

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4 MARCH 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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CYPRUS



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1. Cyprus

a. Incidents were at a minimum yesterday as the Cypriot communities marked time waiting for the UN to act.

b. Approval of the small powers' peace-keeping resolution is expected today. However, the problem of finding military units to send to Cyprus will remain.

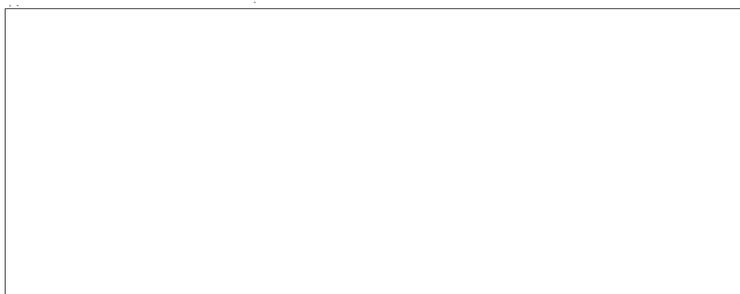
c. The key appears to be Sweden, which has seemed reluctant. The other Scandinavian states, as well as Ireland and Canada, have conditioned their participation on Swedish acceptance.

d. Other problems loom. U Thant wants to place Indian General Gyani, his observer on Cyprus, in charge. This will not set well with the Turks, and Makarios has said he would like to see "a Guinean" in charge.

e. On the island itself, the Greek Cypriots continue preparations to undertake the peace-keeping task themselves. They say that enrollment in their special police force has been completed and that all other elements will now be disarmed, by force if necessary. One paper has hinted that the British, as they have feared, will be asked to help.

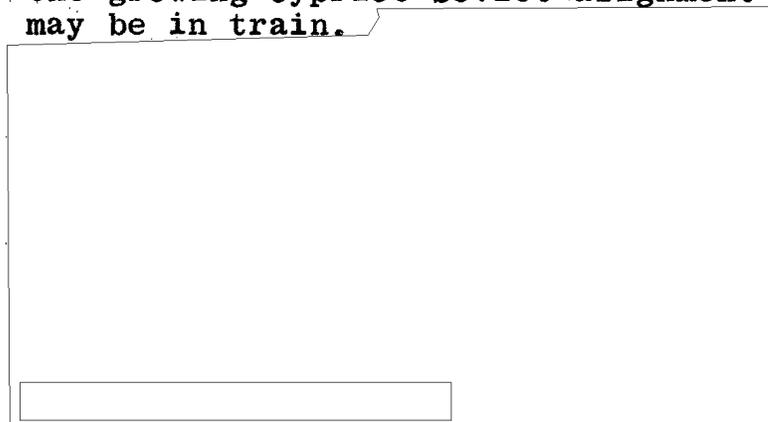
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g. Added moves to highlight the growing Cypriot-Soviet alignment may be in train.



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2. South Vietnam

a. There are signs which point to an early upsurge in Communist activity in the northern part of the country.

b. We consider the Viet Cong in this region, relatively quiet of late, to be perhaps the most dangerous in all of South Vietnam.

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c. Almost one third of all Viet Cong regulars are located there. Their organization, training, and equipment are the best the Communists have achieved.

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f. In one province of the area, the Viet Cong have been passing out leaflets which predict they will be taking over the province this year.

g. Yesterday's fight along the Mekong River near Cambodia was one of the year's biggest battles. Approximately 2,000 government troops engaged two Viet Cong battalions.

h. Government losses were heavy; 7-14 were killed and 81 wounded. Accurate figures on Viet Cong losses are not available.

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3. USSR-Indonesia

a. Soviet military assistance to Indonesia continues



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c.  consistent with the USSR's long-term interests in cultivating Sukarno. We have seen no indication that Moscow is encouraging Sukarno to act more militantly against Malaysia.

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d. The Soviets have confided to non-Communist diplomats that they would not like to see a war over Malaysia. The Indonesians, too, do not seem to expect significant Soviet support in the event of hostilities.

e. Along these lines, the USSR, after a three-month lapse, has resumed buying rubber from Malaysia. The USSR is the largest single buyer in this market.



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4. Zanzibar

a. Things are settling down a bit, largely because "Field Marshal" Okello is out of the country and his gun-toting followers are keeping to their camps.

b. Okello was in Kenya last week, much to Kenyatta's annoyance; he is now in Dar-es-Salaam [redacted]

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[redacted] There are rumors that an effort is being made to keep him out of Zanzibar.

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c. While these are hopeful portents, we are disturbed by the failure of popular President Karume to take hold.

d. To all appearances, Foreign Minister Babu, who like Okello has a band of armed retainers, is still the dominant figure.

e. He continues to insert his pro-Communist henchmen into key slots, and we are not at all confident that Zanzibar's drift toward Communist control can be arrested.

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5. Iraq

a. Even though a cease-fire is in effect between the Iraqi Government and the Kurds, the chances are not good that a lasting settlement will be hammered out.

b. Kurdish leaders look on the current arrangement as an "armed truce." They insist that the Kurds will keep their powder dry until their political demands are met.

c. On the other side is President Arif, willing to take bows for the cease-fire but determined to avoid any concessions whatsoever to the Kurds.

d. Arif's [redacted] highly personalized handling of the Kurdish question is only one manifestation of his recent attempts to gather more and more power into his own hands.

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e. On Monday he removed General Tikriti as defense minister. Tikriti was the last Baath Party man holding a significant post in Iraq.

NOTES

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B. Gabon Mba is using strong measures, including the arrest of his foremost antagonist, but the outcome remains in doubt. Feeling against the government and the French is high and more trouble is in prospect.

[redacted]

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C. Ghana Nkrumah seems to be making a real effort to arrest the decline in his relations with the US. Ambassador Mahoney, back in Accra, found Nkrumah friendly and anxious to please, well aware of the serious state to which relations have sunk and willing to eat a little crow. Though he has no illusions that Nkrumah has basically changed, the ambassador thinks that an indefinite period of tolerable peace may follow.

D. Congo-Angola [redacted] former gendarmes have suddenly left Katanga for Angola to "rejoin their units." [redacted] there are several thousand partly armed ex-Katangans encamped in Angola.

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E. Indonesia-Malaysia The three-party talks, which got under way in Bangkok yesterday, quickly ran into heavy weather. The Malaysians demanded the withdrawal of all Indonesian guerrillas and the Indonesians countered, as they did during the last talks, that a political settlement comes first. Although agreement was reached to meet again today, late press reports, as yet unconfirmed, suggest that the talks have broken down.

F. Haiti "Colonel" Hubert Julian, the [redacted] "Black Eagle" of Harlem and Congo [redacted], has popped up on yet another arms buying mission [redacted]

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G. France - Communist China [redacted]

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[redacted] France voted to seat Peiping in the World Health Organization. The vote, however, went 51-21 in favor of the Chinese Nationalists.

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