

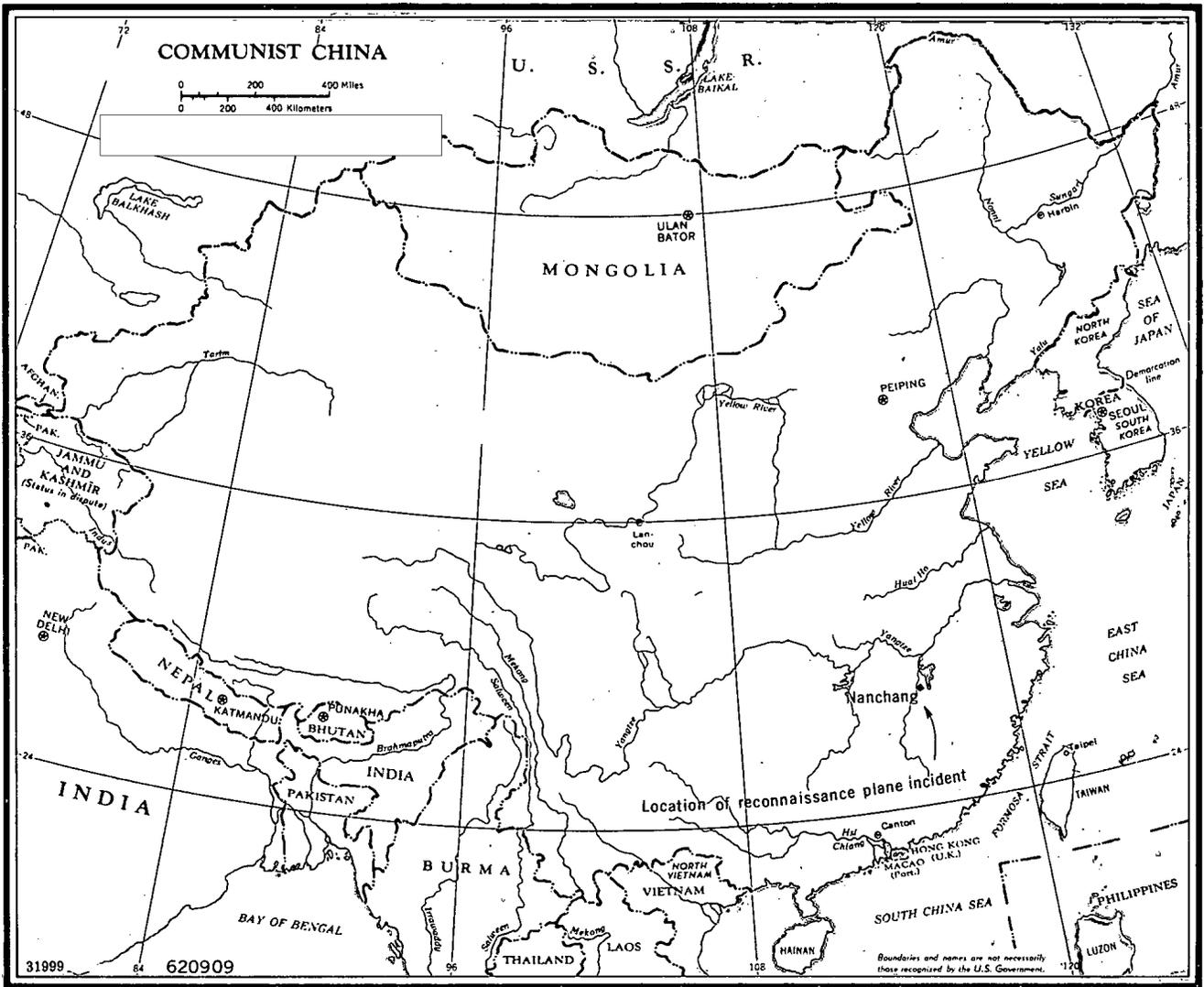
THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

10 SEPTEMBER 1962

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. U-2 Incident

a. The Chinese Communist reaction to yesterday's shoot-down of a ChiNat U-2 over east China has so far been limited to a routine press story asserting that the US is responsible.

b. A high-level investigation party apparently flew to the scene of the incident yesterday. [redacted]

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c. Moscow, for the moment, is also holding itself in. This morning's issue of Pravda carried only an eight-line report of the affair. We anticipate a more intensive propaganda exploitation of the subject from both Moscow and Peiping.

2. USSR-
Nuclear
Tests

We estimate that Saturday's shot over Novaya Zemlya had an explosive force in the neighborhood of three megatons, and are pretty sure it was delivered by a missile. [redacted]

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[redacted] we are seeing a new phase of Moscow's test program in the Arctic region in which the use of missile delivery vehicles will be a regular feature. [redacted]

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3. Cuba

a. On Saturday, a jet fighter that looked like a MIG-17 made several passes at two of our naval aircraft patrolling over international waters north of Havana.

b. The more jittery Central American countries are agitating for a full-dress OAS foreign ministers' meeting at an early date.

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4. Vietnam

a. We see new signs that Hanoi is in the process of assuming a more conciliatory attitude toward the south.

b. The Indian ICC chairman in Saigon is saying that Ho Chi Minh last week had some kind words for Diem and expressed a desire to extend the hand of friendship. Ho is also said to have requested that air attacks on "resistance elements" be stopped.

c. The initial South Vietnamese reaction to Ho's approach is a mixture of satisfaction (because they see it as proof of their success against the Viet Cong) and apprehension (because they fear the struggle will be prematurely transferred from the battlefield to the conference table).

NOTES

- A. Thailand Sarit and other ranking officials, still irritated by the Laos settlement and upset by reports that the US is about to give more military aid to Cambodia, are once again talking of swinging to a more "independent" foreign policy. They are as fuzzy as ever when it comes to spelling out what they have in mind, but the outlook is for a period during which we will find the Thais increasingly difficult to do business with.
- B. Laos The government is due to issue a policy statement on domestic affairs tomorrow.
- C. France - West Germany The idea that Franco-German cooperation in the development of nuclear weapons would be a good thing was an underlying theme running through De Gaulle's statements in Germany last week.
- D. France - Arab States Paris' relations with the Arab world continued on the mend over the weekend with the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Syria yesterday, and Jordan today.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE