

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

13 NOV. 1961  
~~TOP SECRET~~

**1. Laotian developments**

Boun Oum appears to be relenting in his resistance to a meeting with Souvanna in the latter's stronghold in the Plaine des Jarres. Phoumi, however, in his latest conference with Ambassador Brown, was as adamantly opposed as ever, and there are indications that he will seek to come to Washington for consultations. Souvanna, meanwhile, has again accused the Vientiane government of stalling and forecasts renewed hostilities unless negotiations are resumed. [redacted]

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**2. Congo situation**

- a) The Adoula government, contending that it will fall shortly unless it can show progress against Katanga, is anxiously seeking "two or three jets" from the US to assist in an offensive. Accompanying these requests are intimations that Leopoldville will turn to the Bloc unless we oblige;
  - b) there are unconfirmed press reports of new fighting in northern Katanga between Katangan and anti-Tshombé forces;
  - c) General Lundula, commander of Gizengist forces in Oriental Province, has been coaxed into talks with the government in Leopoldville but Gizenga continues to hold out in Stanleyville.
- [redacted]

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3. Arosomena seeking to mend fences with US

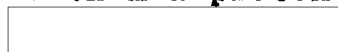
He has declared, through an intermediary, that his government would be neither leftist nor anti-US and that he hopes for US approbation. In some of his first policy statements he has made a bid to hold the loyalty of leftist and Communist supporters



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4. Dominican Republic sanctions

The Venezuelans are not happy about our plan to seek a partial lifting of OAS sanctions against the Dominican Republic, but Betancourt will not make an issue of the matter and has promised to use his influence with the press to soft-pedal adverse reaction. Our consulate in Ciudad Trujillo reports, meanwhile, that rumors are prevalent there that the Dominican military hopes that the opposition's reaction to this development will be violent enough to give them a pretext for moving in.



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5. Anti-Western influence grows in Mali

The Mali government's request for the withdrawal of the small US military training mission leaves virtually a clear field for the Soviet military advisers now there and for further military aid agreements with the Bloc.



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NOTES

- A. [redacted] the Hungarian envoy to the US recently went out of his way to convey this message: the first half of 1962 will see a notable improvement in East-West relations including a visit by President Kennedy to the Soviet Union. 50X1
- B. Adenauer has said that he will raise "certain conceptions" on Berlin during his visit to Washington. These may include an outline of how far Bonn is prepared to go in recognizing the status quo in East Germany. Ambassadors Grewe in Washington and Kroll in Moscow are returning to Bonn for consultations on 15 November.
- C. President Gargia is described as "running scared" on the eve of Philippine elections scheduled for Tuesday. His opponent, Vice President Macapagal is gaining ground. A close race could be accompanied by electoral disorders and irregularities.
- D. The Japanese [redacted] talks with S. Korea [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] emphasized future cooperation rather than past disputes [redacted] [redacted] 50X1  
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