

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

8 AUGUST 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Soviet space activity

The launching of another Soviet earth satellite appears to be close at hand and there are signs that it will be manned. We infer this from a pattern of activity on the part of research/recovery aircraft and ships which is very similar to that which preceded the Titov flight a year ago. There are, in addition, indications of an upcoming Venus probe.

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NOTES

A. Moscow continues to frown on Peiping's attempts to promote an international conference on South Vietnam. The Soviet press, in reporting on some recent remarks by the Chinese Communist Foreign Minister, edited out his demands for such a conference, a tell-tale sign that Moscow is not enthusiastic about either the idea itself or Peiping's upstaging tactics.

B. Defense Minister Thorneycroft intends to start off in his new office with a sweeping review of British defense outlays. this goal underlies Thorneycroft's invitation to General Norstad, who is due in London today for defense consultations.

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C. The Belgian government, apparently in no doubt that Tshombé would be bound to roil its political waters, has refused him a visa for a visit to Brussels.

D. The West Berlin government is making plans for the observance of next Monday's anniversary of the Wall but with every intention of keeping it in the lowest possible key.

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- G. Laotian Foreign Minister Quinim sat up and took notice when Ambassador Unger broached the Peace Corps idea to him. Quinim evidently did not know that such a thing existed before this.
- H. Ambassador Galbraith says that Nehru seemed well but somewhat out of touch on current foreign policy questions when they met on Monday. Nehru told him that he expects negotiations on the border issue with the Chinese sometime in the fall, which could calm the atmosphere but are not likely to produce concrete results.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE