

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1 SEPTEMBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. South Vietnam

a. Khanh appears reluctant to try to reassert his leadership of the government.

b. In a talk with Ambassador Taylor in Dalat yesterday, Khanh said he might make an appearance in Saigon in a few days to show that he is still premier and to quash rumors that he is mentally ill. Taylor got the impression, however, that Khanh was disinclined to head the government unless he had real authority.

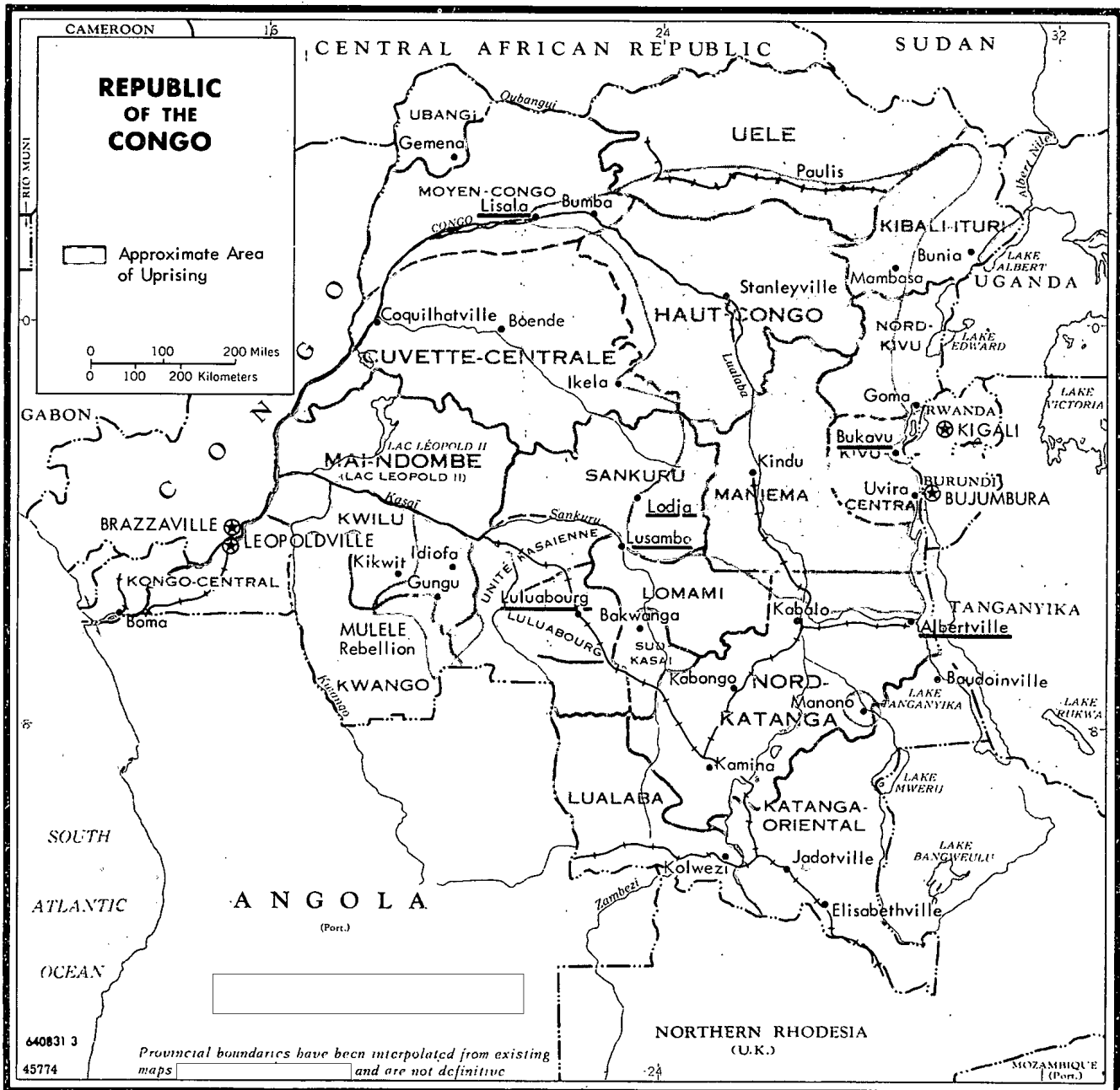
c. Although Khanh has some minor physical troubles, he seems primarily to fear a power play by the Dai Viets. He said the Military Revolutionary Council had asked him last week to stay on as head of government but he turned them down because of his distrust of the Dai Viet generals.

d. Some key army divisions and police posts near Saigon are controlled by Dai Viet officers. A coup attempt on their part would probably trigger a violent reaction by the Buddhists.

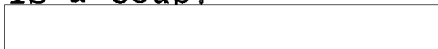
Viet Cong military activity has been unusually light since the leadership crisis began in Saigon.

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We think the Communists may be biding their time, hesitant to take actions which might unify disputing factions in Saigon. They are probably preparing to move quickly, however, if the situation stabilizes or if there is a coup.



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2. Congo

a. The government's recapture of Albertville, original seat of the rebel provisional government, should give government and army morale a much-needed shot in the arm.

b. We have reports that no European lives were lost in the takeover but that Congolese casualties ran high and damage was considerable.

c. Government forces have also moved up from Luluabourg to the environs of Lusambo and have asked for reinforcements to help take over that city. They intend to continue on toward the Lodja area, now in rebel hands.

d. In the north, the story is different. The rebels, who retain the initiative, apparently now control Lisala on the Congo River. From here they could rapidly spread their control over the entire northwest area.

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e. Leopoldville radio last night broadcast a warning to foot-dragging Brazzaville and Mali nationals that the expulsion order is still in effect. They were told that they must get out voluntarily or be thrown out and that any who return will be treated as illegal immigrants.

f. The OAU emergency meeting set for 5 September in Addis Ababa may be postponed for a few days. Arab members of the OAU have asked for this because the Arab States' "summit" conference begins the same day.

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3. Cyprus

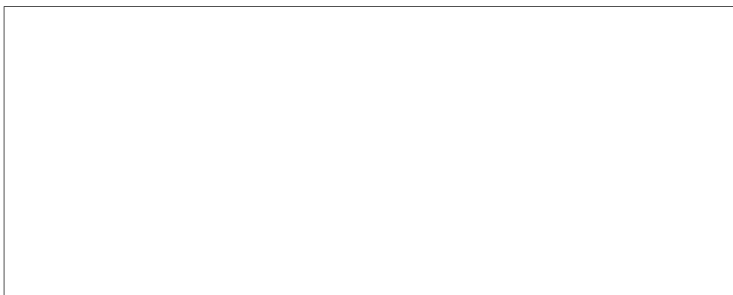
a. Makarios appears to be shifting his ground on the question of union with Greece.

b. The archbishop, long lukewarm to enosis, again openly championed the idea when he was in Egypt over the weekend. He stressed, however, that the island should be demilitarized. In so doing, he apparently had in mind barring the present British base areas as well as any proposed Turkish or NATO bases.

c. Grivas, in a speech Sunday, also urged "unconditional enosis" without ceding Cypriot soil to any foreigner.

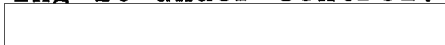
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f. Only relatively minor demonstrations have occurred in Turkey since Sunday when Inonu asked the nation to remain calm. A large demonstration is to be permitted in Ankara today, but the government seems bent on keeping it under control.



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4. Laos

a. Talks in Paris among the key Laotian leaders have made little apparent progress thus far.

b. Premier Souvanna told

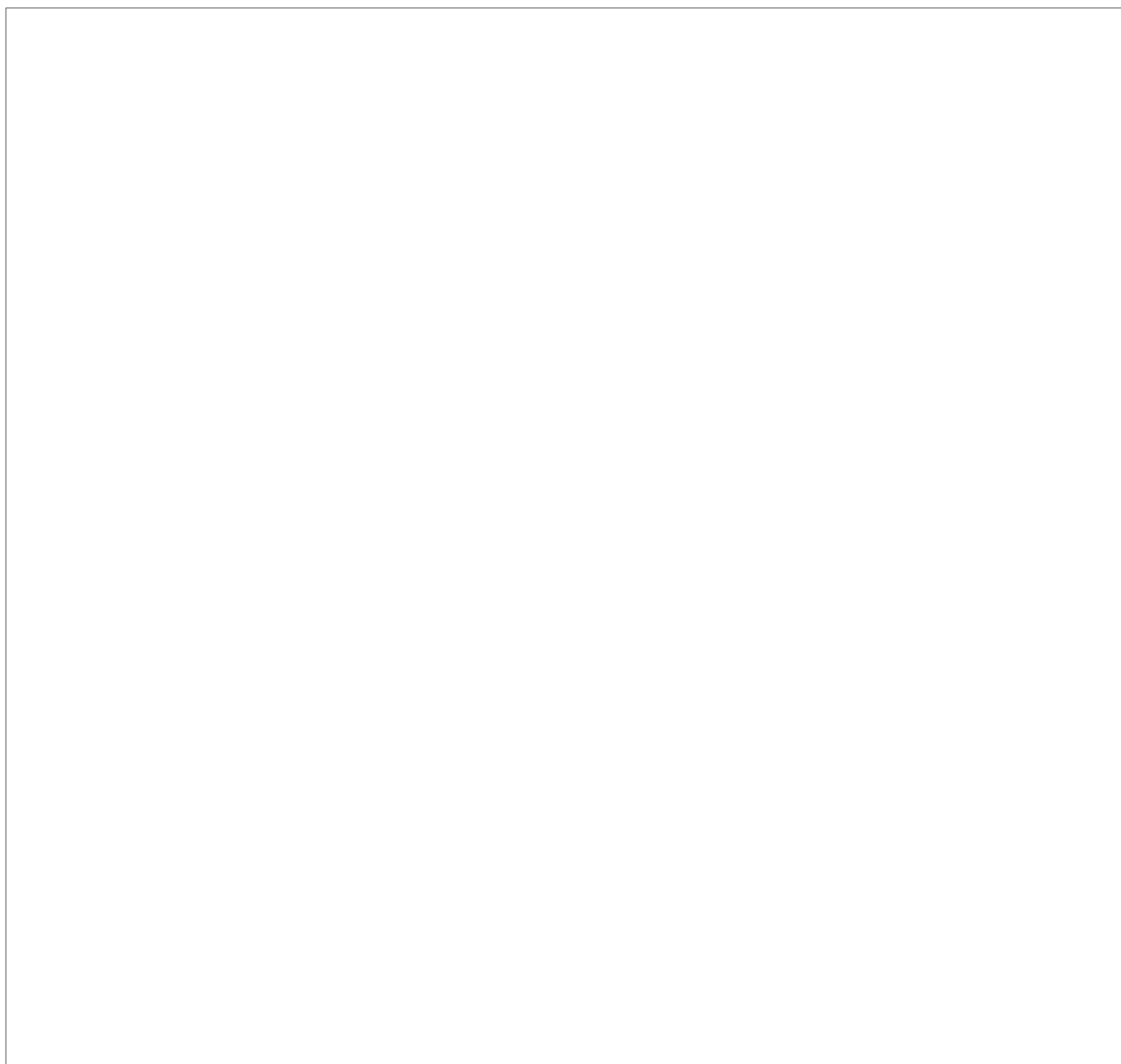


that he would not insist on a complete Pathet Lao withdrawal from the Plaine des Jarres positions occupied earlier this year. He suggested instead that the contending forces control the Plaine jointly under ICC supervision.

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c. We think the Pathet Lao would go along with this only if they were given substantial concessions in other areas. But if Souvanna were to make major concessions, strong rightists, who oppose any accommodation with the Pathet Lao, might rally support for the overthrow of the coalition government.

d. Souvanna told Ambassador Bohlen yesterday that he thought the Pathets had been "stalling" in the talks, hoping that the situation in Vietnam would continue to deteriorate and thus improve the Pathet bargaining position.

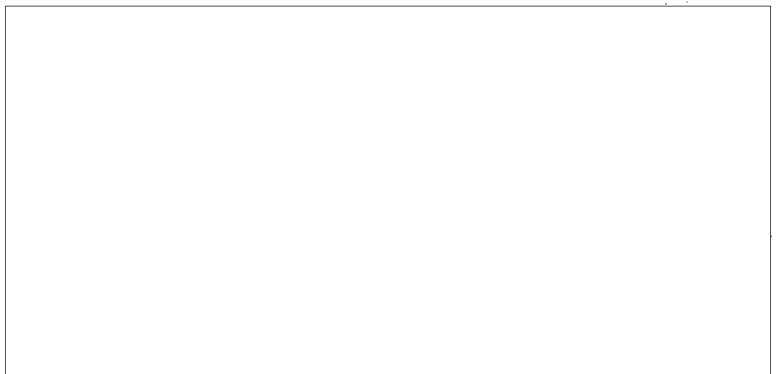
e. The Paris talks have been informal so far. More formal discussions are to begin today.



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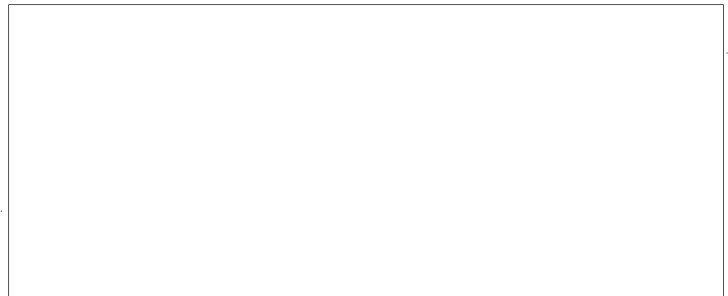
5. North Vietnam

a. Hanoi apparently expects and is preparing for more hostile action against its territory.



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NOTES

A. Iraq-Egypt

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B. Haiti [Redacted] as a result of recent rebel successes there has been a considerable increase in antigovernment plotting. Business, government, and military personnel apparently are working together on a coordinated plan to attack the palace and topple the Duvalier regime.

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C. Zanzibar In addition to providing military instruction, the Soviets are busy extending their control into the local security apparatus.

[Redacted]

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D. Indonesia - North Vietnam A parliamentary delegation from Hanoi has returned home after two strenuous weeks in Indonesia spreading violently anti-US propaganda. The group's leader presented a bag of the "sacred soil of Dien Bien Phu" to the speaker of the Indonesian parliament. In seeing the group off, the Indonesian said that "the fall of the ruling regime in South Vietnam will signify the fall of the US and imperialism from the face of the earth."

TOP SECRET

USSR

a. Keyhole Mission 1009, 6-13 August, disclosed a new ICBM complex in the early stages of construction near Orsk in the Ural mountains.

b. The complex has a support facility and four single silo launch areas about five miles apart. The launch areas resemble those recently identified under construction at Zhangiz Tobe near Semipalatinsk.

c. Both complexes, like the other 18 operational ICBM complexes we have identified, are near main rail lines and are rail served.

d. We have now identified a total of 14 single silos under construction since the program began early this year.

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