

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

16 JULY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

50X1

1. Indonesia - West
New Guinea

The Van Roijen-Malik talks are making considerable progress, but could reach a serious snag if Malik does not get his government's permission to drop the demand that the Dutch agree to a direct transfer of administration. Meanwhile, Indonesian preparations for military action continue at a pace giving rise to suspicions that Sukarno is not placing all his eggs in the Bunker basket.

2. Algeria

a. It is too early to say how current efforts to bring about a reconciliation between the quarrel-
ling factions will turn out. However, the latest utterances out of Ben Bella's camp, such as the one ad-
vocating that the Evian accords be
scrapped, do not augur well for an
early compromise. [redacted] 50X1

b. Two Soviet diplomats have shown up in Algiers, but, like almost everyone else, have made no move to take sides in the local power struggle.

c. Tempers are said to be rising in Rabat due to reports that Algerian troops [redacted]

[redacted] have occupied territory heretofore considered no-man's land and, in one case, to have penetrated an area which is clearly Moroccan. 50X1
50X1

3. Laos

a. If Phoumi is suffering from a bad case of despondency, as the Thais say he is, he gave no hint of it in his first contact with Ambassador Unger on Saturday. He seemed, on the contrary, eager to press on with a program to mobilize all non-Communist Laotians for the political battle with the Pathet Lao which lies ahead.

b. Meanwhile, the plan for posting composite battalions (composed of one company from each of the factions) in Vientiane, Luang Prabang and Khang Khay has hit a snag as the Pathet Lao is holding up clearance for Phoumi's troops to enter the Plaine des Jarres.

c. In Geneva, the conference is tentatively scheduled to meet on Wednesday for an editorial clean-up session. Gromyko, both Pushkin and Zorin tell us, will be arriving later this week to be on hand for the wrap-up proceedings.

4. Nationalist China

Taipei's propaganda about launching a "counter-attack" appears to have undergone something of a metamorphosis in recent weeks. There has been an upsurge of commentary on the bad conditions prevailing in Communist China and disparagement of the Soviet military commitment to Peiping, virtually displacing the old theme that a Nationalist attack is prerequisite to a successful popular uprising on the mainland. Nationalist officials are now emphasizing the need for military, economic, and political measures to permit an appropriate response when the right moment comes.

5. Peru

The political situation moved ponderously toward a climax over the weekend. On Friday, the military served President Prado with an ultimatum demanding annulment of last month's elections, but they seem to have been temporarily thrown off balance when he put the ball back in their court by refusing to go along. However, prospects for a military take-over rose again last night when negotiations to promote an Aprista-Odriista agreement to support Odria for the presidency broke down.

6. Brazil

The parliamentary endorsement of Brochado da Rocha's cabinet on Friday was an untidy affair with more than half of the deputies opposing or abstaining. Aside from his legislative relations problems, it looks as though it may be some time before the new Prime Minister can weld his cabinet--a generally unproven group, some of whom have not yet made a final commitment to serve--into an effective team. Meanwhile, a decision setting the date for a national plebescite aimed at strengthening the presidency is expected to be handed down by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal later this week.

NOTES

- A. Uruguay, which has had its headaches dealing with the large number of asylees camping on its embassy in Havana, is reportedly on the verge of breaking relations with Cuba.
- B. Soviet farm managers, already hard-pressed to meet demands for increased production, were dealt another blow last week when the Kremlin decreed a drastic cut-back on the number of industrial workers that will be released this year to help with the harvest. 50X1

C.

- D. Six Soviet TU-16 jet medium bombers were delivered in Cairo today thereby raising the UAR's inventory of this type of aircraft to twenty. 50X1

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E.

F.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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I. Harriman-Pushkin conversation.

II.

III.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE