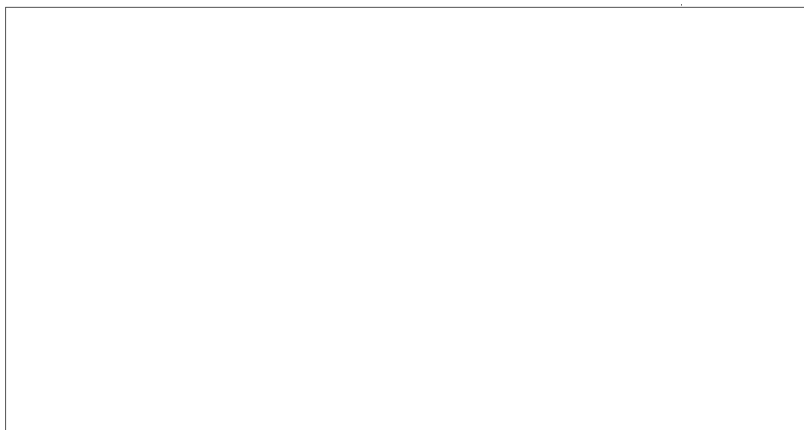


THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

10 OCTOBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. East Germany



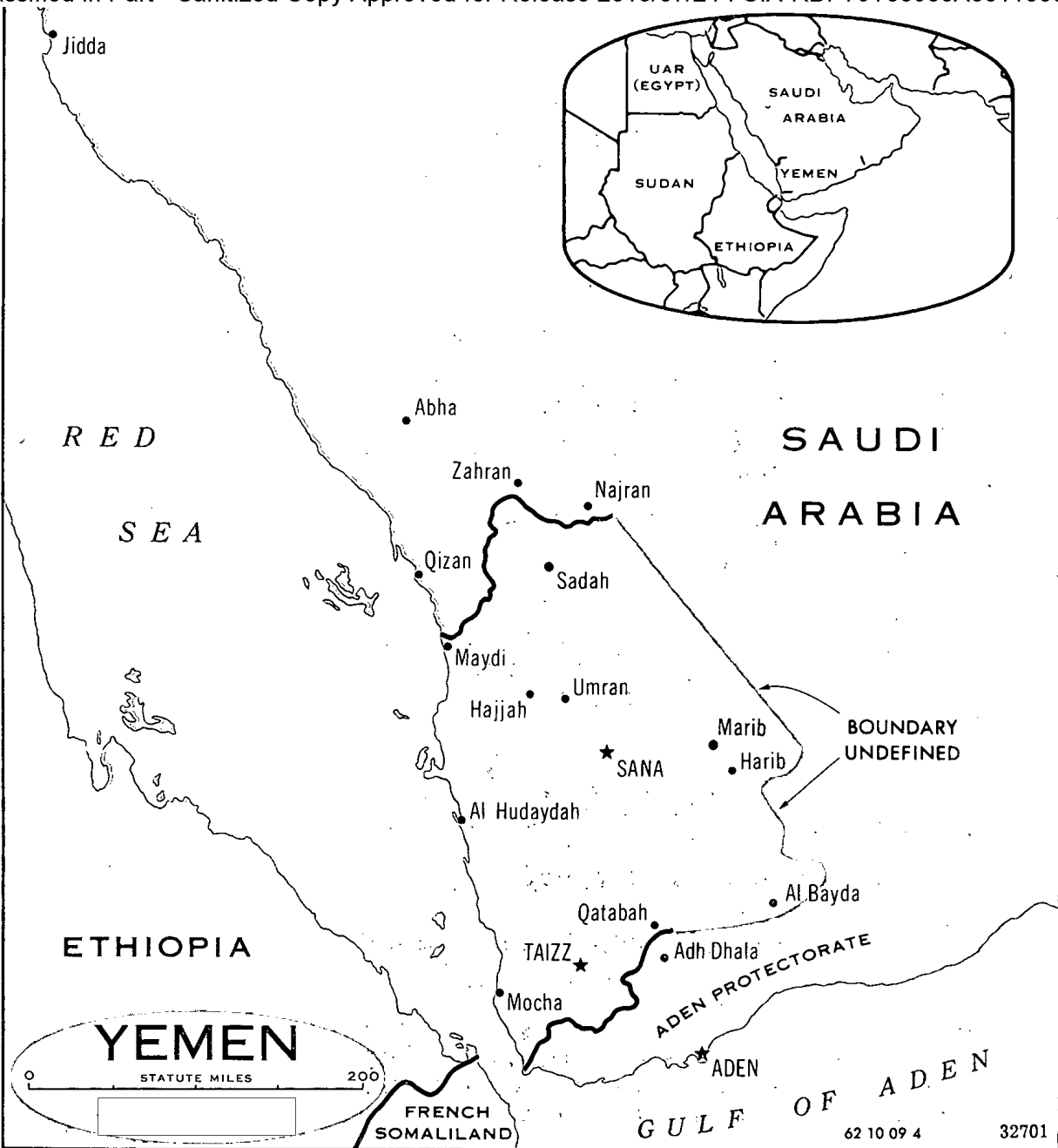
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b. We are [redacted] puzzling over the sudden arrival in East Germany of one P. N. Demichev, a protege of Khrushchev who was recently elevated to the Soviet Party Secretariat. Demichev is to do some unexplained party "work" in at least one of the East German districts.

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c. In recent years, direct interference by the Soviet party in subordinate echelons of satellite parties has been unheard of. It would be nice to think that Demichev's mission is to arrange a grass-roots movement for the removal of Ulbricht at the East German Party Congress in January, but we would need much more evidence to draw such a conclusion.

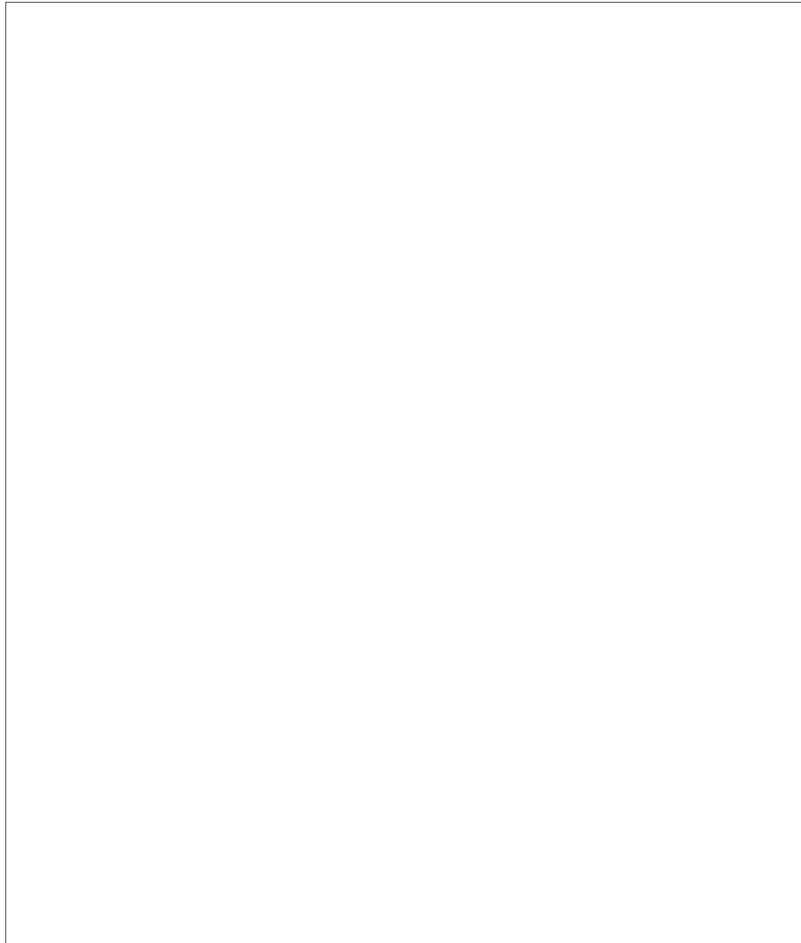
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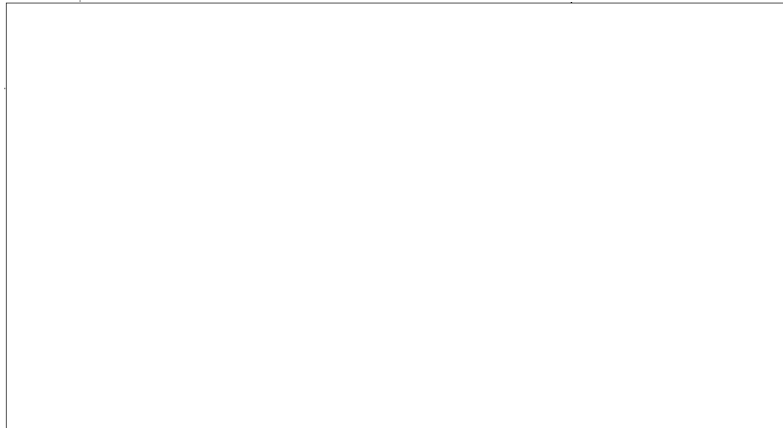
2. Yemen


a. Hasan's counteroffensive in the north and east seems to be picking up steam. His men have knocked over at least one army post and have surrounded Sadah, a key road junction. These developments, however, do not seem to have upset Sana.

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h. Pravda this morning came out with an editorial charging that "interference" by the US, UK, Jordan and Saudi Arabia in Yemen's internal affairs is "alarming world opinion." Such interference, Moscow asserts, is "impermissible" but the Soviets do not say what they intend to do about it. 

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3. Laos

a. With the deadline for the withdrawal of foreign forces come and gone, the ICC is discussing what to tell the Geneva co-chairmen about how the withdrawal went.

b. Meanwhile, the Commission's powers to investigate violations of the Geneva agreements may soon be put to the test. Hanoi yesterday officially notified the Laotian government that all its military personnel have been withdrawn. This is not true; [redacted] North Vietnamese forces were still on the premises as of Monday, and showing no signs of packing their bags.

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c. We note, moreover, that Moscow has joined the chorus asserting that US military types are being retained in Laos under civilian cover. This makes it pretty plain that the Communists' game is to play tit-for-tat when it comes to lodging complaints with the ICC.

d. Meanwhile, we are seeing more evidence of bad blood between neutralist and Pathet Lao field forces.

e. The South Koreans have indicated that they will withdraw their diplomatic missions in Vientiane if Laos recognizes North Korea. [redacted]

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4. France

a. The betting in Paris is that De Gaulle will probably have it pretty much his own way in this month's referendum calling for the direct election of the French president.

b. However, getting friendly candidates elected to the National Assembly next month may be more difficult. What it seems to boil down to is whether De Gaulle personally takes to the stump, something he has never before condescended to do.

5. Scandinavia

a. Sweden, Denmark and Norway have sketched out a plan for the establishment of a Permanent Scandinavian UN Force.

b. The main feature of the scene is to bring into being a standing body of about 3,000 men (roughly 50 percent Swedish, 30 percent Danish, and 20 percent Norwegian) that would be ready for duty with the UN on six days notice. The Scandinavians would foot the maintenance bill while the force is on standby, the UN when it is on duty under the UN flag.

c. As matters now stand, the plan has the preliminary blessing of the three defense ministers. The next step is to take soundings at the UN before proceeding to button up details.

NOTES

A. USSR The deployment of Soviet support vessels suggests that Moscow has scheduled both space events and a new series of ICBM launchings into the Pacific for sometime between mid-October and mid-November. [redacted]

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B. Cuba-Cambodia Cambodia has agreed to establish diplomatic relations with Havana and has proposed an exchange of chargés d'affaires to get things started. [redacted]

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C. South Vietnam [redacted] local security investigators have got the goods on several prominent people in the government, including cabinet members, for exploiting the national lottery to their own financial advantage. The scandal has not broken yet [redacted]

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D. Communist China - Mongolia Following on the heels of indications that Peiping is tightening security on its side of the Sino-Soviet border are fragmentary reports of friction along the Sino-Mongolian border. This border, never demarcated, has long been a bone of contention between Chinese and Mongolians.

E. Venezuela [redacted] in Caracas [redacted] the military have turned the heat way up on Betancourt to crack down harder on the left. Talk of a military junta is becoming more audible.

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