



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

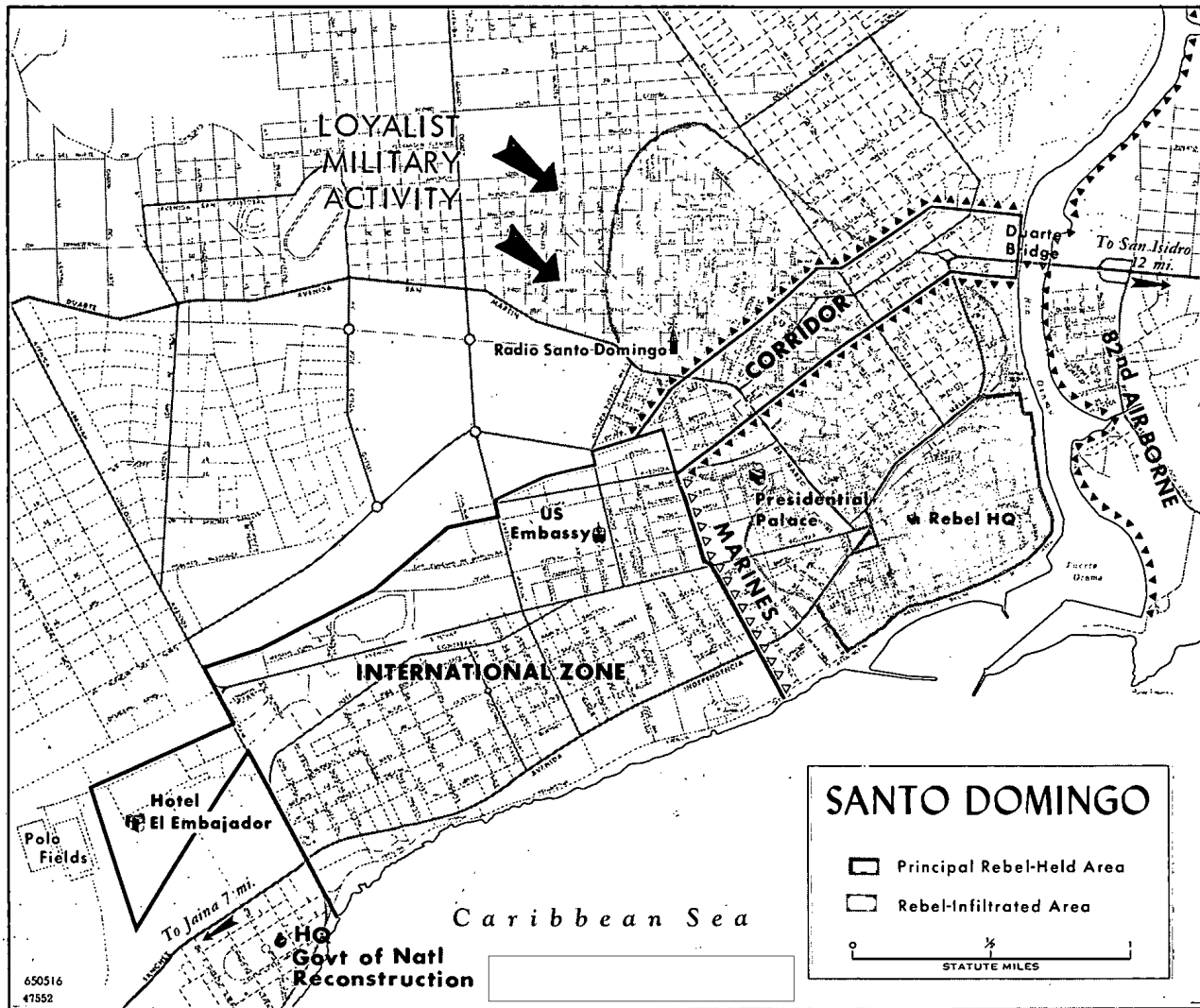
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



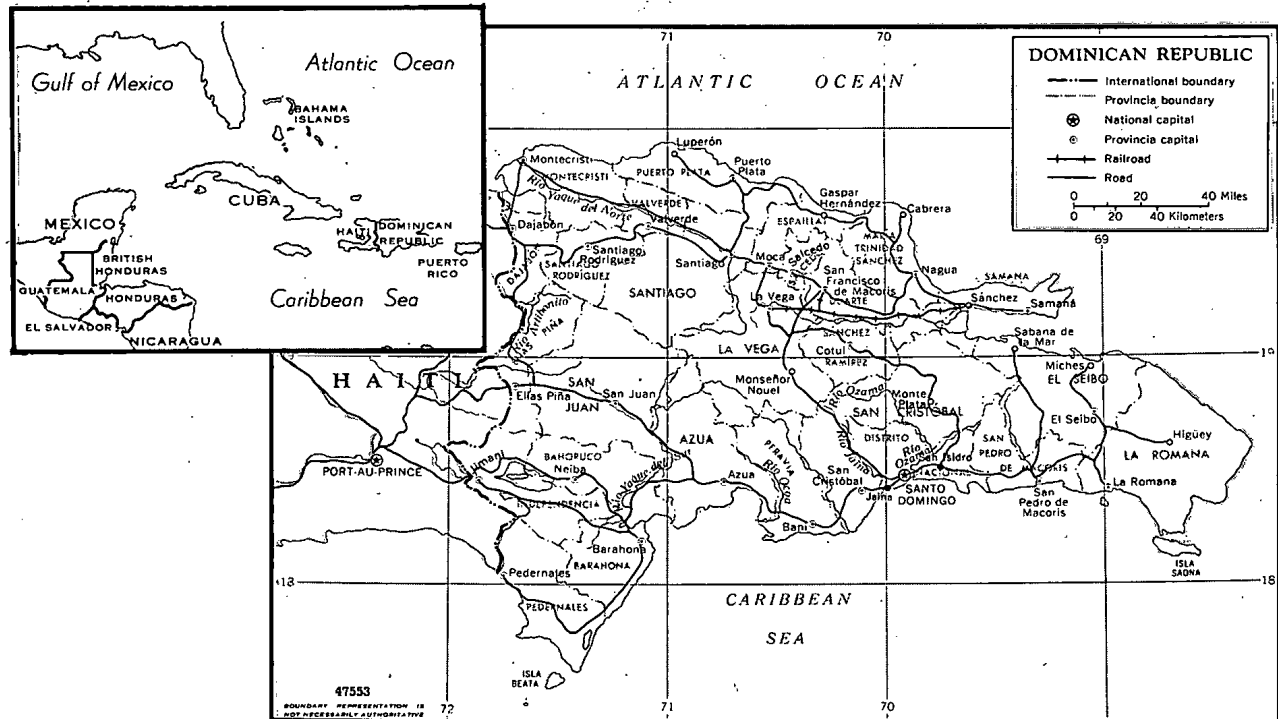
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17 MAY 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
17 MAY 1965

LATE ITEM

Dominican Republic

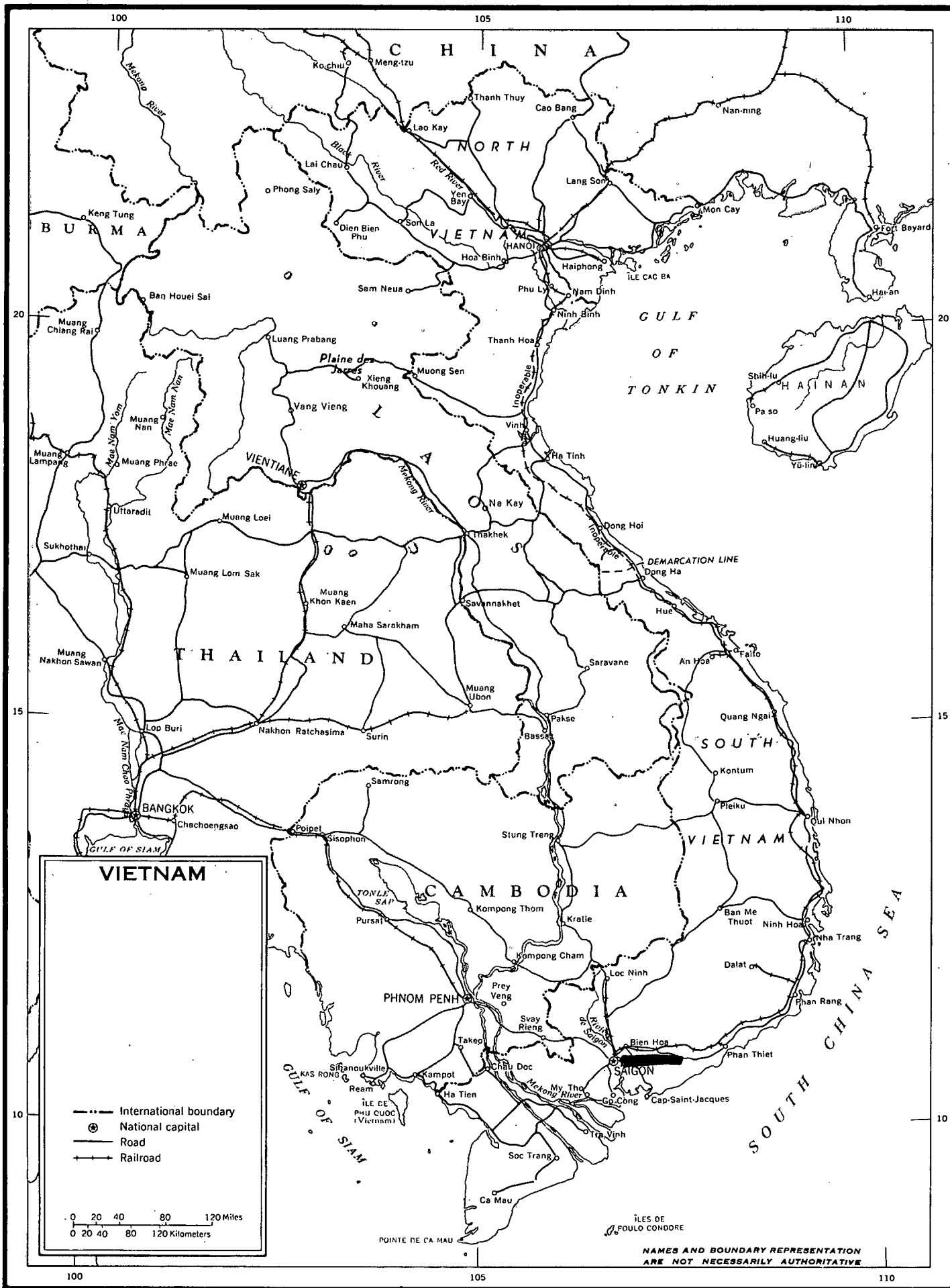
Forces loyal to junta leader Imbert continued today to press their drive against the rebels in the northern industrial areas of Santo Domingo.

Rebel resistance has so far been sparse. Loyalist casualties have been light, while over 600 rebel prisoners have been taken. Stiffer rebel resistance could develop at any time, but at present the loyalists are eager to continue the fight. They are now determined to make no significant political concessions to the rebels in any negotiations that may take place.

On the other hand, the military setbacks, and growing shortages of vital supplies, may be behind the Caamano group's abrupt reversal of its stand against dealing with the peace committee of the Organization of American States. Caamano agreed to meet with representatives of the committee this morning. Results of this meeting have not yet come in.

There have been no reports of rebel-instigated disturbances in other areas of the island. A rebel attempt to mount a general strike in Santiago failed.

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DAILY BRIEF
17 MAY 1965

1. Vietnam

Communist propaganda has begun to react to last Saturday's "teach-in."

A Chinese broadcast today described the event as marking a "new high in the opposition in US institutions of higher learning to US aggression in Vietnam." Moscow radio, in a similar vein, said the "teach-in" proves that the "vast majority" of students and faculty oppose US policy.

At home, the Chinese are intensifying their propaganda campaign to whip up popular support for the regime's policy toward Vietnam. Youths are being urged to undergo training in the militia and take up sports, such as swimming, which could have a military value.

U-2 photography of 15 May indicates that construction is continuing on the second surface-to-air missile site near Hanoi. The first site is nearing completion. There is no evidence that missile equipment has arrived at either site.

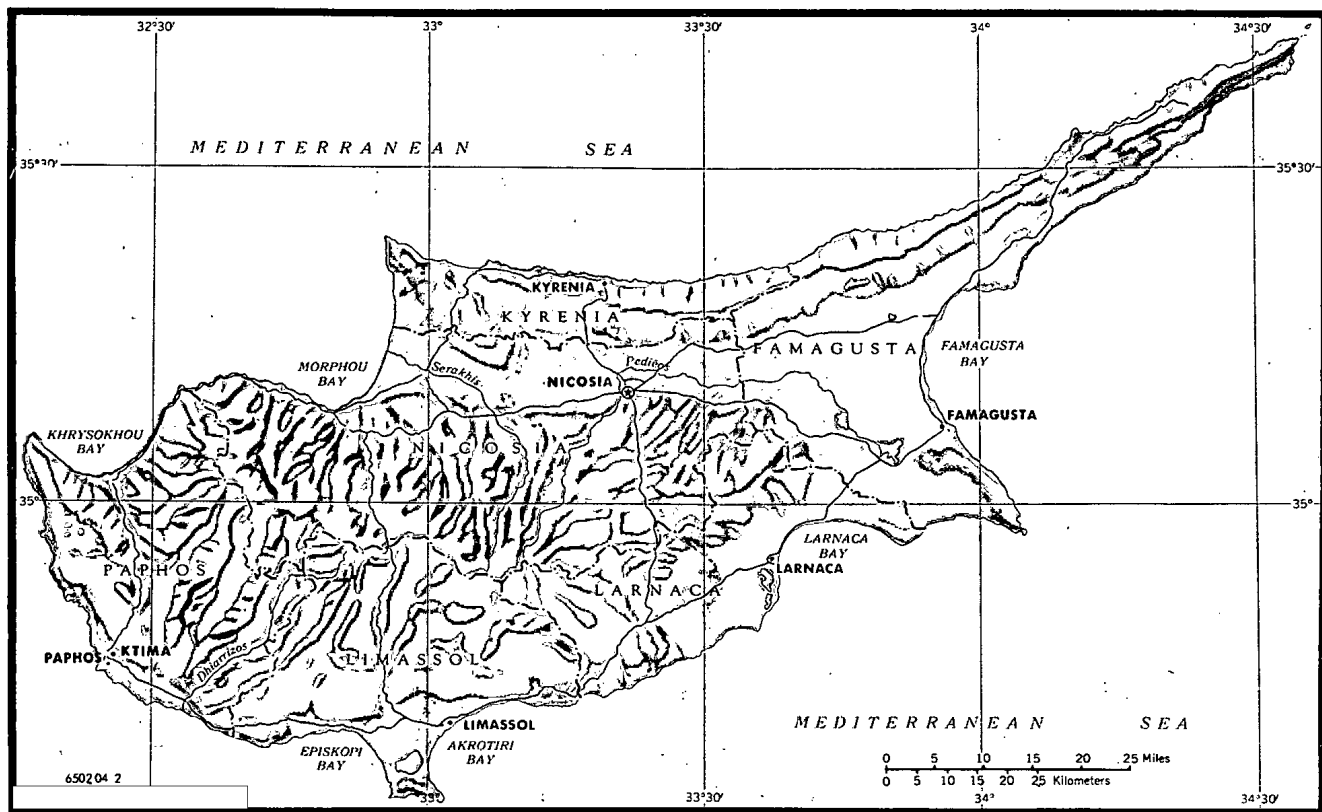
2. South Vietnam

South Vietnamese sensitivity to the press stories emphasizing the American role in the war has been displayed in an article in the 16 May issue of the Saigon Post. The paper is owned by Quat's Secretary of State, Bui Diem.

The article asserts that the war is basically a South Vietnamese war, "no matter what may be said, written, or claimed." It complains that this fact has become blurred, and the impression is spread that this is "indeed an American war." The blame for this is placed on stories by foreign correspondents, and on statements by US officials in Washington and in Saigon.

The writer describes this as a very important problem requiring immediate solution so that no one will think that "our friends the Americans" are fighting a "basically Vietnamese war while the war-weary Vietnamese are sitting on their behinds doing nothing for their country."

CYPRUS



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3. Cyprus

Details are lacking but fighting appears to have flared up between Greek and Turkish Cypriots in the southern port city of Limassol. (See map.)

[redacted] the Turks claim that some of their forces were surrounded by Greek Cypriots this morning. They describe the situation as "very dangerous."

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United Nations officials in Nicosia have been advised. Limassol Turks are being told by their superiors in the capital to "take defensive precautions calmly."

4. Communist China

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5. Bolivia

The opposition intends to test the junta's mettle again this week.

Under Communist and extreme leftist leadership, a general strike of mine workers and labor groups is scheduled to start tonight and student demonstrations tomorrow. The protests have been sparked by the junta's exile of pro-Communist labor leader Juan Lechin last weekend.

The junta has alerted the national guard and probably can handle any incidents at this time. Bolivian mine workers are a volatile and explosive lot, however, and the possibility of prolonged violence exists.

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6. Israel

The Israelis are apparently willing to risk serious fighting in order to block Arab efforts to divert the Jordan waters.

Last week Israel provoked an incident on the Syrian border, subsequently shelling Arab earth-moving equipment on the Syrian side. A similar incident occurred last March.

Syrian responses so far have been limited, but the danger of a large-scale clash increases with each incident.

7. India

President Ayub has suddenly reversed his directive forbidding Pakistani aircraft to shoot down Indian reconnaissance aircraft overflying Pakistan. The Pakistani ambassador has told the Department of State that the Pakistani Air Force has been ordered to take whatever action necessary to halt Indian reconnaissance overflights.

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