

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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23 OCTOBER 1964  
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. USSR

a. We have noted what may be a straw in the wind on the domestic economic intentions of the new regime.

b. Meeting on 19 and 20 October, the USSR National Economic Council decided not only to continue a four-month-old experiment which allowed considerable autonomy to two Soviet textile plants but also to enlarge it to include "a number of enterprises in light industry."

c. Under the experiment, production is governed by contracts worked out between the plants and retail outlets, rather than by strict adherence to plans, and would not be subject to intermediary party or state authority.

2. South Vietnam

a. Leading contenders for the top spots in the new government are still jockeying for position as the 27 October deadline looms.

(Cont'd)

b. Khanh's intentions seem cloudy. In talking to Ambassador Taylor on Thursday, he appeared satisfied with the prospect of being armed forces commander. However, he assumed a lofty air of detachment in discussing possible incumbents for other key slots, even those with whom he would have to work closely, such as premier or defense minister.

c. Khanh may not expect the new government to be around long. [redacted] he is still maneuvering to retain power.

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### 3. Congo

a. The near collapse of normal economic activity appears to be feeding a growing restiveness in some rebel-held areas. [redacted]

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b. However, for the moment Congo Army units are stalled in most areas, and militarily the rebels are holding their own. Lack of air support for government forces is one factor.

(Cont'd)

c. Congolese aircraft have not flown combat missions for a week, and Tshombé is increasingly unhappy about it.

d. Yesterday, he sent word to Ambassador Godley that President Kasavubu wanted to send a special emissary to "explain the current situation" to President Johnson. General Mobutu, moreover, was said to be sending his principal deputy to the US, to the Pentagon.

e. Godley has been trying hard to see Tshombé to stall off these visits.



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#### 4. Cuba-USSR

a. Guinea's Sekou Touré says that Cuban President Dorticos, "speaking in the name of the Cuban Government," had told him in Cairo that Havana was "anxious to remove itself from the Communist camp, to become nonaligned and to normalize its relationships with the US."

(Cont'd)

b. [redacted] Castro and his  
colleagues seem wary of upsetting  
their present relationship with  
the USSR. [redacted]

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NOTES

- A. Cyprus Agreement for opening the Nicosia-Kyrenia road and for the Turkish troop rotation has been announced. However, there may be a hitch. The Cyprus Government has "certain reservations" in the troop rotation it is going to present in writing today.
  
- B. Sudan Khartoum was the scene of violence Wednesday and Thursday as police clashed with students demonstrating over the situation in southern Sudan. Several deaths resulted, but security forces appeared last night to have matters in hand. US Embassy windows were smashed, apparently only incidentally.
  
- C. Mozambique

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Africans are increasingly ready to revolt.
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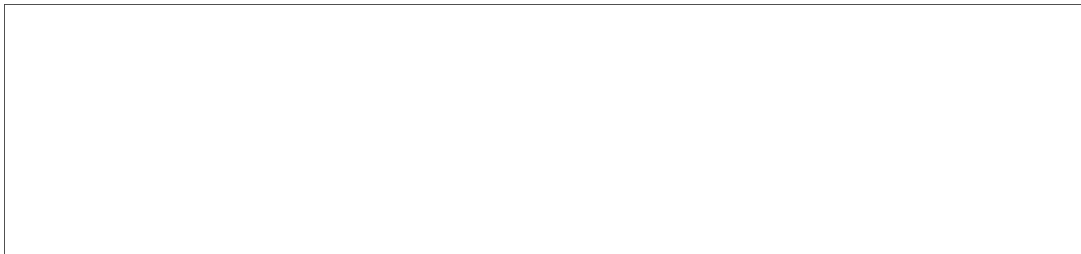
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- D. Venezuela Security forces have now rounded up over half of the 63-man FALN detachment responsible for much of the spectacular terrorism in Caracas, including the kidnappings of Colonels Smolen and Chenault. This is a setback for the FALN, but will not end its forays. A General Tire recap shop in Caracas was set afire Tuesday.

(Cont'd)

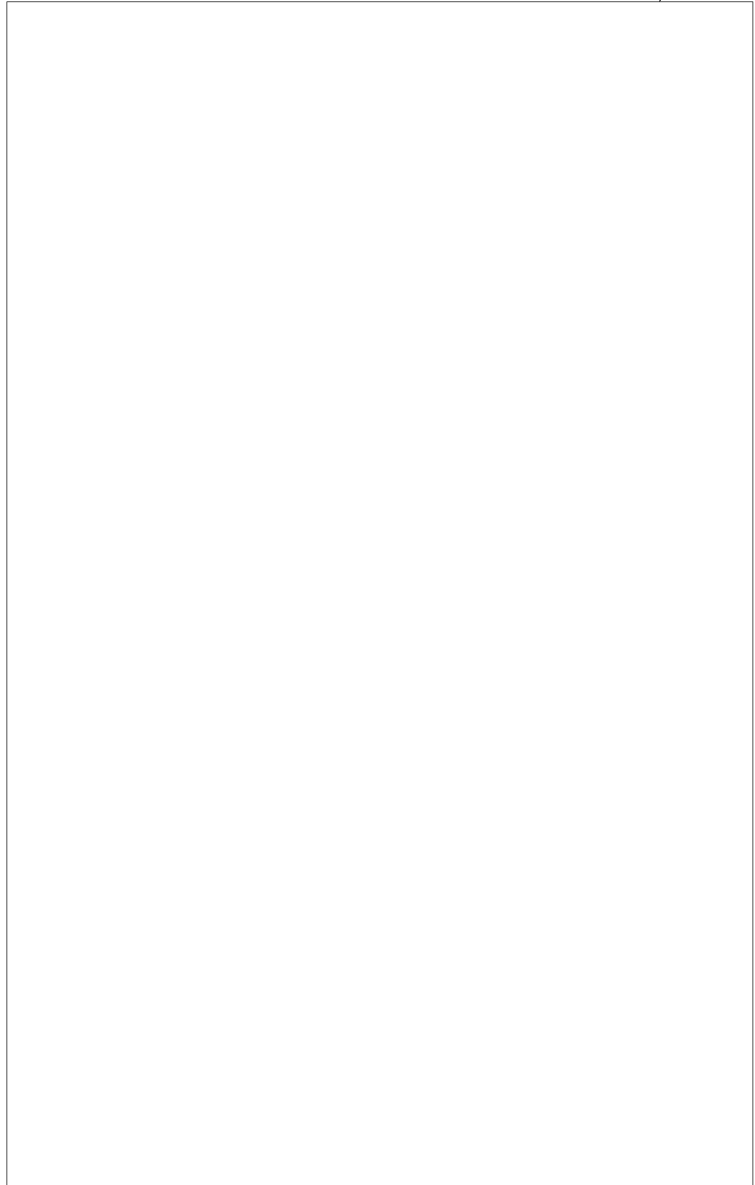


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F. Communist China With a recent contact for 1.5 million tons from Australia, Chinese contracts for wheat imports in 1965 now total 2.1 million tons. We expect to hear of further purchases from Canada, Australia, and France.

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**Communist China**



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