



*The President's Daily Brief*

*1 May 1973*

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~~*Top Secret*~~

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

1 May 1973

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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Algeria

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The Soviets are continuing to improve their SS-11 ICBM force. (Page 2)

According to some reports, the Communists in South Vietnam plan to intensify their attacks within the next several weeks, although evidence of normal preparatory moves is lacking. (Page 3)

In Argentina, the assassination of a major military figure yesterday has added to tensions between the military and president-elect Campora. (Page 4)

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ALGERIA-LIBYA

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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USSR

The Soviets are continuing to modernize their SS-11 ICBM force. [redacted] shows construction activity at 30 launch sites in three complexes in the eastern USSR, and other sites could be involved. In recent months 36 of the missiles--an unprecedented number--have been launched from these complexes, apparently in order to empty the silos for construction work.

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*The sites probably are being hardened or modified to prepare them for the newest, triple-warhead version of the SS-11, the Mod 3. Flight-testing of the Mod 3 appears to be complete, and it probably is now being fitted into some of the new small silos at Derazhnya and Pervomaysk.*

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SOUTH VIETNAM

[redacted] the Communists plan in May to intensify the nibbling attacks they have been conducting since the cease-fire. [redacted]

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[redacted] the Communists hope to gain control over more territory and people, as well as consolidate their position in some of the more intensely contested areas such as northern Binh Dinh Province. Some [redacted] reports suggest the attacks may be pegged to the period before May 20, which includes three important holidays.

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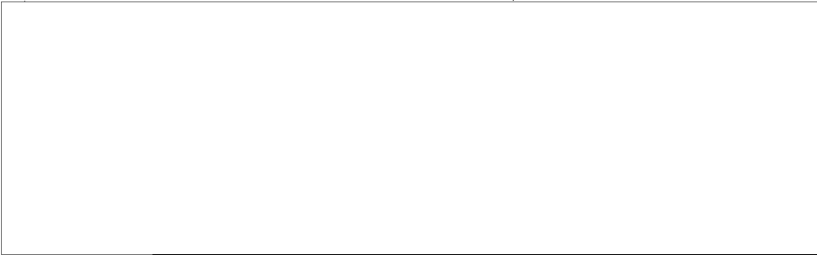
*Communications intelligence, one of the best indicators of enemy military intent, does not suggest that the Communists are preparing for heavy or sustained military action, or that substantial involvement by main force elements is likely. Some Communist forces in both North and South Vietnam and in southern Laos have been on alert since April 20, but this appears to be a response to anticipated South Vietnamese operations and to the recent US bombing in Laos.*

*No significant moves by Communist combat units of the sort that usually precede major Communist attacks have been detected in the past few weeks. Some main force units have even pulled back from major battlegrounds in the far north and in the northern delta.*

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ARGENTINA

The terrorist assassination yesterday of the recently retired chief of the joint general staff, Admiral Quijada, has heightened tensions between the military and president-elect Campora. This was the second assassination of a major military figure since the elections in March. Two other officers and several businessmen have been kidnaped.



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*The armed services now seem in a mood to demand further concessions from the Peronists. [redacted] the navy-- the most anti-Peronist of the three services and the victim of yesterday's attack-- now has called on the army and air force to join in aborting the electoral process.*

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NOTE

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Saudi Arabia - Yemen (Sana):

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