

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**2 NOVEMBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. South Vietnam

a. The deaths of Diem and Nhu just about wrap up the generals' coup.

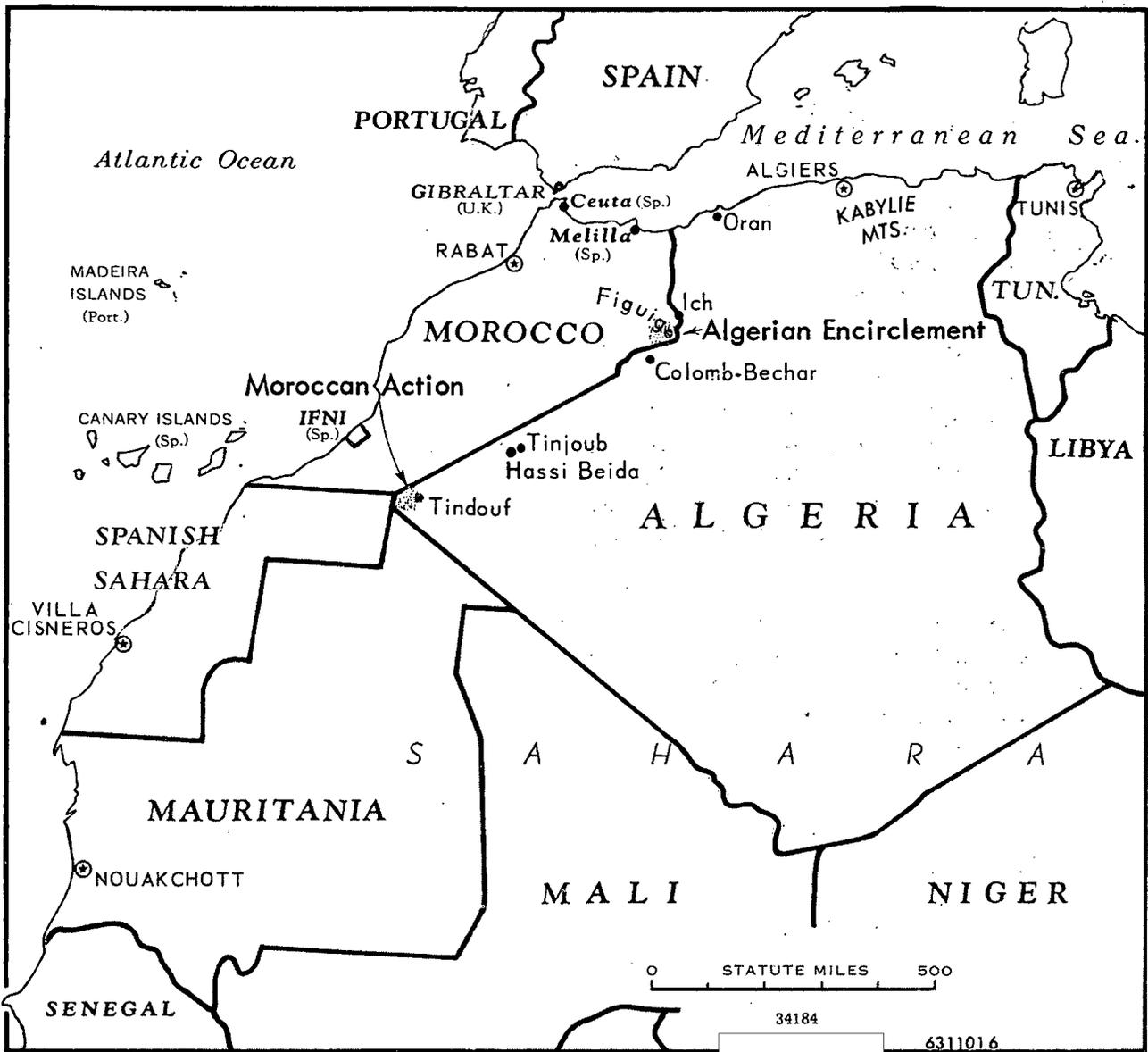
b. Not all versions of the story are the same, but it would appear that the brothers either committed suicide, or were done in after they surrendered. We suspect the latter.

c. The population of Saigon, in a jubilant mood today, has pulled down several symbols of Madame Nhu's authority and sacked the offices of the Times of Vietnam and another pro-Diem paper.

d. Ambassador Lodge was cheered as he drove through the streets. There have been no indications of anti-American sentiment.

e. We believe there may be some temporary dislocations in the counterinsurgency effort, particularly the strategic hamlet and paramilitary programs which Nhu had been running. Much will depend on the continuity of officialdom at the province level.

f. Initial reactions from Hanoi and Peiping have been characteristic. The US has put in "one puppet for another." We know that Viet Cong has long had standby plans to try to take advantage of a coup, but we have noted no implementation as yet.



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2. Morocco-
Algeria

a. The Algerian attack on the Moroccan town of Figuig which began yesterday apparently continued after the border cease-fire was supposed to go into effect at midnight last night.

b. According to the Moroccans, the Algerians were still attacking at dawn. Rabat is making noises as if it will bring the matter before the Security Council if the attack does not stop.

c. The action looks to us like a last minute attempt by Ben Bella to improve his bargaining position. Algiers claimed yesterday that Figuig was taken well before the Bamako conference and that it would religiously observe the cease-fire.

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d. The danger now lies in the prospect of a Moroccan riposte elsewhere.

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(Cont'd)

e. Even if a cease-fire does take place, Ben Bella is not out of the woods.

[redacted] the Berbers, who have been lying low, are beginning again to harrass his men.

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3. Algeria-Egypt

a. Despite Nasir's reported desire to side-step deep engagement in Algeria, preparations for the concentration of an Egyptian force around Colomb-Bechar continues.

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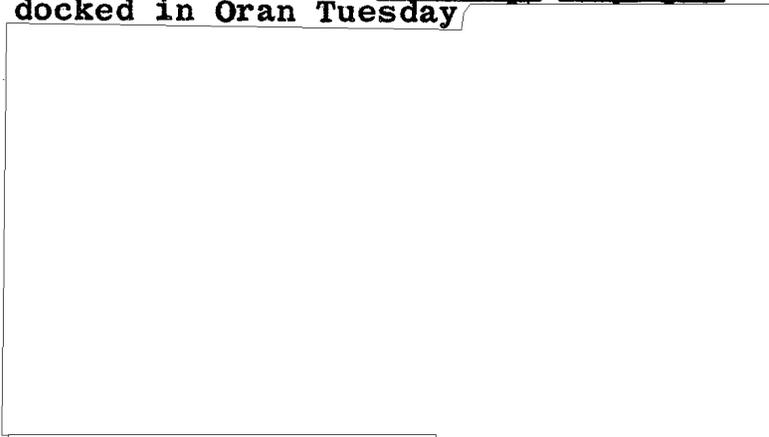
d. The Egyptians are still feeding us the line, which may well be true, that they are beating on Ben Bella to get him to send the Cubans home. Cairo's ambassador in Algiers told Ambassador Porter yesterday that a cease-fire would vastly improve their chances.

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4. USSR-Algeria

a. Direct Soviet arms shipments to Algeria, which we suspected would be coming shortly, have begun.

b. The ship Leninsky Komsomol docked in Oran Tuesday

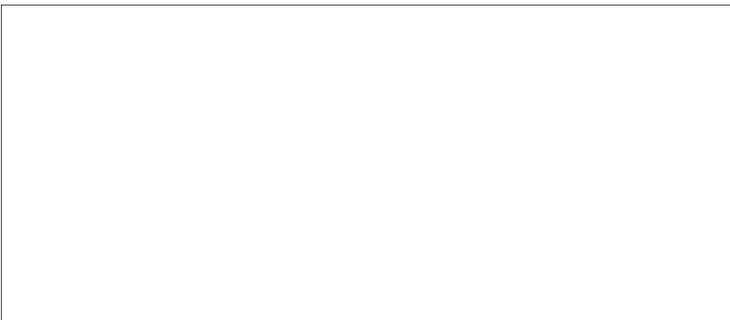


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5. France



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(Cont 'd)

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6. Argentina-
Italy

a. US oilmen in Buenos Aires have turned up evidence that the Italian oil combine, ENI, has been hinting to the Argentines that it could be helpful in cutting out other foreign oil interests.

b. ENI has suggested that it would not only be willing to help finance the bill to buy up US and UK contracts but would also be quite willing to take over on the basis of a 75/25 split in favor of Argentina.

c. We have asked the Italian Government to call ENI off.

d. The Argentine oil trust, meantime, has informed foreign oil companies that a decree annulling their contracts will come out next week.

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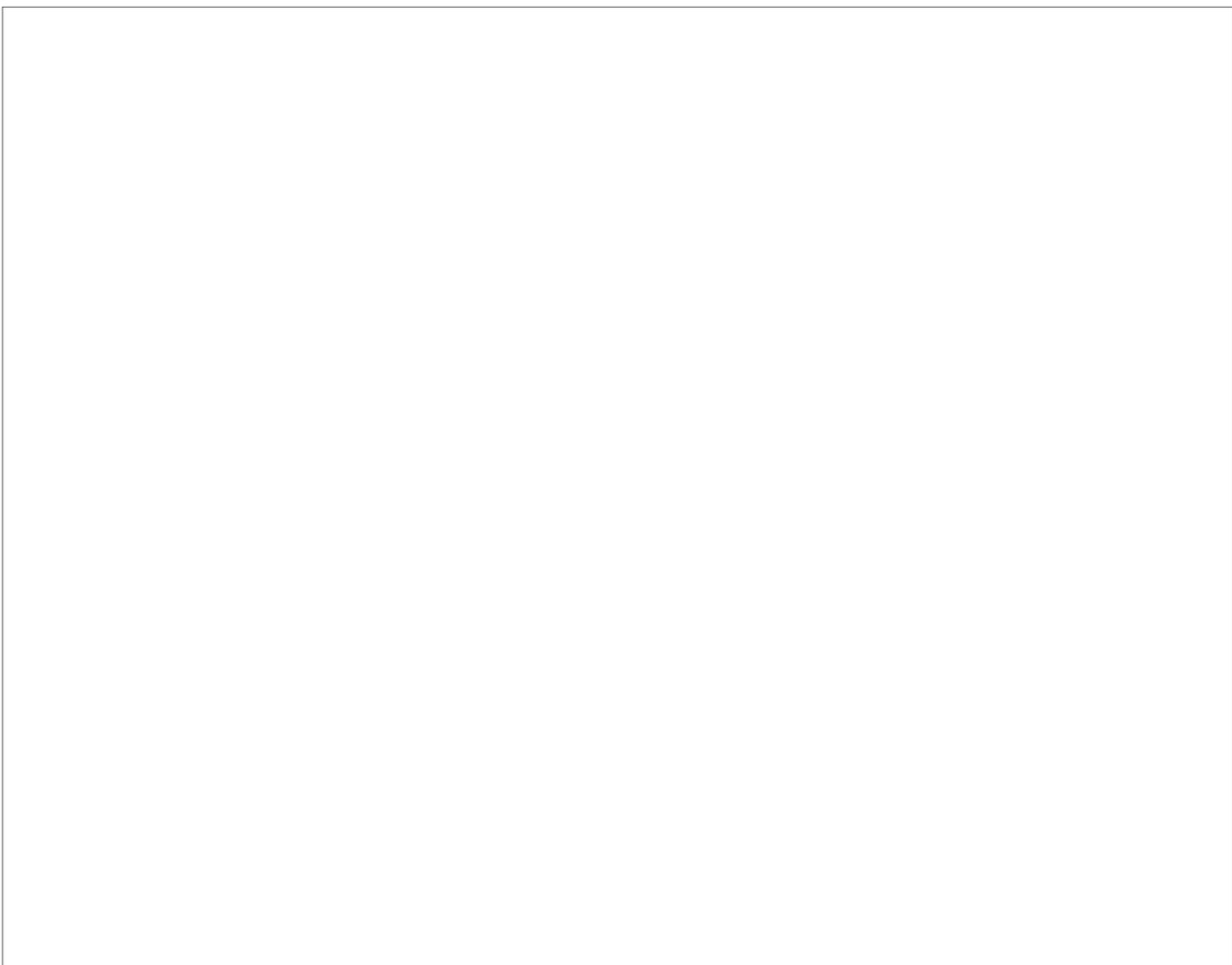
7. China



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NOTES

- A. Berlin We have picked up a further indication that the East Germans may be getting ready to put the squeeze on Allied patrols in East Berlin. They have cranked up a propaganda campaign against the patrols, complete with scare stories of the "atrocities" being committed by Allied soldiers.
- B. USSR-US We fail to detect in Khrushchev's remarks yesterday concerning a joint moon effort any marked change from his position in March of last year when he tied such cooperation to a disarmament agreement.



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- D. USSR Space Polet I, launched at a convenient time for the November celebrations, remains in orbit. There are no indications whether a recovery will be attempted.



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- E. USSR-Cuba  Khrushchev plans to visit Cuba before the end of the year.

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F. Turkey The New Turkey Party, a restive member of Inonu's coalition all summer, has finally decided to pull out [redacted] This will leave Inonu with the alternative of patching up a new coalition government with other parties or facing, as did Menderes, intervention by the military.

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G. British Guiana London press speculation that elections in British Guiana may be held next summer are not well-informed, says a high Colonial Office man. The official thinks it might take a year to get ready. The Sandys decisions have as yet provoked no particular reaction in British Guiana.

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