

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

7 SEPTEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Argentina

a. Civilian and military cabinet members have agreed to name a "Chief of Cabinet" in the next few days. According to the plan, a military man will take this post and will run the government by decree. President Guido will merely countersign.

b. A first step in the new scheme was taken last night when congress was dissolved. New elections for president, congress, and provincial posts, were set for October next year.

c. The thought is that this arrangement will forestall those who are pushing for a full military takeover, but Ambassador McClintock suggests that it may further whet appetites hungering for full military control.

2. Laos

a. Vientiane announced this morning the establishment of formal relations with Peiping and Hanoi.

b. Peiping appears to be pressing ahead without its usual concern for the "two Chinas" question, perhaps hoping that the Chinese Nationalists will withdraw from the scene. At present the Nationalists seem disposed to do just that.

USIB WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--6 September 1962

No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

The 30 August Soviet threat to US access to West Berlin is part of a Soviet effort to equate Western and Soviet access rights to West Berlin and is a further step toward creating de facto the conditions which a peace treaty with East Germany would formalize. We have not, however, noted any indications that the Soviets are preparing for hostilities over Berlin in the immediate future.

Evidence of increased Soviet activities in Cuba includes the construction of SAM sites and the recent delivery of additional land armaments and boats equipped with short-range missiles. These activities represent a significant Soviet effort to improve Cuban military capabilities, primarily defensive, and reflect a Soviet willingness to become more deeply involved in support of the Castro regime.

NOTES

- A. USSR The latest word we have regarding Khrushchev's rumored attendance at the UN this month is that he told U Thant he had no intention of attending the opening sessions but might come later if his presence seemed warranted.
- B. USSR A debate in the Soviet Union over civil defense policy evidently has ended with a decision to forego construction of deep-level bomb shelters. Emphasis is instead placed on urban evacuation, improving existing shelters, constructing homemade fallout shelters and adapting caves, underpasses, interior rooms and cellars.
- C. Cuba

Soviets have provided Cuba with "rockets of the same kind that shot down the U-2" and that preparations have been made for the "complete destruction" of the US Naval Base at Guantánamo in the event of a US attack on Cuba.
- D. Congo The only constructive effort toward stability is still being made by the UN team while Tshombé and Adoula continue to bicker, fret, and drag their feet.

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE