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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--19 MARCH 1963

1. CUBAN RAID:

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CLAIMING CREDIT FOR

A. ALPHA 66 IS ~~HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY AT WHICH IT PROMISES TO GIVE DETAILS ON MONDAY NIGHT'S RAID ON ISABELA DE SAGUA ON THE NORTH CENTRAL COAST, FOR WHICH IT CLAIMS CREDIT.~~ ITS CLAIMS HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN RELIABLE IN THE PAST.

B.

[REDACTED]
THE RAID WAS CARRIED OUT AT MIDNIGHT AND [REDACTED] A SOVIET SHIP DOCKED AT THE PORT (PROBABLY THE CARGO SHIP L'GOV WHICH ENTERED ISABELA DE SAGUA ON THE EVENING OF 17 MARCH) WAS HIT THREE TIMES ON THE BRIDGE, BUT WAS OTHERWISE UNDAMAGED.

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C.

[REDACTED] THE RAIDING PARTY STARTED FIRING FROM ONE MILE OUT, FIRING "TWO OR THREE EXPLOSIVE 20 MM SHOTS" AND "SIXTY TO SEVENTY 50-CALIBRE MACHINE GUN BULLETS."

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[REDACTED] NO CASUALTIES, ALTHOUGH RADIO HAVANA YESTERDAY SAID SEVERAL WOUNDED RUSSIAN SAILORS WERE TAKEN TO A HOSPITAL AT SAGUA LA GRANDE.

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D.

[REDACTED]

50X1

50X1

[REDACTED]

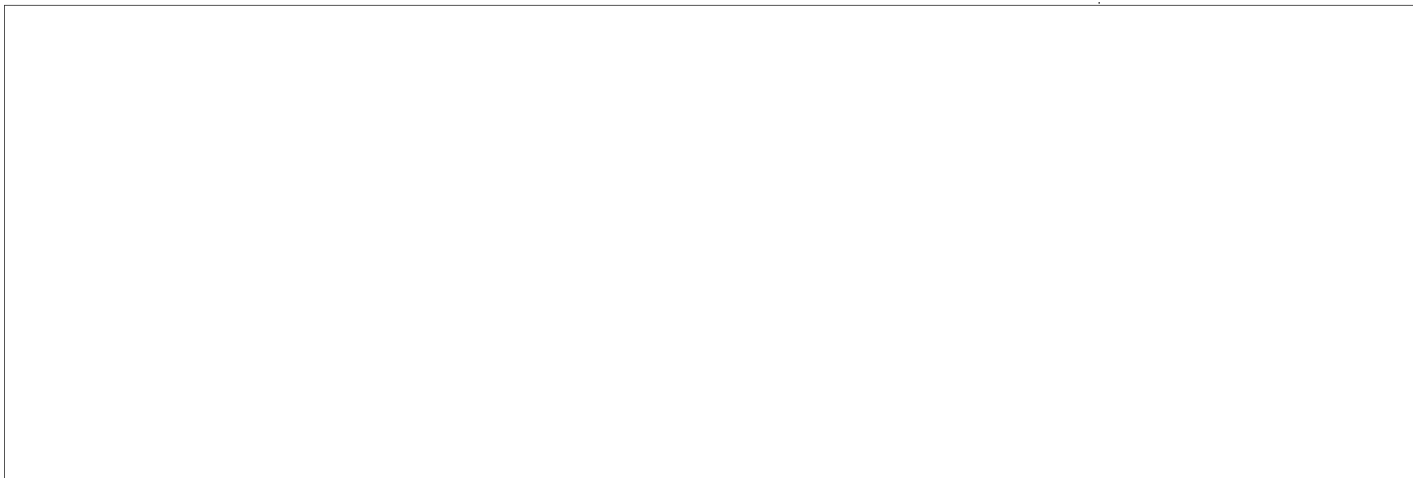
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[REDACTED]

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2. CUBA - SOVIET FORCES:

A.



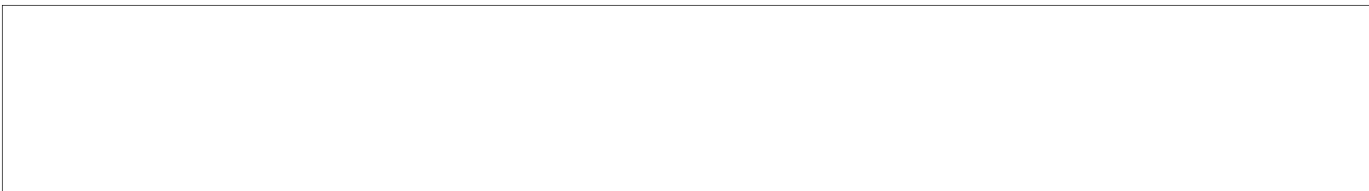
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PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AT THE SOVIET ENCAMPMENTS.

B. THERE WAS HEAVY CLOUD COVER ON BOTH DAYS OVER ALL CAMPS EXCEPT REMEDIOS, WHERE NO CHANGE WAS NOTED.

3. BOLIVIAN PLANE CRASH:

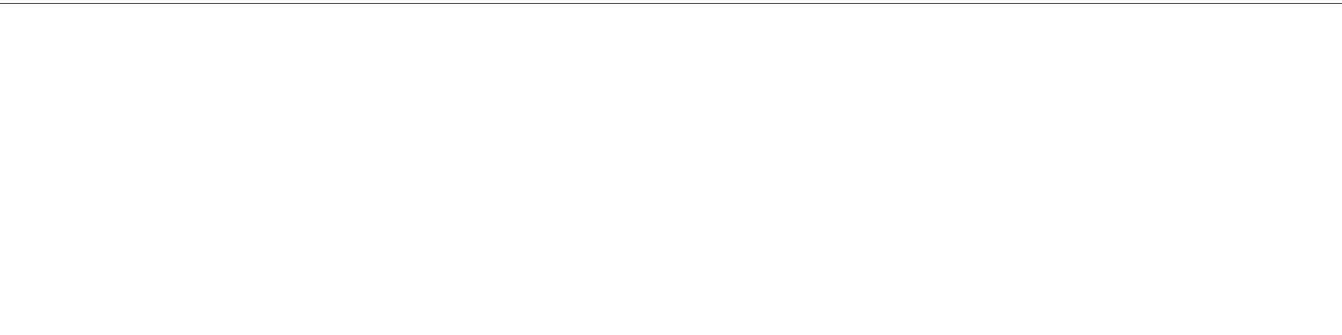
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B. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT ONE OF THE CUBANS ABOARD WAS JUAN MOLEN, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF CUBAN EMBASSIES.



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[REDACTED]

4. SOUTH KOREA:

A. THE PAK REGIME MAY BE IN REAL TROUBLE.

B. PAK WAS CLOSETED LAST NIGHT WITH A NUMBER OF OPPOSITION CIVILIAN POLITICIANS WHOSE OPEN DEFIANCE OF HIS BAN ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY HAS BROUGHT THE COUNTRY TO THE BRINK OF WIDESPREAD DISORDERS.

C. TEMPORIZING TO PRESERVE ORDER, PAK AGREED TO WITHDRAW "FOR TWELVE DAYS" HIS PROPOSAL TO HOLD A PLEBESCITE ON EXTENDING MILITARY RULE. THIS PROPOSAL, MADE ON SATURDAY, HAD SPARKED POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS ALMOST AS SOON AS IT WAS ANNOUNCED.

5. YEMEN-USSR:

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A. [REDACTED] YEMEN [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] TO SEEK A LARGE AMOUNT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

50X1

B. [REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED] A BASIC RE-EQUIPMENT EFFORT FOR THE YEMENI ARMY.

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C. THE USSR HAS THUS FAR PROVIDED YEMEN WITH [REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

LIGHT TANKS AND SOME ROCKET LAUNCHERS [REDACTED] HELICOPTERS AND [REDACTED]

50X1

TRAINER AIRCRAFT [REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

50X1

6. USSR:

A.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAS BEEN DEMOTED AND FIRED. HE WAS A FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THE SAME SOURCE SAYS MARSHAL MOSKALENKO, CHIEF OF THE MAIN INSPECTORATE, HAS BEEN PROMOTED, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW TO WHAT JOB.

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B. WE CAN CONFIRM NEITHER STORY YET, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS THAT THE MILITARY WERE AGAIN TRYING TO GET AROUND STRICT PARTY CONTROL AND HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO ASSERT A STRONG VOICE IN POLICY MAKING.

7. SOMALIA-UK-BLOC:

A. WITH THE BREAK IN RELATIONS NOW OFFICIAL, BRITISH PERSONNEL ARE PULLING OUT OF SOMALIA. THEY HAVE ASKED US TO HANDLE AFFAIRS FOR THEM.

B. IN RESPONSE TO A SOMALI REQUEST FOR AID, THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS HAVE OFFERED WHATEVER MILITARY ASSISTANCE THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT DESIRED; MOSCOW WAS CAREFUL TO AVOID ANY SUCH OPEN COMMITMENT, SUGGESTING INSTEAD THAT TOP SOMALI OFFICIALS VISIT MOSCOW FOR TALKS; AND THE UAR HAS OFFERED TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF ARMS IT IS CURRENTLY SENDING TO THE SOMALI REPUBLIC.

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8. NOTES:

A. USSR-US: MOSCOW, IN RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE OF 25 FEBRUARY, IS INSTRUCTING AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON ON "QUESTIONS RELATING TO A GERMAN PEACE SETTLEMENT AND NORMALIZATION ON THIS BASIS OF THE SITUATION IN WEST BERLIN."

B. WEST GERMANY: ADENAUER'S GOVERNMENT WON A TEST OF STRENGTH IN THE BUNDESTAG YESTERDAY ON THE ISSUE OF PROHIBITING THE SALE OF LARGE-DIAMETER PIPE TO THE USSR. THE BAN REMAINS IN TACT.

C. COMMUNIST CHINA-USSR: TWO CHINESE COMMUNIST IL-18 AIRCRAFT, PREVIOUSLY USED FOR VIP FLIGHTS, DEPARTED PEIPING FOR MOSCOW ON A NON-SCHEDULED RUN SUNDAY. THE CHINESE HAVE OFFERED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO DISCUSS THE SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE, AND THIS COULD BE IT. IF SO, IT WOULD BE FAST ACTION.

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D. IRAQ: CHANGES CONTINUE TO BE MADE IN THE RANKS OF IRAQI OFFICIALDOM, AND AS THE PROCESS GOES ON, THOSE WITH US TRAINING ARE FARING VERY WELL. SIX MEMBERS OF THE CABINET HOLD DOCTORATES FROM US UNIVERSITIES AND MANY WITH US TRAINING ARE BEING APPOINTED AND PROMOTED TO FILL POSITIONS VACATED BY LEFTISTS AND QASIMITES.

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F. CUBAN EXILES: EUGENIO SOLER ALONSO, EX-CASTRO AMBASSADOR TO INDIA WHO IS NOW WORKING CLOSELY WITH BETANCOURT, TOLD OUR EMBASSY IN CARACAS OVER THE WEEKEND THAT HE IS TRYING TO CONVINCE BETANCOURT TO USE HIS INFLUENCE TO ESTABLISH A UNIFIED EXILE MOVEMENT. SOLER HAS NO THOUGHT THIS GROUP WOULD REPRESENT TOTALITY OF CUBAN EXILES, BUT WOULD REPRESENT MOST IMPORTANT SEGMENTS. HE FEELS THAT A GROUP CREATED IN CARACAS WITH TACIT APPROVAL FROM BETANCOURT WOULD ELIMINATE THE SHADOW NOW CAST ON THE MIAMI COUNCIL AS BEING US-MANAGED.

50X2

9. UAR-YEMEN:

A. NASIR HAS REJECTED THE IDEA OF A VISIT FROM BUNKER. HE CLAIMS TO FEAR UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY WHICH WOULD ATTEND HIS MEETING WITH BUNKER AT THIS TIME.

B. MARSHAL AMER, BACK IN CAIRO, SAYS HE HAS AGAIN ORDERED THAT ALL ATTACKS ON SAUDI SOIL CEASE. HE CLAIMS THAT ANY ATTACKS THAT HAVE OCCURRED RECENTLY HAVE BEEN IN DEFIANCE OF ORDERS.

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TOP SECRET

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