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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--26 DECEMBER 1962

1. CUBA:

A. PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR THE MILITARY SHOW ON 2 JANUARY.

B. A BIG POPULAR TURNOUT IS BEING CALLED FOR. WE LOOK ALSO FOR A MAJOR ADDRESS BY CASTRO--POSSIBLY THE POLICY PRONOUNCEMENT WE HAVE FELT WAS IN THE WIND.

C. WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS SAY "HUNDREDS" OF RUSSIANS YESTERDAY WERE BOARDING A SOVIET PASSENGER SHIP DOCKED NEAR THE AFRICAN PILOT.

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E. PHOTOGRAPHY OF SATURDAY SHOWED NO SIGNS OF FURTHER DISMANTLING AT THE MAJOR SOVIET MILITARY INSTALLATIONS. THE ARRAY OF VEHICLES REMAINED AT THE FOUR ARMORED ENCAMPMENTS, WITH BARRACKS CONSTRUCTION CONTINUING AT ONE OF THEM.

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G. THE SOVIETS GOT OFF THEIR FIRST NON-STOP TRANSPORT FLIGHT TO CUBA ON SATURDAY; THE AIRCRAFT--A TU-114 TURBOPROP-- IS DUE TO RETURN TODAY. TWICE-WEEKLY SERVICE IS SCHEDULED.

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2. CONGO:

A. ADOULA INTENDS TO ISSUE A DECREE TODAY RECESSING PARLIAMENT--"ON VACATION"--UNTIL MARCH.

B. WORD OF THIS, HOWEVER, LEAKED ON MONDAY--A CONGOLESE BOBBLE.

C. ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITION HAS THUS BEEN FOREWARNED, AMBASSADOR GULLION THOUGHT YESTERDAY THAT ADOULA MIGHT "LUCK IT THROUGH." ADOULA IS PLAYING IT CAUTIOUSLY AND HAS DROPPED PLANS TO ARREST 19 DEPUTIES. SINCE SUNDAY NIGHT CONGOLESE ARMY TROOPS IN THE LEOPOLDVILLE AREA HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO SUPPORT HIM.

D. TSHOMBE CONTINUES TO BALK AT PERMITTING KATANGAN OR UNION MINIERE OFFICIALS TO GO TO LEOPOLDVILLE TO DISCUSS THE PAYMENT PROBLEM.

E. ELISABETHVILLE IS QUIET, BUT EDGY, AFTER MONDAY'S FRACAS. UN OFFICIALS HAVE WARNED TSHOMBE THAT THIS WAS THE LAST ONE THEY WOULD PROTEST OR NEGOTIATE. IN ADDITION, BUNCHE MAY BE TRYING TO INDUCE U THANT TO STEP UP THE TIMETABLE FOR REMOVING KATANGAN ROADBLOCKS.

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F. THE KATANGANS ARE BRACING AGAINST THIS. THEY HAVE PLANTED OIL DRUMS LOADED WITH DYNAMITE BESIDE AT LEAST ONE ROAD UN VEHICULAR PATROLS WOULD PROBE.

[Redacted]

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H. IN MOSCOW THE SOVIETS NOW CLAIM THEY ARE INNOCENT OF ANY NEW MOVES TOWARD THE CONGO.

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[Redacted]

I. THE FRENCH CONSUL GENERAL IN ELISABETHVILLE SWEARS HE WAS MISQUOTED AND THAT HE DIDN'T CRITICIZE "BY NAME" THE US OR UN DURING LAST THURSDAY'S DEMONSTRATIONS. US CONSUL DEAN, HOWEVER, NOTES THAT HE HAS A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE IN ELISABETHVILLE, DISSIPATING THE EFFECT OF PRESSURES BROUGHT BY OTHERS ON THE KATANGANS.

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3. INDIA-PAKISTAN:

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A. WE HAVE SEEN LITTLE SO FAR TO INDICATE THAT EITHER NATION INTENDS TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN TABLING SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS AT THE TALKS STARTING THURSDAY IN RAWALPINDI.

B. THE PAKISTANIS ARE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT INDIAN INTENTIONS, BUT TAKE SOME HEART FROM THE SIZE OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION-- FIFTY PERSONS--WHICH THEY THINK MAY MEAN THE INDIANS ARE SERIOUS.

C. THE PAKISTANIS CLAIM THEY WILL BE FLEXIBLE.

D. THE ONLY WORD WE HAVE ON INDIAN PLANNING IS THAT ON SATURDAY AT LEAST THEY HAD DECIDED ON A "FINAL COMPROMISE POSITION"--A PARTITION OF KASHMIR ALONG THE PRESENT CEASE-FIRE LINE WITH SOME ADJUSTMENTS FAVORING PAKISTAN.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

4. USSR:

A. THE SOVIETS, WHOSE ARCTIC "EXERCISES" WERE TO END
CHRISTMAS DAY, RAN [Redacted] NUCLEAR TESTS OVER NOVAYA
ZEMLYA [Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Block]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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5. NOTES:

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B. HUNGARY: A YUGOSLAV DIPLOMAT IN BUDAPEST CLAIMS KADAR TOLD TITO--WHO PASSED THROUGH BUDAPEST FRIDAY--THAT THE "REMAINING FIVE PERCENT" OF THOSE JAILED AFTER THE 1956 REVOLT WOULD BE RELEASED SOMETIME SOON AND THAT CARDINAL MINDSZENTY WOULD BE FREE TO GO OR STAY "AS LONG AS HE DID NOT HEAD THE CHURCH" IN HUNGARY.

C. JAPAN: TOP LEADERS NOW WORKING ON THE 1963 BUDGET EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN MILITARY SPENDING. THEY HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR REISCHAUER FOR IDEAS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS ON DEFENSE "DANGERS AND NEEDS" AND ON AN EXPANDED JAPANESE EFFORT. REISCHAUER BELIEVES THE JAPANESE ARE THINKING BOTH OF ASSUMING A LARGER SHARE OF US COSTS IN JAPAN AND OF EXPANDING JAPANESE WEAPONRY.

D. LAOS: THE SQUEEZE ON AIR AMERICA'S USE OF AIRPORT FACILITIES HAS BEEN EASED FOR THE TIME BEING FOLLOWING TALKS BETWEEN US ATTACHES AND THE LAO AIRPORT COMMANDER. ITS ROOTS APPARENTLY LAY IN CONFUSION COMBINED WITH ORIENTAL PRIDE, INJURED OVER A MINOR INCIDENT.

E. BRAZIL: THE USSR-BRAZIL TRADE AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENT, WHICH EXPIRES WITH THE OLD YEAR, MAY GET IN UNDER THE LINE. THE SOVIET DELEGATION WHICH THE BRAZILIANS HAD BEEN WORRYING ABOUT LEAVES FOR RIO TOMORROW.

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET