

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

14 AUGUST 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

THE SITUATION IN BERLIN - As of 0800 This Morning

The new restrictions on the travel of East Berliners and East Germans to West Berlin were announced by the Ulbricht regime as having been introduced in response to a proposal by the Warsaw Pact nations. This is the first time the Warsaw Pact organization has urged action on a specific domestic problem of a member nation.

The decrees which formally impose the travel limitations are very specific in making clear that there are no changes in the existing regulations regarding the transit rights of the three Western powers between West Germany and West Berlin or of West Germans travelling between West Germany and West Berlin.

Yesterday 670 refugees registered at Marienfelde but of these only about 40 or 50 had crossed into Berlin on that day, the remainder having entered the West sector earlier.

East German security forces--Peoples' Police, Customs, Border and Transport Police and armed workers militia--are stationed in strength at all crossing-points and only 13 of the former 87 inter-sector crossing points in the city remain open (see MAP). At these 13 open crossing points only those East Germans and East Berliners with special permits will be allowed to enter the West sector.

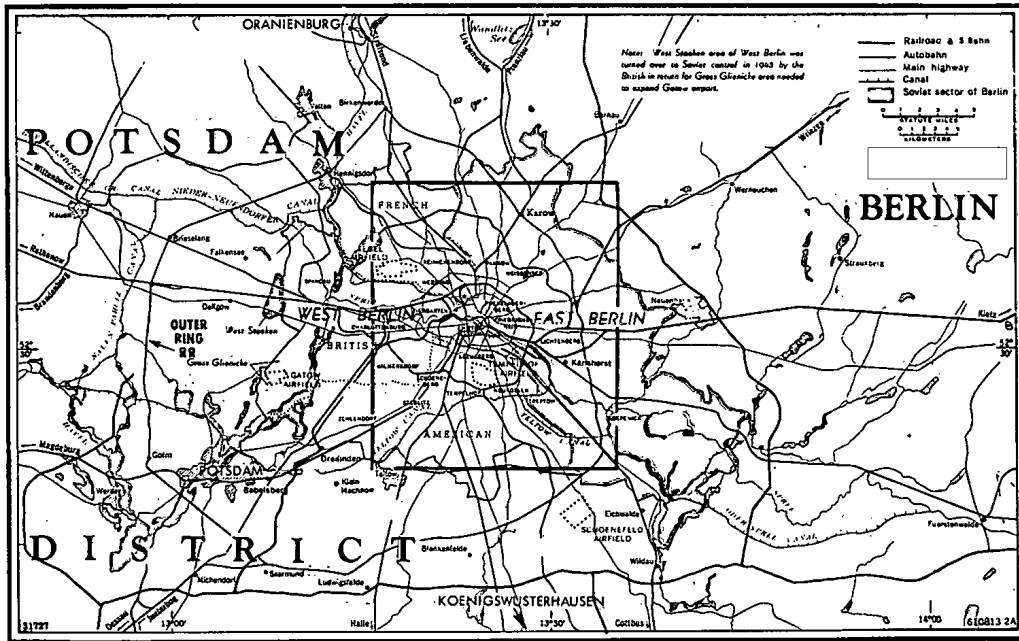
[redacted] the Ulbricht regime, in view of the possibility of spontaneous demonstrations as the control measures are enforced, has--with Soviet backing--sought to forestall widespread violence by a public display of armed police, troops and armor.

Some minor incidents occurred in East Berlin yesterday, but as of now, no major incidents have been reported. [redacted]

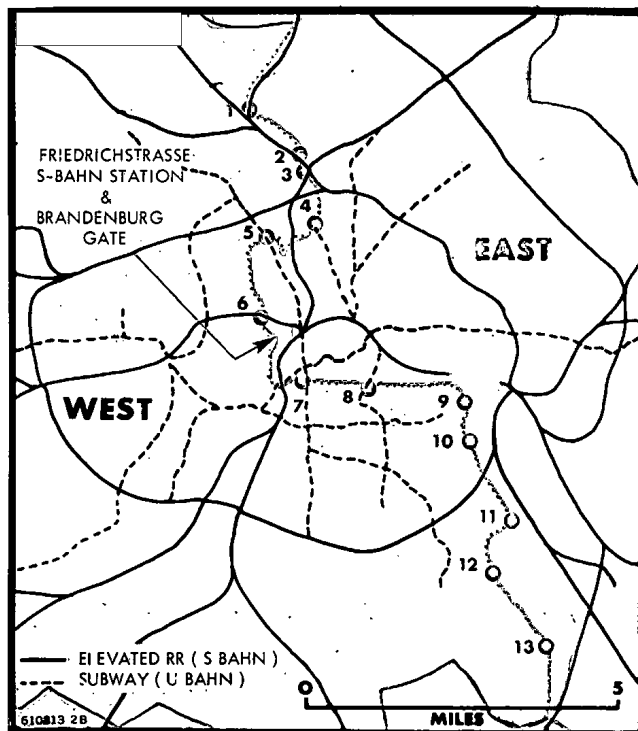
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**AUTHORIZED
BORDER CROSSING
POINTS**

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- 1 Kopenhagenerstrasse
- 2 Wollankstrasse
- 3 Bornholmerstrasse
- 4 Brunnenstrasse
- 5 Chauseestrasse
- 6 Brandenburger Toer
- 7 Friedrichstrasse
- 8 Heinrich Heine ~~Platz~~ Platz
- 9 Oberbaumbruecke
- 0 Puschkin Allee
- 11 Elsenstrasse
- 12 Sonnen Allee
- 13 Rudowerstrasse

1. French overture to Tunisia on bilateral talks



Paris sent a note to Tunis on 11 August (not yet published) stating a willingness to start talks on arranging return to "a more normal situation" in Bizerte. The acting Tunisian Foreign Minister, however, privately told Ambassador Walmsley that he sees "no progress" in the note. This reaction, plus Tunis' failure to comment on the French withdrawal of a paratroop regiment from Bizerte, suggests Bourguiba may want to see what comes out of the UN General Assembly before undertaking bilateral negotiations.



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2. Tshombé may accept position in new Congolese government



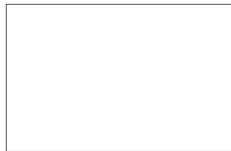
Urged by the Belgians, Tshombé is now willing to come to terms with Adoula, and a Katanga spokesman announced he would go to Leopoldville shortly. He probably will try to drive a hard bargain with the Adoula government, however, and early agreement on his participation in the regime is unlikely. The US Embassy in Leopoldville notes that in its first ten days, the Adoula government has shown at least outward indications of stability and previously quarrelling factions are now proclaiming a desire to collaborate.



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3. Albania's growing isolation from the bloc

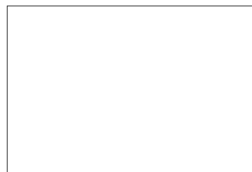


Although there has been no formal announcement that Albania's membership status in the Warsaw Pact organization has changed, there are signs that Tiraspol is no longer participating in all Pact activities. Party boss Hoxha attended neither last week's Pact meeting in Moscow nor the one held last March. All other European Satellite party leaders attended both. Albania was represented at last week's meeting by a junior embassy officer as an observer in the same manner as Far East Communist countries.



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4. Moroccan-Spanish friction may soon take a "serious turn"



Ambassador Bonsal in Rabat thinks either side could foment an incident which would further weaken the Western position in Morocco and the Mahgreb. The Spanish ambassador told Bonsal that many Berber tribes in northern Morocco, where there was a small rebellion in 1959, could be covertly encouraged to revolt and implied that Spanish military leaders might be preparing to offer such encouragement. In Morocco, Bonsal thinks the King himself might instigate an anti-Spanish incident to strengthen his domestic position.

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NOTES

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B. South Korean armed forces have been put on a special alert from 13-17 August as a precaution against possible disturbances in connection with independence day (15 August) observances.

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C. Soviet Baltic Fleet units have been conducting a series of exercises, most recently on 9 August. Such training is usually carried out in the spring and fall. The exercises appear to be genuine readiness training but may also be staged at this time to impress the West.

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D. The US Embassy in Moscow believes that Moscow and Peiping have divergent interests in Southeast Asia and that if large-scale hostilities were resumed, the USSR would try to keep Chinese forces out of Laos. The Embassy notes, however, that if military action developed into a serious threat to Pathet Lao forces, Moscow and Peiping would have the mutual interest of trying to prevent loss of prestige by the Communist bloc as a whole.

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E. An Air Jordan official (American) told a US Embassy officer in Amman that he had been unable to stop the fourth chartered flight to the Congo (8 August from Cairo) but that further flights had been cancelled. Air Jordan, he said, was being sued for the cancellation of the balance of 80 flights contracted for with the UAR. 50X1

F. Some 1200 junior officers and non-coms of the Ethiopian Imperial Army are plotting to overthrow the Emperor and the present 50X1

they are strong enough to take action if they have the determination. Action may be taken in the very near future.

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