

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4 JUNE 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba

a. [redacted] long-time associate of Castro, Carlos Franqui--editor of the Havana daily Revolucion [redacted]

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[redacted] has grown disenchanted.

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[redacted]

b. [redacted]

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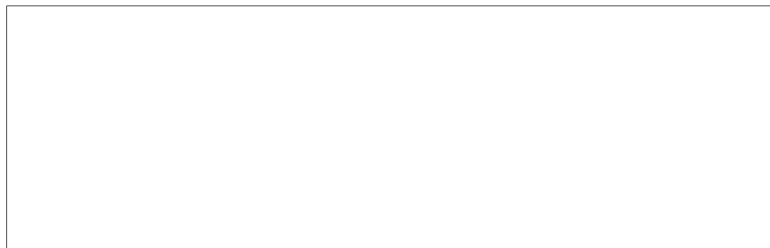
[redacted] There are indications that his paper's chief competitor, Hoy--still largely staffed by old-line Communists, may become the official organ for Cuba's new political machine, the United Party of the Socialist Revolution.

[redacted]

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2. Laos

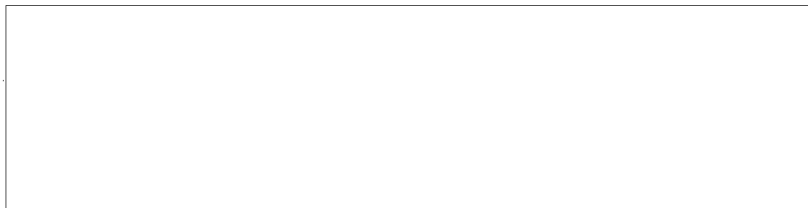
a. Souvanna has said he "accepts in principle" Souphannouvong's proposal for a meeting in the Plaine des Jarres, but is studying the conditions.



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c. Ambassador Unger is thinking of sending up the US Army Attache for a one-day visit.

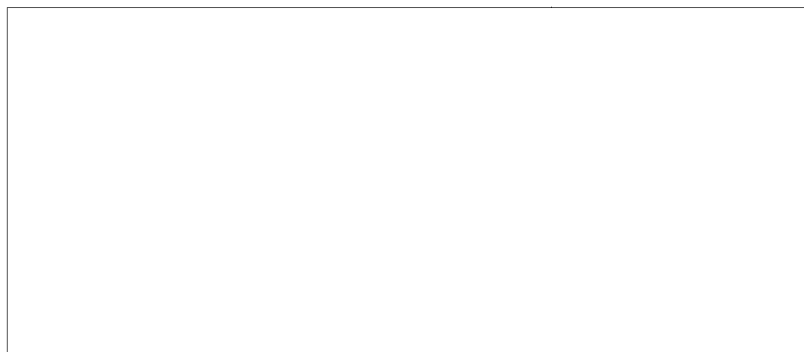
d. Souvanna says he has drafted but has not sent the letter Phoumi wants requesting a further buildup of Laotian army troops in the Plaine. He thinks his letter should await at least a visit there by the British and Soviet ambassadors, which may come off today.



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3. Congo

a. Leopoldville may be in a better position to put a crimp in Tshombe's activities when he returns from the Lunda tribal area where he is attending the funeral of his father-in-law.



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4. South Vietnam

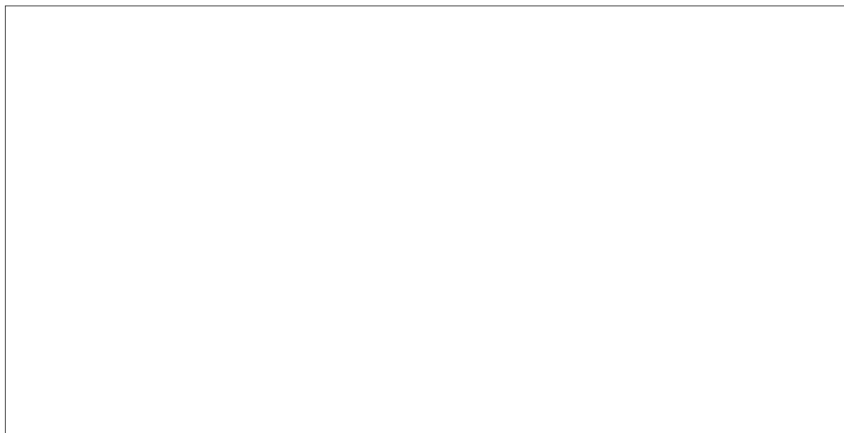
a. The Diem government's row with the Buddhists is ballooning into a major crisis.

b. The city of Hue was under martial law yesterday after a new series of clashes between troops and young Buddhist demonstrators. The troops used what appeared to be tear gas, causing 60-odd injured and perhaps some dead.

(Cont'd)

c. The casualty list, government charges that the Buddhist leaders are Viet Cong, and the poor condition of one of the latter who is on a hunger strike have combined to harden popular attitudes toward both regime and troops. At the same time, the regime appears committed to controlling the situation by force.

d. The US Consul in Hue expects further trouble today, but none has yet been reported.



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5. North Korea

a. Chinese Nationalist photography of 28 May shows two W-Class submarines at a small island off the east coast of North Korea. They were first seen there last December.

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b. Their continued presence suggests they have been turned over to the North Koreans.

c. The same photography was checked for signs of additional North Korean SAM sites--the first was seen on 9 May near Pyongyang. None were found, but the mission was hampered by about 50 percent cloud cover.

d. Northern Manchuria was also covered--subject to the same cloud cover. Nothing new of major significance has so far been turned up.

NOTES

A. USSR A space shot, probably a manned satellite, appears imminent. We think it was scheduled for early today, but it seems to have been postponed. The three Soviet instrumentation ships are in posi-

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C. Soviet Bloc Forces At least one phase of this year's Warsaw Pact exercises appears now to be underway in southeastern Bulgaria, involving Bulgarian as well as Soviet and Rumanian units of at least divisional size.

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E. Italy Premier-designate Moro's difficulties with his prospective coalition partners are such that, under present conditions in Rome, we doubt he will be ready to seek a parliamentary vote of confidence before the end of June at the earliest.

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H. Yugoslavia-Germany The Yugoslavs, eager for financial aid from Bonn and for its support in talks with the Common Market, have professed to the West Germans their willingness to "discourage" the non-aligned states, particularly in Africa, from "following Yugoslavia's example" in recognizing East Germany. This emerged during recent Yugoslav - West German talks in Vienna which led to an agreement to undertake economic negotiations in two weeks.

LATE NOTE

South Vietnam The Diem government may be softening its stand. A late cable from the US embassy in Saigon states that Diem has decided to send his brother Nhu to meet with Buddhist leaders from Hue. The embassy also reports that "something other than tear gas"--perhaps a blistering agent--may have been used yesterday at Hue.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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