

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

27 JULY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. West New Guinea

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a. There is not much time left to reach a peaceful settlement. [redacted]

[redacted] a military move is virtually certain if Subandrio comes home without Dutch agreement to turn over West New Guinea by the end of the year. Ambassador Jones believes the Indonesians are, in fact, wound-up and ready to cut loose with a Sunday punch within a matter of days once they conclude they are not likely to get their way at the conference table.

b. Dutch intentions may be clarified tomorrow when the government briefs the parliamentary committees on defense and foreign affairs on the West New Guinea situation.

2. South Vietnam

By putting various bits and pieces of evidence together, we have been able to come up with a picture showing the Viet Cong military machine in the process of raising its field formations from the battalion level to the regimental. The process so far does not appear to have gone beyond the formation of staffs and the tightening of operational coordination over independent battalions. However, the pattern we now see is the same as that which preceded the formation of regimental-size units in the Viet Minh Army during the Indochina War. [redacted]

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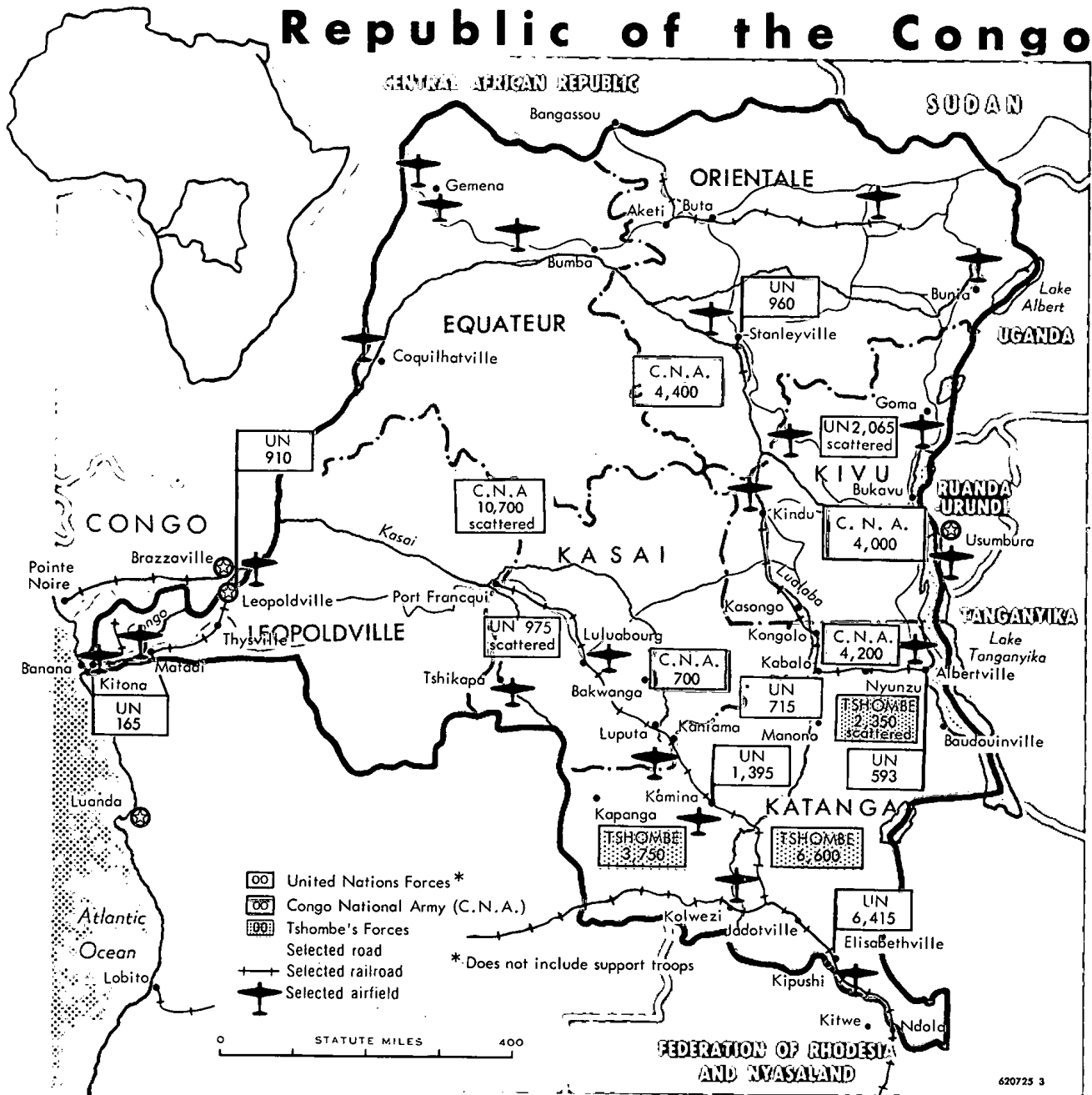
3. Communist China

a. The high level of communications between military headquarters in Peiping and the Sinkiang Military Region to the west, regarded as unusual when first detected earlier this month, now seems to be the normal routine. It is pretty certain that this activity is related to the shadow-boxing with the Indians in Ladakh, but so far still falls short of indicating an intention to escalate the struggle. 50X1

b. In the Taiwan Strait area, the Fukien coast was hit this week by the year's first typhoon. Arriving well ahead of schedule, it nonetheless ushered in a period lasting until mid-September, during which the weather will discourage the launching of major amphibious military operations.

4. EEC Developments

Austria and Sweden, who want to be in the Common Market but are unwilling to accept the supranational controls that go with full membership, plead their case today to become associate members. They have been promised a full hearing, but their papers will languish in the pending file until Britain's membership in the organization is resolved. The current round of talks in Brussels on this issue took an important step forward yesterday when the British agreed to use as a basis for negotiations the EEC draft on the issue of Commonwealth exports of temperate zone agricultural products.



5. Congo

Adoula's government, feeling badly in need of a morale booster, may be getting ready for a desperation move against Katanga in hopes of providing some sort of "victory." Leopoldville in recent days has been beefing up its forces around Kabolo in north Katanga. Tshombé's forces in this area are outnumbered, but we are still not sure that the Congolese have either the starch or the skill to carry off a successful operation. 50X1

NOTES

A. Portugal has recognized the Peruvian junta; Argentina plans to do the same next week, and Uruguay apparently is headed in the same direction.

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B.
 some Viet Minh troops in northern Laos have started moving in the direction of the North Vietnam border.

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