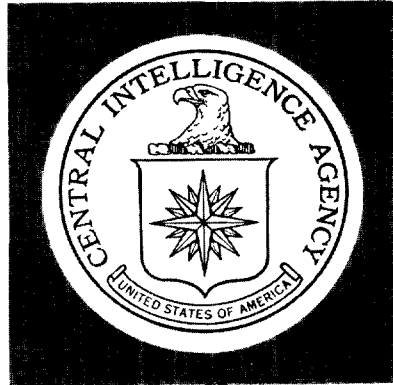


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The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 7 February 1968

DAILY BRIEF
7 FEBRUARY 1968

1. Vietnam
(as of 5:00 AM
EST)

North Vietnamese regulars, spear-headed by nine armored vehicles believed to be Soviet T-34 tanks, were beaten back from the strategic Lang Vei Special Forces camp near Khe Sanh last night. The night-long assault was timed to coincide with a heavy bombardment of the Khe Sanh base. At last report the enemy force was pulling back.

This is the first time the Communists have used armor in South Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese could be planning another "first," this one using aircraft against allied positions near the Demilitarized Zone. Yesterday three of North Vietnam's eight IL-28 jet light bombers returned to Phuc Yen airfield

Although the IL-28s are old and slow by today's standards, they could reach the Demilitarized Zone from Phuc Yen.

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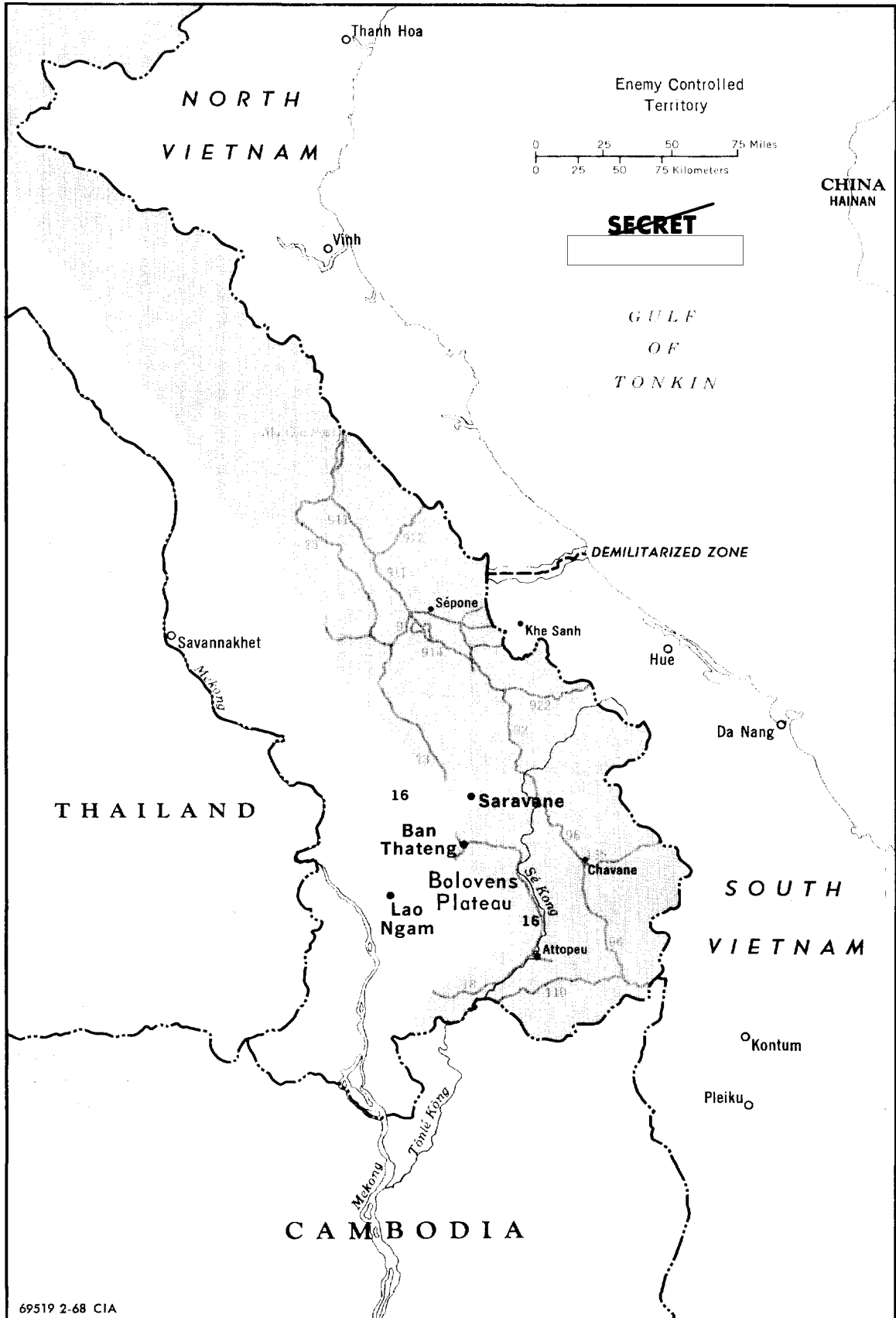
North Vietnam's AN-2 light transports also have been unusually active. Some of these aircraft are adapted for ground attack.

2. Korea

A number of South Koreans demonstrated against the Panmunjom talks this morning. The demonstration was at Freedom Bridge on the road leading through US lines to the meeting site. Some of the demonstrators got across the bridge where they were met and turned back by US troops.

There have been no significant developments in North Korea overnight. Pyongyang is rebroadcasting the sixth alleged confession by a Pueblo crewman.

LAOS PANHANDLE



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3. Laos

A new series of Communist attacks on government positions in the Lao panhandle may be coming. A North Vietnamese defector reports the town of Saravane will be one of the first targets.

Saravane is the government-held position closest to the infiltration trails winding down to Cambodia and South Vietnam. Although it is not an important military base, its loss would have a serious psychological impact on the already nervous leadership in Vientiane.

4. Greece-Turkey



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5. Chile

Frei's left-wing political opponents in the Senate are so dedicated to seeing the Chilean President fail that they have sacrificed much-needed economic legislation to that end. Frei's enemies are looking ahead to the 1970 presidential election, but their determined inaction leaves the economy drifting further into serious inflation.

6. Communist China

Two party veterans, both disgraced and dismissed early in the Cultural Revolution, were recently put in charge of Hopeh, the key North China province where Peking is located. This resurrection suggests a loss of ground by the militant group in the capital. Factional fighting, however, continues throughout China.

7. Soviet Union

The Soviets appear to be getting ready for another lunar probe. [redacted] the position of Soviet space support ships suggest the launch will come today or tomorrow.

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