

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



26 - 29 SEPTEMBER 1965^{50X1}
~~TOP SECRET~~

29 September 1964

1. South Vietnam: The drift in South Vietnam continues.

Khanh is talking publicly about resigning, even before the 1 November investiture of the new civilian government "Big" Minh is working out. Khanh has, it seems, met still another demand on him by giving in; this time to the young generals who saved him from the latest coup try. He is sending General Khiem on a trip to Europe.

Ambassador Taylor notes governmental paralysis is setting in. Central government offices are dealing with only the most noncontroversial matters. Even though Vietnamese officials are meeting with their US counterparts on pacification matters, there is no follow-up.

This sort of thing has spread beyond Saigon, most notably to the central provinces along the coast. There, responsibility for law and order has to a large degree passed to extremist groups maintaining their own vigilantes.

One of these, Le Khac Quyen's People's Revolutionary Council, is closely allied with militant Buddhists who are strong in the area. The aims of Quyen's group are not clear, but his movement strikes us as highly vulnerable to Viet Cong exploitation.

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For The President Only - Top Secret

In addition, the Rhade affair is far from settled. Khanh has occupied their camps, but it is not yet clear whether he intends to exact retribution from the Rhade or negotiate with them. If he takes the former course, further trouble with the armed tribesmen seems almost inevitable.

2. Congo: The UN plane which flew to Stanleyville last Friday returned to Bangui without any Europeans or Americans.

The five American consular officials were reported to be in good health, but under house arrest. The prospects for getting them and other Americans out are not bright. The rebels regard them as hostages against air attacks and probably will not agree to their removal unless Tshombé guarantees no raids, if then.

Conditions in Stanleyville were about as chaotic as expected. Rebel leaders had little control over their troops. There was tension between the troops and the civil population. Food was in short supply.

The OAU Congo commission is due in Leopoldville Thursday. The government will receive the commission but insists it must not confer legality on the rebels.

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A rebel attack on Bukavu got under way Tuesday. About 1,000 rebels are said to be involved; if so, it is the largest rebel military effort to date. There are 1,200 Congolese Army troops and 40 mercenaries defending.

3. UAR - Yemen - Saudi Arabia: The atmosphere after the Arab summit has been conducive to a settlement in Yemen, but the principals, Nasir and Faysal, have made little progress in arranging one.

Indeed there is little reason to believe that a necessary first step, a ceasefire in Yemen, can be achieved soon.

Something may yet be worked out, however, since Faysal now seems willing to stop supporting the Imam Badr and to subsidize him in exile. [redacted]

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Meantime, the fighting continues. [redacted]

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4. Cyprus: Galo-Plaza, about to start on his first round of talks as UN mediator, seems to believe that since Makarios is by far the dominant figure on Cyprus more attention must be paid to his views.

The UN mediator says

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a proposed solution bearing the archbishop's brand would stand the best chance all around.

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There is still no word from Moscow, where Greek Cypriot representatives are trying hard to pry arms out of the reluctant Soviets.

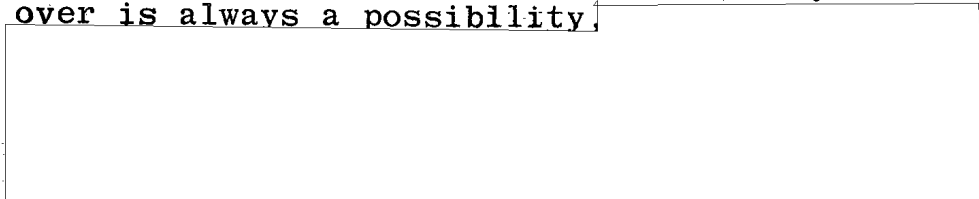
This is a potentially divisive issue back on Cyprus. General Grivas has questioned the advisability of seeking such aid. Makarios and his leftist backers are committed to this course, however.

Grivas and Makarios are of course old antagonists and while disagreeing on this point their basic difference is over enosis, which Grivas wants and Makarios does not.

5. Colombia: President Valencia's National Front government has come under heavy fire.

The coalition is beset with factionalism and bickering, the antiguerrilla campaign has bogged down, and a host of economic problems remains. Political leaders on all sides are now saying that Valencia must go.

In a situation like this a military take-over is always a possibility.



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6. De Gaulle in Latin America: Observers along his tour route report that De Gaulle has looked fit and, to all appearances, bearing up well under the rigors of his schedule.



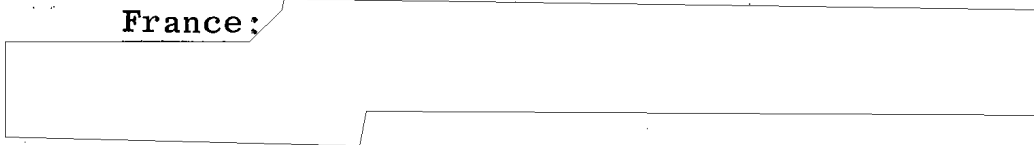
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Ambassador Bohlen, pointing out that De Gaulle customarily introduces his chief themes early on, finds that he has not been blatantly anti-American.

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De Gaulle is, however, suggesting to his South American hosts that they could profit by joining a trans-Atlantic Latin Club with him and conducting their affairs with Washington as he does.

7. France:



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We suspect that these are aimed at the development of thermonuclear weapons.

8. Communist China: Sihanouk is in Peiping, exuding pro-Chinese goodwill. He appears to be the stellar attraction for the celebrations Thursday of the Peiping regime's 15 anniversary.

As far as we know the only other chiefs of state due to show will be Massamba-Debat from the Congo (Brazzaville) and Modiba Keita of Mali.

Premier Maurer of Rumania leads the bloc delegations. He stopped in Moscow and may be once again trying to serve as a go-between in the Sino-Soviet dispute.

9. Laos: Before leaving Paris for Laos, Pathet Lao leader Souphannouvong warned that a new round of fighting could come if Communist wishes for a 14-nation conference are not met.

Military activity in Laos has been in a minor key for some time now, and the government has generated most of the action we have had.

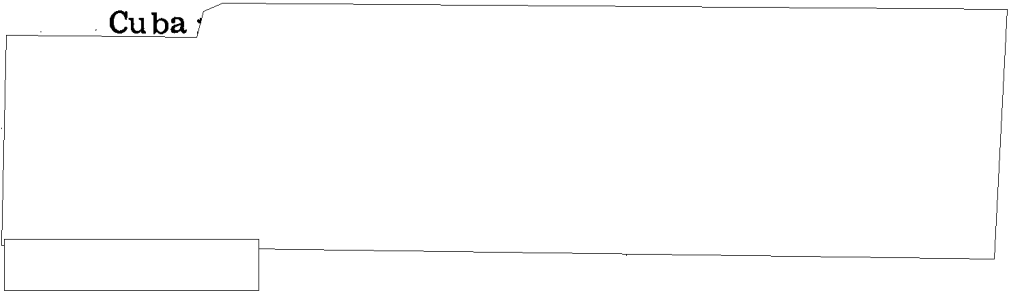
10. Italy: Nenni has sharply criticized the Christian Democrats. He declared that the center-left coalition should fold up shop if Moro's party cannot close ranks and help enact agreed-upon reforms.

We doubt that Nenni means to pull out of the coalition right now. His blast was probably intended to boost Moro's efforts to push reforms in the face of resistance from the right wing of the Christian Democrats.

11. Argentina: Peronist labor leaders, who have been conducting a campaign of sporadic anti-government agitation for several months now, are pressing for a 24-hour general strike. To get the maximum mileage, they would like to set it off during De Gaulle's 3-6 October visit.

12.

Cuba

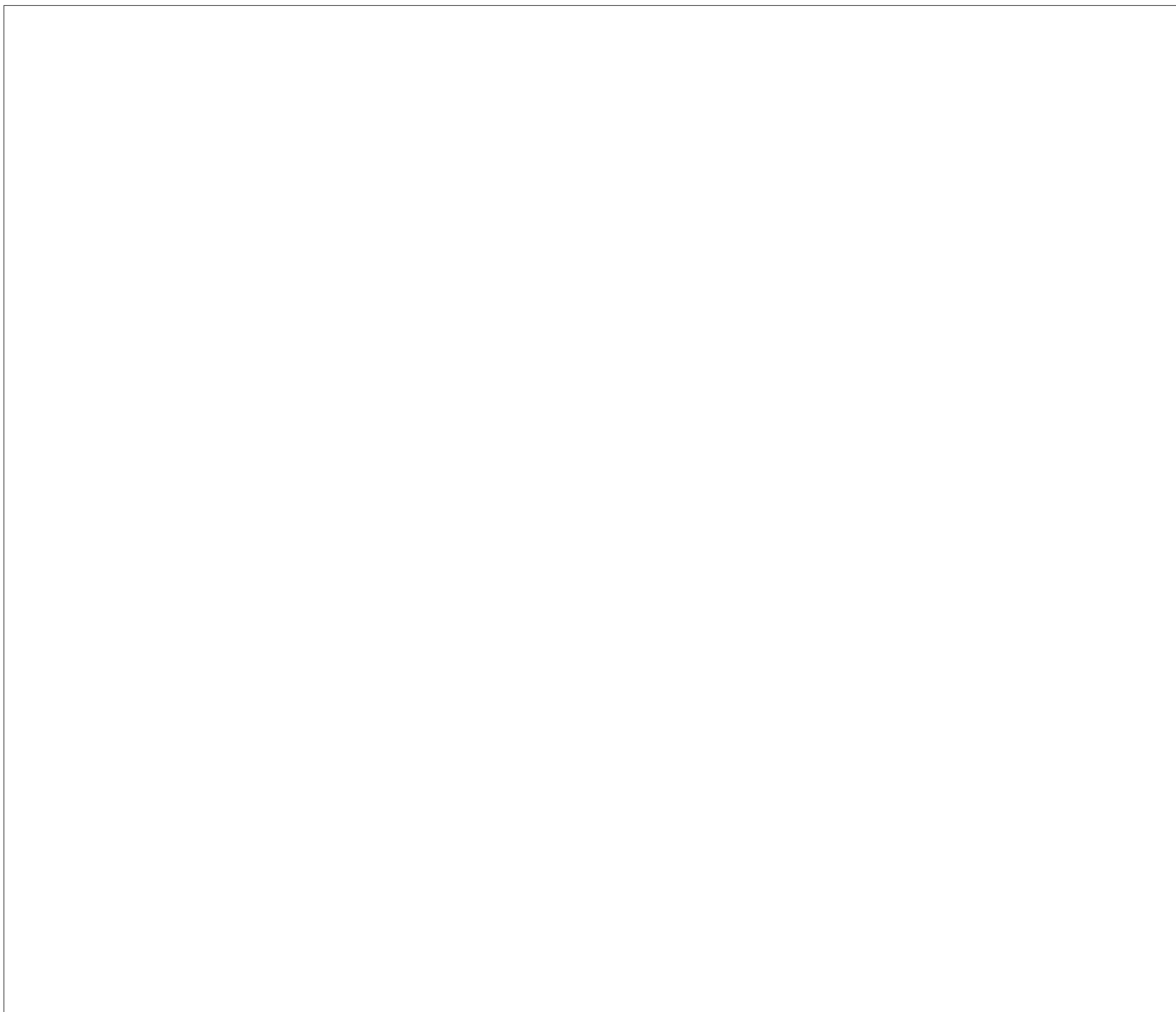


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USSR:

Mission

turned up a large missile in a horizontal position on one of the newer launch pads at Tyuratam. The missile is tentatively measured as 130 feet long

The largest known Soviet missile is estimated to be about 100 feet long.

It is not yet possible to say whether the new missile is intended for space operations, as an ICBM, or both. It is clear, however, that it is part of a new system which, if successful, will give an increased payload capability.

The current Soviet missile program also involves the construction of a series of new complexes. Since June we have identified five new ones, raising the Soviet total to 23. About 25 single silos have been identified at these new complexes and at the Olovyannaya operational complex.

Mission also gave us evidence that major construction at the Chinese Communists' probable nuclear test site at Lop Nor is closer to completion. Many of the tents previously noted around the tower at Lop Nor have been removed and a security fence appears to have been erected.

Interestingly, this summer's satellite photography shows that at least four of Communist China's 15 SAM sites have been abandoned.

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