

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**29 OCTOBER 1963**  
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. Morocco-  
Algeria

a. Ben Bella has arrived in Bamako, and Hassan will follow later today. Mali officials anticipate a two-day round of talks.

b. All, including Nasir, place great hope on this mediation effort.

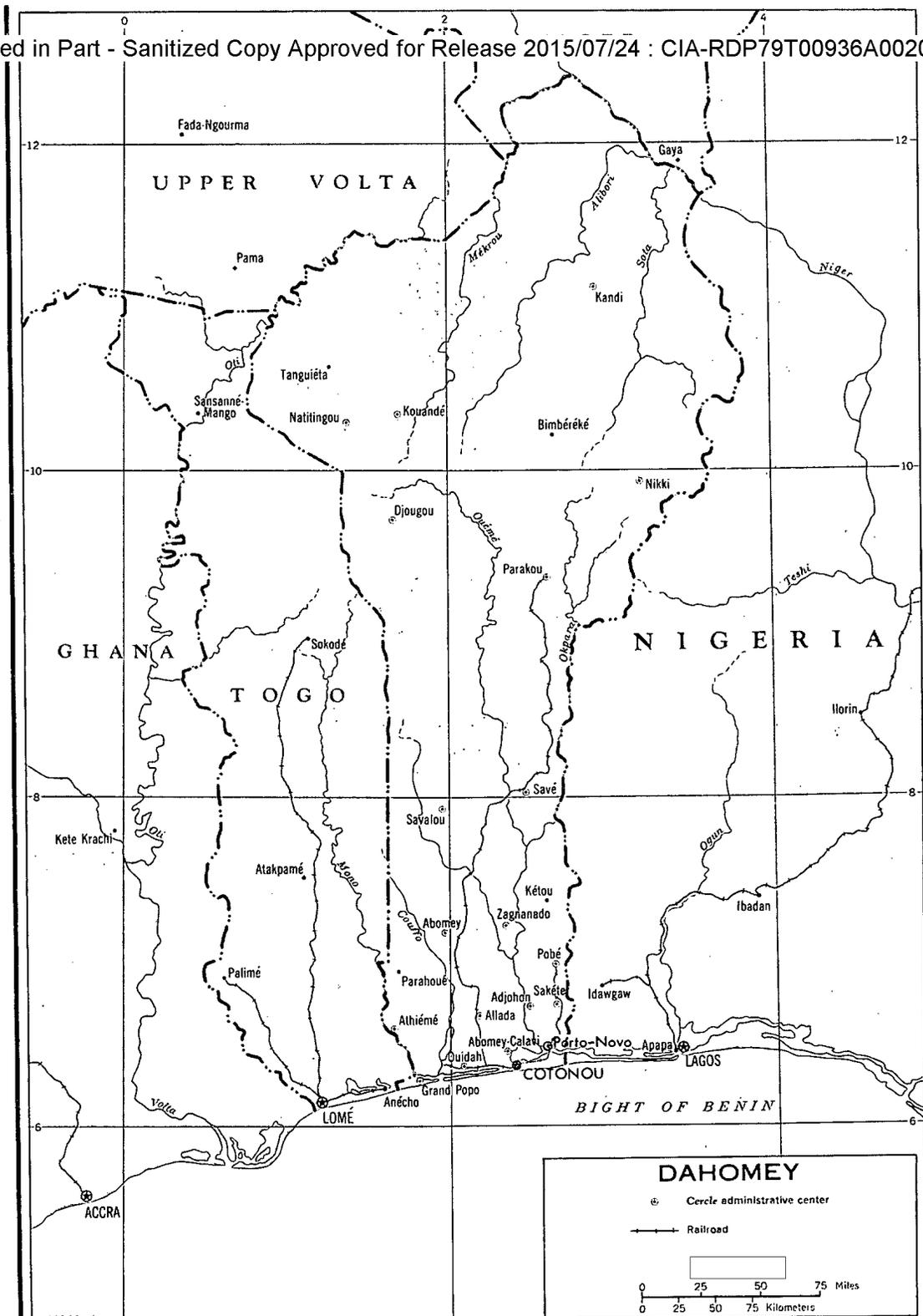
c. Talking to Ambassador Badau yesterday, Nasir justified his assistance to Ben Bella on the grounds that it would keep Ben Bella from an irrevocable commitment to the Soviet-Castro camp. In fact, he says, he made it plain to Ben Bella that if "significant amounts" of Cuban assistance were brought in, UAR aid would be withdrawn. Ben Bella could not have both, as Egyptians would not be caught in the same boat with Cubans.



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e. King Hassan has told Ambassador Ferguson that he is not looking to us for military aid; this he can get elsewhere so long as we do not prevent it. What he wants is economic aid.

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f. Hassan also said that at today's talks we will be seeking only a cease-fire and establishment of a date for opening border negotiations.

g. The front, meanwhile, seems relatively quiet, despite some skirmishing in the Tindouf area.

## 2. Dahomey

a. The military in the person of Army Chief of Staff Soglo stepped in late yesterday, turning the three-man provisional government into a four-man one which still includes Maga although he resigned as President yesterday.

b. Maga's retention reflects Army concern lest the northern tribes, which he represents and which are, in turn, well represented in the army, touch off a civil war against the south.

c. Ex-vice president Apithy and former National Assembly president Ahomadegbe, the other two members of the unstable, new governing group, seem also to favor Maga's retention. They lead the two rival southern factions in Dahomey's long-standing three-cornered power struggle.

(Cont'd)

d. Cotonou is superficially quiet and workers are returning to their jobs, but labor unionists will not like the retention of Maga. The possibility of civil disorders still looms large, particularly as there are now signs that military leaders are beginning to split along regional lines.

e. Equally large looms the possibility of outside involvement between rivals Nigeria and Ghana, with Ivory Coast, Niger, and Upper Volta, (the latter three "committed" to support Maga) watchfully in the wings.

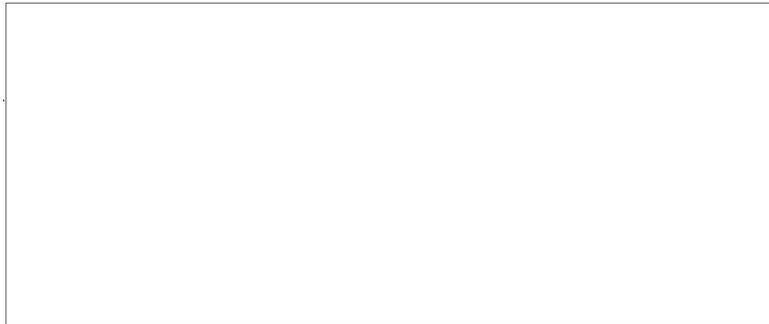
### 3. Brazil

a. An association of some eighty Communist-oriented unions in Sao Paulo has threatened to call a strike (mostly for higher wages) this week, and Brazil's largest labor confederation, the Communist-controlled National Confederation of Industrial Workers, is talking of a nationwide sympathy strike.

b. The Second Army in Sao Paulo has been alerted against possible disorders and can probably control the situation.

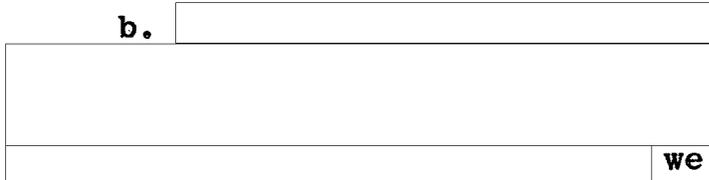
c. Even so, the possibility of federal intervention remains.

**4. Communist  
China**



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b.



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we  
have indicated early 1964 as the  
earliest probable date with later  
dates more likely if the Chinese  
encounter even normal difficulties.

NOTES

- A. Syria-Iraq Recent actions by Syrian and Iraqi leaders have caused Ambassador Knight in Damascus to conclude that they intend to arrive at full political unity within two or three months "at the most." The Ambassador feels that the cautious "sector by sector" approach to unity has been abandoned and that the present "all or nothing" pace is not necessarily a sign of strength and confidence.
- B. Japan-Pakistan To make their air agreement with China mean something, the Pakistanis have been working hard on the Japanese for onward rights to Tokyo. The Japanese have told us in confidence, however, that they will grant Pakistan no such privilege until the Chinese give Japan rights for a route through China from Tokyo to South and Southeast Asia.

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