

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

30 OCTOBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Morocco-
Algeria

a. The little summit got under-
way in Bamako today.

b. The signs are not auspicious.
The two principals, Hassan and Ben
Bella, were in the Malian capital
yesterday striking inflexible, and
antithetical, poses.

c. Whatever the outcome, each
appears determined to oversee a
build-up in his armed forces. Ben
Bella, especially, sees in the aid
from his friends the opportunity to
correct the imbalance between his
and Hassan's forces. He is not apt
to turn off the spigot.



e. Hassan is of course well
aware of the aid being given Algeria
and will not give up his advantage
easily. He has put out feelers--to
Jordan for one--for added military
help.

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(Cont'd)



f. We now learn that the French may not be as wholly in the Moroccan camp as we had thought.

[Redacted]

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g. Military activity on a small scale continues in some sectors of the border. The Moroccans have been reinforcing the area north of Tindouf (center of the iron mining region) and may move if the Bamako talks fail.

[Redacted]

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2. South Vietnam

a. An extensive reshuffling of top military figures is in the works, ranging from the chief army post down through the regional commands.

b. We regard this as a step by Diem and Nhu to head off any coup tries by the generals. The two may well succeed, though their schemes could conceivably trigger the very action they wish to avoid.

c. The generals [Redacted] [Redacted] have not abandoned their coup planning.

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[Redacted]

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3. Cuba-USSR

a.

[Redacted] the Soviet vessel Orenburg berthed at Mariel [Redacted] and off-loaded [Redacted]

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T-34 tanks, as well as ammunition and other military items.

[Redacted]

4. Somalia-USSR

a. The Somalis are having some second thoughts about their arms deal with the Soviets.

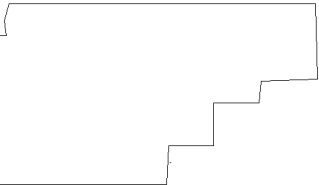
b. Pro-western President Aden returned from a visit to Italy and refused to sign off on the deal despite the fact that in his absence it had been accepted by the prime minister and the Council of Ministers.

c. [redacted] the matter will be reconsidered by the Council later this week. It looks to us, however, as though the Somalis are in too deeply with the Soviets to renege completely.

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NOTES

- A. South Vietnam This morning's press dispatches from Saigon report that the Viet Cong scored again yesterday when they chewed up a crack government task force 140 miles southwest of Saigon. They may have captured three American advisors.
- B. Dominican Republic The ruling junta will get a shot in the arm today if Great Britain follows through on its plan to extend recognition. We assume that other Western European nations would follow suit.
- C. Cuba-Bloc Our evidence does not support the reports, prominent in the weekend press, that the bloc is cutting back its aid to Cuba. 
- D. Brazil So far the strike call from a group of Communist-inspired unions in Sao Paulo has been only partially successful. The press says that half the industrial work force answered the call, but US officials in Sao Paulo report many factories working normally yesterday. The authorities appear to be taking a strong line and still have the situation in hand.

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E. Panama Plans by Castro-type revolutionaries to launch a campaign of violence [redacted] [redacted] attacks will be aimed at the US and may extend into the Canal Zone.

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F. Sino-Soviet Dispute The Soviets may now be backing away from holding a big Communist conference in conjunction with this year's October Revolution celebrations. The Soviet press, which had printed articles favoring such a confab, has taken to pointing up the existence of opposition to a meeting at this time.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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