

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

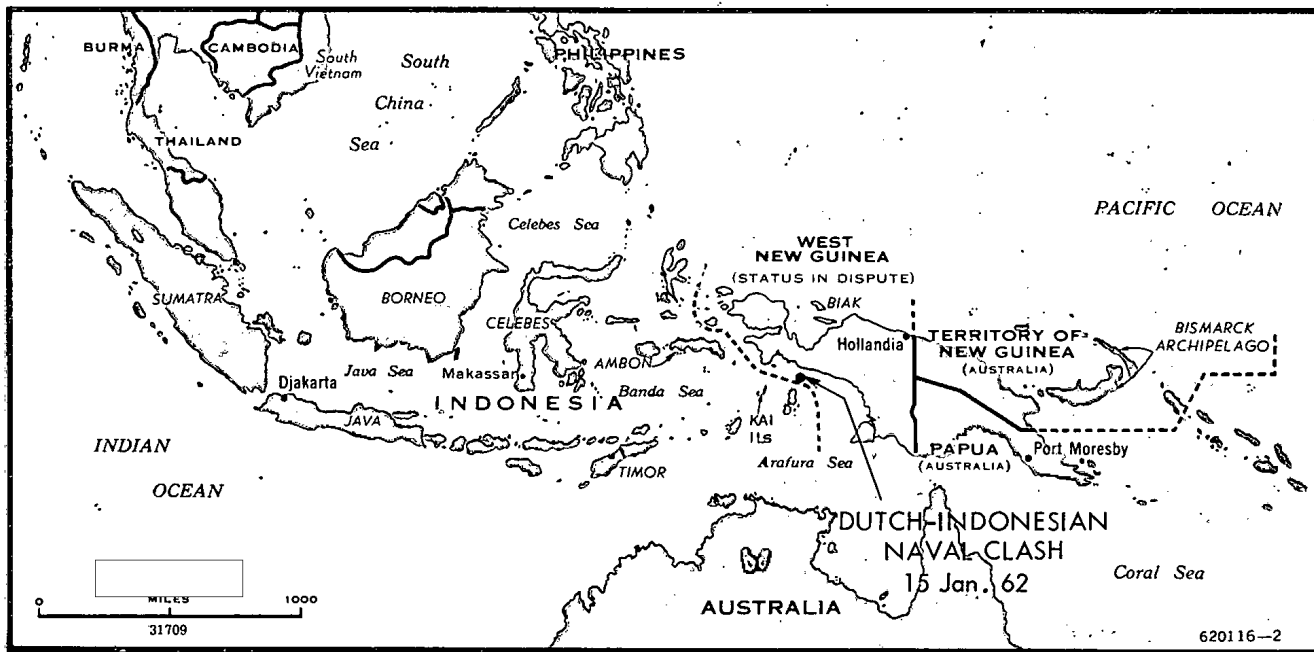


16 JAN. 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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INDONESIA AND WEST NEW GUINEA



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1. West New Guinea

A. The naval action off the island yesterday apparently disrupted the Indonesian infiltration operation

[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Each side is of course 50X1
accusing the other of starting it, but both agree the Dutch got the best of it.

B. Sukarno, cancelling an appointment with Ambassador Jones, called a meeting of his cabinet and military leaders. He has made no statement, but Subandrio has denied that the door had been closed to negotiations.

C. The setback to Sukarno's plans for greatly increased infiltration, the loss of fear involved in this defeat, and the popular emotions he has built up may nevertheless drive him to more serious military action; such as an attempt to establish air superiority. We think such a move is probably being urged on him by his air force commander Suryadarma who--alone among the military--has been enthusiastic for the conquest of New Guinea and the acquisition of Soviet arms. Suryadarma yesterday alerted air bases in East Indonesia that "the situation with the Dutch has come to a head and an attack from the sea and the air is possible at any moment." [redacted] 50X1

(cont'd)

D. The Dutch also say they are still willing to negotiate, but are making noises about "legitimate self-defense." Their next move may be an appeal to the UN Security Council.

E. The Indonesians believe the Dutch are reinforcing [redacted] 50X1 but we as yet have no indication that they have decided to do so. Their most logical move would be to pass a naval task group built around the carrier Karel Doorman which is now en route to visit the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, thus avoiding the political difficulties involved in passing Suez. Movement of the Doorman group to the Canal might well trigger Indonesian action.

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[redacted] 50X1



2. Laos: further friction between Communists and Souvanna's followers

A. The former appear determined to consolidate their control of the strategic areas between Highways 8 and 9. The North Vietnamese have apparently completed the road linking their highway net with Tchepone, their base for infiltration into South Vietnam.

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B. All the principals except Souphannouvong have arrived in Geneva. There has been no change in positions.

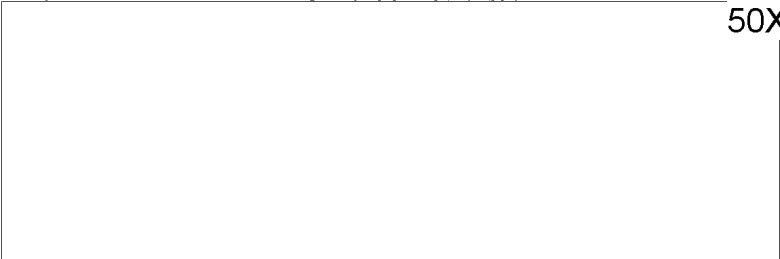
3. Punta Del Este: line taken by USSR with Brazil

A. Cuba, though socialist, belongs to Latin America by tradition, culture, and interest.

B. The USSR has no wish to establish a military base there.

C. It would like to see Cuban-US economic relations restored, as imports from Cuba do not meet the "real needs" of the USSR.

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4. Political infighting in Lebanon continues

President Shihab is being pushed by pro-Nasir types to take action against his predecessor Shamun. Shihab has written Nasir asking Egyptian-Syrian-Lebanese cooperation in blocking 'Britain's' aim in the Middle East--the isolation of Egypt and the realization of the fertile crescent--" in collaboration with Jordan.

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NOTES

- A. A second-generation ICBM was successfully test-fired to Kamchatka this morning, the eighteenth success in 29 attempts and the third this year. [redacted] 50X1
- B. Ambassador Thompson relays a report that Khrushchev is angling for an invitation to Italy. 50X1
- C. In addition to the pressures for removal of Rodriguez Echevarria [redacted] a campaign is also developing to force Balaguer to resign ahead of schedule.
- D. Nehru made an angry and emotional public defense of Krishna Menon yesterday.
- E. The Greeks have asked the French to support their claims to southern Albania [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
- F. Outer Mongolia and Iraq have agreed to exchange ambassadors. [redacted] The former is recognized by nine other non-bloc countries. 50X1
- G. There have been no major developments in the Congo.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

I.

[Redacted]

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE