

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 JANUARY 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~



CYPRUS



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1. Cyprus

a. Greece and Turkey are more on edge than ever; each side fears that the other is on the brink of intervention and is reacting in kind.

b. Greece has moved troops and naval vessels into eastern Crete. Greek navy spokesmen say this is to have them in better position in case of hostilities.

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c. On the Turkish side, troops in full gear and a large convoy of military vehicles were seen moving toward a pier in the Iskenderun area on Wednesday. Turkish naval vessels were moving in and out of the harbor at frequent intervals.

d. We think, however, that both sides would be most reluctant to intervene, knowing full well the consequences, and would do so only if there was major violence involving their ethnic groups on the island.

e. One hopeful sign is that Ambassador Wilkins had an encouraging reaction from Makarios to the agreed US-UK proposal for a peace-keeping force. The Greek Cypriot

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For The President Only - Top Secret

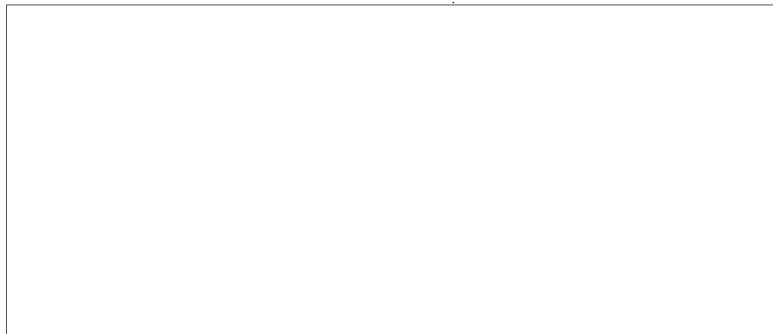
leader insisted on the smallest possible allied force with no more than two additional members beyond the present three-power guarantors.

f. Makarios had said earlier that the dispatch of such troops would only complicate matters and that if they were needed they must be UN troops.

2. USSR-Cyprus

a. TASS came through with a statement on Cyprus yesterday which was probably in response to Makarios' pleas for some sort of support from Moscow against Turkish intervention.

b. The Soviet statement, however, failed to mention Turkey and instead denounced any kind of foreign interference in Cyprus.



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d. Should Makarios get the Cyprus issue to the UN we think the Soviets would plump for the least common denominator in the way of UN peace-keeping efforts.

e. There is of course always the outside possibility that they might try a change of pace, break precedent, and offer their own troops as part of any UN peace-keeping effort.

f. However, it seems much more likely that they would remain on the sidelines and hope to see the spectacle of NATO at war with itself.

3. South Vietnam

a. Coup leader, General Nguyen Khanh, is moving to consolidate his power.

b. He is considering a war cabinet of five portfolios. In addition to being chairman of the Revolutionary Council, Khanh will hold the titles of Prime Minister and Secretary of State for War.

c. The new leader does not plan much reshuffling at the provincial level and has promised a swift resumption of the war effort.

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d. As yet, the Viet Cong have not moved to exploit the situation militarily.

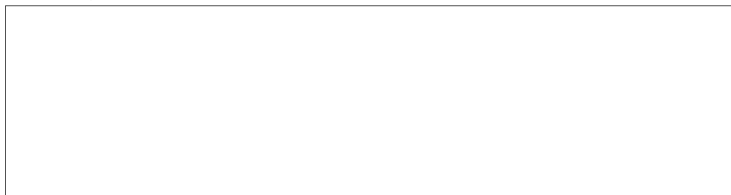
e. The fate of General Minh and the other former leaders has yet to be decided.

f. Saigon radio has announced the breaking of diplomatic relations with France.

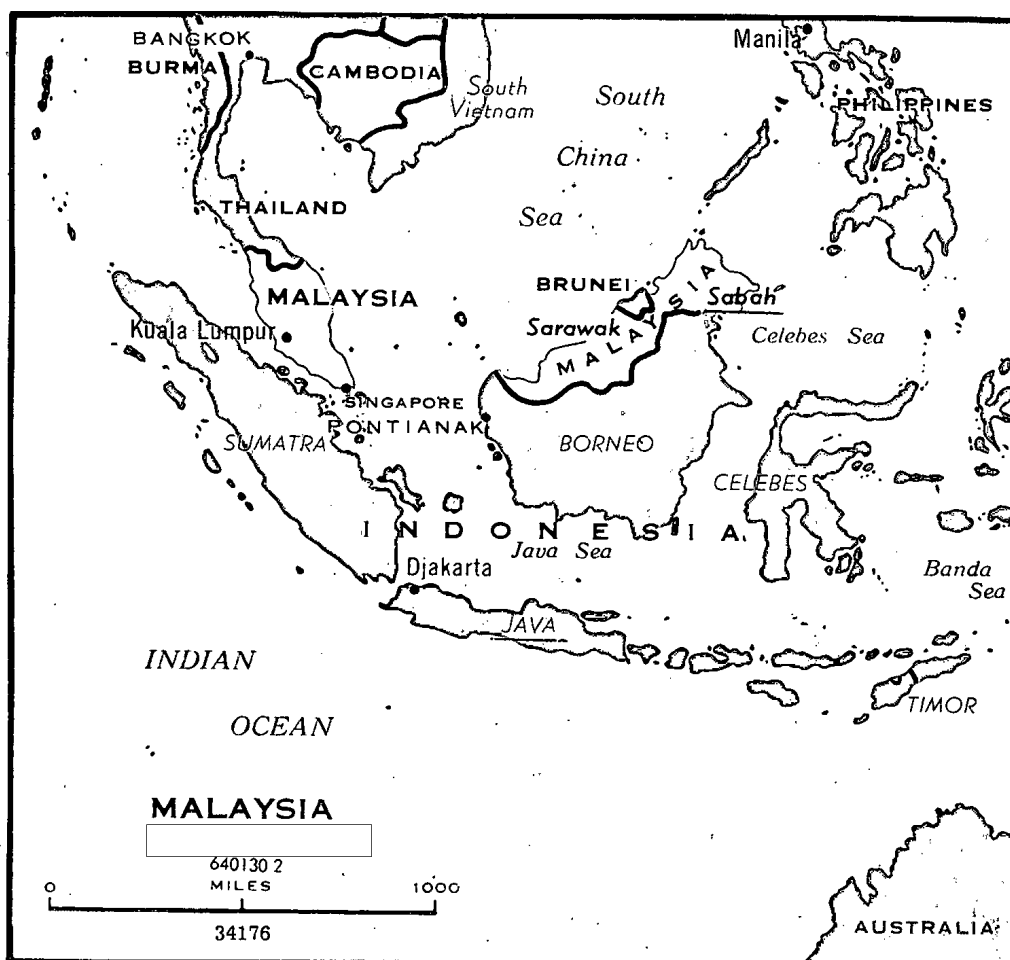
4. France - China
Recognition

a. Ambassadors Bohlen and Wright both feel De Gaulle may take the line in today's press conference that Peiping should be recognized as the Government of the Republic of China, and Taipei as the Government of Formosa. This will not appeal to either camp.

b. Ambassador Wright thinks that the language chosen will be intended to give minimum offense to Peiping and maximum offense to Taipei.



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5. Indonesia-
Malaysia

a. Djakarta plans to be on the same old stand at the tripartite conference in Bangkok which it hopes will get under way around 5 February.

b. The Philippine ambassador reports that at the conference Indonesia will press for a new plebiscite in Sarawak and Sabah as per the Manila agreement.



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d. Indonesian plans to get more troops to Northern Borneo



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NOTES

A. USSR The Soviet Union is playing the shutdown of the US T-39 aircraft over East Germany in low key. Gromyko told Kohler on 29 January that he felt the incident was "particularly unfortunate" now when the Soviet Union and the US are facing up to "great tasks." Gromyko maintained that Soviet fighters took preliminary warning measures which the US plane ignored.

B. Pakistan - Communist China The Pakistani Foreign Ministry has plans to make Chou En-lai's mid-February visit more than a ceremonial occasion. [redacted]

[redacted] the Pakistanis are considering seeking cultural and economic assistance agreements, as well as some kind of limited defense understanding.

C. Cambodia Ambassador Sprouse has reached a gloomy conclusion on Sihanouk's recent swing through South-east Asia. He says the little Prince's peacemaking role will feed his already notable vanity. This will make it even more difficult to deal with him in the future, particularly in view of the increasingly open manifestations of his anti-Americanism.

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