

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

1 DEC. 1961  
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Dominican Republic

General Rodriguez, fed up with the continuing inability of Balaguer and the opposition to form a coalition, has imposed his own solution, under which the armed forces would dominate a two-year provisional government under Balaguer, with Rodriguez himself next in line of succession. Balaguer has agreed. Fiallo and the National Civic Union regard the military ultimatum as "the dawn of a new dictatorship." In a reversal of an earlier decision, they have now decided to continue the general strike, and today could be a bloody one. [redacted]

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50X1

2. South Vietnam

A. The press campaign against the US has gradually abated. [redacted]

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B. An official in Diem's office claims that the educated class in Saigon believes these articles to be "true and justified."

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50X1

**3. Indonesian military build-up**

Djakarta

50X1

[redacted] to limit buying to those war materials urgently needed

50X1

[redacted]

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50X1

[redacted]

50X1

**4. Soviet Party Congress brings Bulgarian party upheaval**

Vulko Chervenkov, leader of the strong Stalinist faction, has been ousted from the Politburo by party boss Zhivkov. The latter for several years has managed to hold his own between Chervenkov's group and a pro-Yugoslav faction only with Soviet help. His problems are not over, however, as the Stalinist group is still powerful and competent.

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[redacted]

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5. Soviet submarine activities in the North Atlantic extended Since late July they have conducted continuous patrols in areas well south of a line running from Greenland through Iceland to the UK. Soviet submarines have maintained a virtually continuous defensive patrol in the southern Norwegian Sea and northeast Atlantic since July 1958. [redacted] 50X1

6. Estimate of Chinese grain crop We put it at about 175 million tons for 1961. Last year's was about 180 million, making this the third successive year in which grain production has fallen. [redacted] 50X1

LATE ITEM

Congo Tshombé left Elizabethville secretly this morning on an aircraft routed Brazzaville-Rome-Brussels. His ultimate destination is rumored to be Brazil, but this seems improbable. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

NOTES

- A. The Belgians and Dutch, still concerned/overprejudicing British participation in the Common Market, have succeeded in obtaining a postponement of a meeting scheduled for Wednesday on the French draft treaty of confederation. They have asked instead for a foreign ministers' meeting of the Six, which will probably be squeezed in on 10 December.
- B. Spaak has expressed his "great appreciation" of the agreements reached by the President with Adenauer.
- C. There are a number of rumors in Moscow that Voroshilov has committed suicide as a result of his humiliation at the Party Congress.
- D. Communist China has used the anniversary of last year's Communist Conference in Moscow (which dealt with Sino-Soviet issues) to make a statement implying that the dispute over Albania should be settled the same way. While not vituperative, the Chinese made it clear they do not accept Khrushchev's thesis that this question had to be treated publicly.
- E. Nehru, by increasing psychological pressures against the Portuguese in Goa, is providing himself with a useful issue in the February elections. The Portuguese are afraid of a military attack, but Nehru has indicated he does not intend to go that far.
- F. A new French-Tunisian spat may be provoked by French reinforcement of the Bizerte base this week. The force of 3-400 paratroopers was apparently sent to restore the morale of French civilians who felt unprotected.
- G. In Tehran, the National Front intends to defy police orders and demonstrate on 5 December against continued operation of the government without a parliament.

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