

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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26 OCTOBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. South Vietnam

a. The formation of a government in Saigon is going forward in its own Vietnamese fashion, but not one which seems particularly helpful for the US.

b. Suu was apparently named chief of state instead of Minh both because the latter did not want to resign his commission and because of developing opposition among various political and religious groups.

c. Ambassador Taylor thinks Suu, who has apparently never recovered from his going-over in Diem's prisons, is not in control of the situation. Suu himself has said he will serve only until a popular assembly is convened.

d. The list of candidates for premier has also changed, with one Ho Van Nhut, a man of little government experience, replacing Vu Van Mau. The latter is returning to his ambassadorship in London.



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f. Thus it would appear, at least from this distance, that with Minh set aside, the way is open for Khanh and company to play a very strong role in the new government.

g. Yesterday the Cambodian Government issued two official statements flatly denying any involvement in the 22 October border incident and in fact claiming it never even took place.

h. Meanwhile, the body of US Captain Towery, killed in the incident, has been found, apparently in South Vietnam.

2. Taiwan - Communist
China

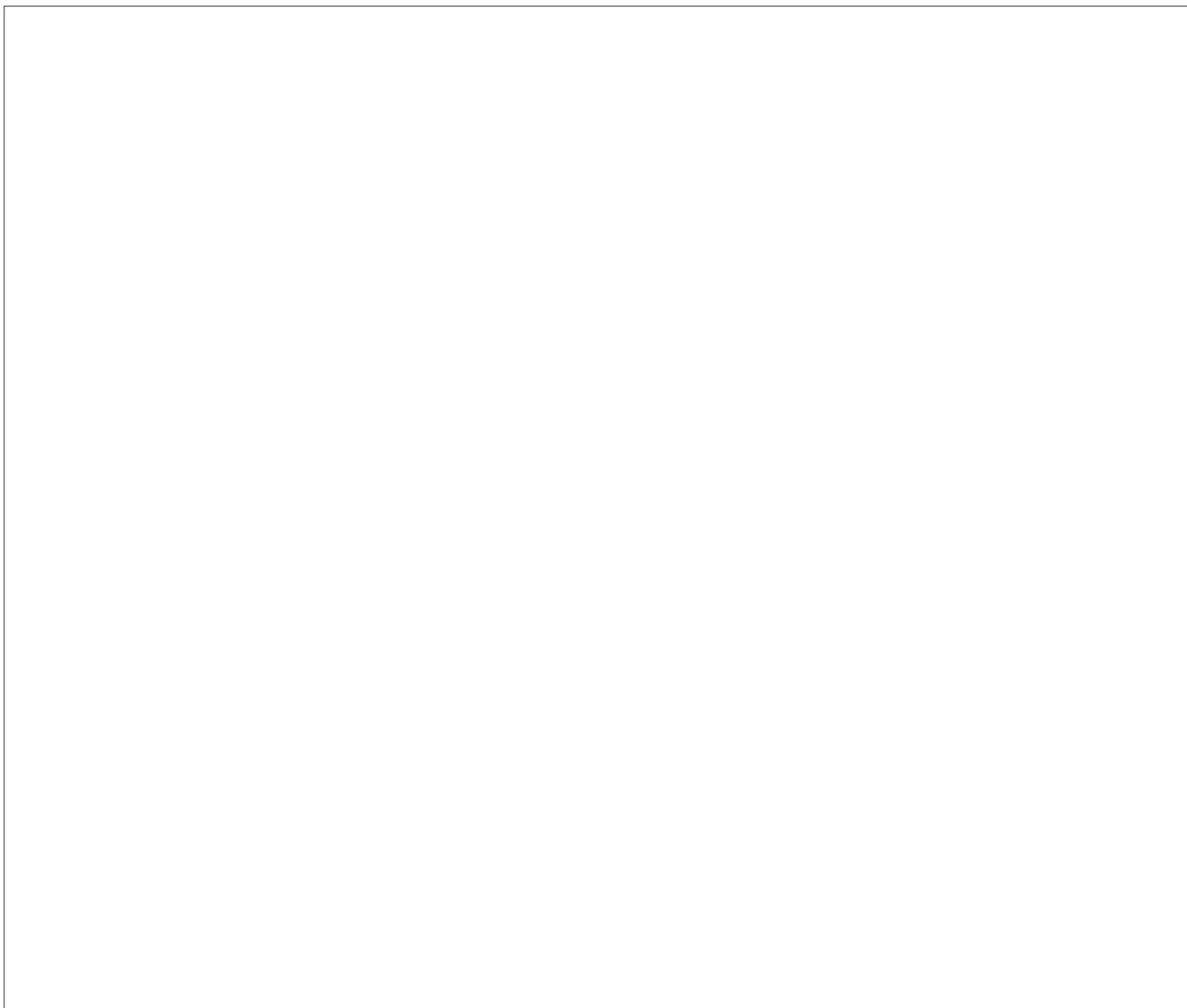
a. Peiping's nuclear success has sparked new Nationalist demands for US help against the Communist regime.

b. The Nationalists are saying that the Communists must be crushed before they achieve a nuclear weapons capability.

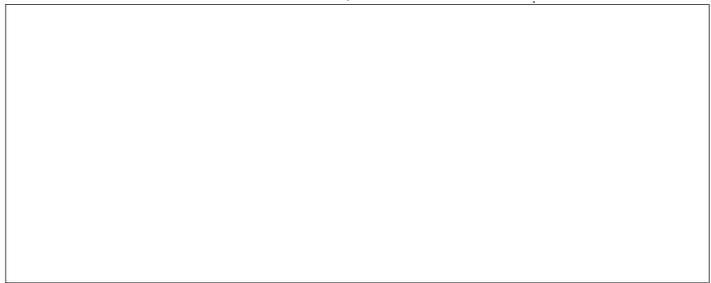
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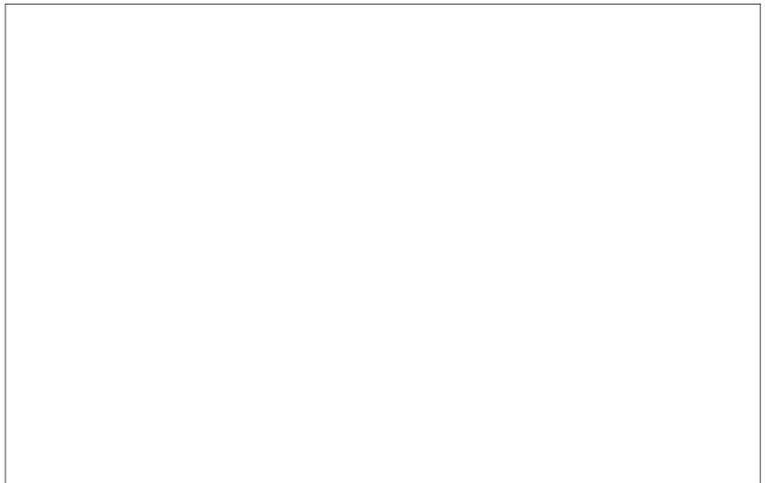
d. Our embassy has noted signs of a feeling among the Nationalist military that a "do or die" effort should be made against the mainland, even without US help.

e. To bolster morale, the government may step up its commando raids on the mainland coast.

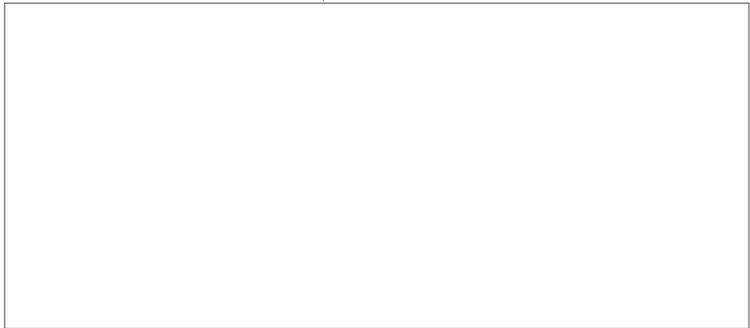


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3. USSR



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4. Sudan

a. Continuing disturbances in Khartoum may force the Abboud regime to make some concessions to popular demands for a return to civilian government.

b. Important political, intellectual, and religious leaders have seized on the disorders to call for "a return to democracy." General Abboud's military government has ruled since November 1958.

c. The regime is also under pressure to moderate its campaign against rebels in the predominantly Negro southern Sudan, who are fighting efforts to "Arabicize" the south.

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d. So far there are no [redacted] [redacted] army units [redacted] wavering in their loyalty. Dis-sension in the military has been reported in the past, however, and some of the politico-religious leaders have supporters in the army.

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5. Japan

a. The choice of a successor to Ikeda will probably fall on either Olympics Minister Ichiro Kono or Eisaku Sato, a long-time stalwart in the Liberal Democratic Party.

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b. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] The fact that during his prolonged illness Ikeda did not appoint Kono again, however, suggests that his choice may be Sato.

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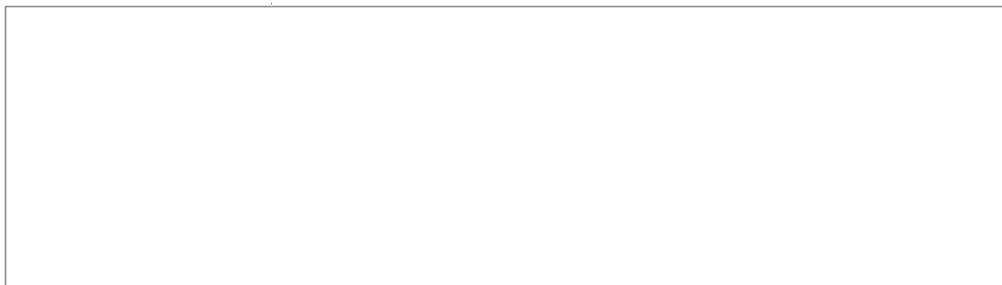
- A. Canada-USSR Another Soviet-Canadian wheat deal may be imminent. An official from the Soviet state agency charged with grain trade is now in Canada. The USSR is committed to make sizable grain and flour deliveries to Cuba before the end of the year.
- B. Cyprus The opening of the Kyrenia road and the rotation of Turkish troops are to start today. The UN will take over all checkpoints on the road and use about 200 UN troops in continuous patrols. A Turkish transport arrived in Famagusta this morning with the incoming unit.
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- D. USSR The appointment of Vladimir Stepanov as the new chief editor of Izvestia, now officially confirmed, will probably be followed soon by a series of similar changes. The journal Party Life in its latest editorial asserted that party organs "have the duty" to oppose poor leaders.

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E. UK-Rhodesia Rhodesian Prime Minister Smith has rejected an invitation from the Wilson government to come to London and is going ahead on the referendum for independence. The British now say they are sending him an ultimatum which may detail economic sanctions to be taken if unilateral independence is declared. The UK High Commissioner in Salisbury, however, thinks it is too late to stop the declaration.

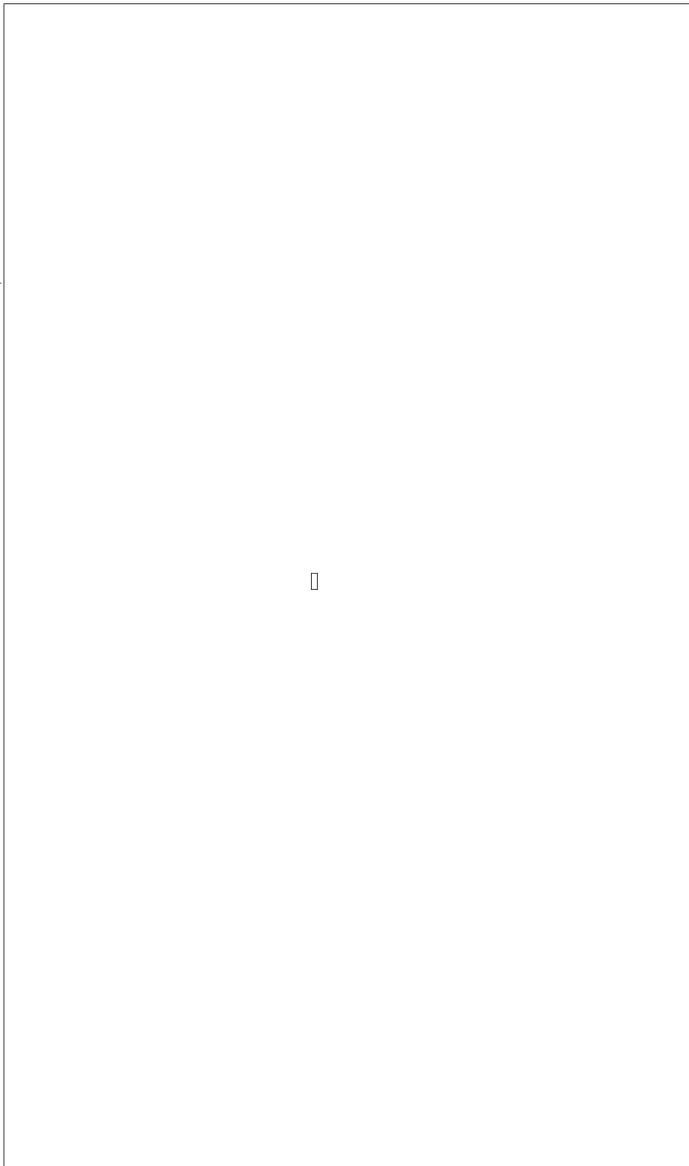


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Soviet Missiles



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