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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--11 MAY 1963

1. HAITI:

A. DUVALIER'S LEGAL TERM OF OFFICE EXPIRES ON 15 MAY. HE IS TAKING PRECAUTIONS AGAINST PLOTTING AGAINST HIM BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD WHICH MAY TAKE SHAPE AFTER THAT DATE.

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D. NEARLY ALL OUR OFFICIAL DEPENDENTS HAVE DEPARTED PORT-AU-PRINCE. THESE DEPARTURES APPEAR TO BE HAVING A PROFOUND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ON HAITIANS WHO TAKE IT AS A SIGN OF SERIOUS TROUBLE IN THE OFFING. THEY EXHIBIT NO ANTI-US FEELING, HOWEVER.

E. A VISIT TO THE HAITIAN SIDE OF THE BORDER HAS DISCLOSED NO TROOP REINFORCEMENT OR DEFENSIVE PREPARATION EVEN AT STRATEGIC POINTS.

2. LAOS:

A. SOUVANNA IS INSISTING ON A COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING DESPITE PATHET LAO REFUSAL TO ATTEND.

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3. INDONESIA:

A. RIOTING ERUPTED YESTERDAY IN BANDUNG AND THREE OTHER IMPORTANT CENTERS IN WEST AND CENTRAL JAVA. TROOPS ARE BEING CALLED OUT TO RESTORE ORDER.

B. WE HAVE ONLY FRAGMENTARY REPORTS REGARDING THE CAUSE OF THE RIOTING WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DIRECTED LARGELY AGAINST CHINESE MERCHANTS.

C. SPECULATING, WE COULD SAY THE DISORDERS MAY HAVE BEEN IN PROTEST AGAINST RISING PRICES AND THE CHINESE MERCHANTS WHO LARGELY CONTROL THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

D. THE COMMUNISTS MAY HAVE HAD A HAND, HOWEVER. WE BELIEVE THEY WERE BEHIND A LARGE BANDUNG STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN MARCH WHICH PROTESTED RISING PRICES.

4. CUBA:

A. CUBAN-URUGUAYAN RELATIONS HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL FOLLOWING AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES OVER THE SHOOTING INCIDENT AT THE URUGUAYAN EMBASSY IN MARCH. THE CUBANS BENT OVER BACKWARD TO REPAIR THE SITUATION.

B. THE SWISS, NOT DISGUIISING THEIR RELIEF, TELL US CASTRO'S PROPOSED TRIP TO THEIR COUNTRY IS OFF. THEIR INFORMATION IS THAT HE WILL RETURN DIRECTLY FROM MOSCOW TO CUBA, BUT THEY DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHEN.

5. UAR-US PRESS CONFERENCE:

A. CAIRO HAS SO FAR REACTED CAUTIOUSLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST.



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D. SYRIAN OFFICIAL REACTION TO THE STATEMENT HAS BEEN LAUDATORY AND THE STATEMENT IN FULL HAS BEEN WELL PUBLICIZED.

6. SYRIA:

A. A NEW PRIME MINISTER HAS BEEN APPOINTED IN SYRIA. SAMI AL JUNDI, DESCRIBED AS A SOCIALIST UNIONIST, WILL REPLACE SALAH BITAR, A CO-FOUNDER OF THE BAATHIST PARTY.

B. OUR FIRST GLANCE INTERPRETATION OF THIS CHANGE IS THAT IT IS A SOP TO THE PRO-NASIRITES WHO HAVE CRITICIZED THE GOVERNMENT FOR BEING OVERLOADED WITH BAATHISTS. WE DOUBT IT ALTERS THE POLITICAL SITUATION SIGNIFICANTLY.

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7. NOTES:

A. COLOMBIA: BOGOTA IS CALM. SUPPORT FOR THE ROJISTAS DWINDLED AND THE DEMONSTRATIONS FIZZLED YESTERDAY WHEN WELL PLANNED GOVERNMENT ACTION DENIED THE DEMONSTRATORS ACCESS TO THE CENTRAL PLAZA.

B. ALBANIA-YUGOSLAVIA: THE YUGOSLAV ARMY G-2 HAS TOLD US OF AN "UNCONFIRMED" REPORT OF A "SMALL INSURRECTION" IN ALBANIA. WE HAVE NOTHING TO SUPPORT THIS STORY. BECAUSE IT IS MOST UNUSUAL FOR THE YUGOSLAVS TO SHARE THIS SORT OF INFORMATION WITH US, WE SUSPECT THEY ARE COVERING UP SOMETHING THEY ARE DOING OR PLANNING TO DO THEMSELVES IN ALBANIA.

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