

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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27 OCTOBER 1964  
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Vietnam -  
Cambodia

a. There have been four incidents in the past week along the highly charged border between South Vietnam and Cambodia. Further trouble seems to be in the cards.

b. Two of the incidents involved air strikes by Vietnamese planes against a Cambodian border village. In another, the Cambodians seem to have become enmeshed in a skirmish between South Vietnamese and the Viet Cong.

c. Then, the Cambodians claim to have shot down a C-123 on a resupply mission near the border. American lives were lost in the last two incidents.

d. Yesterday, Sihanouk warned that the next "aggressive act" against Cambodia would result in a diplomatic break with the US as well as his recognition of Hanoi and the South Vietnamese rebels.

e. He also spoke of "reprisals."

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2. Gabon

a. The French, who have been the chief if not the only support of President Leon Mba since the February coup attempt, have now withdrawn that support.

b. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
flight to Paris. Mba was balky, but got on the plane when told that the Paris decision was irrevocable.

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c. The sudden French action was prompted by the recent spate of beatings and public humiliations visited on Mba's political opponents. The last straw was when his goon squads began to include Europeans, even French citizens, in their ministrations.

d. There is no hint of what Paris intends to do now.

e. The French, who have vital economic interests in Gabon, will bend every effort to keep their hand in. But their die-hard backing of Mba will make it difficult to strike any arrangement with an effective alternative.

3. USSR

a. The grapevine from Moscow has turned up several plausible accounts of why and how Khrushchev was sacked. Most seem to agree that the chief cause was domestic and economic.

b. One version, attributed to a Pravda staff man, has it that the ouster was triggered by a 2 October Pravda story which conveyed the impression that the top leaders were in agreement with Khrushchev's plan to de-emphasize heavy industry and defense.

c. By this account, Brezhnev and Kosygin engineered the coup to prevent this alleged directive from being put into effect.

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f. Not surprisingly, a number of foreign Communists are inclined to give weight to Khrushchev's tactics in dealing with Peiping as the primary cause for his downfall.

#### 4. Bolivia

a. There were serious riots in at least three Bolivian cities yesterday, and the Paz government is braced for another round of violence today.

b. Student demonstrators against the government are being joined by rambunctious tin miners and other leftist elements. The attitude of Barrientos is not clear, but apparently he has not yet irrevocably cast his lot with these elements.

c. So far government security forces have been able to contain the disturbances with a minimum of difficulty. However, stocks of antiriot equipment are running low, and there are signs of greater organization and discipline among the demonstrators.

NOTES

A. Sudan After opposition elements showed their muscle yesterday by calling a fairly effective general strike, Prime Minister Abboud moved to conciliate them by firing his old cabinet and letting it be known that hard-line military figures will not be included in the new list. Though willing to throw sops such as this to civilian opposition leaders, Abboud does not seem to have been shaken sufficiently to contemplate any really meaningful diminution of his or the military's power.

B. Panama Like his predecessors, President Robles is finding it difficult to get moving on a program of badly needed economic reforms in the face of opposition from entrenched interests. Now, the difficulty is compounded by the fact that the followers of the defeated candidate, Arnulfo Arias, see in this a chance to discredit the victorious Robles.

C. Cuba - International Communism [redacted] the Cubans are trying to line up a conference of Latin American Communist parties in Havana [redacted] for the purpose of working out a joint position on the Sino-Soviet controversy. [redacted]

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D. Cuba-Africa The Cubans seem to have made points among the African delegations to the recent nonaligned conference, and, as a result, we may see a broadening of Havana's diplomatic representation on the continent. Burundi, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Dahomey, and Nigeria have been mentioned. Cuba has also dangled offers of aid before the Congo (Brazzaville) and Holden Roberto's Angolan rebel movement.

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G. Cyprus The opening of the Nicosia-Kyrenia road and the rotation of about half the troops of the Turkish contingent went off yesterday without incident.

**TOP SECRET**

Communist China



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b. [redacted] mission [redacted] disclosed a 70-foot missile erected at one of the pads at the Shuangchengtzu missile test center.

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c. The size suggests a missile on the order of the Soviet SS-3 or SS-4. We cannot be sure whether the missile is one provided by the USSR before 1960 or a missile fabricated at least in part by the Chinese.



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