



THE PRESIDENT'S  
INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: JAN 2008

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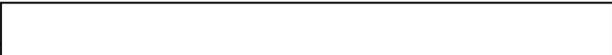
ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 OCTOBER 1962  
~~TOP SECRET~~



1. Yemen

a. Skirmishing between republican and loyalist forces over the weekend has not altered the situation very much.

b.   


c. Help from the outside to both sides goes on. Nasir has sent his two leading Yemeni experts to Sana to bolster the resolve of the revolutionaries to carry on. They may also take the opportunity to look over the prospects for reviving the UAR-Yemen federation.

d. Cairo now also has a sizeable naval force (three destroyers and a minesweeper) standing off Hodeida. Their assignment presumably is to protect the merchantmen now making regular deliveries of men and supplies.

e. On Saturday, Jordan began to fly 150 tons of light arms to Saudi Arabia addressed to Hasan's forces. The buildup of Saudi forces in the border continues.

f. The Saudis, fed up with the unending overflights of their territory by Egyptian aircraft, have obliquely warned Cairo to knock it off.

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g. [redacted]

2. Saudi Arabia -  
Jordan

a. King Saud, in extremely poor health and in a psychopathic state of suspicion and worry over the Yemenis, may not last much longer.

b. Among other plots, a group of Saudi princes, anxious to pre-empt the field before pro-Nasirites make a try at taking over, are laying plans to force Saud to abdicate in favor of Faysal. [redacted]

c. King Husayn is also worried by events in Saudi Arabia. He is rushing negotiations for a mutual defense pact which, if he gets his way, will include a provision giving each country the right to send troops into the other for the purpose of maintaining local security. [redacted]

3. Laos

a. We are developing reservations about Souvanna's ability to keep things papered over much longer.

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b. A well-placed source in Vientiane tells us that the cabinet on Friday was treated to a blustering harangue by Phoumi Vongvichit of the Pathet Lao. Vongvichit rejected the national assembly's action giving Souvanna full powers for a year, accused Souvanna of deserting to the right, and piously asserted his side would be guiltless in the event the coalition should fall apart.

c. Souvanna is said to have stuck to his guns, and threatened to publish the record of the Pathet Lao performance. General Phoumi backed him to the hilt.

d. Pathet Lao forces have taken advantage of the intramural neutralist squabble in Phong Saly province to move into areas from which they had previously been excluded.

4. Sino-Indian border

a. There has apparently been no fighting on the border since Wednesday. With both sides steadily beefing up their forces in the area, more skirmishing seems inevitable.

b. The Indians seem to have had the best of it so far, thanks perhaps to surprise. The next round may well be a different story, however.

c. [redacted]

[redacted] the Chinese have secretly built a road to within six miles of the combat area, which puts them in considerably better shape to receive supplies and reinforcements. The Indians are almost entirely dependent on a difficult aerial resupply operation. [redacted]

5. Congo

a. Tshombé gave more ground yesterday in agreeing to sign a ceasefire with Leopoldville and to let his men swear allegiance to the central government. We do not have the details yet, but follow through may depend on Adoula producing an amnesty for Katangans.

b. [redacted]

c. Leopoldville this morning announced the restoration of diplomatic relations with Ghana after a two-year hiatus.

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6. Venezuela

a. It now looks as though President Betancourt has carried the day for his plan to strip certain terrorist-connected congressmen of their immunity as a preliminary to tossing them into jail.

b. At last report, the cabinet was with him and Supreme Court approval seemed assured. His Social Christian coalition partners were also expressing willingness to go along, provided he refrained from outlawing outright the Communist Party and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

7. Brazil

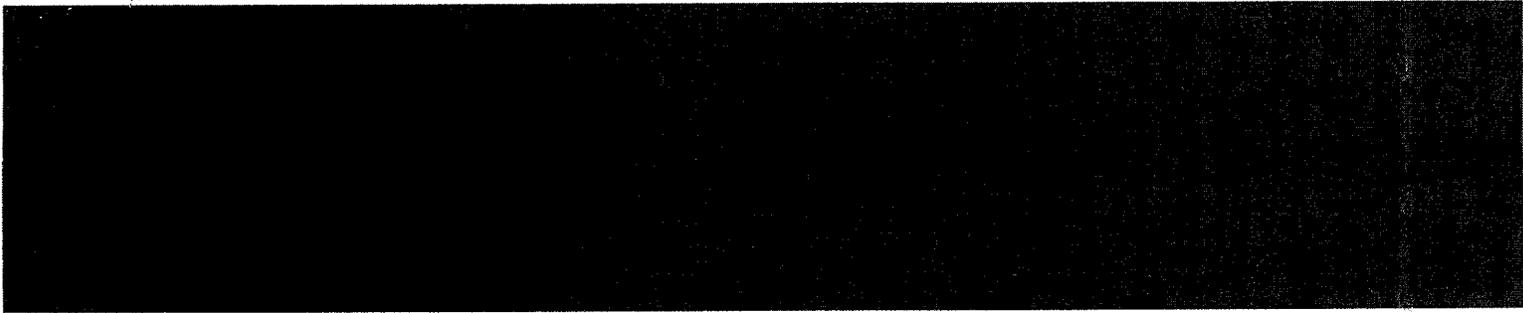
a. Election results are still too inconclusive to draw any conclusions on a national scale. There do not, however, appear to have been any startling trends in any direction.

b. In what is probably the most important race, the conservative has a slight lead over his pro-Communist opponent for governor of Pernambuco (northeast) but may well lose it in later returns.

NOTES

- A. USSR-Nuclear tests The Soviets touched off two nuclear explosions at the Semipalatinsk test site over the weekend. [redacted]
- B. USSR Yesterday a Soviet submarine surfaced about 175 miles south of Japan after a 24-hour surveillance by our naval forces. The submarine signalled "This is a Soviet ship. You are interfering with me in international waters," and was allowed to proceed.
- C. Portugal [redacted]
- D. North Borneo The British may ask to have a private talk with us later this week about the Philippine claim to North Borneo, which has them worried. We do not yet know what line London will take. The Filipinos, meanwhile, have asked us to stay on the sidelines.
- E. Cuba An Alpha-66 spokesman announced in Puerto Rico on Saturday that the organization planned two more raids this month, one against British shipping.
- F. United Nations Our delegation in New York sees straws in the wind that the Communist bloc is getting ready to propose some sort of membership in the UN for the two Germanys, Vietnams and Koreas.

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