

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



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10 JAN. 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1.

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2. Further repercussions
of Lebanese coup attempt

The round-up of suspects continues and the government's investigation has implicated even ex-President Chamoun. Widespread press speculation on foreign involvement names Britain as the main scapegoat. The edginess of the Lebanese government, apparently seeking skeletons in every closet, is evident

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3. Iranian-Soviet
"friendship" nego-
tiations prove sticky

Iran's Ambassador, in a lengthy meeting with Soviet officials last week, vigorously rejected both Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov's charges against Teheran's defense agreement with the US and a "new" draft Soviet proposal for an agreement.

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4. India

B. Menon is serious about building Indian capabilities to cope with the Chinese in the disputed border areas.

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5. Laos

A. Ambassador Brown reports that both Phoumi and Boun Oum are going to Geneva.
B. Following his presentation of our case yesterday, Ambassador Young reports that Thai leaders remain unsold on our Laos policy. Sarit concluded the discussion by remarking "go ahead and let things deteriorate in your own way."



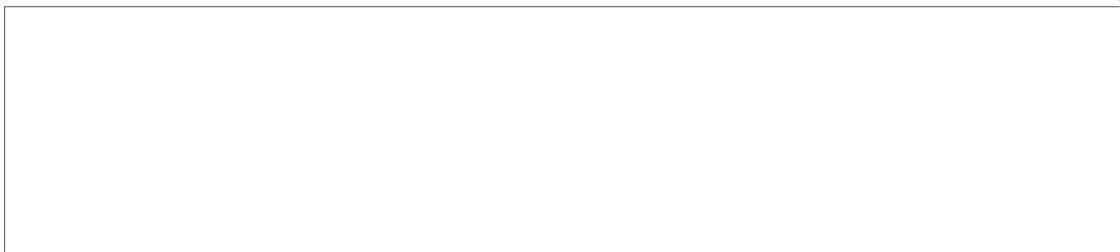
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NOTES

- A. The Communists appear determined to maintain exclusive control of the recently improved route to South Vietnam through central Laos. Last week the Pathet Lao attacked and drove Souvanna Phouma's troops from their checkpoint on the route near the North Vietnam border established only 24 hours earlier. [redacted] 50X1
Such extreme sensitivity suggests increasing Communist use of the road to move men and materiel from North to South Vietnam.
- B. Initial reports on Mikoyan's visit to Guinea which ends today are encouraging--he seems to have made little progress so far in mollifying Toure. The Soviet Deputy Premier has visits to Ghana and Mali next on his list.
- C. Peiping is fulfilling its economic commitments to Albania by transshipping Canadian wheat. Two shipments arrived last month. [redacted] 50X1
- D. Italian political infighting is on the rise. The resignation of Premier Fanfani's minority Christian Democratic government is likely as the result of continuing pressures for a more broadly based center-left coalition attracting stronger Socialist support--an alignment favored by Fanfani himself.
- E. Gizenga's political influence hit a new low when his own faction ousted him as party president. He was last reported planning a "tour" of the north Katanga front, presumably to avoid arrest by Central Government authorities. [redacted] The Katanga assembly still mulls over the Kitona accord but we do not look for an early decision. 50X1

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

- I.
- II.
- III.



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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE