

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

9 NOVEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba missiles

a. In New York last night, the Soviets told us that nine of their ships had left Cuba carrying all 42 missiles the USSR admits to having sent there.



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c. The Soviets also gave us the ships' positions as of today (they are proceeding via the Bahama Strait rather than the Florida Strait as originally agreed), and claimed that the masters have instructions to uncover some of the missiles.

d. Implementation of these instructions seems to be a different story. The word we have is that the first ship to comply with a US request to show what she was carrying turned canvas back from what presumably is a missile, but all our people could see was another cover. They have asked for instructions on what to do next.

e. Kuznetsov asserted that with the missiles now on their way back to the USSR, the Soviets had fully complied with their commitment to remove offensive weapons from Cuba. He stuck rigidly to the line that the IL-28s are not offensive weapons.

(Cont'd)

f. As for warheads, he claimed these had been taken out of Cuba some time ago. This being the case, he said, all talk of verifying their removal was "pointless" since it would be "absurd" to suggest that warheads would be left behind without their missiles.

g. Kuznetsov also argued that the time has come for the US to keep its part of the bargain. He read off a list of seven points Moscow felt should be written into our commitment.

h. These turned out to be a rewrite of Castro's five demands plus acceptance of the "U Thant plan" to establish a UN presence in the Caribbean (including the US) to make sure "all parties" carried out their "obligations."

i. Ambassador Stevenson told him we are committed to nothing beyond those guarantees spelled out in the exchange of letters between the President and Khrushchev.

j. U Thant, put out by all the conditions the Red Cross is attaching to its role as inspectors of Cuban shipping, yesterday proposed that the UN take over the job. He got a noncommittal reaction from the Soviets. We have not yet received word on how the Cubans responded.

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For The President Only—Top Secret

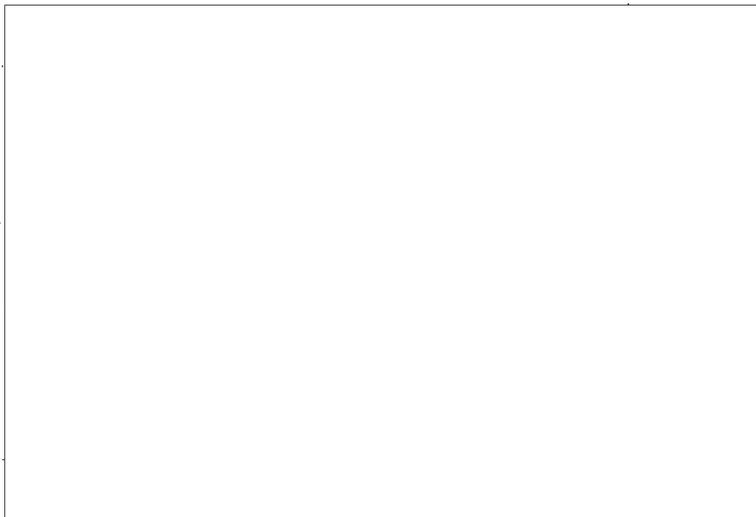
k. U Thant also called the Cuban delegation in yesterday to try out his idea of asking the five Latin American ambassadors in Havana to serve as the UN's on-the-ground verification team. We have no further word on this one either.

2. Cuba

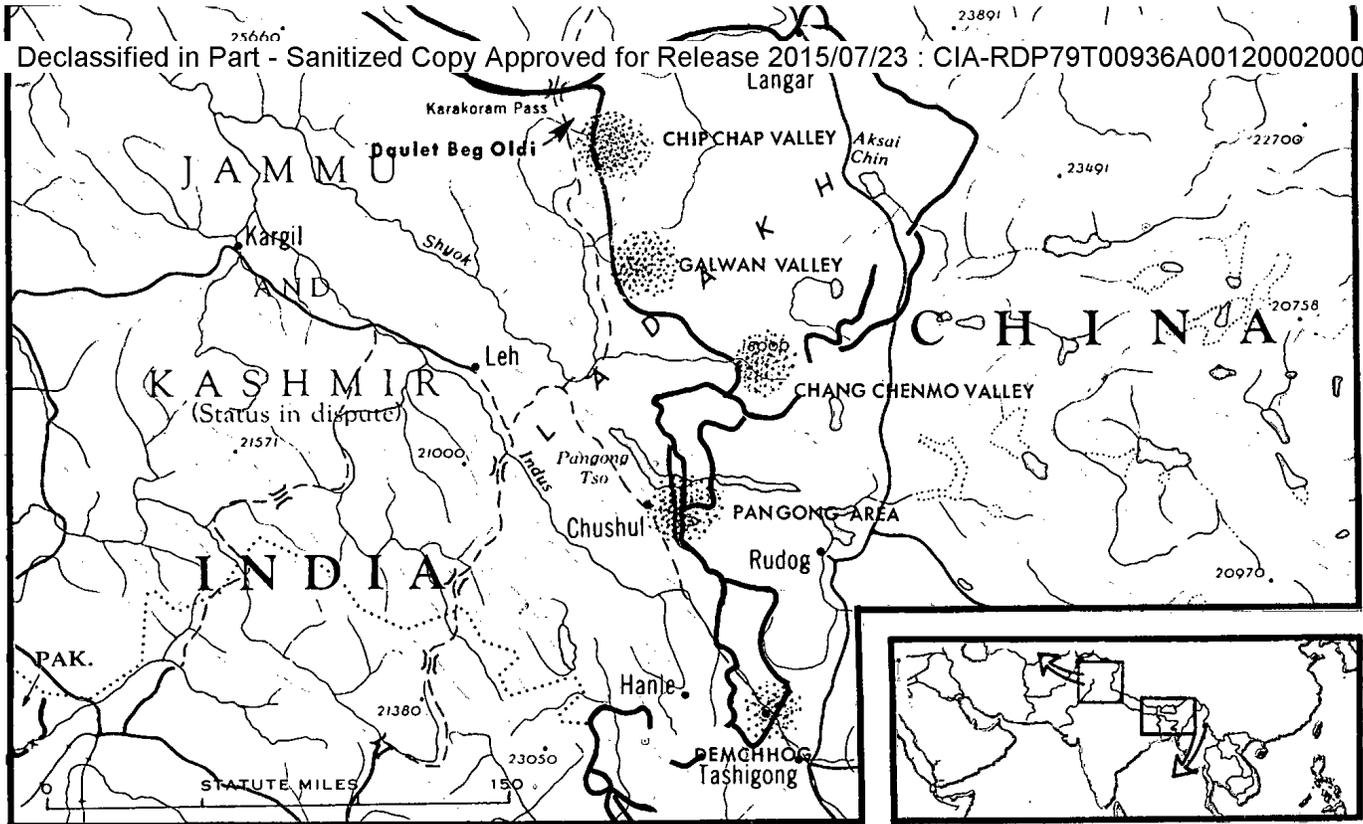
a. Wednesday's photography detected 24 IL-28 crates at San Julian, four more than the day before. The number of bombers completely assembled now stands at five.

b. At Holguin we have spotted nine IL-28 fuselage crates, but there are no signs of unpacking.

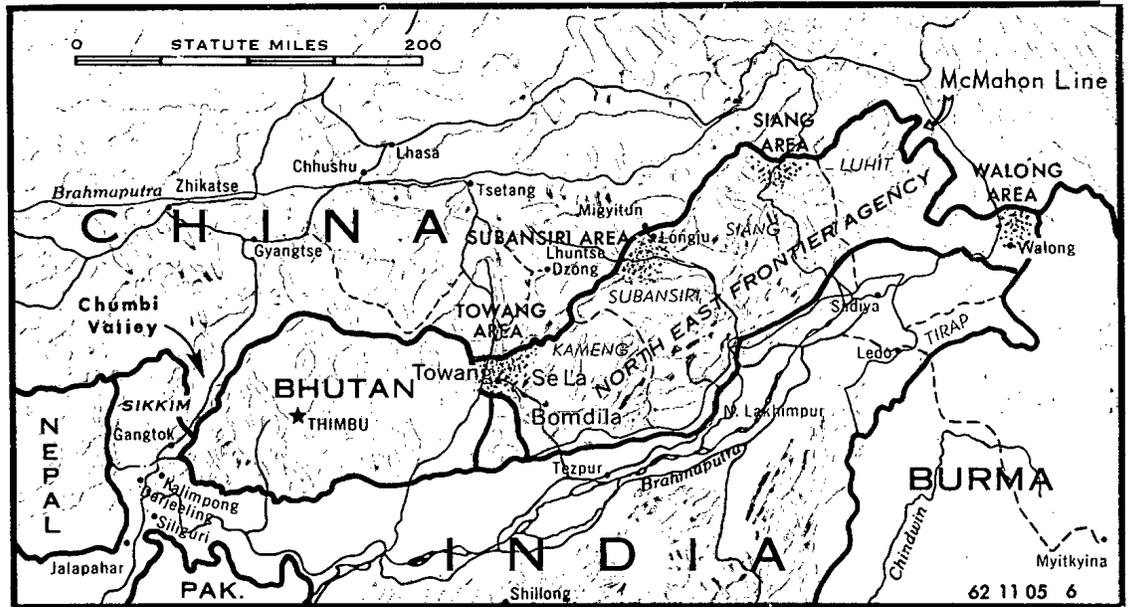
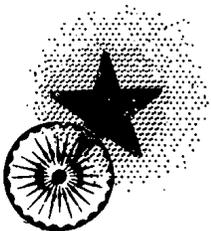
c. Pictures taken yesterday showed things at a standstill at both fields.



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-  Areas Chinese have occupied since 20 October
-  Boundary shown on recent Chinese Communist maps (Where differing from US and Western maps)
-  Boundary shown on most US and Western maps
-  Road or track

• 21020 Spot height (in feet)

f. The few clues we have indicate that Mikoyan, having his troubles getting the Cubans to see things the Soviet way, has pushed back his departure at least a few days beyond tomorrow.

g. Cuba, meanwhile, has been invited to be an observer at this month's meeting of the Communist bloc's economic council in East Germany. We suspect this is part of the sugar coating for the bitter pills the Cubans are having to swallow.

3. India-China

a. Skirmishing has started again in the northeast sector after a 10-day lull. So far, it looks like patrol action rather than a push by either side.

b. The Indians, meanwhile, have sent heavy reinforcements to the Sikkim area. This is being done to guard against a suspected Chinese plan to launch a drive through Sikkim and across the narrow corridor that separates northeast India from the rest of the country.

c. Elsewhere, the police have begun to round up Communists belonging to the party's "Chinese" faction.

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4. Laos

a. The four neutralists arrested by Phoumi's police on Monday, were released on Wednesday.

b. Two, one of whom is Souvanna's chief security officer, were produced in public for the benefit of reporters. They were shoeless and wore only army fatigues, but showed no marks of having been roughed up.

c. Phoumi remains unimpressed by arguments that these tactics do not promote reconciliation and reunification.

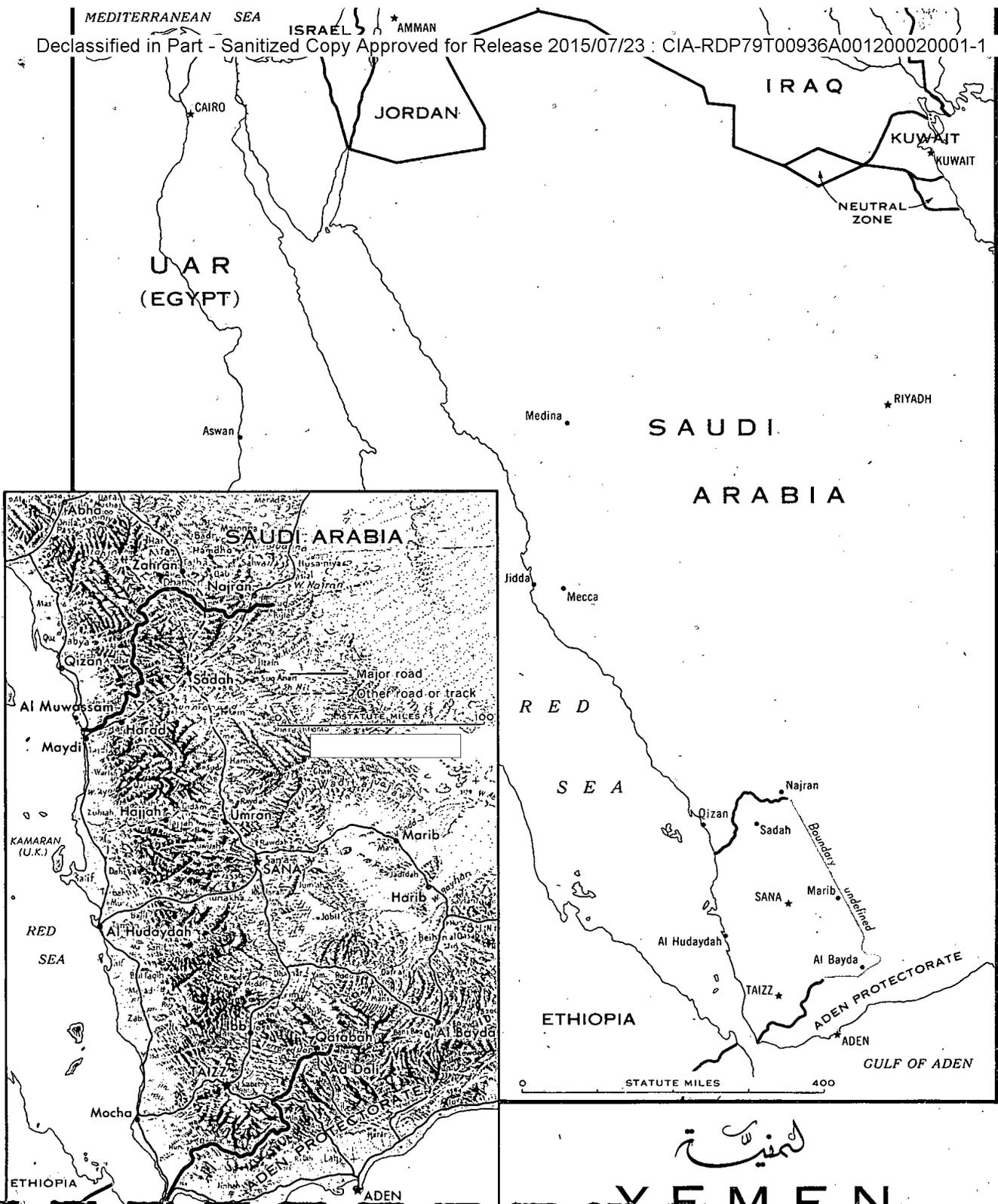
d. Souvanna is again advertising his intent to resign without saying specifically when. He asserts that when Souphannouvong gets back to Vientiane (he was due in yesterday), he will give the contending factions one last chance to bury the hatchet. If they don't comply, he'll quit.

e. Phoumi, in his capacity of finance minister, is off to Moscow later this month to negotiate aid and trade agreements with the Soviets. Our Vientiane embassy is urging him to prod the Russians on getting their side to live up to the Geneva agreements.

f. South Vietnam this morning broke relations with Laos following Vientiane's acceptance of an ambassador from Hanoi on Wednesday.

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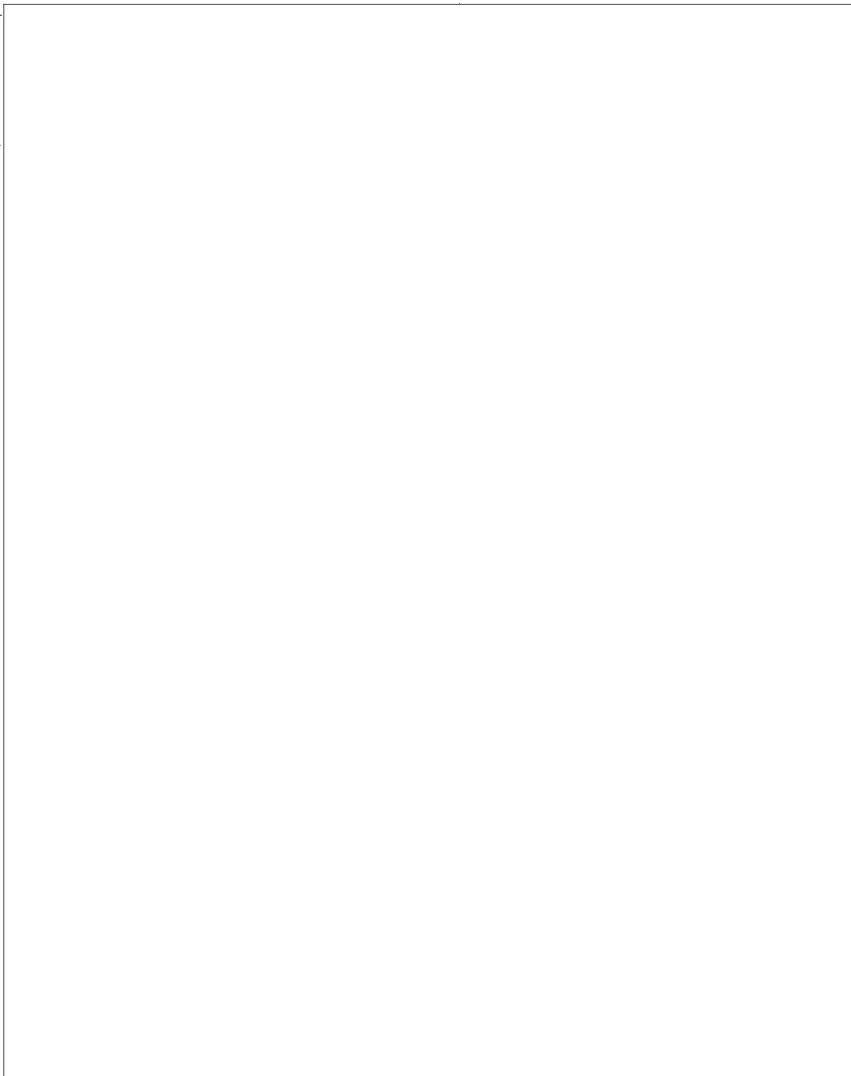


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**5. Yemen
developments**

a. The fighting in Yemen seems moving inexorably toward international conflict. All our evidence indicates that the UAR, Saudi Arabia and Jordan are getting themselves more and more deeply embroiled.



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6. USSR--
nuclear
testing

a. Moscow, with an eye to refurbishing Khrushchev's image as a man of peace as well as to stealing a march at the disarmament talks which resume later this month, has come up with a "compromise" proposal for controlling underground nuclear tests.

b. As Ambassador Dean got it from Kuznetsov, the Soviet Union is now agreeable to the installation of a string of unmanned automatic seismic stations close to its border. It is also willing to have two or three of these located in its territory on a quid pro quo basis with other nuclear powers.

c. Kuznetsov indicated there was no retreat on Moscow's opposition to on-site inspection, but hinted that the Soviets might tolerate neutral personnel taking a hand in the movement of instruments into and out of the USSR.

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7. Cambodia-
South Vietnam

a. Wednesday's report that Sihanouk had moved to break relations with South Vietnam has turned out to be premature. [redacted] the break will occur if there is one more border incident.

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b. [redacted]
[redacted] a break with South Vietnam will be accompanied by a call to Peiping to provide troops for Cambodia's protection.

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[redacted]

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NOTES

A. Cuba-Canada Canadian figures show that trade with Cuba for the first eight months of this year is running at less than half of what it was in 1961.

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B. USSR - Communist China Peiping's negotiators have arrived in Moscow a month earlier than usual to start work on next year's Sino-Soviet trade agreement.

C.



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D. East Germany With livestock dwindling steadily during the past year, East Germans are in for even more meatless days than the many they have already had to put up with.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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I.