

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



14 - 16 OCTOBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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16 October 1964

1. USSR: The move to ease out Khrushchev has apparently been accomplished without mishap. The reasons for his displacement are not clear, but it is highly probable that policy considerations were more important factors than his age and state of health.

The new group in power is taking pains to allay alarm and give reassurance abroad that no radical departures in Soviet policies are in store. Pravda's initial announcement, for example, in effect declared that the party will adhere to Khrushchev's general policies.

Brezhnev and Kosygin have been considered Khrushchev men and have appeared committed to his policies. It seems to us, however, that a shift at the top must bring some changes, and we expect some fairly quickly.

2. Communist China: Within hours of its successful nuclear test, Peiping started beating the drum for an all-nation summit conference to discuss prohibition and destruction of nuclear weapons.

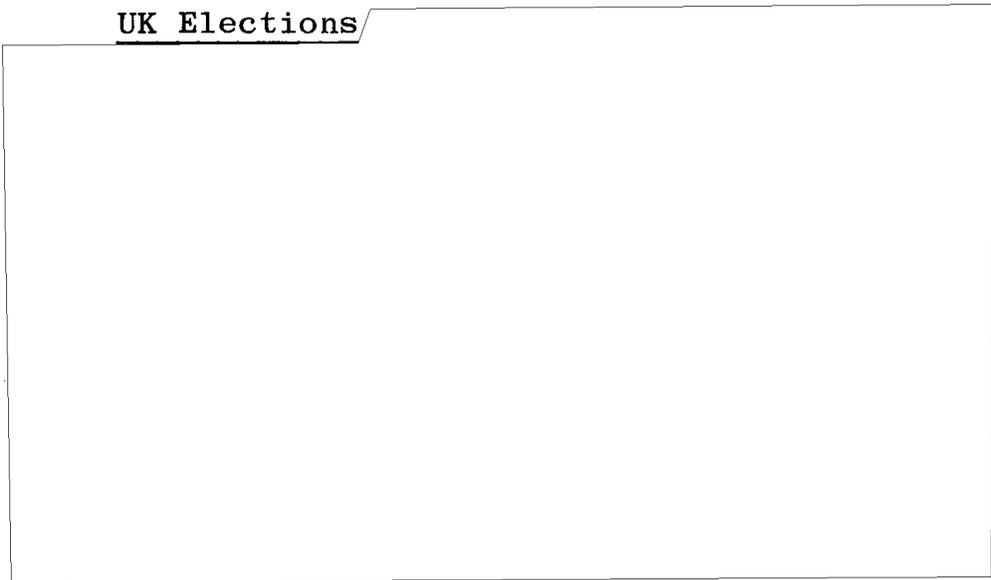
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This was presumably intended to dampen adverse criticism abroad. The Chinese made a similar proposal in 1963 when they refused to sign the test ban treaty, and they may be expected to continue to push it.

The Chinese have not publicly acknowledged the help they received from the Soviets in laying the technical foundations for their nuclear program. Rather, they say the success of today's shot was due to the hard work of Chinese scientists who "displayed a spirit of relying on their own efforts."

3. UK Elections

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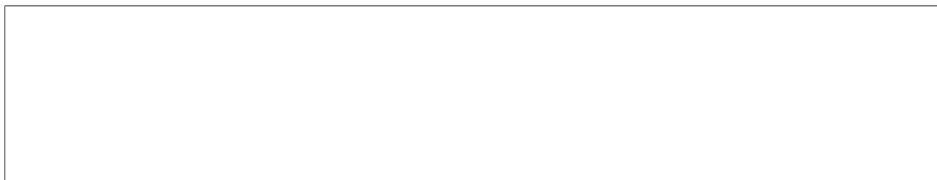
4. South Vietnam: The High National Council now appears stymied by the Khanh-Minh rivalry. The council had hoped to have a provisional government installed by 27 October.

The council leans heavily toward Minh as Chief of State with strong powers in the new provisional government. Khanh would be offered a decidedly secondary position as premier.

Khanh, however, seems to have no intention of giving up control and still has the backing of the young generals.

Khanh now is rumored to be planning mass demonstrations to impress the council with his popularity.

In this highly complex situation, yet another resort to military force could occur with very little warning.



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Viet Cong military and terrorist activity continues at a stepped-up pace.

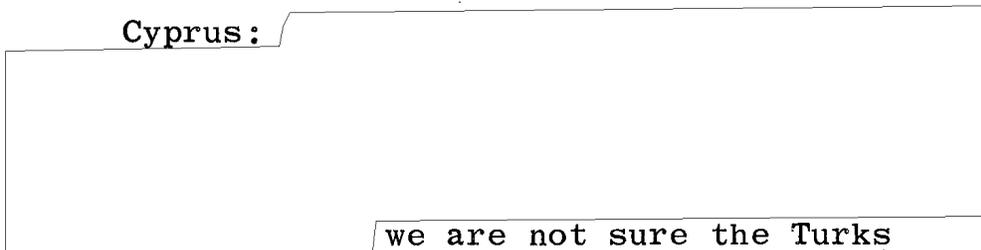
5. Laos: The Laotian Air Force has begun the scheduled series of air strikes against selected targets in central and southern Laos along the infiltration corridor to South Vietnam.



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King Savang has given his full support to the corridor clearing operations. He made clear that, if renewed military pressure from the Communists results, he assumes there will be a prompt US response.

6. Cyprus:



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we are not sure the Turks would stand still for enosis. Moreover, Makarios is moving to reduce the control exercised by Grivas and the Greek Government over Cypriot military forces, which would be needed to enforce enosis.

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In Cyprus, the Turkish Cypriots still refuse to give ground on the Nicosia-Kyrenia road. This could be the cause of another crisis if Makarios chooses to take reprisals.

7. Cuba-US: Cuba intends to use the next UN General Assembly meeting to increase pressure on the US for a rapprochement.

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Havana will try to get UN adoption of the recent Cairo resolutions denouncing US economic pressures on Cuba and calling for evacuation of Guantanamo.


 hopes to stir up enough favorable opinion to influence the US toward changing its Cuban policy.

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9. Congo: The rebels are reported to have mounted another assault on the key eastern town of Uvira.

ANC troops, apparently having had their fill of pillaging, are now deserting.

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At the urging of Ambassador Godley, Tshombé has broadcast an appeal to the rebels to desist from reprisals. There is evidence that moderating influence is also being brought to bear by pro-Communist elements in Burundi.

Tshombé may be in for more trouble at the hands of the OAU. Radical members of the OAU Congo Commission seem to be having some success in getting Joma Kenyatta to back a commission report pillorying Tshombé, and by implication, the US.

10. United Nations: We look for a close vote on seating Communist China at the UNESCO General Conference, which begins on 20 October in Paris.

The outcome may depend on the votes of former French African countries, some of which have recently been leaning toward Peiping, and on whether several other countries sympathetic to Taipei lose their votes over arrearages.

It is not certain how Peiping's supporters will proceed, but we hear that France is willing to support them.

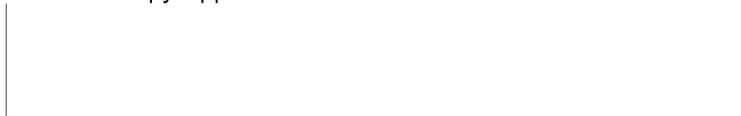
11. Belgium: Spaak has told Ambassador MacArthur that the Catholic-Socialist government is in for rough sledding and may not last out the present term of Parliament, which ends next March. This is his reading of the significance of the heavy losses sustained by Prime Minister Lefevre's Catholic party in last Sunday's countrywide municipal elections.

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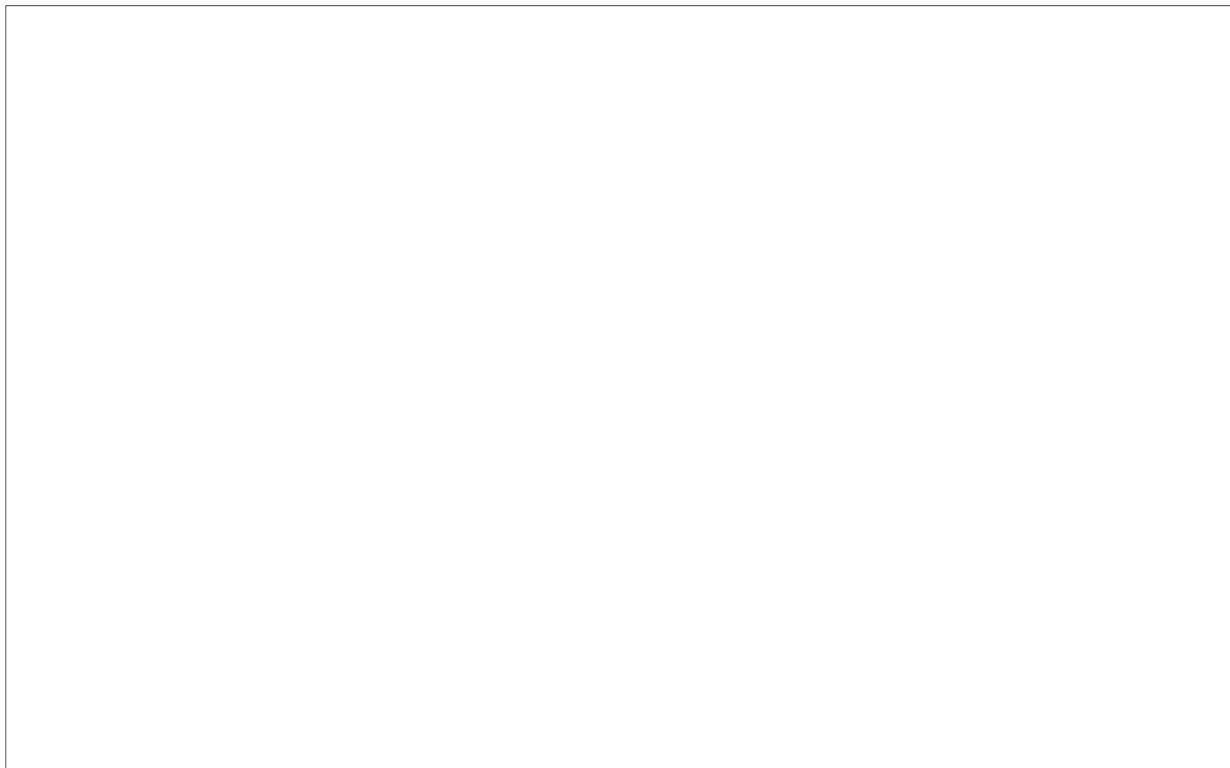
12. Argentina: The government is bracing itself for possible trouble during Peronist demonstrations slated for 17 October, the anniversary of Peron's 1945 return to power.

The military is expected to act quickly to suppress any violence.

We continue to think that Peron, who has told his followers at home that he will return immediately if the demonstrations are a success, is most unlikely to do so without a revolution beforehand.



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