

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

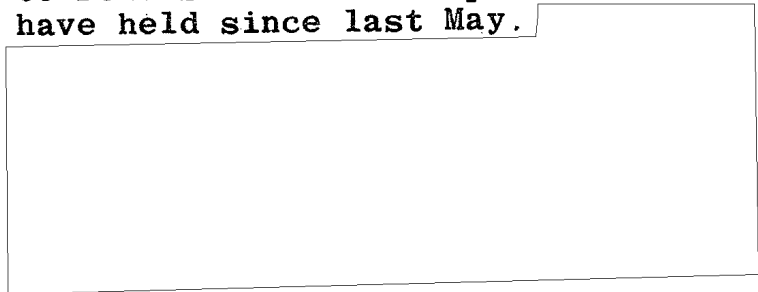
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24 MARCH 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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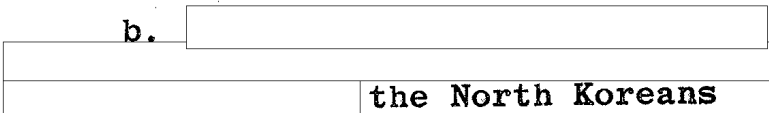
1. North Korea -
US

a. The North Koreans hinted yesterday they may be ready now to release the two US pilots they have held since last May.



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b.



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the North Koreans probably feel they have now wrung about all they can get out of the episode. Retention of the pilots would get in the way of Pyongyang's efforts to expand contacts outside the bloc.

2. Cyprus

a. Sakari Tuomioja, now Finnish Ambassador to Sweden, appears acceptable as mediator to both Ankara and the Greek Cypriots. His troubles can now begin.

b. In his earlier service for the UN as observer in Laos in 1959, Tuomioja showed himself able, perhaps, but not conspicuously so.

(Cont'd)

c. The next ten days on the island will see two Greek Cypriot holidays. Tomorrow is Greek Independence Day and 1 April is EOKA Day, anniversary of the revolt against the British in 1955. Either could be the occasion for new Greek Cypriot incursions.

d. In Nicosia, yesterday, Greek Cypriot irregulars, defying government orders to desist, continued constructing fortifications on their side of the green line opposite British headquarters.

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3. Panama-US

a. President Chiari was closeted late yesterday with his foreign policy advisors to consider President Johnson's statement of Saturday.

b. Although electioneering on the Canal issue continues, Panamanian media generally are taking a cautiously favorable line.

c. "A significant turn in the White House view of the problem," said one commentator.

d. There may be an official statement today.

4. De Gaulle -
Latin America

a. De Gaulle now plans to visit all ten countries of continental South America during his fall trip.

b. Also, a visit to Central America may be scheduled, but only if a single meeting place can be agreed upon, as De Gaulle does not intend to visit each Central American capital.

c. The Caribbean has been excluded. The Foreign Ministry told our embassy that Paris has turned down a "pressing" Cuban invitation.

d. De Gaulle is back in Paris. His final visit was to French Guiana where, in his wake, a flurry of rumors cropped up to the effect that France plans to set up a MRBM test site in the colony.

e. Such a plan is conceivable,

[Redacted]

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5. Cuba

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6. Ceylon

a. Unusually bad economic conditions have Mrs. Bandaranaike in deep political trouble.

b. She has already had to prorogue parliament to stave off a no-confidence vote and is operating under emergency powers to quell labor unrest and silence public criticism.

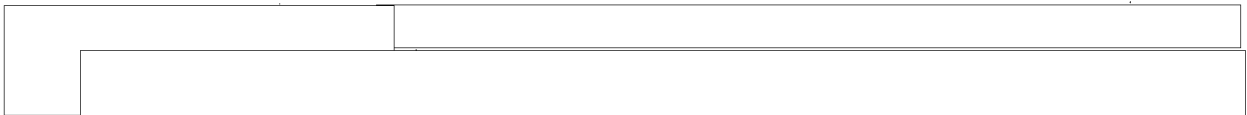
c. With defections threatening from her own party, she may try to lure some opposition leaders, including some of Ceylon's peculiar collection of Marxists, into a coalition in order to stay in power. Their cooperation will come at a very high price, if it can be won at all.

d. Failing this, she is considering some form of extra-constitutional rule, but this, too, holds little promise for stability.

NOTES

- A. US fliers The Soviets are being deliberately obscure about when and where they will release our other two pilots. When asked about it this morning, they would say only that "these matters were always slow being processed."

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- C. Cuba-US The "Student Committee for Travel to Cuba" is again active, claiming to have lined up some 40 students in the San Francisco area for another tour of Cuba.
- D. South Korea - Japan Riots are breaking out in Seoul in the wake of massive student demonstrations protesting South Korea - Japanese talks in Tokyo.
- E. Libya A harmless secondary school demonstration in Benghazi yesterday started out rejoicing at the King's decision not to abdicate, but it was easily and quickly turned into a nationalist demonstration against US and UK bases. By the time it had gathered full momentum, upwards of 2000 were milling around in front of our embassy.

(Cont'd)

F. Zanzibar The leftward drift in Zanzibar continues. Charge Carlucci feels that the British, with most of their expatriate nationals now leaving, may well wash their hands of the whole mess. Left-leaning Prime Minister Babu, meanwhile, is on his way to the trade conference in Geneva, [redacted]

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G. Saudi Arabia A body of religious notables has been assembled by Faysal to declare the King unfit to rule should he refuse Faysal's demand that he abdicate or leave the country. [redacted]

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I. Ambassador Reischauer Embassy Tokyo reports Ambassador Reischauer is recovering well from emergency surgery and probably will be back at his desk within two weeks. His assailant, an unemployed, deranged laborer, harbored a grudge against the US occupation which he claimed had "failed to provide facilities for treating nearsighted Japanese."