

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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17 NOVEMBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

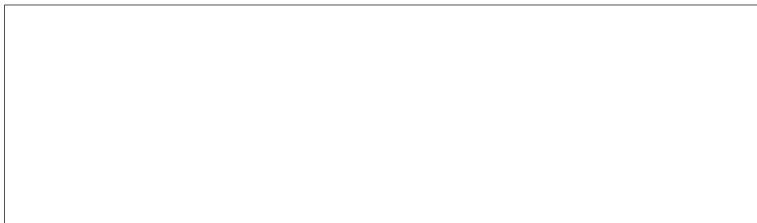
1. USSR

a. Brezhnev came off best in the personnel changes approved yesterday by the party central committee.

b. Two of his cronies, Shelepin and Demichev, were elevated to the presidium. Kozlov, an old antagonist, was expelled from the ruling body.

c. Kosygin does not appear to have improved his position, and the dual leadership charade acted out since Khrushchev's going may be about over.

d. Podgorny, however, also strengthened his position, and remains the leading rival to Brezhnev within the party. One of his protégés, Shelest, also made the presidium yesterday. Podgorny played a leading role at the meeting.



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f. The central committee decided to reverse Khrushchev's 1962 action to divide the party into two virtually separate organizations, one for agriculture and the other for industry. As was the case when the scheme was put into effect back in 1962, the reversal will probably breed severe dislocations.

[REDACTED]

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2. Congo

a. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Haile Selassie [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] unwilling to swim upstream against the current of radical African feeling against Tshombé.

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b. [REDACTED]

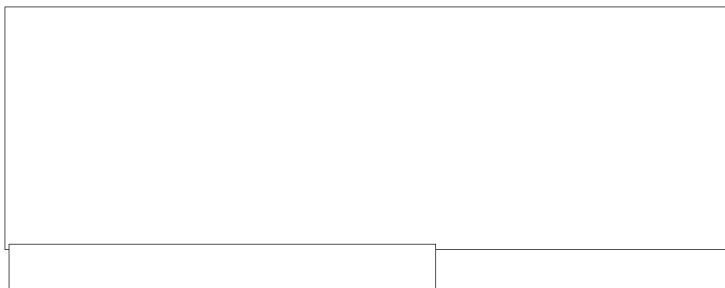
[REDACTED] even if the rebels were defeated, they would fight again another day from Burundi, Brazzaville, or elsewhere.

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c. The Ghanaians and others are making arrangements for additional arms shipments to the rebels. Mercenaries operating northeast of Kindu Sunday picked up small arms ammunition identified as of Chinese Communist origin.

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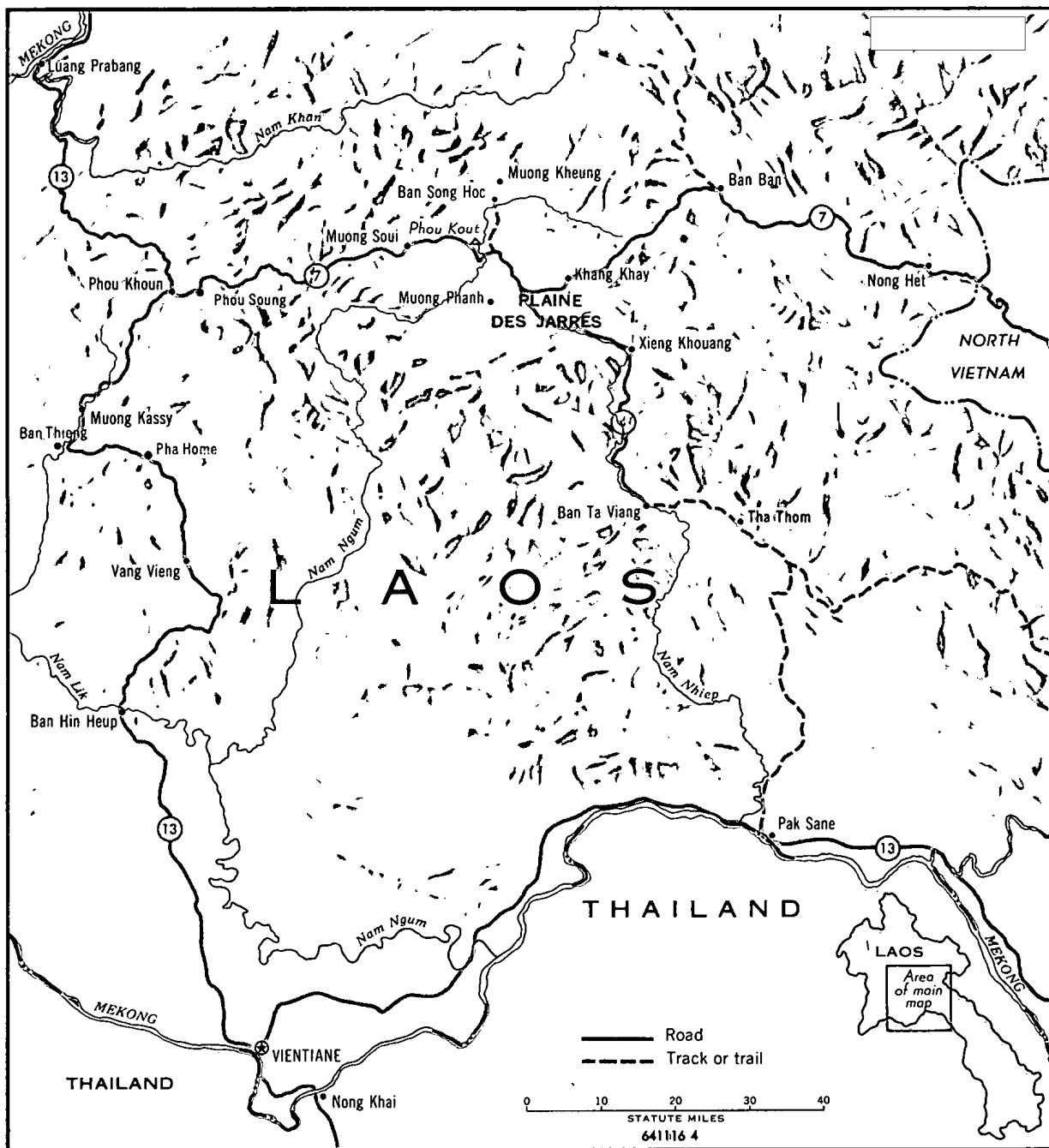
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3. Cambodia

a. Sihanouk's National Assembly met yesterday but did not, as advertised, close down the US Embassy in Phnom Penh.

b. Later in the day the Cambodians agreed to a US suggestion that we get together for bilateral talks in a third-country capital.

c. As is his wont, Sihanouk immediately told the press of the talks, leaving an impression that the US is seeking an accommodation with him.



4. Laos

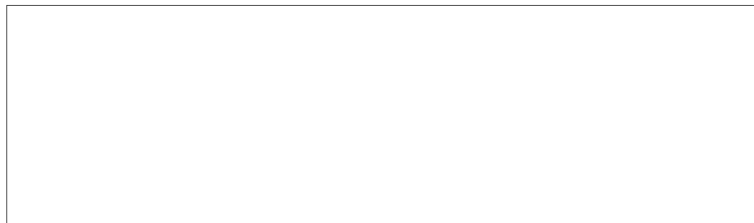
a. We would not be surprised by a new Communist offensive in Laos in retaliation for government gains in recent months.

b. Meo tribesmen who keep a watch on Route 7 report that large numbers of trucks continue to make the trip to the Plaine des Jarres from North Vietnam.

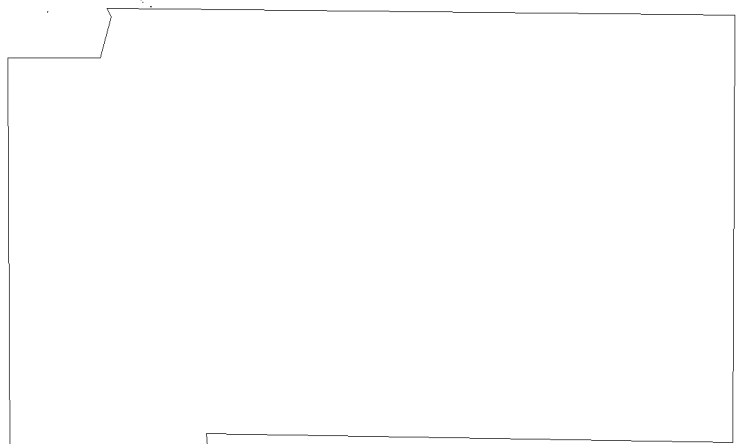
c. Last Saturday the tribesmen spotted a 120-truck convoy, the largest since the present Communist resupply activity got going in late September. Attempts by the Lao Air Force to cut down on this traffic have not been effective.

d. Coup rumors are being heard once again in Vientiane. Most of the rumors have little substance, but they do show that the same old jealousies are keeping the Souvanna government as unstable as ever.

5. China - The West



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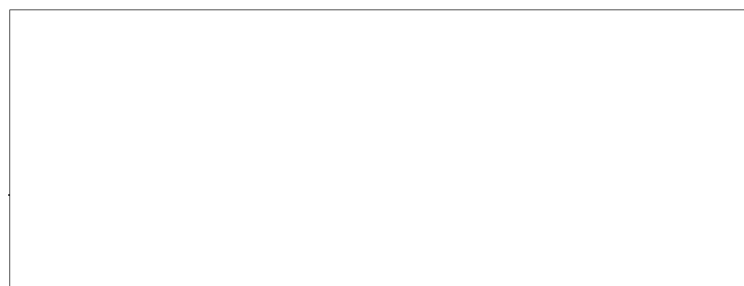


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6. Communist China-
North Vietnam



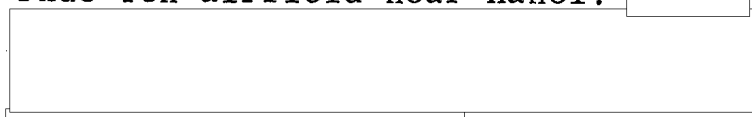
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c. It is possible that a few
MIG-19s may now be stationed at
Phuc Yen airfield near Hanoi.



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NOTES

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B. Cuba-US Now that the US elections are over, the Cubans seem to be warming up for a new war of nerves on the overflight problem.

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- E. Guinea Sekou Toure faces the first real threat to his primacy since Guinea became independent in 1958. The issue could come to a head when the party chiefs meet Thursday. Toure probably has the backing of the army and the security forces, for the moment at least.

- F. Israel Ben Gurion has walked out of the ruling Mapai Party, leaving the field pretty much to Prime Minister Eshkol. The bitter fighting which led up to the explosion has probably weakened the party and its position in the coalition.

- G. Communist China - Tanzania A Chinese Communist vessel docked at Dar-es-Salaam over the weekend, bearing arms, which local officials said were for the Tanzanian Army. [redacted]
[redacted]
the cargo included field pieces and a large amount of small arms ammunition.

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