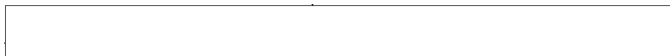




CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

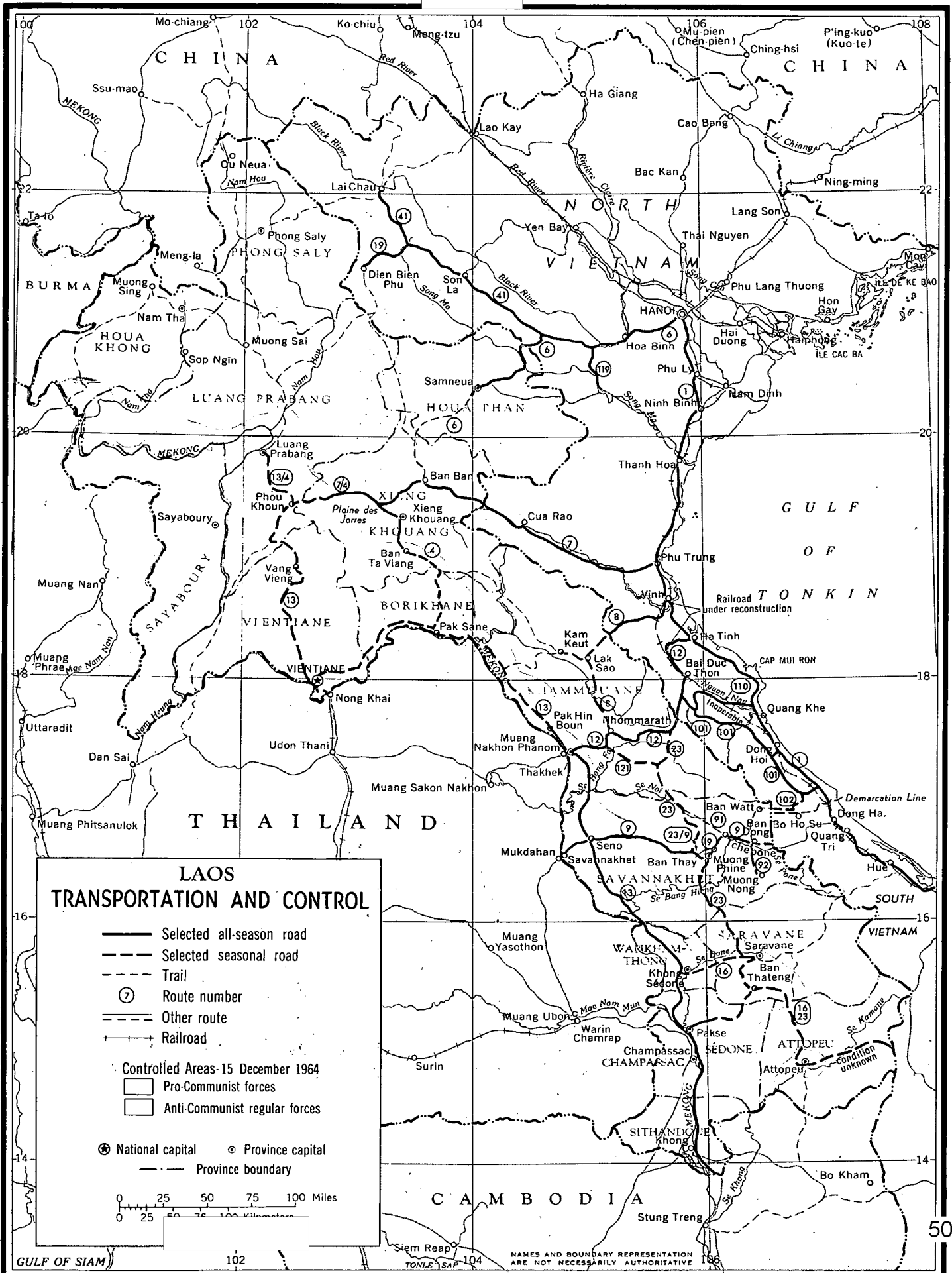


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12 MARCH 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
12 MARCH 1965

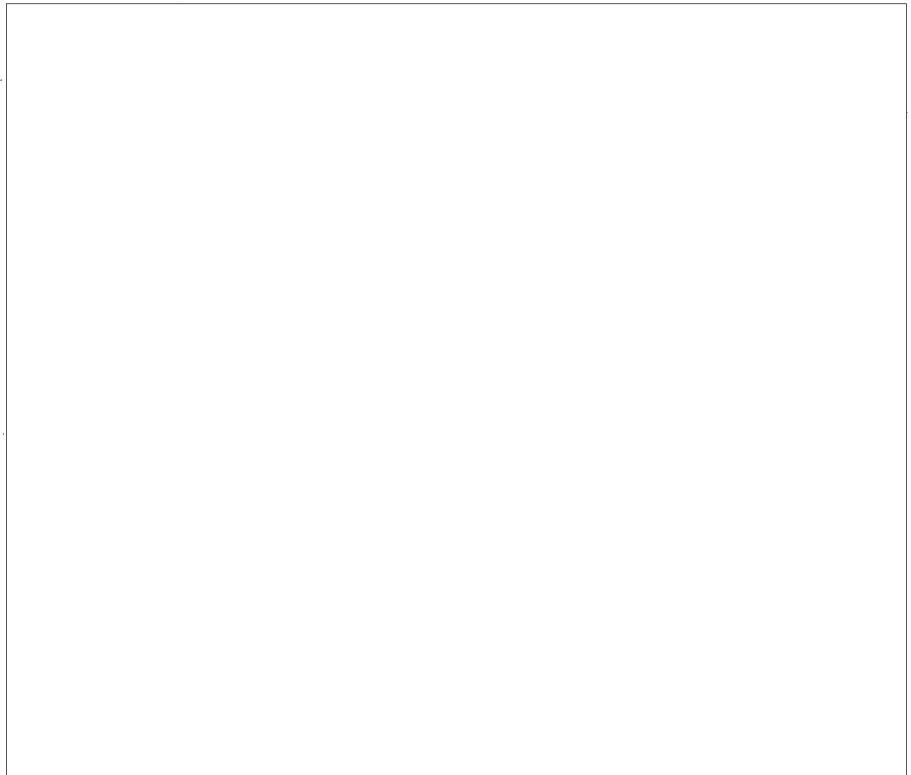
1. Laos

The Communists are keeping up pressure on government positions in widely scattered areas. Inconclusive skirmishing continues southwest of Samneua. The most effective forces containing the Pathet Lao clearing operation in this area continue to be the Meo tribe guerrillas under General Vang Pao.

The Communists are also keeping the pressure on down south, where government troops have gradually advanced well to the east of Savannakhet. A battalion-sized Pathet Lao raid against communications in this area was thrown back on Tuesday. Laotian Air Force T-28s were again apparently highly effective. (See map.)

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2. Cyprus



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3. Vietnam

Premier Quat has issued a "program of total struggle" against the Communists. The program includes army reform, police reinforcement, improvement of youth organizations, and other measures to help defeat the Communists.

The Buddhists open their annual general assembly on Sunday. The so-called "peace movement," led by monk Quang Lien, is likely to cause dissension in the meeting.

The Viet Cong continue a high level of activity throughout the country. Outposts and hamlets in the northern provinces in the central highlands, in the area east of Saigon, and in the delta have been attacked in the past few days.

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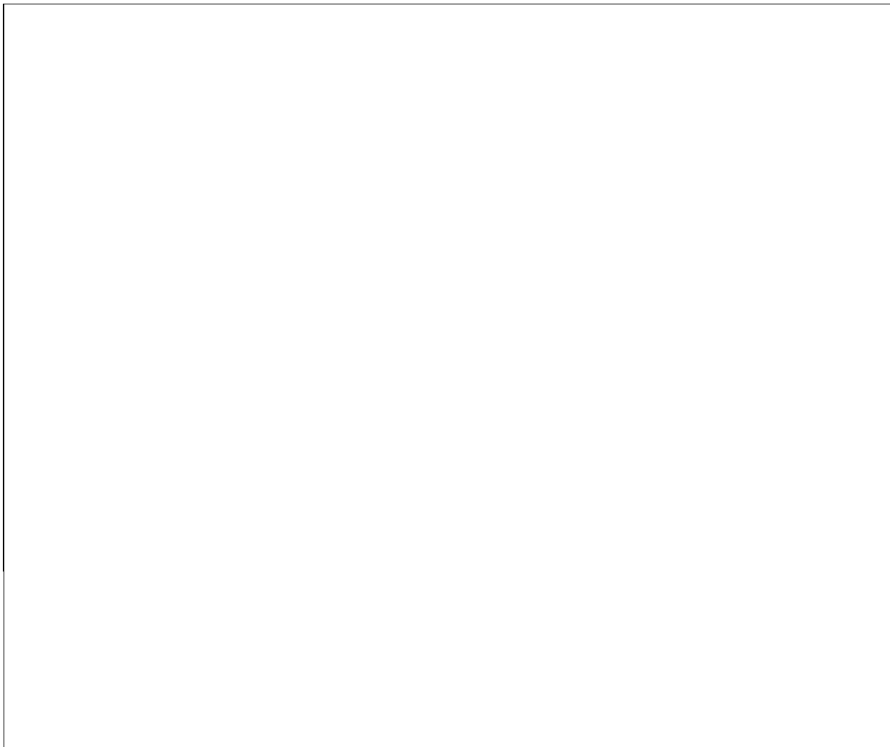
No significant shifts in the attitudes of the principal Communist governments involved in the situation have been reported.

4. France

Rumors that De Gaulle is seriously ill continue to crop up. They are to be given another lengthy airing shortly in Newsweek. Embassy Paris repeats that it has no evidence to support these "tales." All evidence available to the embassy--De Gaulle's appearance, his schedule, and the like--point to his being fit and active.

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5. Communist China

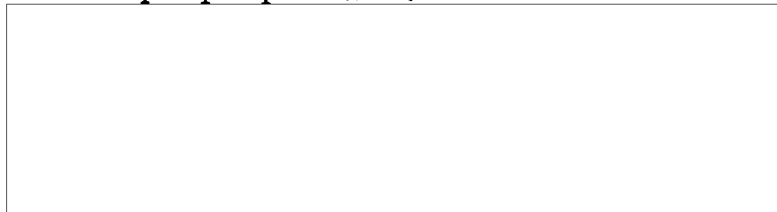


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6. Congo

Reports continue to come in of raiding across the Congo frontier from Uganda. The raiders are said to include Congolese rebels, Kenyans, Ugandans, and Tanzanians, often dressed in Ugandan uniforms.

Such intervention, supported by Obote of Uganda, the Algerians, and the Egyptians is likely to continue. The failure of the recent Nairobi conference to call for an end to help for the rebels may even encourage these elements to step up open aid.

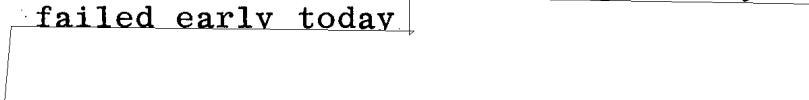


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7. USSR

A Soviet lunar probe apparently failed early today



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Since 1962, the Soviets have attempted six lunar probes, only one of which was successfully ejected from parking orbit.

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