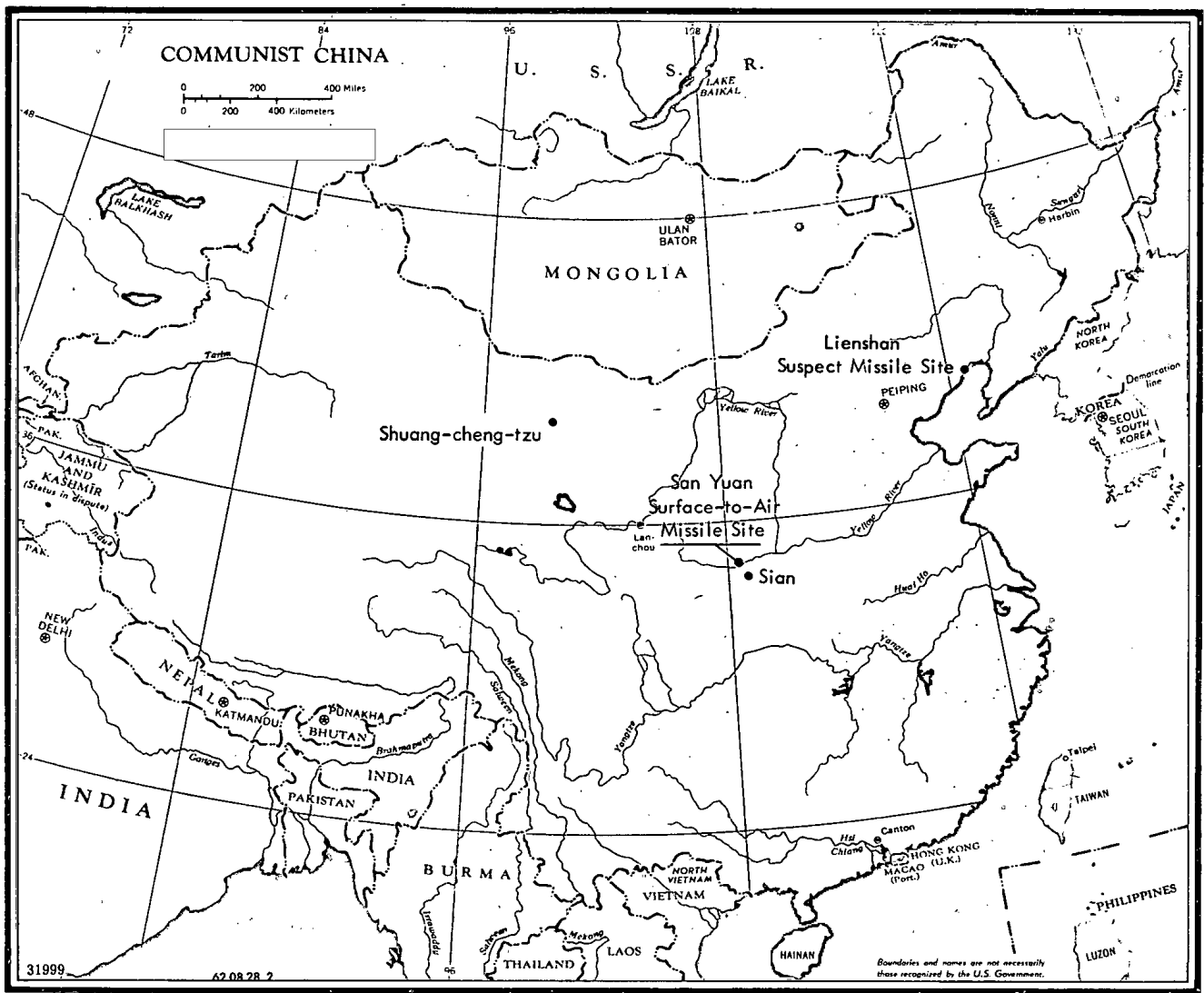


THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

30 AUGUST 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~



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1. Communist
China

a. We may have found our first Chinese Communist operational--as opposed to test--surface-to-surface missile site.

b. Recent Chinese Nationalist air photos reveal a complex on the coast about 225 miles northeast of Peiping which bears all the earmarks.

c. We think its construction may have been started before the Soviet technicians left China in 1960, but we can't yet tell its readiness status.

2. USSR

a. There are signs that the Soviet capability for launching ballistic missiles from submerged submarines is better than we had earlier suspected.

b. Last week, submarine 777, a modified version of the conventionally-powered G-class, apparently fired two, possibly three, missiles in about twelve minutes to either 650 or 2,000 miles on the Northern Fleet test range. Two weeks earlier it fired two in less than five minutes. We do not know if 777 was submerged during these rapid fire tests, but last spring it did launch a single missile while submerged.

c. Meanwhile, a number of pieces of circumstantial evidence seem to be falling into a pattern suggesting that nuclear-powered submarines of the H-class may also be capable of firing ballistic missiles while submerged. We believe that the Soviets presently have about seven H-class subs, all based in the Western Arctic. [redacted]

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3. Cuba

a. [redacted]

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[redacted] a Cuban anti-Castro group there, which calls itself "Alpha-66" (from its search for 66 thousand dollars) is planning an operation sometime in the next six days.

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b. Little is known about this group, but something may very well be cooking. Army intelligence in Puerto Rico is guessing at an air attack by one or two planes.

c. President Ydigoras of Guatemala, recently refused to see the deputy chief of Miro Cardona's Cuban Revolutionary Council. However, his consul in Miami has now told the head of a conservative exile group, the former Supreme Court chief, that Ydigoras is once again interested in reactivating the Cuban "government-in-exile" issue.

For The President Only—Top Secret

d. The Cuban application to LAFTA appears to have been voted down.

e. In the torrent of words out of Havana yesterday about Western press reports on Soviet shipments to Cuba, we note no flat denial that arms are involved. Cuban TV laid heavy stress on President Kennedy's phrase "not... at this time" in his press conference response on a Cuban invasion; it omitted his clarification. We note that TASS very carefully spelled out the latter.

f. We have a fragmentary Cuban naval report of an exchange of fire between Cuban naval units and unidentified vessels off the north coast about 30 miles east of Havana late last night. The Cuban navy has been alerted. We don't now know if there has indeed been a new incident or whether someone is merely trigger happy.

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4. Berlin

a. We may soon get a somewhat clearer picture of immediate Soviet intentions over Berlin.

b. The East Germans are scheduling an "important international press conference" on Friday. Presumably it will reflect the Ulbricht-Khrushchev talks.

c. We have noted an East German party directive, with an absolute deadline of 28 August, calling for a "true appraisal" of the "mood of all levels" of the East German populace on the dissolution of the Soviet Kommandatura in Berlin. We assume it is being prepared for Ulbricht and the Central Committee meeting scheduled upon his return.

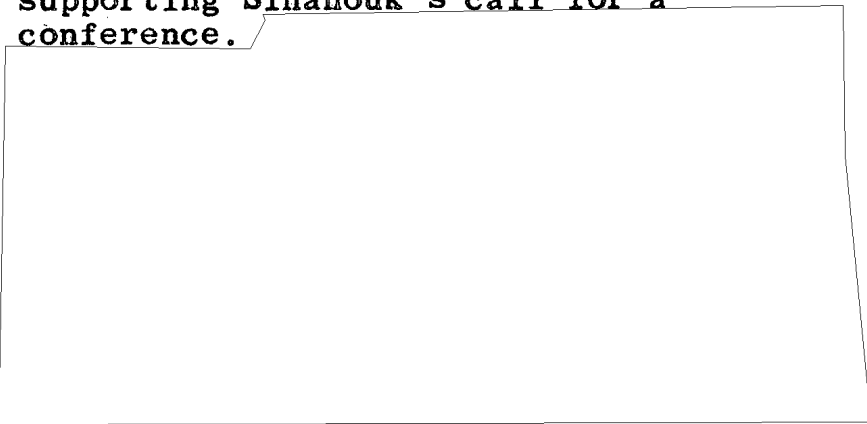
d. U Thant says Khrushchev has no "present" plans to attend the UN session, but did not rule out a change of plans. Khrushchev gave "no indication" he intended to put a German treaty on the UN agenda. He gave the "impression" he would like to meet with President Kennedy if the occasion demanded it.

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5. Cambodia

a. North Vietnam and Communist China have now joined the Soviets in supporting Sihanouk's call for a conference.

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c. A Cambodian army communique claims that on Sunday a Cambodian patrol stumbled over a Thai land-mine, with serious injuries to one man, presumably inside Cambodia. However, we also note a Thai police report on the episode placing it inside Thailand.

[REDACTED]

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6. Algeria

a. Forces may indeed be gathering for an armed showdown in Algiers, although there are expressions of abhorrence from all sides at the thought of civil war.

b. The city has simmered down after yesterday's violence, but this morning troops rolled in from Wilaya III to support the Wilaya IV opponents of Ben Bella now controlling the city.

c. Monday we saw warning orders to units in western Algeria supporting Ben Bella. This morning his Political Bureau publicly called for contingents from loyal ALN units "to assure the security of Algiers."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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USIB WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS -- 29 August 1962

No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

Events in Berlin during the past week indicate that Moscow continues its efforts to create de facto the conditions which a peace treaty with East Germany would formalize. However, we see no present indication in Bloc military activity that the Soviets anticipate a serious military confrontation over Berlin in the immediate future.

We are not able on the basis of evidence available at this time to determine the precise nature or purpose of the intensified program of Bloc military assistance and construction in Cuba. At the least, recent deliveries indicate a significant Soviet effort to improve the defensive military capabilities of the Cuban regime.

NOTES

- A. UAR It is still far from clear that Cairo has actually decided to withdraw from the Arab League, although its delegates are home from the session in Lebanon. Yesterday morning, a Foreign Ministry official told our embassy that no final decision had been reached, and that the government hoped it "would not have to" withdraw.
- B. Congo Thsombé has told US officials in Elisabethville that he will reply on Monday or Tuesday to the UN plan which was receiving "minute study."
- C. North Korea The Soviets seem to be building up the North Korean Air Force. Two weeks ago they flew in at least eleven IL-28 jet light bombers. [redacted] Be-fore this influx the Koreans had 80. [redacted]
- D. Test Talks [redacted] the Soviet rejection of the new Western proposals is not final and that they are still being studied in Moscow.
- E. Argentina Squabbling among the army leaders has flared up again, but there appears to be no immediate threat to President Guido.

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

- I. TASS broadcasts a report on President Kennedy's press conference yesterday.
- II. Soviets in Bonn privately spread a new line: that the recent space achievements reduce the "pressure" on the USSR to move quickly on Berlin.
- III. A West Berlin businessman believes the Soviets are launching a new trade program aimed at wooing the owners and workers of small factories in West Berlin.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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