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# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

13 DEC. 1961  
~~TOP SECRET~~

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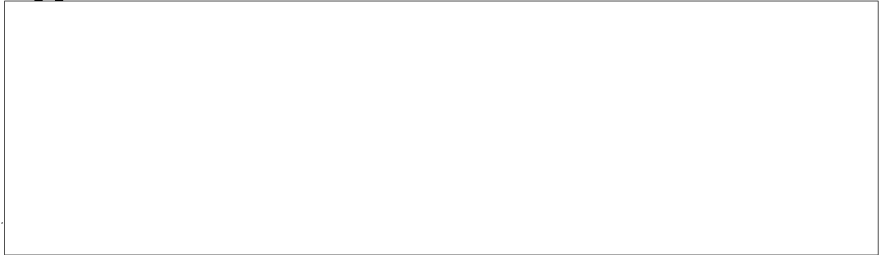
**1. Congo**

The UN Command plans to launch its offensive against Tshombé's main base in Elizabethville tomorrow following today's scheduled US airlift of Ethiopian reinforcements and materiel. Time for the operation is limited, however for the UN air force must stand down for maintenance early next week. US officials in Katanga suspect that the UN military are not completely under civilian control and intend to go beyond the limited objectives assigned them (establishing freedom of movement and removing the mercenaries) in "revenge" for the September fiasco. Our people believe, moreover, that the UN military leaders have made a "hopelessly unrealistic" assessment of Katangan strength, based on "incestuous exchange of their own views."

**2. Adenauer's position  
on Berlin negotiations**

The Chancellor may find it more and more difficult to make good on his promise in Washington last month to support East-West negotiations limited to Berlin in the face of general opposition to this concept in Germany.

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**3. Venezuela**

Betancourt will specify today topics for discussion with the President. Embassy Caracas is certain these will include:

- A. faster action on loans;
- B. military aid and more generous credit terms;
- C. commercial aviation problems.

4. **Sukarno on West  
New Guinea**

Jones anticipates Sukarno will not issue an attack order in his speech scheduled for next Tuesday but will set the stage for an ultimate take over should "peaceful" pressures fail. Meanwhile muscle flexing continues: yesterday Sukarno announced formation of a 15-member mobilization council with himself as head; a naval amphibious exercise is scheduled between 12-23 December.

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5. **Goa: Nehru has  
still not given  
go-ahead signal**

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now expects military action unless Portuguese concessions are immediately forthcoming. The Portuguese, receiving reliable intelligence on Indian troop dispositions from the Pakistanis, are evacuating women and children and trying to draw world attention to the Indian threat. Spain is actively seeking to line up support for Latin American mediation of the dispute.

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NOTES

- A. Ambassador Bruce believes MacMillan's major topics in the Bermuda talks will be Berlin, the Congo and nuclear testing.
- B. The Dominican situation remains on dead center.
- C. Paraguayan exile groups may be building up to some new action against the Stroessner regime. Although plotting is perennial and a number of small scale rebel invasions over the last couple of years have been turned back easily, the government is more nervous than usual about its security, particularly the possibility of renewed Communist controlled guerrilla attacks on police installations in the interior.

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- E. Brown reports Phoumi may now be trying to undercut Souvanna by reviving the old idea of persuading the King himself to accept the Prime Ministership. 50X1  
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- Meanwhile,

- F. Under the October economic agreement with the USSR, the Afghans will get a 50-year, interest-free credit of \$115 million on which repayment need not begin until 25 years after the money is spent; and a two-percent \$81 million credit repayable in 30 years.
- G. The latest returns from Australia's complex electoral system show that Menzie's coalition government suffered a decisive setback in Saturday's elections which turned almost entirely on domestic economic issues. To develop an effective working majority Menzies, as in 1949, may have to try again with a new general election early next year.

- H. Garcia has formally protested the Philippine election results, and is now trying to find ways of making his protest effective. Macapagal, meanwhile, is gaining support among the military. The latter's likely to prove the decisive factor.

LATE ITEM

Further on Indonesia. Jones saw Foreign Minister Subandrio today but we have not yet received his report. After the meeting, however, Subandrio told the press that West New Guinea "has become a problem between Indonesia and the United States and this has been stated in a letter from President Kennedy to President Sukarno-- Indonesia wants to know now for certain whether there is any change in the America attitude. Indonesia still hopes for some improvement in this attitude."

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