

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

21 DECEMBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cyprus

a. The rapidly-building tensions between Greek and Turkish Cypriots have erupted in the first major outbreak of violence since independence.

b. Two Turkish Cypriots were shot dead and seven other persons were injured early this morning in what started out as a scuffle with police in the narrow streets dividing the Greek and Turkish sectors of Nicosia.

c. Leaders of both sides began talking it out after the hour-long battle ended, but the situation is extremely unstable.

d. Greece and Turkey will both be tempted to intervene, and their relations will at the least be severely strained.

2. Saudi Arabia

a. The Saud-Faysal dispute is simmering down--with Faysal still in charge--but is not resolved.

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(Cont'd)

c. On the Yemen, Ambassador Hart reports his feeling that Faysal may be changing his mind about ending "disengagement" after 4 January.

3. Cuba

a. The tenth Soviet cargo ship to deliver military supplies to Cuba since October 1962 was [redacted]

[redacted] off-loading ammunition and some military equipment in Mariel on Wednesday.

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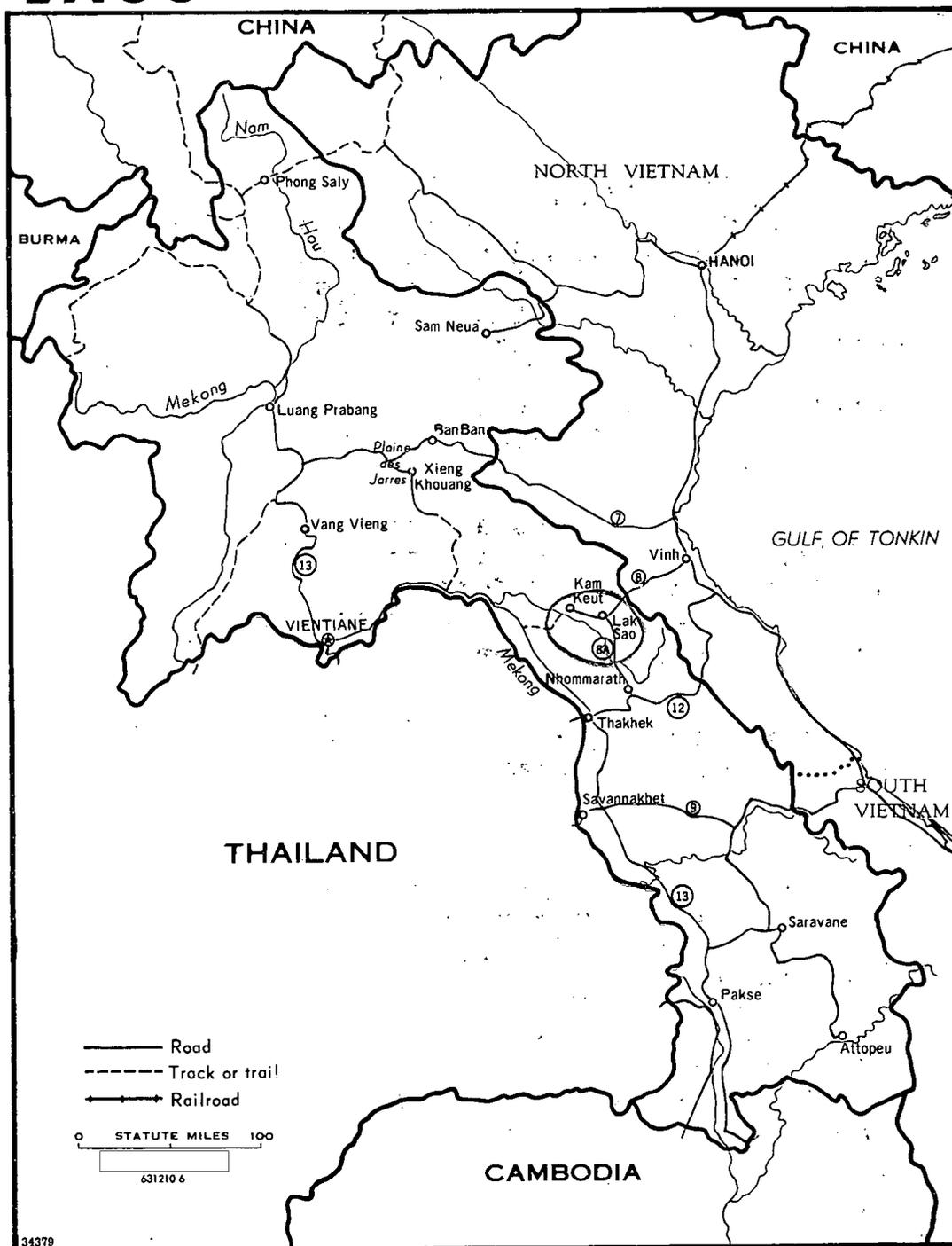
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4. Indonesia

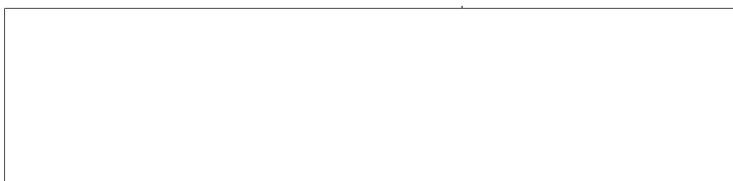
a. As expected, Sukarno has blasted away at our plan for an Indian Ocean Task Force, which he described as a move to block the struggle with Malaysia.

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b. "We will go on to crush Malaysia. We do not tremble. US policy failed in Vietnam, Korea, Laos, and Cambodia...."



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5. Laos

a. Communist troops have resumed their counter offensive in central Laos.

b. Having recaptured Lak Sao earlier this week, they are now close to regaining control of Kham Keut and are threatening the Na Kay plateau to the south as well.

c. Government troops now estimate the attacking force to be four fresh North Vietnamese battalions.

d. This is probably an exaggeration, but the Pathet Lao could not have retaken these positions without considerable Vietnamese stiffening.

NOTES

A. USSR-NATO The Soviets tried hard to maintain what they call the "spirit of Moscow" in treating the recent NATO meeting in Paris. Commentary on the meeting has been uncommonly temperate, with the focus largely on dissention among NATO partners rather than the usual charges of "aggressive designs."

B. USSR The Soviet press has finally mentioned the African students' riots. The line is to cry "provocation" and to warn them to "obey our laws or get out."

C. Greece The tangled political situation has resulted in postponement of the vote of confidence for Prime Minister Papandreu, but it will still come by Christmas.

D. Kenya Kenya, in the first few days of independence, has found Communist Bloc countries well prepared to move in with trade, aid, technical and cultural assistance and diplomatic representation. While Kenyatta's cabinet is reasonably well balanced between right and left, the leftist ministers have been able to smooth the way for these programs.

E. Dominican Republic

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F. Nicaragua

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