

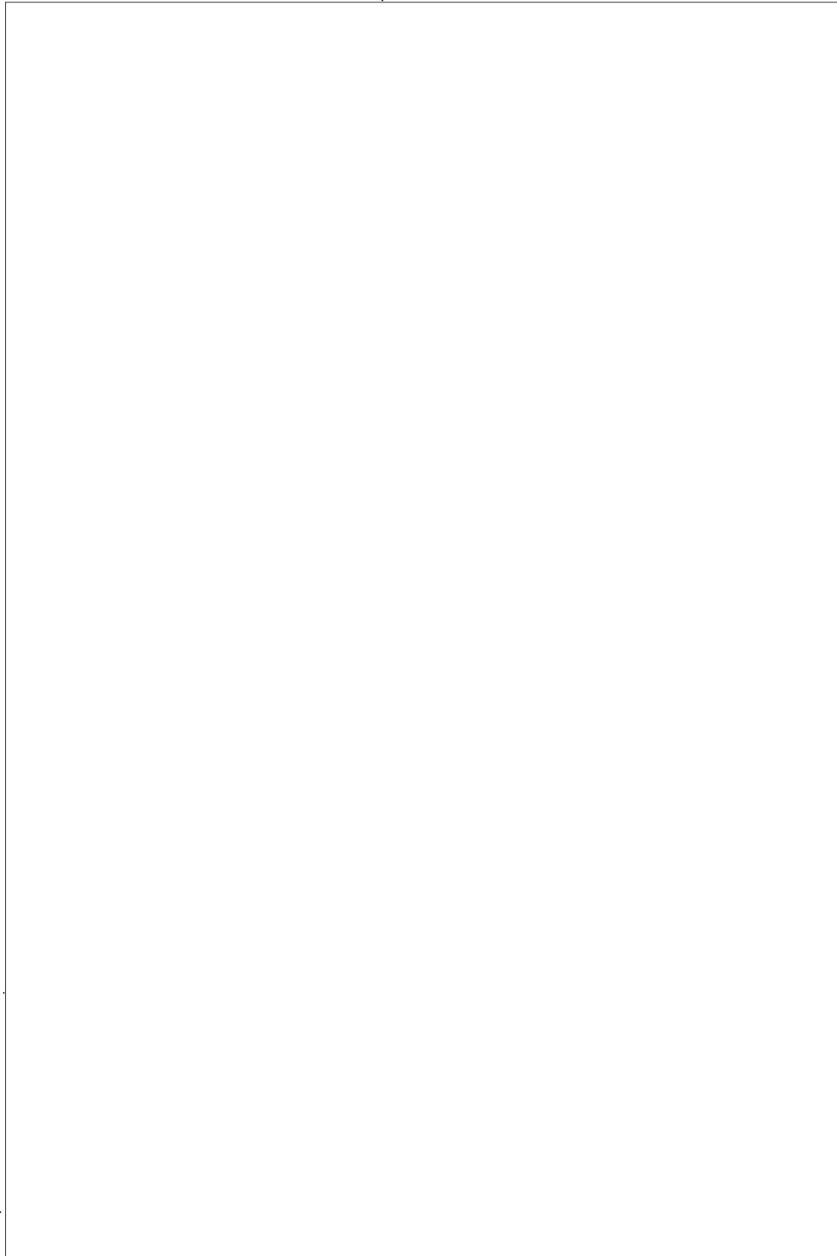
THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

30 NOVEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

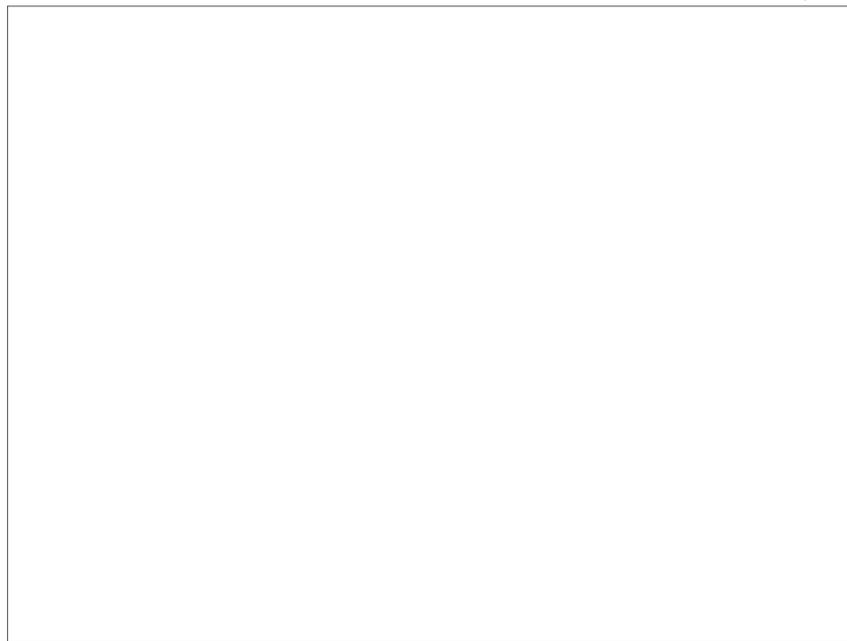
1. **USSR**

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2. France

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3. Congo

a. Congolese army officers--including General Mobutu--are increasingly intrigued by the idea of Soviet military aid. In conversation with US officials, Mobutu has referred to a Soviet offer made "as recent as this month," on the condition the UN be withdrawn.

b. His deputy says that on Tuesday a Soviet Embassy official told him that within a week Moscow could provide enough assistance to end Katanga's secession within two months, a line the Soviets are pushing "throughout the Congo."

(Cont'd)

c. The Katangan gendarmerie has emplaced anti-aircraft guns--possibly multiple mount Bofors machine guns--around the Elisabethville airport. This provides a new threat to UN airlift operations, but local observers doubt Tshombé would risk attacking a USAF airlift plane. UN fighter operations have been suspended, since Swedish pilots would not obey a UN order to attack any Katangan aircraft operating over north Katanga. This will give further leeway to the Katangan Air Force and add more to the woes of Mobutu.

4. Argentina

a. Tuesday we reported "left-wing" Peronist talk of strikes and sabotage unless the government granted acceptable terms now for elections next June. [redacted] the "moderate" head of the Peronist Coordinating Council may have left yesterday for Madrid to try to get from Peron a clear mandate for control of the movement in order to contain the extremists.

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b. [redacted] a new right-wing military coup is being planned [redacted]

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There appears to be some question as to whether the coup planners can really count on certain military elements essential to their plans.

[redacted]

5. Laos

a. Souvanna [redacted] sees the downing of the Air America plane by a dissident Kong Le unit as obviously Pathet Lao-inspired. He calls it one more action aimed at dividing up and taking over his "neutralist" forces.

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b. [redacted]

[redacted] the unit involved has since defected to the Pathet Lao.

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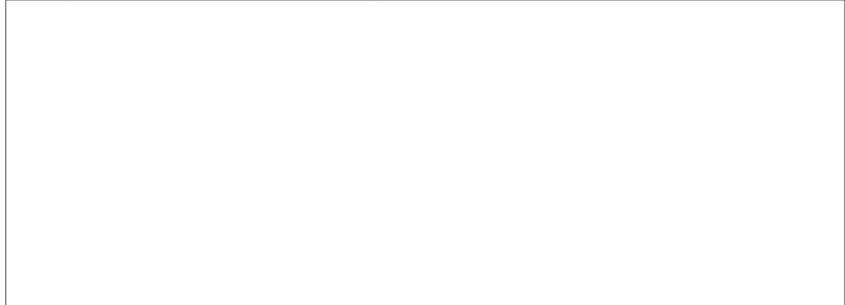
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c. Souphannouvong has been silent on the issue and Souvanna is beginning to characterize him as a "pawn."

d. Meanwhile, the Soviets are planning to move their transport aircraft to Vientiane to provide Souvanna with an airlift. [redacted]

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6. Sino-Indian border

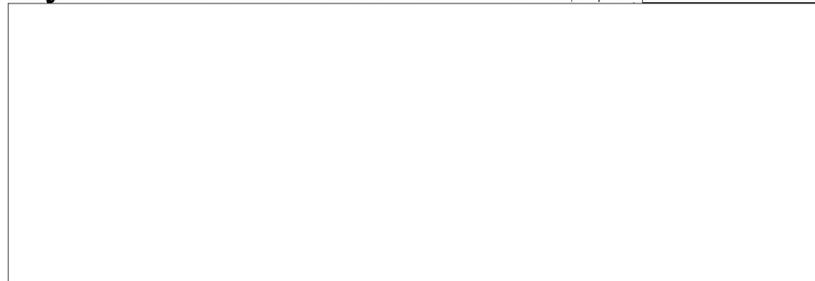
a. We have so far seen no evidence of any Chinese Communist withdrawal from the border area(not scheduled to begin until late today EST).



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c. Yesterday the Chinese aimed sharp reminders of the tenuous nature of the cease-fire at New Delhi--and probably at the neutrals. Their broadcasts pointed to Indian forward movements in the NEFA area as "armed provocation to undermine the cease-fire...and the proposed withdrawal of Chinese frontier guards."

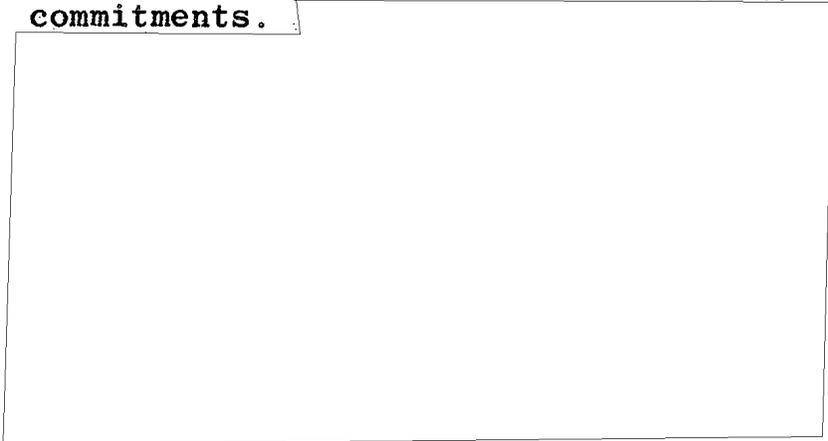
d. The Chinese also noted that they were keeping "close watch on successive intrusions and provocations" by Indian aircraft in Ladakh.



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f. The Burmese express some sympathy for India but are ducking any commitments.



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h. The Yugoslavs, meanwhile, are doing what they can to prevent Afro-Asian mediation efforts from favoring the Chinese position, and in the past few days have issued several very strong blasts against Peiping.



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7. Bloc food

a. Our review of harvests indicates that supplies will generally remain tight during the winter and next spring.

b. Soviet output has made almost no gain for the fourth straight year, and there will probably be some local food shortages.

(Cont'd)

c. In the European satellites, the grain harvest is the smallest in four years.

d. In China, with grain production only slightly better than last year's poor harvest, another hard winter lies ahead.

e. North Vietnam is having food shortages, but the North Koreans are doing relatively well.

NOTES

A. Turkey [redacted] a plot to assassinate Premier Ismet Inonu. [redacted]

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[redacted] While we suspect any such action would represent a private grudge rather than policy, even an attempt could upset the present uneasy balance in Ankara. [redacted]

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B. Guatemala A top Communist leader has recanted and published bitter open letters to Khrushchev, Mao and Castro. This defection may well lead to further splits in the Guatemalan and other Latin American Communist Parties.

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C. Haiti - Dominican Republic [redacted]

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[redacted] With Dominican national elections coming up on 20 December, the presence of a Trujillo next door in Haiti is likely to cause a storm. [redacted]

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D. Borneo

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[Redacted]

[Redacted] Indonesia has what we believe to be a long-range plan to annex them and is working to assist some local aspirations for independence.

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[Redacted]

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F. Algeria We are seeing continuing signs that the Algerian leadership regrets having come down so hard on the Cuban side last month.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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I.

