

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

18 SEPTEMBER 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~

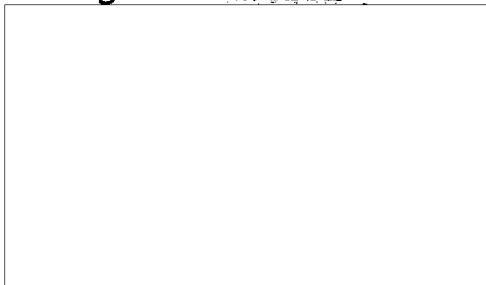
LATE ITEM

The UN has declared Hammarskold's plane missing, and an extensive air search with US participation is now underway. An unconfirmed broadcast from Rhodesia reports that the wreckage of a plane has been sighted near the Congo-Northern Rhodesia border.



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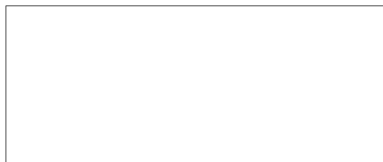
1. Katanga situation



- a) There is no firm word on the whereabouts of Hammarskjold. He flew out of Leopoldville yesterday, but did not arrive in Northern Rhodesia for a meeting with Tshombé, as alleged in press reports. Our Embassy in Leopoldville believes that his plane was lost near Ndolo (Rhodesia), possibly shot down by the lone Katangan jet.
- b) As of this morning, UN units in Elisabethville and Kamina were still under severe pressure from Katangan forces;
- c) in Jadotville, the impromptu cease-fire reported yesterday now appears to have broken down; the UN relief column has still not succeeded in pushing through.

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2. Berlin developments



- a) No concrete new measures of significance on the part of the Communists have been reported. The bloc is now focussing its propaganda on the West German jets incident.
- b) The East Germans have asked for temporary custody of the two pilots, and Soviet planes were noted reconnoitering Tegel airfield where the West German planes are located.
- c) Yesterday's East German local elections appear to have gone off in routine fashion.

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3. Soviet nuclear tests

[Redacted]

twelfth

There may have been another test today at the Arctic testing ground. The ~~thirteenth~~ test in the current series occurred in the same area on Saturday,

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[Redacted] There was another one yesterday in the Semipalatinsk area,

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[Redacted] Analysis of the 12, 13, and 16 September tests in the Arctic indicate that the devices may have been delivered by medium-or short-range surface-to-surface ballistic missiles.

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[Redacted]

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4. Assessment of Canadian foreign affairs debate

[Redacted]

The chief features of the recent debate in the House of Commons, as seen by our Embassy in Ottawa were:

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- a) the government firmly supported the Western position on Berlin and identified Berlin as an instance of the world-wide confrontation between Soviet aggressive tendencies and the free world;
- b) the government called for firmness of purpose and recognized the possibility of war while urging negotiations for an honorable settlement;
- c) the government announced new defense measures;
- d) the Liberal Party opposition endorsed the government's position on Berlin and NATO;
- e) the government and the Liberals vigorously castigated the USSR for its resumption of nuclear testing, while mildly criticizing the US for lack of consultation in our decision to proceed with testing.

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NOTES

[Redacted]

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B. Turkish security officials have imposed a ban on any public discussion of the trials just concluded. There have been no serious incidents stemming from the executions of Menderes (and his two former associates). [Redacted]

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C. The Iraqi military action against dissident Kurds during the past week was apparently fairly successful and has probably diminished the threat of a major insurrection. [Redacted]

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D. Afghan Foreign Minister Naim is reportedly considering a Washington trip following his visit to Moscow, now underway. [Redacted]

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E. Both Moscow and Peiping have made bare announcements on the second US test. No further significant commentary on US resumption has been noted. [Redacted]

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