

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

14 DECEMBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Bolivia

a. The miners, professing alarm at government troop moves near the mine area [redacted]

[redacted] negotiations are not possible in these circumstances. They have also rejected a plea from their jailed union leaders to free the hostages without conditions.

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b. Vice President Lechin on a surprise visit to La Paz yesterday offered to resign if President Paz would then release the union leaders. Paz, says the press, turned this down and countered with an offer to withdraw government forces if the hostages were turned loose.

c. As time goes on, pressure is building up on Paz to use government forces, which are ready. [redacted]

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d. For their part the miners have called for a "general mobilization." Their militia has been active in guarding the approaches to the Catavi-Siglo complex.

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e. There is good reason to believe that Lechin actually has little control over the local miners' union, and that in turn the local unions have little control over the women who are guarding the hostages.

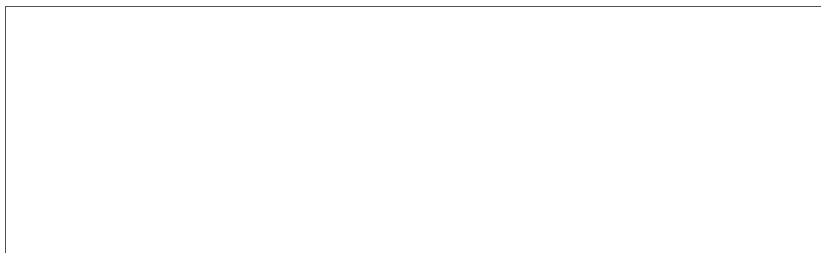
2. Cyprus

a. Top Greek officials have assured the Makarios government that armed force from Greece would be quickly committed if Turkey should intervene militarily at any point in the Cypriot constitutional crisis.

b. This stand will embolden Makarios to make unilateral changes in the constitution.

c. The Turkish Cypriots have said they would resist any such changes, and officials in Ankara say that Turkey is prepared to "go the limit" to support them.

3. USSR



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NOTES

- A. Cambodia Sihanouk continues to careen along his anti-American way. Yesterday he terminated as "fruitless" talks on the orderly liquidation of the US aid program and demanded that all AID, MAAG and USIS personnel be out of the country by 15 January.
- B. Thailand Prime Minister Thanom and his closest collaborator Praphat have clearly emerged from the first round of the post-Sarit power struggle as the dominant figures. General Chitti has been shunted aside for the moment, but we feel that he is still a man to be reckoned with.
- C. Italy We think that Moro will get a vote of confidence next week despite threatened defections from the ranks of both the Christian Democrats and the Nenni Socialists. If these defections do take place, however, they will raise doubts as to the long-term prospects of Moro's "opening to the left."
- D. Brazil [redacted] Goulart to be particularly jittery just now. [redacted]

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E. Venezuela Betancourt became incensed when informed of the US decision to recognize Honduras and the Dominican Republic. He said he would have to issue a public statement criticizing this move.

F. USSR-Ghana Some 40,000 tons of Soviet-supplied cement are sitting in the open in imminent danger of spoiling [redacted]

[redacted] This looks very much like a repeat of the 1956 Soviet aid debacle in Burma when large quantities of bloc cement were left to harden at dockside in Rangoon. [redacted]

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G. UAR-Yemen [redacted] Nasir's troop strength in Yemen has been reduced [redacted]

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H. Venezuela-US [redacted] the Castro-supported terrorists have decided to kidnap another official of the US embassy in Caracas before Christmas.

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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