

THE WHITE HOUSE

OUTGOING MESSAGE



WHASA

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE
PRECEDENCE

[Redacted Classification Box]

18 Sept 50X1
DATE

FROM:

TO: **CAPT. SHEPHERD EYES ONLY FOR THE PRESIDENT**

INFO:

CITE: _____

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--18 SEPTEMBER 1962

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--18 SEPTEMBER 1962

1. CUBA:

A. WE HAVE SPOTTED TWO MORE SOVIET PASSENGER VESSELS EN ROUTE TO CUBA. THEIR ARRIVAL WILL RAISE OUR ESTIMATE OF TECHNICIANS ON THE SCENE TO ABOUT 4,200. [REDACTED]

50X1

B. WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE SOME TENUOUS EVIDENCE FORESHADOWING THE APPEARANCE OF SAM SITES IN CAMAGUEY PROVINCE.

C. [REDACTED] SCATTERED BANDS OF INSURGENTS ARE STILL CAUSING ENOUGH TROUBLE IN THE MOUNTAINS OF SOUTH CENTRAL CUBA TO START THE ARMY CRANKING UP FOR ANOTHER DRIVE TO CLEAN UP THE AREA. [REDACTED]

50X1

50X1

2. LAOS:

A. [REDACTED] HANOI RETAINS CONTACT WITH ONLY FOUR MAJOR RADIO STATIONS.

B. WE VIEW THIS TREND AS INDICATING SOME REDUCTIONS OF NORTH VIETNAMESE FORCES AND REGROUPING OF THE REST IN FOUR BASE AREAS. THESE ARE NAM THA AND SAM NEUA IN THE NORTH, KHANG KHAY IN THE CENTER, AND TCHEPONE IN THE SOUTH. [REDACTED]

50X1

C. SOUPHANNOUVONG YESTERDAY TOOK OFF FOR PEIPING, AND POSSIBLY MOSCOW, [REDACTED]

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(Cont'd)
50X1

D. THE WEST GERMAN IDEA OF ECONOMIC AID TO LAOS SETS AN EASY MARK FOR EAST GERMANY TO IMPROVE ON AND THEREBY PERHAPS GO ONE-UP IN THE STRUGGLE FOR DIPLOMATIC FAVOR IN VIENTIANE

50X1

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E. IN SAIGON YESTERDAY, DIEM GAVE AMBASSADOR NOLTING THE IMPRESSION THAT THE DECISION TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH LAOS THE MOMENT VIENTIANE ACCEPTS AN AMBASSADOR FROM HANOI IS IRREVOCABLE.

50X1

3. TAIWAN - HONG KONG - MACAO:

4. USSR - COMMUNIST CHINA:

A. THE CHINESE, FURIOUS OVER THE NOTABLE IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS AND YUGOSLAV ASSOCIATION WITH THE COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, THE BLOC ECONOMIC COORDINATING BODY, HAVE REOPENED THEIR POLEMICAL BATTLE WITH THE SOVIETS.

B. APPARENTLY THE LAST STRAW WAS A RECENT KHRUSHCHEV PRONOUNCEMENT HINTING THAT THE/ MIGHT ULTIMATELY DO MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS BUSINESS WITH THE COMMON MARKET.

(C50X1d)

C. A CHINESE STATEMENT YESTERDAY WAS FULL OF BITTER INVECTIVE, OSTENSIBLY AIMED AT THE YUGOSLAVS BUT ACTUALLY AT KHRUSHCHEV, SIMILAR TO THAT WE SAW AT THE HEIGHT OF THE SINO-SOVIET CONTROVERSY.

D. PRESSURE IS ALREADY BUILDING UP IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD FOR ANOTHER WORLD CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES AIMED AT BRINGING IN THE DIRTY LINEN. BOTH PARTIES SEEM TO BE MANEUVERING WITH THIS IN MIND.

5. NOTES:

A. IN SYRIA, PREMIER KHALID AL-AZM YESTERDAY SUCCEEDED IN PULLING TOGETHER A CABINET AFTER NEARLY A WEEK OF HARD BARGAINING. HE IS LIKELY TO HAVE A HARD TIME KEEPING THINGS ON AN EVEN KEEL, HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE WIDE DISPARITY IN THE POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

B. [REDACTED] A COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS WILL BE CONVENED IN LATE NOVEMBER TO HEAR ULBRICHT REPORT ON HIS RECENT CONSULTATIONS WITH KHRUSHCHEV. 50X1

C. SOVIET DIPLOMATS IN PARIS, AMIABLY EXPLAINING THAT THE RUPTURE IN FRANCO-SOVIET COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS LAST JUNE WAS DUE TO A REGRETTABLE MISUNDERSTANDING (THE RUSSIANS WALKED OUT WHEN PARIS REFUSED TO GRANT THEM THE SAME TARIFF PRIVILEGES ACCORDED ITS COMMON MARKET PARTNERS), SEEM JUST ABOUT TO HAVE TALKED THE FRENCH INTO RETURNING TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

(Cont'd)

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[REDACTED]

D. NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER SHAHA TOLD OUR AMBASSADOR YESTERDAY THAT PRESS STORIES INTIMATING NEPAL WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN SPONSORING THIS YEAR'S DRIVE TO GET COMMUNIST CHINA INTO THE UN ARE UNFOUNDED. HE WOBBLED, HOWEVER, ON WHAT HIS REACTION WOULD BE IF THE SOVIETS ASKED HIM TO DO THE JOB.

E.

[REDACTED]

50X1

THE SOVIET NAVY HAS SETTLED ON A PROGRAM OF CONVERTING W-CLASS SUBMARINES TO CARRY CRUISE MISSILES. THE "W's" ARE CONVENTIONAL, MEDIUM RANGE BOATS, BUILT IN THE EARLY '50s

[REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~