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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--9 NOVEMBER 1963

1. BERLIN:

A. JUDGING FROM GROMYKO'S REMARKS TO KOHLER THURSDAY ON ACCESS TO BERLIN, WE EXPECT THE SOVIETS WILL SHORTLY PRESENT A FORMAL STATEMENT CALLING FOR URGENT FOUR-POWER TALKS ON THIS AND OTHER QUESTIONS RELATING TO BERLIN'S STATUS.

B. THE BRITISH PLAN NO FURTHER CONVOYS FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, AS THERE IS NO TRAINING NEED FOR THEM, AND THEY DO NOT WANT TO RUN THEM FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY.

2. CUBA-USSR:

A. ANOTHER ARMS SHIPMENT TO CUBA

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3. CUBA-USSR:

A. CASTRO IS GIVING THE SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE IN HAVANA SEPARATE BUT EQUAL TREATMENT.

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B. HAVING FAILED TO SHOW UP AT THE CHINESE NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION LAST MONTH, HE SKIPPED TOWN THURSDAY TO AVOID THE SOVIET ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION. SO, APPARENTLY, DID DORTICOS AND RAUL CASTRO.

C. A POLISH CORRESPONDENT ON THE SCENE NOTED IN A DISPATCH TO WARSAW THAT CASTRO HAD ATTENDED JUST ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE'S RECEPTION THIS YEAR AND THAT THE SOVIET AFFAIR WAS KEPT GOING INTO THE EARLY MORNING HOURS IN THE EXPECTATION THAT CASTRO WOULD ARRIVE, AS HE USUALLY DOES, LATE.

D. THEN, WITH TONGUE IN CHEEK, THE POLISH CORRESPONDENT WRITES THAT CUBAN POLITICAL CIRCLES SAY IT WOULD BE AN ERROR TO DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS FROM CASTRO'S ABSENCE BECAUSE "IN REVOLUTIONARY DIPLOMACY THIS TYPE OF THING HAS NO MEANING WHATEVER."

4. FRANCE - SOUTH VIETNAM - CANADA:

A. THE FRENCH TAKE A DIM VIEW OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT 50X1 IN SAIGON DESPITE THE LIBERAL SPRINKLING OF PRO-FRENCH OFFICIALS IN IT.

B. BEHIND THIS ATTITUDE LIES A BELIEF THAT THE PRESENT SET-UP IS LIKELY TO HEAD IN WHAT PARIS FEELS IS THE WRONG DIRECTION, I.E., TO SEEK A MILITARY INSTEAD OF A POLITICAL SOLUTION.

C. ALSO, WE ARE SURE, THE FRENCH DISLIKE THE CURRENT

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REGIME'S CLOSENESS TO US.

D. THE CANADIAN ICC COMMISSIONER COX ALSO TAKES A DIM VIEW OF THE NEW REGIME, WHICH HE APPARENTLY CONSIDERS A CREATURE OF THE US, AND IS PROBABLY SO REPORTING TO OTTAWA.

5. COMMUNIST CHINA:

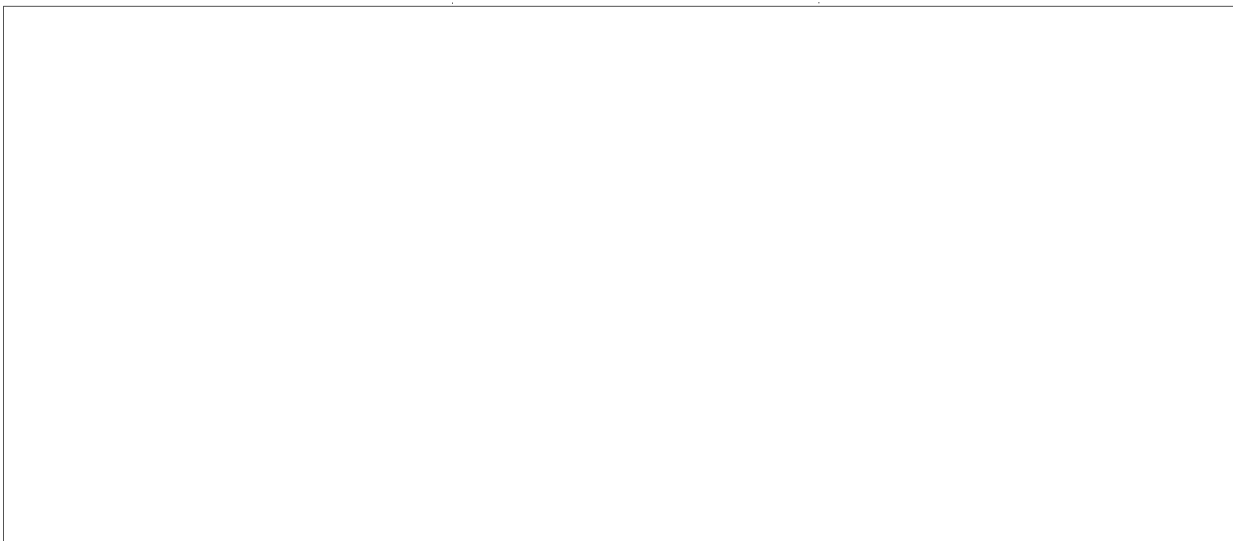
A. PEIPING, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IS BEGINNING TO ALLOW NON-COMMUNIST INDUSTRIAL TECHNICIANS INTO THE COUNTRY AND IS SHOWING A WILLINGNESS TO LET CHINESE TECHNICIANS GO ABROAD FOR TRAINING, PARTICULARLY TO JAPAN, BRITAIN, AND HOLLAND.

B. THIS HAS BEEN PROMPTED BY THE RECENT CONCLUSION (AFTER THREE YEARS OF WINDOW-SHOPPING) OF SEVERAL CONTRACTS FOR WESTERN AND JAPANESE SYNTHETIC FIBRE AND CHEMICAL FERTILIZER PLANTS.

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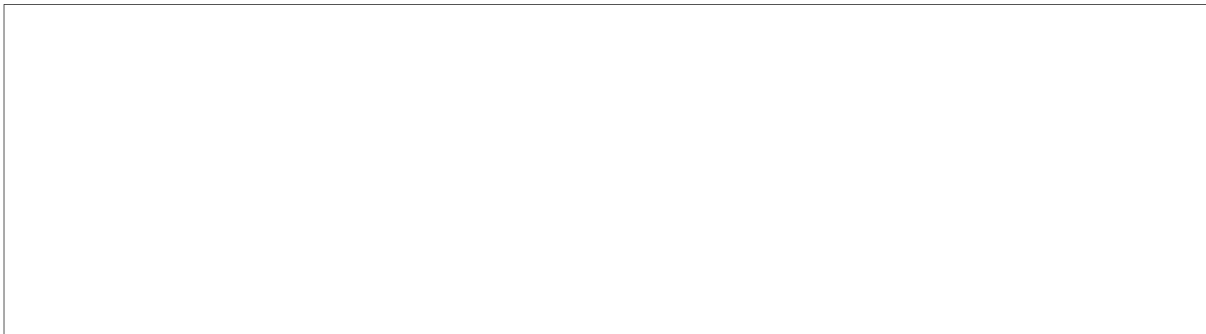
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6. NATIONALIST CHINA - JAPAN:



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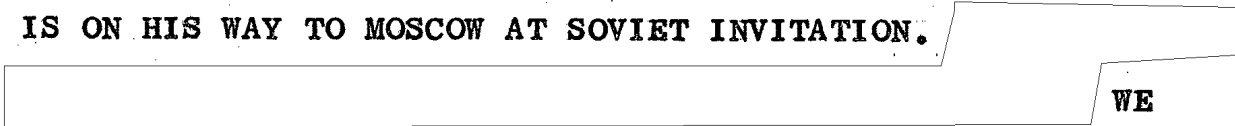
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7. NOTES:

A. USSR: AMBASSADOR KOHLER'S GENERAL COMMENT ON THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES WAS THAT THEY WERE MODERATE, ROUTINE, AND CONTAINED NO HINT OF ANY NEW POLICIES OR DECISIONS ON INTERNAL OR FOREIGN FIELDS.

B. BRAZIL-USSR: FORMER BRAZILIAN AIR MINISTER CARVALHO IS ON HIS WAY TO MOSCOW AT SOVIET INVITATION.



WE SUSPECT HE WILL LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITIES OF AIRCRAFT PURCHASES. HE WILL PROBABLY ALSO DISCUSS CIVIL AIR ROUTES.



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