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PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--23 APRIL 1962

1. ARGENTINE DEVELOPMENTS:

ALTHOUGH SATURDAY'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN RIVAL MILITARY GROUPS HAS APPARENTLY GIVEN GUIDO THE GO-AHEAD TO TRY FOR A "CONSTITUTIONAL" SOLUTION, HE REMAINS UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE TO BLOCK THE PERONISTS. THE NAVY DECLARED YESTERDAY THAT THE MARCH ELECTIONS MUST BE VOIDED COME WHAT MAY. THE SCENE HAS NOW SHIFTED, HOWEVER, TO THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS, WHICH MUST PRODUCE THE LEGISLATION. THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AN EMERGENCY SESSION TODAY. BY LAW, THE CHAMBER MUST DECIDE BY THURSDAY ON WHO WILL BE SEATED. IF THE OUTCOME DOES NOT SATISFY THE MILITARY, GUIDO MAY HAVE TO RECESS CONGRESS AND RULE BY DECREE.

2. NEW MOVES AGAINST YDIGORAS THREATEN:

GUATEMALAN EXTREMISTS ARE POISED FOR A NEW ATTEMPT TO PROVOKE VIOLENCE AND MAY MAKE THEIR MOVE TODAY. FEARING A COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IF YDIGORAS IS UNSEATED, LEADERS OF THE MODERATE OPPOSITION HAVE ORGANIZED A CITIZENS COMMITTEE WHICH IS WORKING FOR A PEACEFUL COMPROMISE UNDER WHICH YDIGORAS WOULD BROADEN HIS GOVERNMENT AND AGREE TO LIMITATIONS ON HIS AUTHORITY. ON THE URGING OF BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE MODERATES, HEMISPHERE DIPLOMATS, INCLUDING OUR AMBASSADOR, ARE TRYING TO HELP OUT WITH THE CONCILIATION EFFORT. AMBASSADOR BELL DESCRIBES THE SITUATION AS GRAVE BUT NOT YET BEYOND SALVAGING.

50X1

3. CONGO:

ADOULA RETURNED TO LEOPOLDVILLE SATURDAY, AND THERE IS MORE OPTIMISM THERE NOW THAN BEFORE THAT THE TALKS WITH TSHOMBE WILL BE RESUMED

50X1

[REDACTED]

THE UN REPRESENTATIVE IN LEOPOLDVILLE HAS THE IMPRESSION THAT TSHOMBE MAY BE THINKING OF THROWING HIMSELF "ACTIVELY AND PERSONALLY" INTO LEOPOLDVILLE AND CONGO POLITICS.

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

4. SYRIAN MOVE TO LEFT CONTINUES:

IN A BROAD POLICY STATEMENT ON SATURDAY, PREMIER AZMAH CONFIRMED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK TO ACCOMODATE THE SOCIALIST AND PAN-ARAB PRESSURES WHICH BROUGHT HIM INTO OFFICE. HIS POLICY OUTLINE CALLS FOR THE RENATIONALIZATION OF THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST INDUSTRIAL OPERATION AND THE REIN-STATEMENT OF THE AGRARIAN REFORMS BEGUN UNDER NASIR BUT CANCELLED AFTER THE SPLIT WITH CAIRO.

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

5. NOTES:

A. THE KING OF NEPAL, WHO ENDS HIS 5-DAY INDIAN VISIT TODAY, HAS OBTAINED SOME SATISFACTION FROM NEW DELHI ON A MAJOR SORE POINT: THE ACTIVITY OF THE EXILES WHO HAVE BEEN

[REDACTED]

50X1

OPERATING AGAINST HIS GOVERNMENT FROM INDIA. IN RETURN FOR THEIR PROMISE TO KEEP A TIGHTER REIN ON THE EXILES, THE INDIANS ARE LOOKING FOR SOME FALLING OFF IN NEPAL'S FLIRTATIONS WITH COMMUNIST CHINA.

B. THE KARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT IS BEING CREDITED WITH A GOOD PERFORMANCE IN ITS HANDLING OF THE FRIDAY DEMONSTRATION IN ATHENS, WHICH WAS LARGE AND NOISY BUT PRODUCED NO SERIOUS INJURIES. HOWEVER, THE OPPOSITION IS HEARTENED BY THE TURNOUT AND INTENDS TO PROMOTE MORE DEMONSTRATIONS, IN THE HOPE OF FORCING NEW ELECTIONS.

C. THE SIGNS IN BELGRADE ARE THAT THE GROMYKO VISIT DID NOT HAVE ANY TANGIBLE RESULTS BUT DID CONTINUE THE TREND TOWARD A GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS.

D. THERE WAS MORE MIGRATION INTO THAN OUT OF WEST BERLIN LAST MONTH, JUST AS THERE WAS IN FEBRUARY, WHEN THE MOVEMENT WHICH BEGAN WHEN THE WALL WENT UP WAS FIRST CHECKED. HOWEVER, THE CITY'S POPULATION IS STILL DECREASING (BY ABOUT 4,000 IN JANUARY), BECAUSE OF THE EXCESS OF DEATHS OVER BIRTHS. MOREOVER, THE WORK FORCE WILL PROBABLY SHOW A THREE PERCENT DROP IN 1962 UNLESS ENOUGH WORKERS CAN BE BROUGHT IN--ABOUT 15,000--TO OFFSET RETIREMENTS AND DEATHS.

E. THE SUPREME SOVIET MEETING HAS OPENED IN MOSCOW. A PRE-TEST SPEECH BY KHRUSHCHEV IS EXPECTED, BUT ITS SCHEDULING HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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