

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

13 MAR. 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Berlin access

a. Soviet transport flights in the southern corridor this morning -- two inbound and two outbound at the 7,000 to 10,000 foot altitudes normally used by Western civil aircraft -- are a duplicate of yesterday's run. This time, however, they filed flight plans 21 hours in advance compared with 40 hours for Tuesday's flights.

b. The Soviet flights went off on schedule. 14 allied transport flights were made in the southern corridor during the period--6 military and 8 commercial. No incidents have been reported.

c. Three aircraft, presumably Soviet, were noted dropping chaff patches in East Germany but no significant interference in the air corridors resulted. The allies have now worked out a tripartite draft protest note to the USSR on Friday's chaff incident.

d. Yesterdays troop convoys on the autobahn also were completed without incident save for more than usual persistence displayed by two Soviet officers in attempting to inspect a supply convoy's trailers.

e. In a move facilitating East German procurement of badly needed equipment and materials from West Germany, Bonn has agreed to a one-year extension of the deadline for settling Pankow's interzonal trade debts. Bonn hopes the continuing advantage to Ulbricht of this trade will serve as a guarantee for access to Berlin.

2. Laos

a. Returned Thai officials, edified by their visit to Washington, are now proposing way and means of joining with us to make Phoumi see the light. General Wallop suggests several schemes in which he might helpfully participate and even recommends we take over direct payment of Phoumi's troops. Wallop still has to obtain Sarit's support for these, however.

b. Meanwhile, Embassy Vientiane now considers Phoumi and Boun Oum have no intention of negotiating with Souvanna and are pushing the "Royal" solution for all they are worth. 50X1

d. We have no new word on Souvanna's progress at Khang Khay. Paris still has reservations on offering Souphannouvong the Foreign Affairs portfolio.

3. South Vietnam

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4. Algeria

a. The French have provided our Algiers Consul General a detailed briefing on the cease-fire provisions. The outstanding problem now is the actual drafting of the cease-fire announcements.

b. Arrangements are underway to fly Algerian leader Ben Bella to Rabat, reportedly to sign the cease-fire agreement. The Moroccans have requested he land at our Nouasseur base and may also request that our transport instead of French be used to prevent any possible OAS interception attempt.

5. West New Guinea

a. Prospects continue good for preliminary Dutch-Indonesian talks. Subandrio says, however, that Djakarta meanwhile will not suspend its military preparations and the movement of troops and equipment to eastern Indonesia continues. [REDACTED]

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b. A Dutch parliamentary spokesman indicates the government, including Luns, would be willing to give up West New Guinea if a face-saving formula can be negotiated.

NOTES

A. A Warsaw Pact political session may be on in Moscow. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] We suspect they may be meeting to ratify Soviet disarmament and nuclear test proposals on the eve of the Geneva conference. The Albanian chestnut and tactical moves on Berlin and a German peace treaty may also be under consideration. [redacted] 50X1

B. Pakistan's Ayub is "sincerely" appreciative of President Kennedy's advance notice on our prospective C-130 sales to India. His initial reaction to our suggestions for further improvement in Afghanistan relations left Charge Hall "hopeful" for a favorable response in the near future, Foreign Minister Dehlavi's reservations notwithstanding.

C. King Saud has told Ambassador Hart that he has decided against a political rupture with Egypt, but is still considering breaking economic relations. Saud waxed enthusiastic over his visit here and was very receptive to the Ambassador's proposals on renewing our military training agreement.

[redacted] 50X1

E. Holden Roberto reportedly may soon announce formation of a provisional Angolan government in order to steal the march on his leftist rival organization. Indian and Bloc representatives in Leopoldville are urging Holden to join with the leftist group in a "united front."

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H. The Chinese Communists are jogging the Portuguese in Macao with a warning to take "effective measures" against Nationalist use of the colony to support sabotage operations against the mainland.

I. severity of industrial cutbacks in Communist China. We find 1961 freight car production 80 to 90 percent under 1960, with no indication that idle productive capacity was turned to repair and maintenance of the existing over-burdened freight car inventory.

J. Soviet Ambassador-designate Dobrynin is expected to arrive here next week.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE