

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

9 NOV. 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Changeover in Ecuador

a) Arosemena is scheduled to be sworn in as President today, following the collapse of army opposition to him yesterday. There is almost universal approval within Ecuador of the constitutional solution of the crisis, and Arosemena will begin his term with a broad spectrum of political support. He is faced, however, with the same serious economic problems which brought his predecessor's downfall, and his policies will be under constant critical scrutiny by the military as well as by leftist and rightist political factions;

b) Arosemena has a record of anti-US bias and has shown some sympathy for the USSR following a recent visit there.

c) there are indications, however, of a tentative deal between Arosemena and the center and right. Cabinet appointments announced so far include a number of moderate Socialists and Conservatives, but no known Communists or radical leftists.

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2. Albanians counterattack
Khrushchev

At the celebrations of their party anniversary in Tirana, they have bitterly denounced Khrushchev, labelling him "anti-Marxist" among other things, and have detailed a list of long-standing grievances against him. Moscow could probably ignore the polemics if they were not accompanied by an extensive airing of the Bloc's dirty linen, including charges of persistent Soviet economic, political and military pressure. Peiping too, has reaffirmed its defiance in a message to the Albanians specifically endorsing their "correct" policy.

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NOTES

- A. Security forces in Argentina appear to have successfully checked public disorder arising from the 3-day general strike which is scheduled to end today.

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- C. Further details on the equipment displayed during the 7 November military parade in Moscow reveal only one novelty: a truck-mounted missile which probably indicates that the Soviets have developed a mobile short-range missile system intended for ground forces and possibly submarines.

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WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--8 November 1961

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

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

South Vietnam: Communist forces continue their efforts to undermine the Diem government by widespread guerrilla attacks, sabotage, and terrorism in order to expand Viet Cong areas of control in South Vietnam.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

For The President Only—Top Secret