

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

10 APRIL 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Brazil

a. The military shows no signs of being ready at this time to step down from the stage and return control to the civilian politicians.

b. Yesterday, War Minister Costa e Silva promulgated an "institutional act" which will remain in effect until January 1966. It suspends certain constitutional guarantees and gives the revolutionary leaders the authority they have been seeking to proceed against elements in Congress, the government, and the military.

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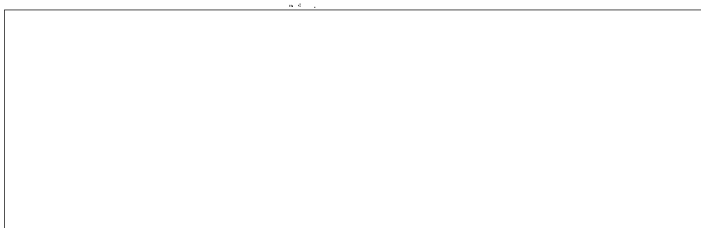
c. He did not wait for congressional approval, which might have been obtained, suggesting that the key figures now see no need to seek "legitimacy" through Congress. At least two Congressmen were arrested last evening and dozens more are on the military's list.

d. The high command still seems to be backing Castello Branco for interim president. Congress will most likely elect him today or tomorrow, the alternative apparently being that or dissolution. General Krueel has been put forward as an alternative, but his candidacy has not worked up much steam.

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2. Cyprus

a. Turkey is thinking of calling for an urgent Security Council meeting on the question of the Turkish contingent on Cyprus.

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b. The Turks remain determined not to move their contingent off the Kyrenia road, despite Makarios' announcement he will cut off its water if it does not return to camp. The Turks did say yesterday that they would permit Greek Cypriot civilians to use the road and the UN force to patrol it.

c. There were few incidents yesterday and one hopeful sign. Six Turkish Cypriot employees of the US Embassy returned to work yesterday for the first time since the December outbursts.

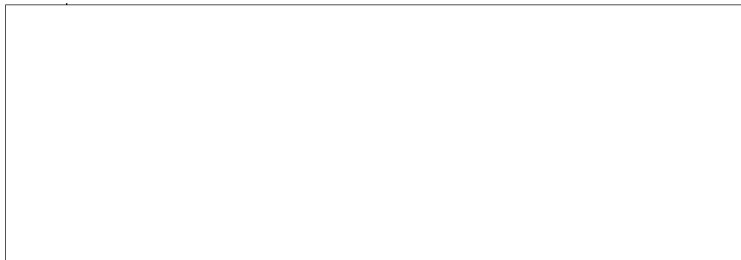
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d. Makarios seems, however, quite determined to prevent the Turkish Cypriots from returning to their governmental roles except on his terms. He says they must first "clarify" their attitude toward "the state," i.e., Makarios.

e. The archbishop is off to Greece tomorrow for talks. For what it may be worth, he went out of his way before leaving to have a talk with Bishop Kyprianos, described as a fanatic champion of enosis. Makarios has not been an enthusiast, seeing little in it for himself.

f. In Turkey the feeling seems to be gaining ground that Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots have come to their present pass by following US guidance. Three hundred more Greeks in Turkey have been given 15 days to liquidate their business or leave their job.



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3. Burma

a. Ne Win is plunging ahead with his xenophobic program to socialize the country and rid it of foreign influences.

b. Yesterday he extended the nationalization of wholesale and retail concerns from Rangoon, where they were taken over last month, to the rest of Burma. Most affected by these steps are Indian and Chinese businessmen; the former are leaving Burma at the rate of 150 a day.

c. All of this bears more than a superficial resemblance to the Indonesian action against foreign shopkeepers several years ago. [redacted]

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d. Last week the Burmese leader forced the closing of USIA and British Council libraries as well as the Burmese-American Institute. [redacted]

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e. Ne Win's increasingly totalitarian approach is not confined to foreigners. He has hinted that he is ready to make "living sacrifices" among the opposition to his domestic programs.

f. Many of his opponents have long since been jailed or at least removed from official posts.

g. The dismissal and subsequent arrest of Trade Minister Chit Myaing removed the last effective voice of moderation from Ne Win's Revolutionary Council. It leaves economic policy, which Ne Win shows no sign of understanding, entirely in the hands of leftist-oriented radicals.

h. Opposition to these tendencies exists, but except for the tribal insurgents, seems divided, leaderless, and generally hopeless.

4. South Vietnam

a. The Viet Cong is keeping up the pressures on the Khanh regime.

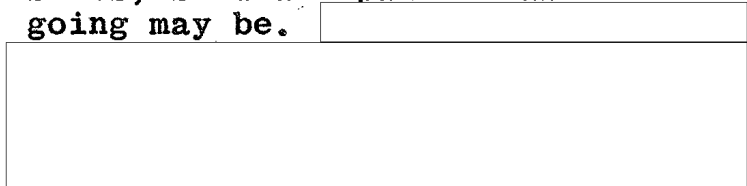
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b. Wednesday's raid on a military training center only 15 miles from Saigon netted the Communists a nice haul of small arms and equipment. It was followed by the ambush yesterday of a government battalion in the delta area.

c. The incident rate has stayed above 400 a week since early last month, well over the average of the past two years.

d. The Communists are beginning to act like a de facto government in guerrilla-infested Quang Ngai. In this province, small Viet Cong bands enter government hamlets, "eliminate" the local leaders, and begin issuing directives to the residents.

e. The picture is not all black, however. Government action in some provinces is getting results, slow and painful as the going may be.



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5. Gabon

a. In next Sunday's elections we expect Leon Mba and his helpers to stuff the ballot boxes even in cases where Mba's men would win anyway.

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b. This will set off the opposition, which has been at hair trigger ever since the French plucked Mba out of the bush in February and restored him to the presidential chair.

c. The French are saying, for our benefit at least, that once the elections are over, Mba will be on his own. They anticipate that once French troops are removed Mba will have to compromise with his opponents, something neither Mba nor the French have encouraged so far.

d. We doubt that these opponents would accept anything except his ouster. Ambassador Darlington thinks that Mba will be forced to go "sooner rather than later."

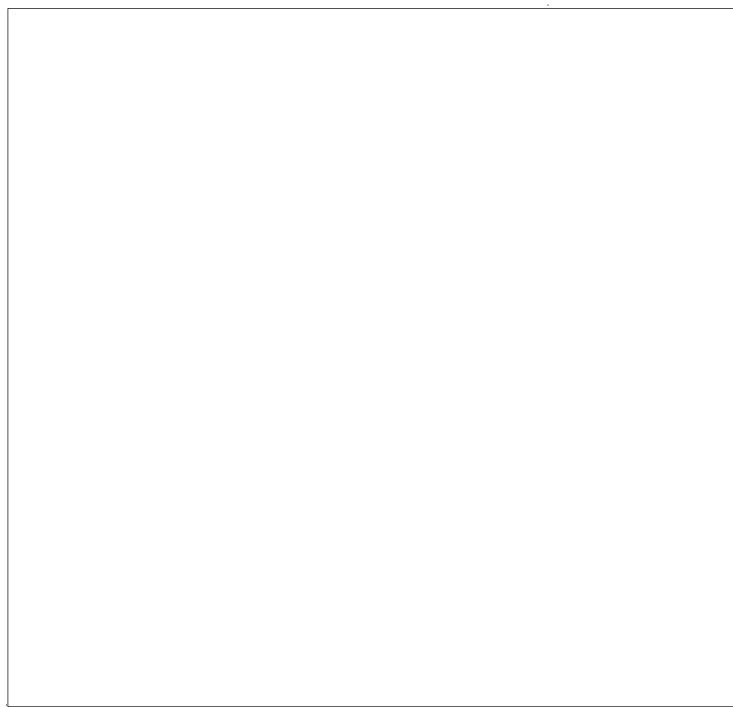
6. Libya

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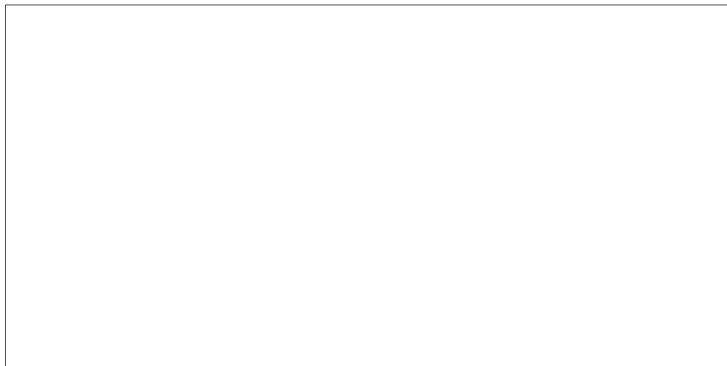
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7. USSR-Space

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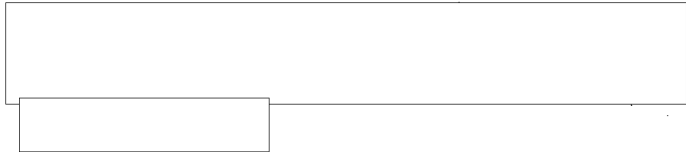
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NOTES

A. Israel In the Israeli-US talks this week, the Israelis have given no hope that they will abandon their programs as long as Nasir has one. The anticipated public uproar in the Arab states on the possibility of a US-Israeli tank deal is building up.

B.

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C. Jordan-USSR Husayn [redacted] might seek Soviet arms if his desires are not met in the West [redacted]

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D. Afro-Asian Conference A meeting to lay the groundwork for a second Afro-Asian conference gets under way in Bandung today. Most of the nations attending are represented by secondary figures, but two have sent foreign ministers. Pakistan's Bhutto is passing up the opening sessions of the SEATO conference to do a little anti-Indian lobbying. Peiping has sent Foreign Minister Chen Yi in a bid to repeat the success scored at the 1955 Bandung meeting.

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E. Cambodia-USSR Sihanouk has approved a Soviet proposal for a new shipment of military equipment to Phnom Penh.

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F. Belgium As the doctor's strike continues, political temperatures are rising. If a settlement is not hammered out soon, the stability of the present coalition government will be threatened. Difficulties could arise from within the coalition parties themselves, or, perhaps, from a flurry of protest strikes by organized labor.

G. British Guiana The pro-Jagan union has again resorted to violence in pressing its so far unsuccessful effort to wrest control of the sugar workers from an anti-Jagan union. The latter is threatening reprisals. In Jagan's People's Progressive Party, dissension between extremist and moderate factions is growing with Jagan's own sympathies and indeed control over the party unclear.



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Communist China

a. There is a second large area of high priority construction in a remote section of China's far west.

b. This one is near Yumen some 300 miles to the northwest of the Kokonor project [redacted]

[redacted]
Activity at the Yumen site was first seen in photography of September 1959.

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c. Since that time construction at the site has been pushed fairly rapidly despite the general economic retrenchment and construction cutbacks elsewhere.

d. This fact, plus its isolated location and the lack of similarity with normal industrial installations, leads us to believe that we are looking at photography of a major national defense project.

e. The photography also shows extensive spacing between individual facilities at the site, a large power plant under construction and several huge excavations of a most unusual shape and size, all suggestive of an atomic energy association.

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[redacted]

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