

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



4 JULY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Taiwan Strait

We have nothing significant to report.

2. France

We expect opposition members in the French Assembly will seize on next week's debate over more funds for De Gaulle's nuclear weapons program to press for a vote of censure to unseat Pompidou's government. (The total cost of France's badly-needed gaseous diffusion plant will be 10-12 times the original estimate of \$110 million.) Proponents of censure see this as the best election issue that is likely to come along, and they are trying to marshal support from those in the assembly who feel an independent French nuclear force will impede European integration. We are not sure of the outcome at this stage, but support for Pompidou has never been enthusiastic in the assembly. With the necessity for an Algerian settlement no longer acting to unify various assembly elements behind De Gaulle, there is a real chance that the opposition will succeed. De Gaulle would then be faced with calling elections in August or ruling by decree.

3. Algeria

The two Algerian factions have not yet come to blows. Ben Khedda and company arrived in Algiers yesterday amid wild celebrations. Ben Bella has flown to Cairo, apparently waiting for his strength in Algeria itself to build up. There have been a number of defections from the provisional government's forces to Ben Bella's, and the French may have opened the Tunisian and Moroccan frontiers, which would permit a major accretion to Ben Bella's strength. Nasir is feverishly attempting to mediate.

4. Peru

Yesterday's round of private talks between the presidential candidates (Haya was closeted with Belaunde for more than two hours) has given rise to speculation that some sort of government of "national union" may be worked out. If so, the leaders will have to sell the idea to their respective followers, and this may be Haya's intention in calling a special national convention of his party to open tonight.

5. Thailand

The Thai Government has formally announced it will comply, under protest, with the international court decision. With the public somewhat more apathetic over the issue than had been expected, Sarit will probably not feel it necessary to go through with even a pro-forma resignation.

6. Laos

a. Souvanna arrives in Geneva this morning where he says he will stay until the conference ends. He will then return to Paris to see De Gaulle, thence to Washington before returning to Laos.

b. In Vientiane, Souphannouvong has told the press he will not release American prisoners until a final agreement is signed at Geneva.

c. The new government's acting foreign minister says it will give recognition to anyone who asks for it.

NOTES

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- B. Cuban Defense Minister Raul Castro arrived in Moscow Monday, probably seeking more Soviet military aid and, specifically, more advanced equipment such as the MIG-21s and surface-to-air missiles

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- C. Pakistan's acceptance of the Shah's offer to mediate the dispute with Afghanistan coincides with signs that Afghanistan would like to engage in talks if it could find a face-saving way to do so.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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