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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--18 AUGUST 1962

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THERE ARE GROUNDS FOR THINKING THAT THE LARGE INFLUX OF SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICIANS INTO CUBA LATELY COULD BE CONNECTED WITH THE BEGINNING OF CONSTRUCTION OF SUR-				
SHIPMENTS HAVE INCLUDED QUANTITIES OF ELECTRONIC, TRANSPORTA-				
TION AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT				
2. ARGENTINA	_			
ARGENTINA'S NAVY CHIEFS, WHO HOLD SOMETHING LIKE A SWING				
VOTE AMONG THE MILITARY, HAD, AT LAST REPORT, COME DOWN ON				

THE SIDE OF KEEPING GUIDO AS PRESIDENT AND PRESERVING THE FRAGMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONALITY.

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THE US EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES FELT YESTERDAY THAT IT COULD SAY THAT "THE CLOUDS SEEM TO BE LIFTING." THERE ARE NO DETAILS YET ON WHAT KIND OF A DEAL WAS STRUCK BEHIND THE SCENES, BUT IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE GUIDO GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO RESTRICT FREE POLITICAL ACTIVITY FOR A FIXED PERIOD OF TIME.

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3. LAOS

EVIDENCE ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS
FROM LAOS CONTINUES TO COME IN. YESTERDAY,

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THE NORTH VIETNAMESE

FORCES IN THE NHOMMARATH AREA IN CENTRAL LAOS "ARE TO MOVE BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY ON 19, 20 AND 21 AUGUST." NO MATTER HOW MANY INDICATIONS OF THIS KIND SHOW UP, HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT TO KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHAT PORTION OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN PULLED OUT. SOME PART OF THE FORCE, WE FEEL SURE, WILL REMAIN BEHIND BOTH TO SUPPORT THE PATHET LAO AND TO PROTECT THE INFILTRATION ROUTE INTO SOUTH VIETNAM.

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4. CONGO

THE SITUATION IN NORTHERN KATANGA SEEMS TO BE ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED FROM YESTERDAY. PRESS DISPATCHES ARE REPORTING CONTINUING CLASHES BETWEEN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND KATANGAN FORCES BUT THERE IS NO HARD INFORMATION AS TO THEIR EXTENT OR OUTCOME.

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IOP SECRET

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