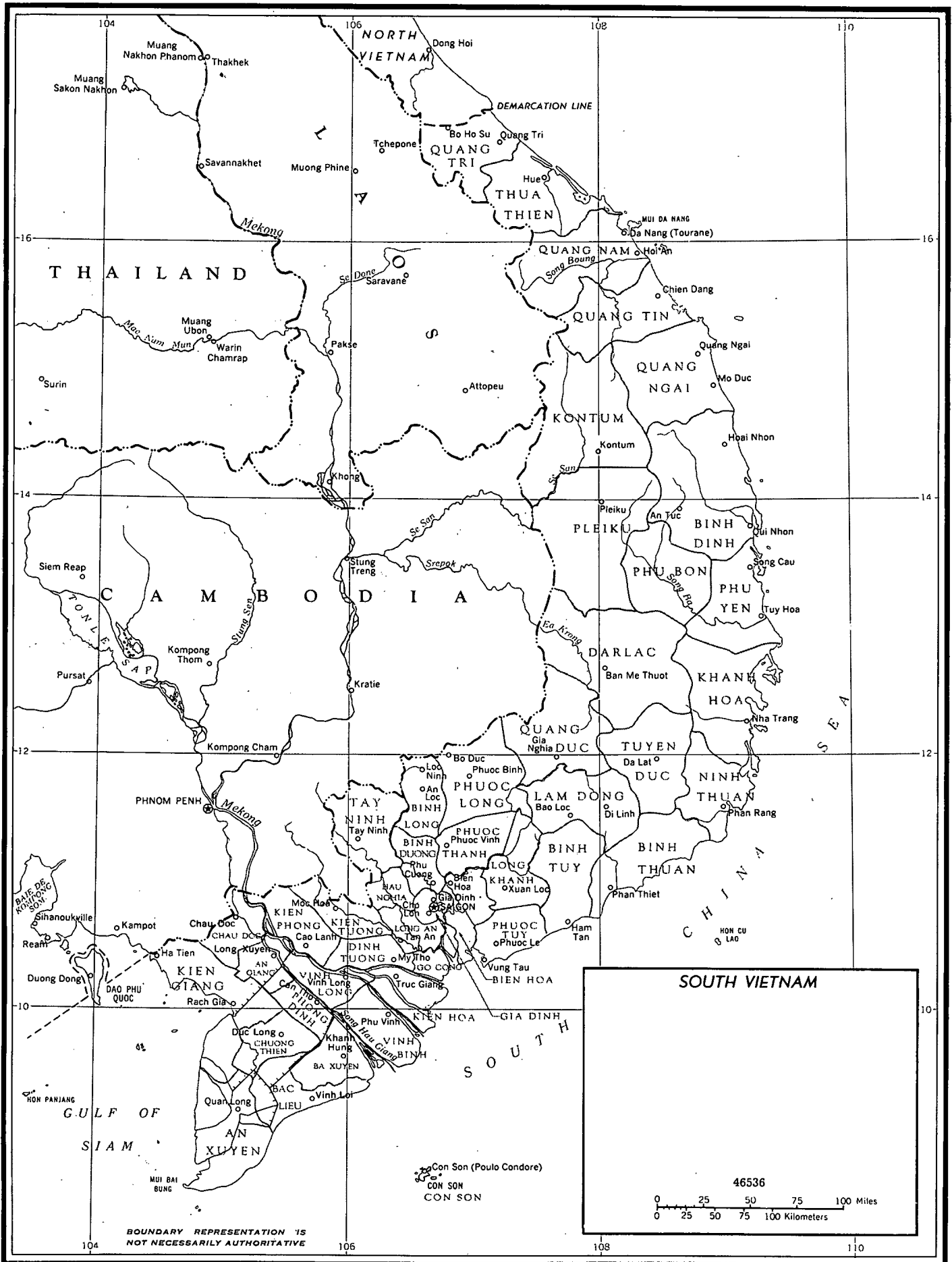
There are persistent reports that Cairo, fearing some Israeli military action during the present tension, has during the past week alerted Egyptian forces and called up reservists.

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3. Communist China

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4. Vietnam

In Saigon, the generals continue to snipe away at each other. Premier Quat, in seeking ways to end this, is still exploring the possibility of a joint US - South Vietnamese military command as one means for keeping them in line.

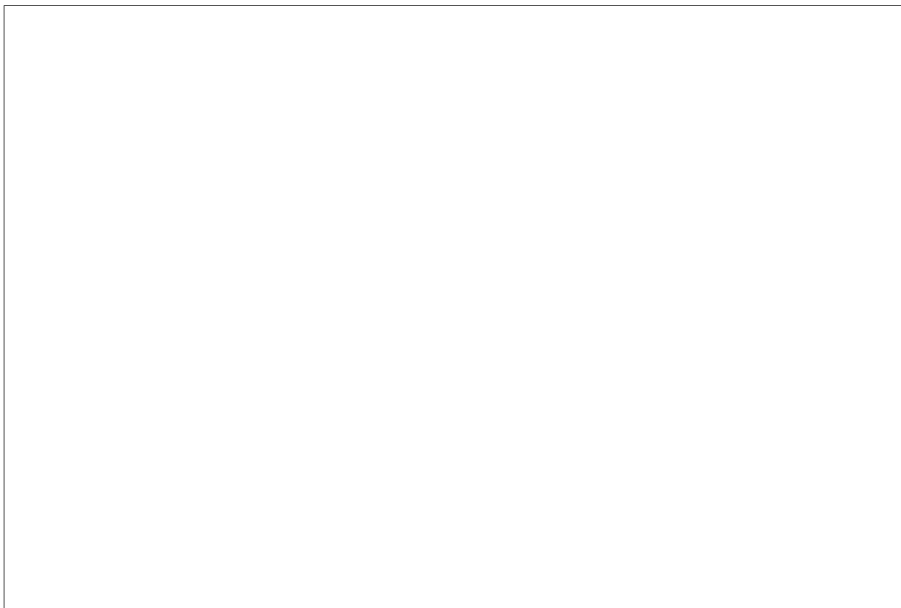
Information is developing on the presence of a major Viet Cong tactical command headquarters in western Kontum Province. On past Viet Cong performance this could presage a major Viet Cong effort in this and neighboring provinces. (See map.) Viet Cong propagandists have been active in Kontum, Pleiku, and Darlac provinces forecasting attacks on the towns.

This tactic is also reported from the area around the Danang air base. The Viet Cong are said to have warned inhabitants to leave before attacks start against military installations.

The Viet Cong and North Vietnamese continue to voice an intransigent and confident line, most recently at Sihanouk's Indo-Chinese People's Conference in Cambodia. They claim the Viet Cong are on schedule and that they will soon announce a "victory" in central Vietnam.

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5. USSR



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6. Indonesia

Sukarno reiterated publicly yesterday that he "will not withdraw one guerilla" before there is a political solution to the "Malaysia problem." There appears to be no further progress toward negotiation, and his statement will not help. Sukarno, protesting the US military credit to Malaysia and "insults" by the US press, also seemed to be encouraging more anti-American demonstrations.

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