

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

12 JAN. 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Congo

A. Gizenga has reversed himself and now says he will go to Leopoldville to face parliamentary charges. This came after General Lundula called his hand and threatened to put him under arrest and after advice from the Egyptians and Yugoslavs to give up. He may still try to wriggle away--he seems to have a genuine fear of meeting Lumumba's fate if he goes to Leopoldville--but whatever he does, his political position is now badly crippled.

B. The UN disclaims any intention of rocking the boat in Katanga by resuming military operations, but insists that Tshombé's mercenaries must go and, like Tshombé, is continuing military preparations against the possibility of a breakdown in the reconciliation effort.

C. Tshombé, who has asked Brazzaville for information on a plane, is apparently about to make another trip abroad, destination and purpose as yet unknown.

He is also sending a special emissary to Washington for explanations of the Katangan position.

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2. Initial Bloc reaction
on State of the Union

Comment so far has been sparse in volume but the outlines of the reaction are emerging: emphasis on the points having greatest propaganda interest for them, i.e., the prospects for negotiations on Berlin, US unemployment, recession fears, illiteracy and high US military expenditures. While the latter came in for criticism along familiar lines, as did the absence of specific proposals on Germany, Berlin, nuclear weapons and disarmament, the President's expressed hope for a negotiated settlement on Berlin was nearly always noted and cast in a favorable light.

3. Portugal

A. Lisbon's threat to quit the UN will be tested when the Angolan issue comes up again in the General Assembly, probably some time next week. The Afro-Asians intend to give the Portuguese the full treatment. Meanwhile, the Angolan nationalists fortified during the rainy-season lull in the fighting by military training provided by the Algerian rebels and the promise of Tunisian arms help, are making plans for the resumption of hostilities.

B. Portuguese security officials have backed off from their claim that the unsuccessful New Year's Day uprising was an isolated action.

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4. Albania

A. A noticeable thaw in Greek-Albanian relations has resulted from the talks which took place between them late last month on Tirana's initiative. One outcome has been Albania's agreement to repatriate the roughly 500 Greek nationals who ended up on the other side of the border during the Greek Civil War.

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5. OAS developments

A. The Argentine military are trying hard to get Frondizi to stiffen up on Cuba, but Embassy Buenos Aires reports that Frondizi is keeping them off balance by spreading the notion that he and President Kennedy have everything worked out.

B. Chile, after much sounding of sentiment in and out of the hemisphere (including Canada, France, Great Britain, the Vatican and Yugoslavia), as of now favors a strongly worded resolution declaring that Cuba has placed itself outside the inter-American system, but does not intend to back diplomatic and economic sanctions.

C. Arosomena continues to proclaim Ecuador's opposition to sanctions, and there seems to be little chance of a shift before the Punta del Este meeting. However, his position is drawing a hail of criticism from the center and right and is shaping up as a key domestic political issue.

(cont'd)

D. Colombia, dead set against any modification of its resolution, hopes to get the necessary 14 votes by bringing either Uruguay or Bolivia around.

6. Indonesia

A. Peiping is sending a team of medical personnel and medical equipment to Indonesia to back up its offer of support in the New Guinea issue.

B. Sukarno called off at the last minute the ceremony he had laid on for the presentation of the President's helicopter gift.

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NOTES

A. Opening of the meeting of the three princes has been set for next Monday. [redacted]

their strategy will be to confront the conference with the argument that it is competent to deal only with the international aspects of the Laotian problem such as neutralization and foreign troop withdrawals not with questions concerning formation of a government.

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B. The East Germans are building what could become custom sheds at 4 of the present Berlin sector crossing points. This may be a preliminary to the elimination of the remaining 3 crossing points and to the establishment of new procedures designed to back their claims to sovereignty over East Berlin. Charges in the Soviet press yesterday of increased traffic through the checkpoints by subversives looks like further scene-setting.

C. The fact that two Burmese air force pilots have been assigned to Indonesia for training in Soviet MIG aircraft could be the tip-off that purchase of Bloc equipment is in the mill.

[redacted] This would be the first Bloc deal of any importance on the part of the Burmese, who have also been trying to obtain US aircraft.

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D. Moscow is staying well ahead of Peiping in the competition for the loyalty of the Latin American Communist parties. [redacted]

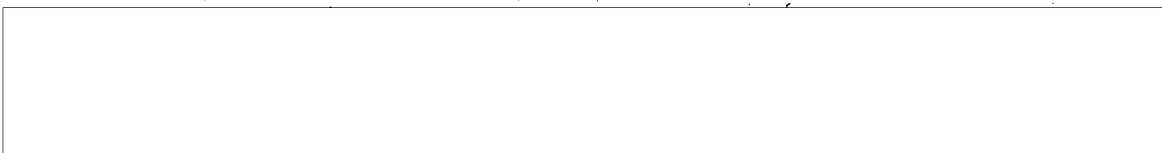
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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

I.



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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE