

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**22 AUGUST 1961**  
**TOP SECRET**

1. Berlin developments

- a) East Germany continues efforts to seal off the East-West Berlin sector border and to reduce contacts between West and East Berliners;
- b) No significant development in status of Soviet or East German forces in and around the city;
- c) The East German people are still irritated and depressed by the seal-off; 50X1
- d) The party youth organization's drive for army recruits in at least one important district has been unsuccessful; 50X1
- e) French measures to strengthen military forces in Germany and eastern France include increasing the Berlin garrison, bringing the six brigades in West Germany to full strength 50X1

f) The US Mission in Berlin reports that there are no disturbing developments in the West Berlin economy; consumer buying has by no means approached panic proportions and there have been no abnormalities in bank deposits or transfer of funds. 50X1

2. Recent irregularities in Soviet petroleum deliveries abroad

[redacted] Communist China, 50X1  
Afghanistan, Guinea and the UAR are having trouble with deliveries of Soviet petroleum. Deliveries to other recipients are proceeding on schedule [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
We believe the USSR has sufficient petroleum resources to meet both domestic and export requirements. An increase in deliveries to Soviet military forces or to national stockpiles may be behind these abnormalities but we have no direct evidence that this is the case. [redacted] 50X1

[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1

3. Argentine-Cuban relations

[redacted] Che Guevara's talk with Frondizi last week, which evoked sharp protests from the Argentine military, apparently was another gambit in Havana's campaign to show its "reasonable" position and to head off proposals for collective inter-American action on the Cuban problem. 50X1  
[redacted] Guevara's line closely paralleled that taken by Fidel Castro in his earlier conversation with Colombian Foreign Minister Turbay (who was aboard the hijacked Pan-Am airliner). Frondizi and Turbay have been active in discussions on collective action against the Castro regime. Frondizi seems to have weathered the crisis with the military brought on by his meeting with Guevara. (State cable)

NOTES

- A. President Quadros was sufficiently concerned over the protests arising from his award of the medal to Guevara that he returned to Rio from Brazilia for a series of meetings with the leaders of the protest movement. [redacted]
- B. We have just learned that Yugoslavia signed an agreement with Brazil on 27 July to deliver \$51,000,000 worth of goods for the depressed northeast area of Brazil. Thus far we have no details on the types of goods or the financing arrangements. [redacted]
- C. Shelepin, chief of the Soviet Committee for State Security, may be quietly visiting East Berlin to survey methods of closing escape routes to the West. [redacted]
- D. In the British Guiana elections votes have been counted in 27 of the 35 constituencies. Cheddi Jagan's party has won 16 seats, Burmham's party 9 and the United Force 2. Jagan is virtually certain of winning a majority in the new legislature. [redacted]

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