

FILE

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

12 July 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Chinese Nationalist step up planning for para-military operations against mainland

[Redacted]

Chiang Ching-kuo has ordered that selection of a 200-man force to be dropped in South China be completed by mid-July. We believe the Nationalists are actively considering a number of other steps to increase tension in the Far East, which they hope would inhibit changes in US policy.

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2. Soviet pressure move on Berlin

[Redacted]

Thompson reports that on Monday Deputy Foreign Minister Sobolev told the Canadian Ambassador that "if the US reply to the Soviet memorandum was quite negative, the Soviets might move their proposed schedule forward in time."

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3. Possibilities for 14 July in Iraq

[Redacted]

a) A big military parade and other ceremonies in Baghdad will give Qasim a chance to dramatize his leadership of Arab opposition to British presence in Kuwait. Possible further gestures would be to break relations with London, or to extend his claims even further down the coast beyond Kuwait.

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[Redacted]

c) Announcement of some move against the Iraq Petroleum Company; Qasim may be considering nationalization, but his experts will advise him strongly against it.

d) Since the British forces will remain in Kuwait over the weekend, an Iraqi attack also seems unlikely. (MAP)

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4. Thailand planning for resistance operations in Laos

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Minor military skirmishing goes on.

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5. Current Soviet army strength figures

[Redacted]

The US Army now carries 147 Soviet line divisions, down 28 from its estimate prior to the demobilization announced in January 1960. Of these divisions, 90 are considered combat ready at about 70 percent of war strength, while the others are at less than 40 percent strength. Army personnel strength is estimated at 2,150,000.

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6. Communist China matches USSR in relations with North Korea

[Redacted]

Yesterday, only five days after announcement of the Soviet-North Korean mutual defense treaty, a virtually identical agreement between North Korea and China was signed by Kim Il-sung, who had been hastily invited to Peiping for the purpose. Note: although Sino-Soviet competition for support of the Asian Communist parties is becoming rather obvious, we do not expect any immediate flare-up between Moscow and Peiping over this issue; they may well clash, however, over the program to be presented to the Soviet Party Congress in October.

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7. Offer of "good offices" in US-Cuban dispute may be forthcoming soon

[redacted]

The sponsoring states--Ecuador, Brazil, and Mexico--are continuing their negotiations. They have invited, but not yet received, the support of Argentina, Uruguay and Chile. The Cubans are urging "immediate action".

[redacted] 50X1

8. Call for further UN action on Angola appears likely

[redacted]

The chairman of the UN subcommittee on Angola is scheduled to go to Portugal late this week to get permission for his subcommittee to visit Angola. If Portugal refuses, as seems probable, he will have to return the problem to the General Assembly or Security Council, opening the way to an Afro-Asian move for UN sanctions against Portugal.

[redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

NOTES

- A. We are so far unable to confirm reports of an outbreak against the Dominican government in Santiago. [redacted] 50X1
- B. The Berlin Senate has asked Pan American to provide 50 charter flights next Tuesday and Wednesday for delegates to the All-German Protestant Church Congress. Pan Am will provide 20 and expects the rest to come from BEA and Air France if the three governments approve. [redacted] 50X1
- C. The military regime in Turkey is uneasy over the demonstration, in the constitutional referendum last Sunday, of continued strength of the Democratic Party which it ousted in May of last year. It still intends, however, to go ahead with elections in October. [redacted] 50X1
- D. The Sudanese government has arrested [redacted] opposition leaders, apparently in the belief that they planned some form of action against it [redacted]. However, the political situation in Khartoum will remain unstable. [redacted] 50X1
- E. Belgian press reports on the formation of a Congolese government of "national unity" are unconfirmed, but negotiations between Gizenga and the Leopoldville government continue. Tshombé remains obstructive. [redacted] 50X1

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