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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--25 JUNE 1963

1. YEMEN:

A. THE PACE IS QUICKENING DESPITE THE UN PRESENCE.

B. THE SAUDIS HAVE ANNOUNCED ANOTHER EGYPTIAN BOMBING RAID--ON A VILLAGE SOME 50 MILES NORTH OF THE YEMENI BORDER.

C. WITHIN YEMEN, THE EGYPTIANS HAVE MADE LITTLE HEADWAY RECENTLY AGAINST ROYALISTS NORTH AND EAST OF SANA, AND TRIBAL HARASSMENTS OF THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION INTO THE CAPITAL CONTINUE. HOWEVER, FIELD MARSHAL AMER FLEW IN YESTERDAY, POSSIBLY TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE CAMPAIGN.

D. WE STILL SEE NO SIGNS OF PREPARATIONS FOR EGYPTIAN WITHDRAWALS--NOT EVEN ON THE PART OF THE BRIGADE SCHEDULED FOR ROTATION OUT.

[Redacted]

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[Large Redacted Area]

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G. THE YEMEN-ADEN FEDERATION BORDER REMAINS UNEASY, WITH SPORADIC EXCHANGE OF FIRE.

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2. LAOS:

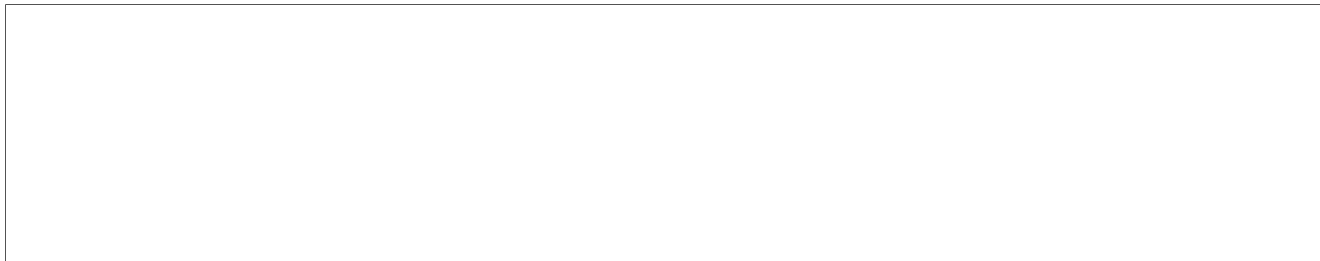
A. THE PATHET LAO HAVE STEPPED UP THEIR PRESSURE ON NEUTRALIST POSITIONS ALONG THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN EDGES OF THE PLAINE DES JARRES.

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B. THE NEUTRALIST GARRISON FORCED OUT OF NHOMMARATH IN SOUTH-CENTRAL LAOS HAS BEEN SPLIT BY PATHET LAO PRESSURE, WITH ONE GROUP RETREATING NORTHWARD, THE OTHER SOUTHWESTWARD TOWARD LAO ARMY POSITIONS.

C. AT ATTOPEU IN THE SOUTHEAST, OPPOSING FORCES ARE NOW FAIRLY EVENLY MATCHED AND THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT RECENT CHANGE.

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4. CUBA-USSR:

A. [Redacted] SOVIET PERSONNEL HAVE TAKEN OVER SELECTED CUBAN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND, MORE-OVER, PRISONS AND JAILS.

B. WE THINK THE [Redacted] TAKEOVER OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS--MOST OF THOSE REPORTED ARE KNOWN TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS--REFLECTS THE INTENSIFIED TRAINING OF CUBAN MILITARY PERSONNEL BY THE SOVIETS. OBSERVERS COULD EASILY EQUATE THE ACTIVITIES OF ADVISERS AND INSTRUCTORS WITH THE EXERCISE OF COMMAND AND CONTROL.

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C. SOVIET CONTROL OF PRISONS IS HARDER TO EXPLAIN. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

D. [Redacted] SOVIET KGB PERSONNEL ARE NOW IN CHARGE OF THE FILES ON CUBAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES.

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(CONT'D)

[Redacted]

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[REDACTED]

E. [REDACTED] CONTINUE [REDACTED] THE DISARMING OR DISCHARGE OF CUBAN MILITIA UNITS. WE STILL ARE INCLINED TO ATTRIBUTE THIS TO THE NEARING COMPLETION OF THE MERGER OF THE MILITIA WITH THE REGULAR ARMY AND THE WEEDING OUT OF THE UNRELIABLES AS THE COMMUNISTS TIGHTEN THEIR CONTROL OF THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION.

5. CUBAN EXILES:

A. TONY VARONA WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL LAST NIGHT, VICE DR. ANTONIO MACEO MACKLE WHO RESIGNED OVER THE 20 JUNE "INVASION" ANNOUNCEMENT. AT LEAST ONE REFUGEE GROUP EXPECTS TO LEAVE THE CRC OVER THE ISSUE.

B. IT NOW SEEMS WELL ESTABLISHED THAT THE WHOLE EPISODE WAS A PROPAGANDA GIMMICK AIMED AT PUBLICITY FOR THE CRC AND AT FUND-RAISING

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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6. THE KURDS:

A. THE TURKS ARE WORRIED [REDACTED] THAT KURDISH TRIBAL LEADERS FROM TURKEY HAVE JOINED FORCES WITH BARZANI IN IRAQ AND THAT AN UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT WITH OUTSIDE FUNDS IS PROMOTING KURDISH INDEPENDENCE IN SOUTHEAST TURKEY. ANKARA'S ACTION LAST WEEK TO CLOSE THE BORDER WITH IRAQ CONSTITUTES ITS FIRST PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN SOME YEARS THAT TURKEY, TOO, HAS A KURDISH PROBLEM. [REDACTED]

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7. USSR - EAST GERMANY:

A. THUS FAR [REDACTED] WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE ON THE PURPOSE OF KHRUSHCHEV'S 30 JUNE VISIT TO EAST GERMANY.

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B. AT A MINIMUM, HE PROBABLY WANTS TO COUNTER THE EFFECT OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT IN GERMANY.

C. IN HIS SPEECHES, HE MAY ELABORATE ON HIS INITIAL RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S 10 JUNE SPEECH.

D. WE DO NOT EXPECT HIM TO ANNOUNCE ANY MAJOR INNOVATIONS IN SOVIET POSITIONS ON GERMANY AND BERLIN. HE MAY, HOWEVER, EXPAND HIS FORMULA FOR UN PARTICIPATION IN NEW WEST BERLIN ARRANGEMENTS AND INDICATE SOVIET READINESS TO RETURN TO FOUR-POWER NEGOTIATIONS. HE MIGHT HOPE TO COMPLICATE WESTERN TALKS ON A NATO NUCLEAR FORCE WITH A CALL FOR A FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, OR EVEN A SUMMIT MEETING.

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E. WE NOW THINK THE SIGNALS HAVE BEEN CHANGED AND THAT THE COSMONAUTS MAY COME WITH KHRUSHCHEV. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE FLAGS AND PENNANTS WILL NOT EVEN BE DELIVERED TO EAST GERMAN AUTHORITIES UNTIL SHORTLY AFTER THE PRESIDENT LEAVES WEST BERLIN. [REDACTED]

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F. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE NOW THAT THE COMMUNISTS PLAN DIRECT ACTION TO MAR THE PRESIDENT'S BERLIN VISIT. THEY COULD, HOWEVER, BE THINKING OF INTERRUPTING S-BAHN SERVICE WITHIN WEST BERLIN BY CUTTING OFF THE ELECTRIC POWER WITHIN EAST BERLIN, HOPING THEREBY TO MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR WEST BERLINERS TO CONGREGATE DOWNTOWN.

8. NOTES:

A. BRITISH GUIANA: THE TURBULENCE CONTINUES, WITH NO SERIOUS NEW INITIATIVES TOWARD A SETTLEMENT REPORTED FROM EITHER SIDE.

B. TEST BAN TALKS: SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS ARE TAKING THE LINE WITH OUR EMBASSY THAT THE FORTHCOMING TEST BAN TALKS WILL BE "SERIOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL, WITHOUT DAILY PRESS BRIEFINGS." FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV HINTS THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ZORIN MAY BE NAMED THE CHIEF NEGOTIATOR.

C. INDIA-USSR: INDIAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SEEKING US ADVICE AS TO WHAT MILITARY HARDWARE THEY SHOULD SEEK IN MOSCOW. THEY SAY THEY ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING THE SOVIETS INTO SOME

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ROLE OF DEFENSE PRODUCTION WHICH WOULD "LOCK THEM INTO THE INDIAN SCENE AND AGAINST THE CHINESE."

D. BRAZIL: WE MAY HEAR MORE ATTACKS ON THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS. THE STATE GOVERNOR OF RIO DO NORTE, FOR REASONS UNSPECIFIED, IS SAID TO BE PREPARING A SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED AT A CONFERENCE OF NORTHERN GOVERNORS TO WHICH BLOC AND SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN INVITED. FROM PERNAMBUCO STATE THERE ARE DENUNCIATIONS OF "PRESSURE" AND COMPLAINTS THAT AFP IS MAKING SEPARATE DEALS WITH LOCAL MAYORS. AID PERSONNEL KNOW OF NO BASIS FOR THIS ONE.

E. USSR: REUTERS THIS MORNING WAS REPORTING RUMORS FROM MOSCOW THAT KHRUSHCHEV HAD SUDDENLY LEFT FOR RUMANIA, OR WAS ABOUT TO. AS OF 0800 EDT (OUR PRESS TIME) WE HAD NO CONFIRMATION AND HAD NO NEWS OF UNSCHEDULED VIP FLIGHTS FROM MOSCOW.

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F. CUBA: IN SUNDAY'S PHOTOGRAPHY WE HAVE FOUND WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE THE SAM EQUIPMENT TAKEN FROM THE SANTA LUCIA SITE IN WESTERN CUBA. IT IS 32 MILES TO THE SOUTHWEST AT THE ALREADY EXISTING SITE AT SAN JULIAN. THIS LEAVES SOME 75 MILES OF THE NORTHERN COAST OF PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE UNPROTECTED BY SAM'S.

TOP SECRET

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