

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

28 OCTOBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2015/07/24 : CIA-RDP79T00936A002000110001-2

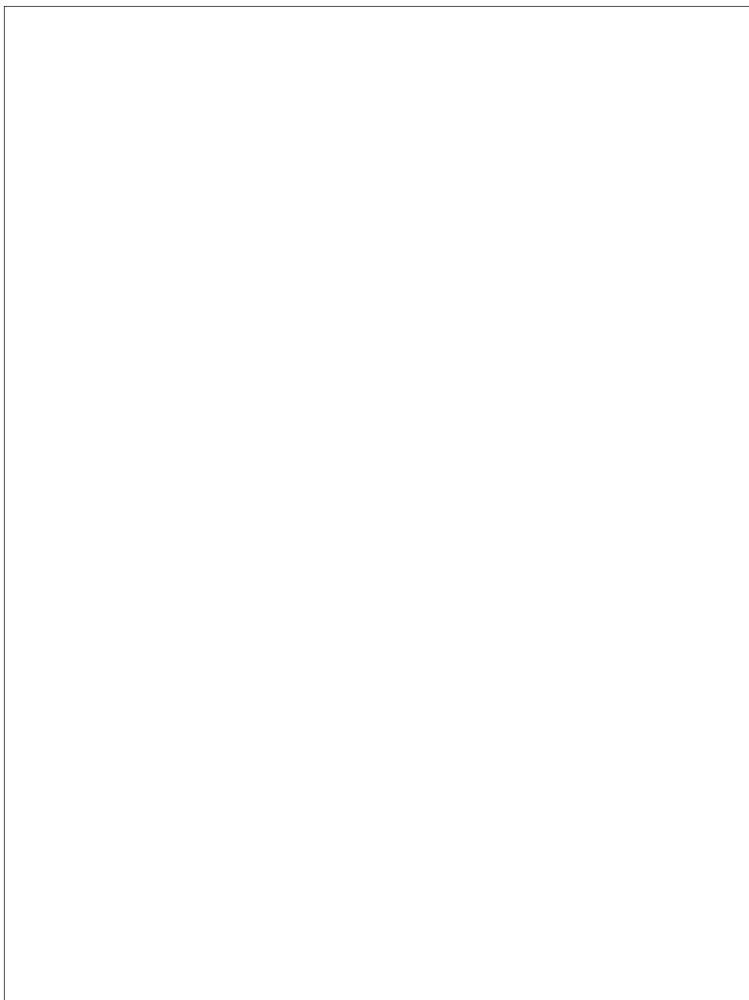
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1. USSR

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2. South Vietnam

a. National Day celebrations passed without major incident save the burning of another Buddhist monk. As before, some of the US newsmen were tipped off in advance and had their cameras at the ready.

b. [redacted] talk of coup plotting, none of it very concrete. [redacted] unrest among some senior military officers, who continue to suspect that Nhu is trying to work something out with the Communists.

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c. The regime has quickly denied London press rumors of a truce between North and South Vietnam. It is no doubt aware that such reports upset some of the military.

d. The UN mission continues to get the fast shuffle.

3. Dahomey

a. President Maga appears heading the way of Abbe Youlou in the Brazzaville Congo.

b. The army chief of staff announced a government reorganization yesterday in which Maga remains President but, within a ruling triumvirate including Vice President

(Cont'd)

Apithy, a militant nationalist and favorite of the labor demonstrators.

c. This was not enough for labor leaders who say their general strike will continue until Maga resigns.

d. So far the army has seemed reluctant to cashier Maga, who belongs to one of the northern tribes which predominate in the military.

e. Maga was warned last Thursday by De Gaulle that France was not prepared to go any further to keep him in office than it had for Youlou. In that case limited intervention by French troops had little effect on the outcome.

4. Morocco-
Algeria

a. Hassan and Ben Bella are still a few steps away from the negotiating table. Latest version is that the two leaders will attend a select "summit" meeting tomorrow in Bamako, Mali, but it remains to be seen whether they will get there.

b. U Thant had decided to keep out of the peacemaking arena largely because he thinks any appeal of his would not go down well with Egypt.

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c. The USSR, while blaming the US and France for starting everything, is still on the theme of settlement through negotiations.

d. France has now decided to proceed with deliveries already in the French military program for Morocco and to give immediate additional help in the form of ammunition and food.

e. The military front does not appear to be as active as the press would have us believe. However, skirmishing is continuing

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5. Congo

a. The government has yet to break relations with Communist bloc countries and the leadership is now reported to be divided on the issue.

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NOTES

A. USSR [redacted] there is to be a top-level Soviet meeting [redacted] to decide how to pay for wheat imports and what other import transactions to approve. [redacted]

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B. Cuba [redacted] wheat that Communist China is diverting to Cuba may be a while getting there. [redacted]

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[redacted] if the orders were confirmed the voyage would take a couple of months via the long route around South Africa.

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C. USSR The satellite Cosmos 20 was returned to earth and recovered on 26 October after eight days in orbit. [redacted]

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