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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**2 DECEMBER 1963**  
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Venezuela

- a. Over 3,500,000 Venezuelans (some 96 percent of the electorate) went to the polls yesterday. An overwhelming turnout.
- b. The process was marred, but not disrupted, by terrorist activity.
- c. Returns are still too fragmentary (about 5 percent of the vote counted so far) even to show trends.
- d. The press is currently making much of the early 2 to 1 lead established in Caracas by dark horse independent Ustar over Betancourt's nominee Leoni.
- e. This probably does not mean much. In 1959, Betancourt lost the capital but won over-all 5 to 1.



50X1

2. Egypt - Saudi Arabia - Yemen

- a. As matters now stand, a resumption of UAR-Saudi hostilities over Yemen seems a virtual certainty with the coming of the new year.

(Cont'd)

b. Nasir has done nothing to fulfill his promise to reduce Egyptian troop strength in Yemen by that time. It remains around 32,000.

c. We doubt that any plans he may now have would extend beyond making some last-minute token removals and fudging his figures, as he has done before.

d. He has also thus far stymied efforts for a political solution being made by the Yemenis themselves. They want to broaden the political base of the government to include important tribal and religious elements (not necessarily royalist) now opposed to Sallal.

e. While this solution still holds promise, it probably cannot, under the circumstances, be brought about soon enough to avert further clashes.

50X1

3. Syria

a. No one gives the Baathist regime in Syria much of a chance.

b. Apparently this goes for Baathist Premier Hafiz himself. He has moved to neutralize the national guard, the party's paramilitary arm, and is casting about for support in non-Baathist circles and the army.

c. Though this has put the fat in the fire, Hafiz probably felt the move against the guard was his only chance.

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50X1

50X1

d. It is sort of a smudged carbon copy of recent Iraqi events.

e. [redacted]  
[redacted] a group of disgruntled conservative army officers, very actively plotting their own coup.

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50X1

50X1

50X1

g. [redacted]  
[redacted] there is a group of pro-Nasir, anti-Baathist "unionists"  
[redacted] ready to take over in the confusion.

50X1  
50X1

50X1

4. South Vietnam

a. Plans to shuffle the corps commanders have been called off.

b. We are not entirely sure why, and suspect there may be something to reports that the change in plans was the work of Security Minister Dinh.

c. There has also been public clamor against General Tri, I Corps commander, who has a reputation of being anti-Buddhist and is genuinely unpopular.

d. The press is saying his reassignment was in response to popular pressure. This is probably partly true, but the allegation has, at the same time, made it difficult to reassign him, and much infighting has developed.

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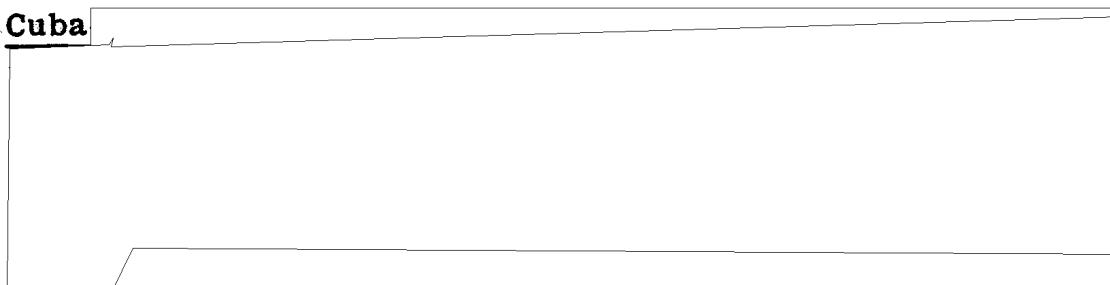
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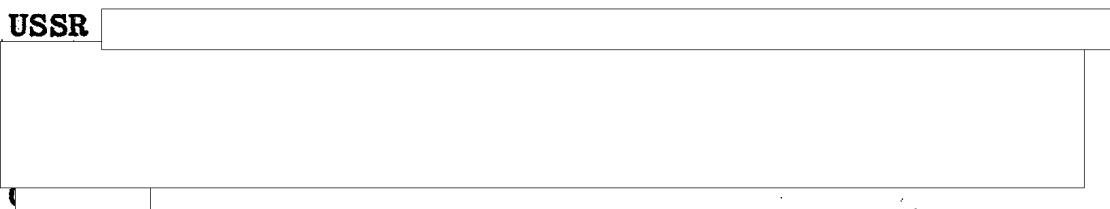
NOTES

A. Cuba



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B. USSR

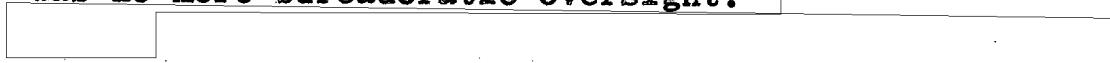

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C. Turkey Prime Minister Inonu hinted in a speech last night he may resign soon. He is meeting today with leaders of the two parties that pulled out of his coalition.

D. Senegal Senegalese presidential and legislative elections took place yesterday amid considerable rioting (at least ten killed). Renowned poet and francophile, President Senghor, was returned to the job. He was the only candidate for it.

E. Congo Congolese Foreign Minister Kalinda-Mabika has been arrested before he had a chance to resign. He is being held responsible for allowing a passport (since revoked) to be issued recently to Tshombé. The government may have good reason to suspect this was no mere bureaucratic oversight.



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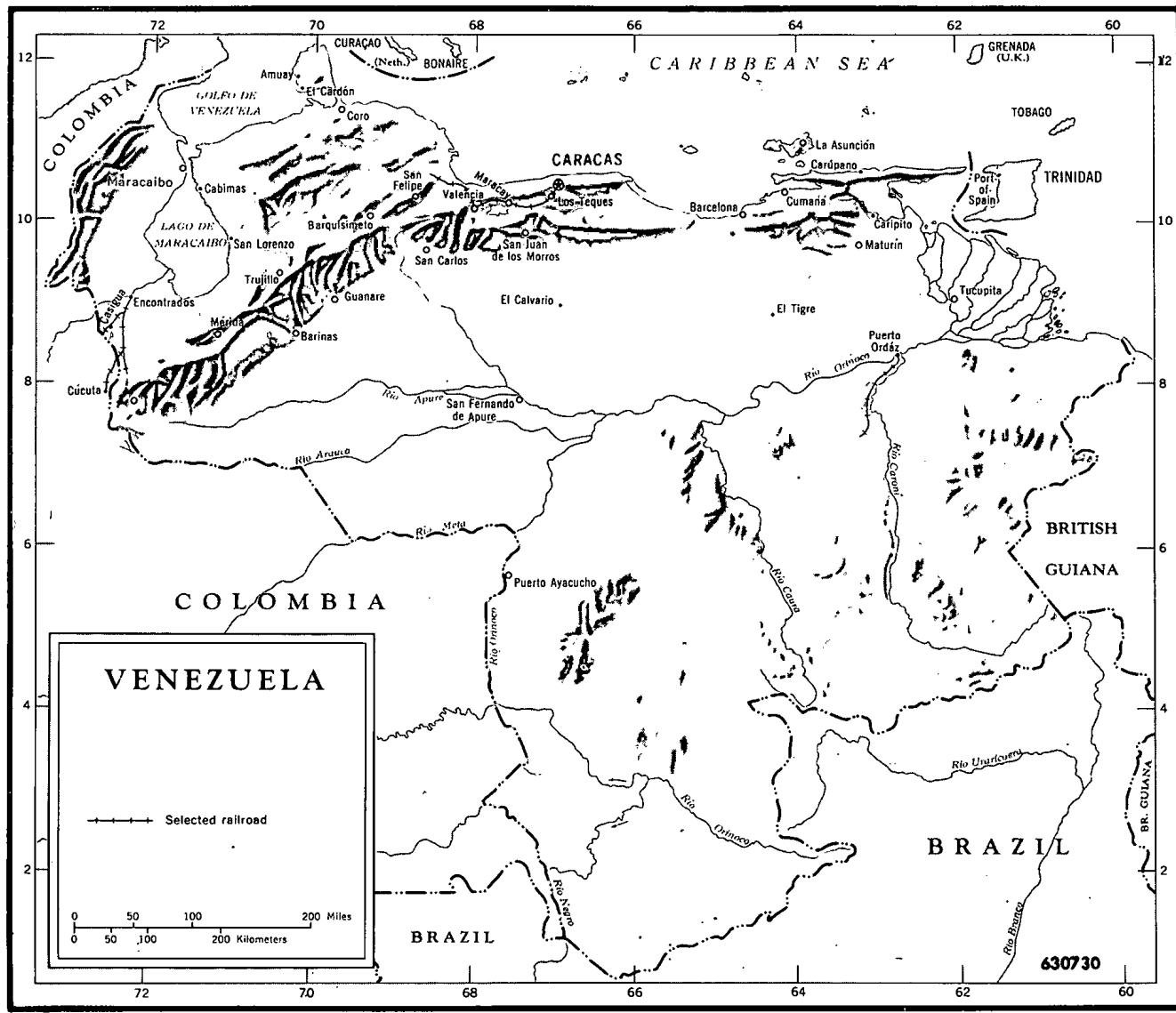
# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
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**3 DECEMBER 1963**  
**~~TOP SECRET~~**

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1. Venezuela

- a. Leoni is clearly in as President, although demands for a recount in the Maracaibo district may delay final tallies.
- b. Long-time associate of Betancourt, Leoni has concentrated in recent years on building up Betancourt's Democratic Action Party. In this role he has attracted criticism for partisanship.
- c. This could cause him some difficulties when he tries to forge a new coalition government, necessary since his party will not have a majority in the new congress.
- d. We expect the extreme left to continue its terrorist campaign, now hoping to block Leoni's inauguration scheduled for 2 March.
- e. Security forces are braced for further terrorist activity in Caracas beginning today. The army is about ready to kick off a campaign to clean up pro-Castro guerrilla bands in the western part of the country.

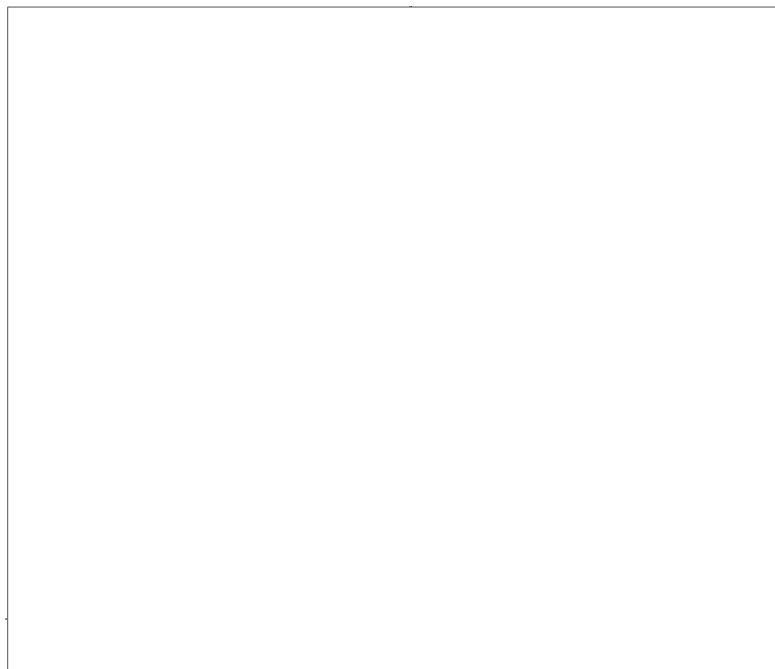
2. Indonesia-  
Malaysia



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b. [redacted] the Indonesians  
have concentrated on guerrilla raids  
into border areas of Sarawak and  
Sabah (North Borneo).

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(Cont'd)

f. [redacted] agents of Sukarno's "confrontation" policy will scarcely clear the air for an early solution to the Malaysian matter. [redacted]

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[redacted]  
[redacted] a  
solution is impossible as long as confrontation continues.

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50X1

3. Syria

a. A move against the hard core Baath in Syria

50X1

[redacted] may in fact be under way.

b. We have no reports of fighting, which we would expect, but do see signs that party extremists are beginning to make other arrangements.

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4. Cyprus

a. A showdown between Greek and Turkish Cypriots is at hand.

b. President Makarios has given Vice President Kuchuk, the leader of the Turkish community, formal notice of his intent to revise the Cyprus Constitution. [ ]

[ ] certain provisions designed to protect the rights of the Turkish minority make the constitution unworkable.

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50X1

c. The Turkish population has firmly rejected earlier Makarios proposals along these lines.

d. The real problem is whether Makarios will try to override Turkish objections and take unilateral action to amend the constitution.

e. If he does, matters would quickly come to a head. Both Greek and Turkish communities have armed paramilitary organizations and a long history of violence.

5. Turkey

a. As was expected the Inonu coalition government, in office since June 1962, has collapsed.

(Cont'd)

b. Inonu handed his resignation to President Gursel yesterday, after it became clear that the two minor parties cooperating in his coalition were withdrawing. Gursel has asked Inonu to stay on until a new government can be formed.

c. There was no indication whether the difficult job of putting together a new coalition would be given to Inonu again or to some less controversial figure.

d. A government which includes the Justice Party, victor in the recent local election, is one possibility.

e. This would not go down well with the military, however. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
military coup if this party comes to power.

f. The military regards it as the lineal descendant of the Menderes group which the army threw out in 1960.

6. India-Pakistan

a. Relations between the two countries continue to deteriorate.

(Cont'd)

b. Karachi last week ordered the closure of one of the two remaining Indian consular offices in Pakistan.

c. Nehru's reaction in this case has been restrained, but he will be under pressure to retaliate. This pressure will sharply increase once Pakistan announces that it is to receive a state visit by Chinese Communist leaders Chou En-lai and Chen Yi.

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NOTES

A. USSR [redacted]

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[redacted]

50X1

B. USSR Soviet gold sales in the West, which took a sharp turn upward once Moscow started buying Western grain, will total about \$450 million for the year, \$140 million above the previous high in 1961.

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C. USSR-Congo Moscow may try to recoup the ouster of its embassy staff from Leopoldville by setting up a mission in the freer atmosphere of Brazzaville (across the river in the old French Congo).

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D. Cuba-France [redacted]

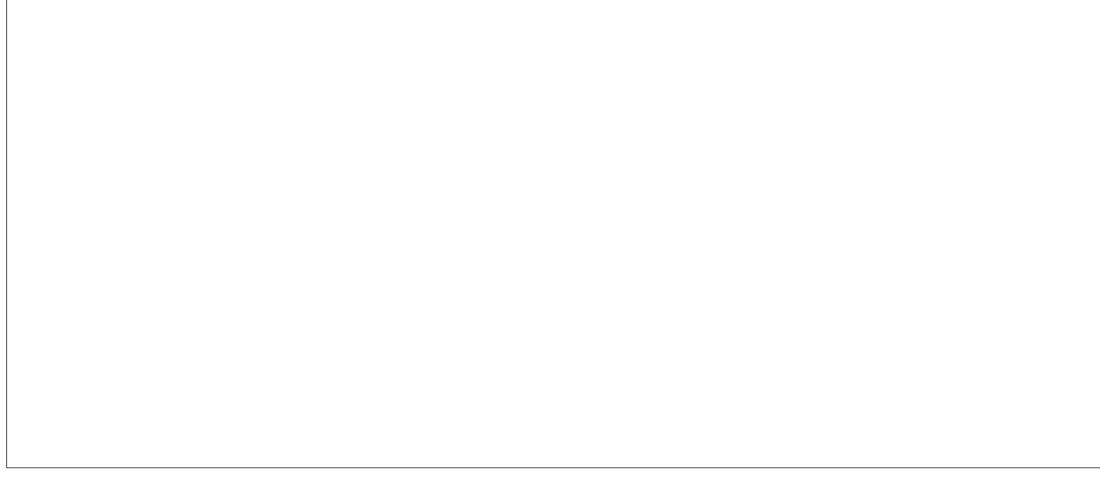
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E. Dominican Republic The authorities in Santo Domingo say they have isolated two groups, totaling 70 men, of extreme leftist guerrillas in the mountains near the north coast. Stocks of arms, supplies, and Communist literature have been taken along with [redacted] of the guerrillas.

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(Cont'd)

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F. Argentina Former President Frondizi told Ambassador McClintock Sunday night that, unless President Illia reformed his cabinet and acquired some capable ministers, his term in office would be short. Frondizi predicted a military coup if Illia's drift to the left continued. We are not yet ready to make such a prediction ourselves, but must give Frondizi's opinion considerable weight.

G. USSR-Cuba

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**4 DECEMBER 1963**  
**~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. Iraq

a. Sharp competition for power is hampering the new regime which seized power on 18 November.

b. Anti-Baathist army officers are still unhappy over the role that Baathists play in the regime. A non-Baathist faction in the government is pressing for reduction of the party's influence and for the arrest and trial of leaders of the extremist faction.

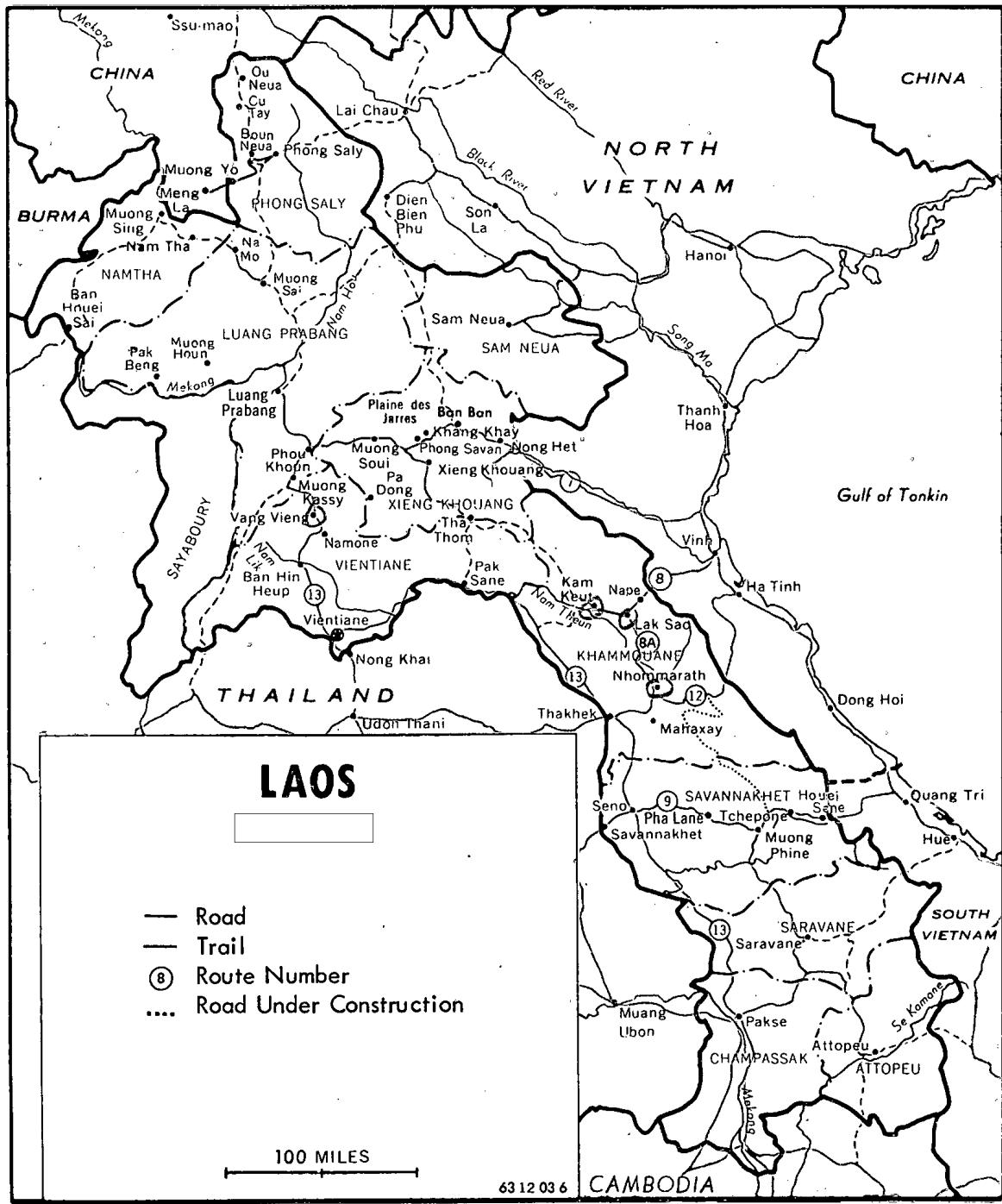
c. Probably as a result of this pressure, Baathists are being eliminated from key positions in the intelligence and security services, a new army deputy chief of staff has been appointed, and a number of army officers retired.

d. There has also been some reshuffling of troops to put those units not under Baath influence where they can intervene in Baghdad.

e. On the other hand, Baathists in the government, headed by Defense Minister Hardan Tikriti and Vice President Bakr, are pressing for gradual resumption of Baathist control and for continuation of the party's policies. Tikriti is also said to be protecting arrested Baathists.

(Cont'd)

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f. President Arif and Premier Tahir Yahya are trying to maintain a neutral position. Yahya believes that the present situation may eventually lead to yet another coup.

2. Laos

a. Right-wing and neutralist forces continue clearing operations.

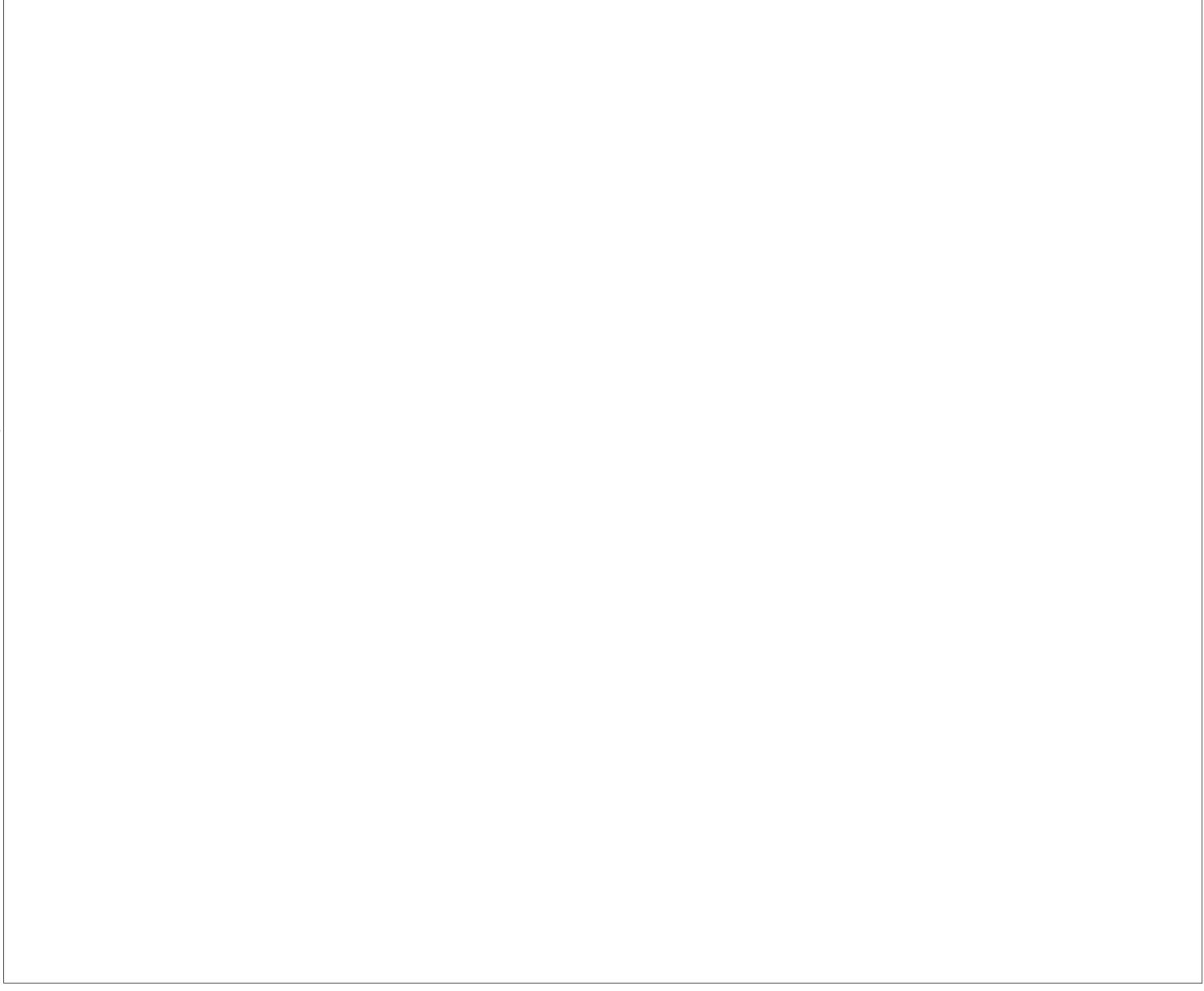
b. North of Vientiane, the neutralist forces which last week captured Vang Vieng have moved about 16 miles farther north along strategic Route 13.

c. In central Laos, regular army troops have captured Kam Keut, at the western end of Route 8, a village which has been a Pathet Lao strong point since early 1961. They have also advanced toward Lak Sao, a depot on the Communist supply route to the Nhommarath region.

d. The Communists have not yet reacted but, going by past practice, we would expect them to counter-attack shortly.

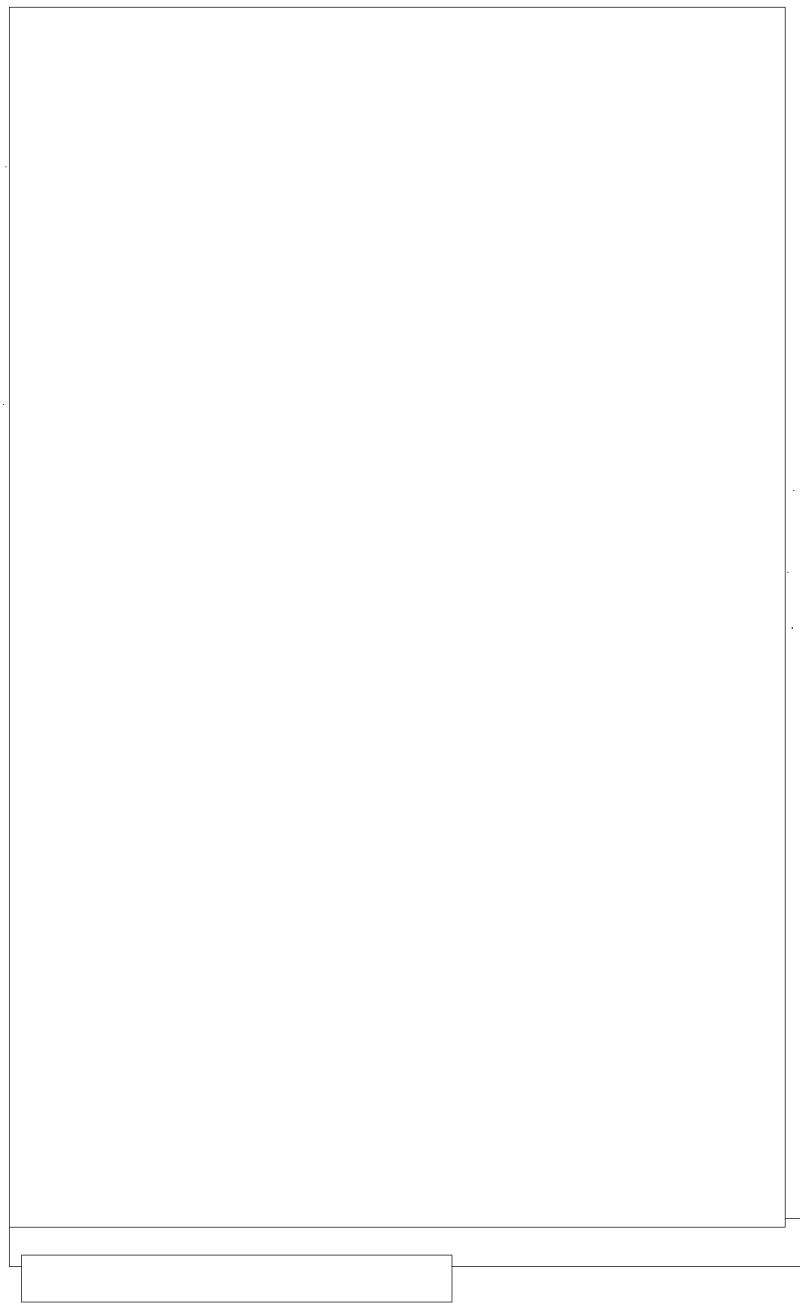
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3. USSR



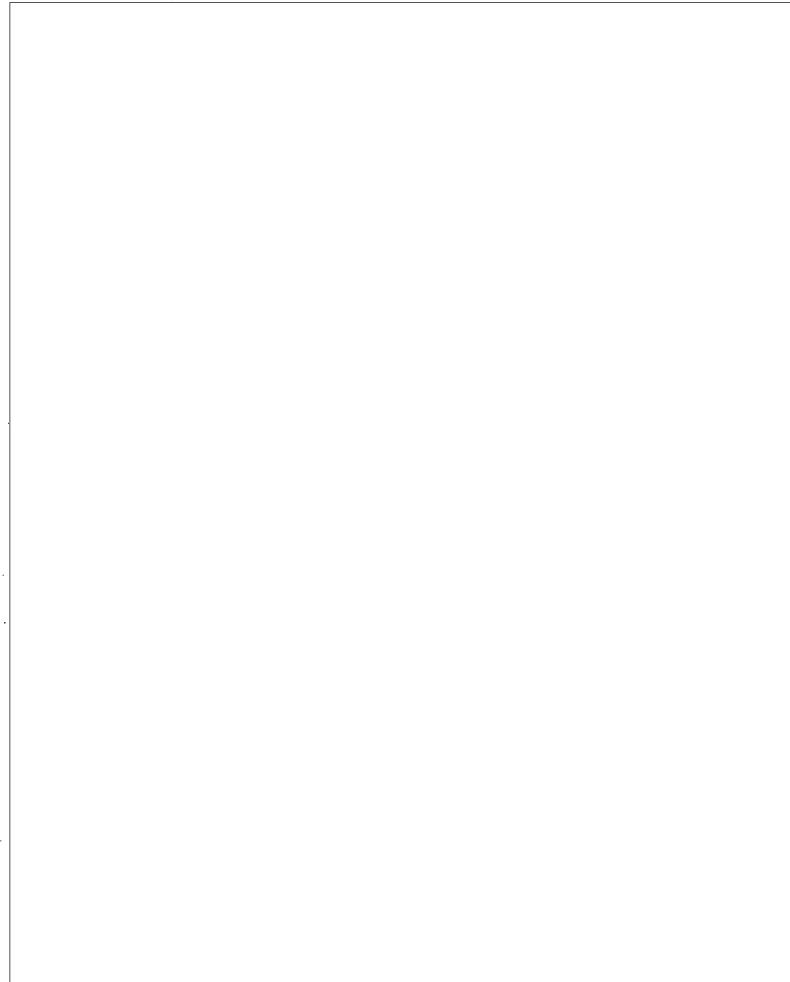
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4. French Nuclear  
Tests

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5. Chinese  
Nationalists -  
Burma

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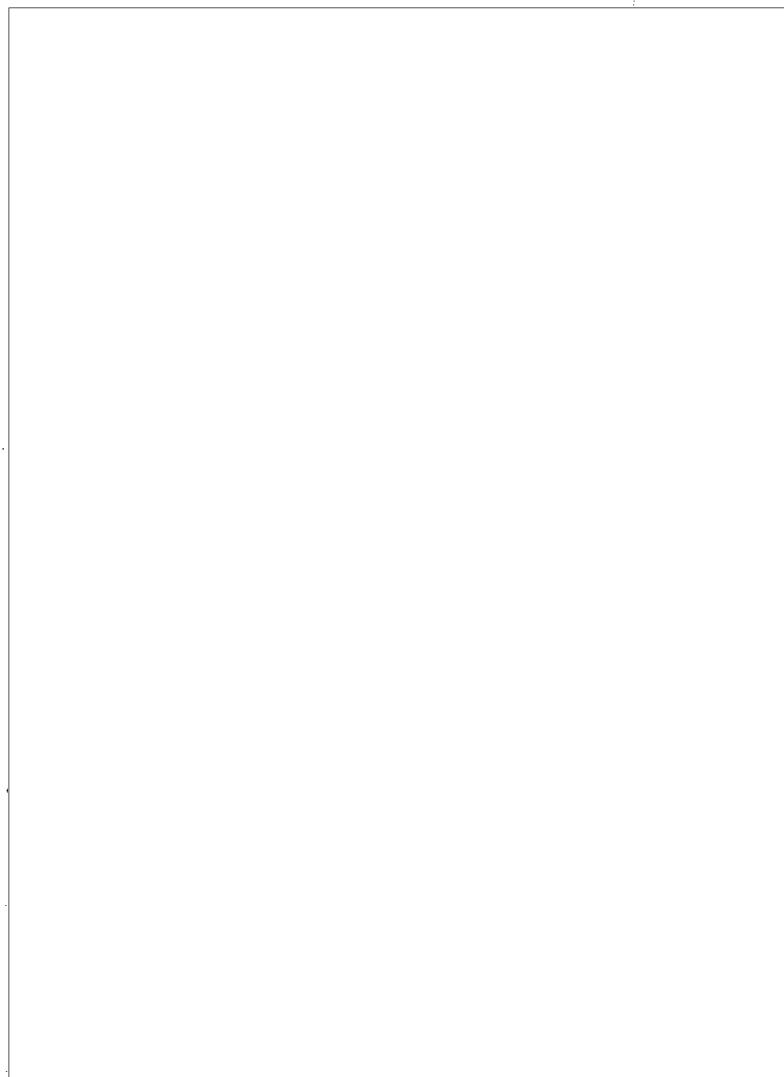


(Cont'd)

For The President Only - Top Secret

[REDACTED]  
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For The President Only Top Secret  
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6. Communist  
China

- a. Communist China's annual parliamentary session ended yesterday on the same cautious and defensive note that has characterized all Chinese public statements this fall.
- b. A press communiqué repeated a two-year-old claim that the economy "has begun to take an all-around turn for the better," insisted that China's policy of relying on its own efforts has proved successful, and asserted that China has won "tremendous successes" in international affairs.
- c. The evidence cited to support these claims is vague and unconvincing.
- d. An interesting sidelight on this is [redacted] that political indoctrination campaigns are disrupting government operations and causing production delays in some Chinese provinces.
- e. In southeast China, for example, output of a chemical plant suffered because workers and bosses alike were tied up in political indoctrination. In Canton, a province-wide diphtheria prevention campaign went understaffed for the same reason. Similar problems were reported in Inner Mongolia.

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(Cont'd)

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f. [redacted] the  
authorities are aware of the dis-  
ruptive effects of such political  
drives. The fact that they continue  
without letup is a measure of the  
regime's concern over public apathy.

NOTES

A. Venezuela A Time-Life correspondent was taken by the FALN to see Colonel Chenault Monday evening. The newsman, who was blindfolded en route, reported that Chenault said he was being well treated. The reporter took some photographs and has since left the country to file a story.

B. Jordan

50X1

C. Egypt-Yemen Approximately 1,200 Egyptian troops left Yemen last Wednesday. This is the first sizable movement of troops out of Yemen since late October, when Nasir stated he would attempt to withdraw 5,000 by January. If no replacements are sent for these troops, Egyptian strength in Yemen would be reduced to slightly over 31,000.

50X1

D. Indonesia For the last three weeks a clandestine radio station calling itself the "Voice of Free Indonesia" and believed to be located in West Java has been broadcasting antigovernment propaganda several hours nightly. Our embassy reports that such attacks are bound to nettle Sukarno, who would be quick to suspect US involvement in view of Sihanouk's recent charges along this line.

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**5 DECEMBER 1963  
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1. South Vietnam

- a. Viet Cong military activity slackened somewhat during the last week of November, but it is still well above the level which prevailed before the 1 November coup in Saigon.
- b. The Communists have generally been more effective, too, in that they have inflicted heavier losses in personnel and weapons at no apparent increase in cost to themselves.
- c. It has netted them, for example, a gain of nearly 1,000 weapons, possibly more, during the month--enough to equip three regular battalions.
- d. November's activity dramatizes the unfavorable statistical trends in the conflict which set in last July.
- e. Several charts are included at the back of the book.

2. USSR

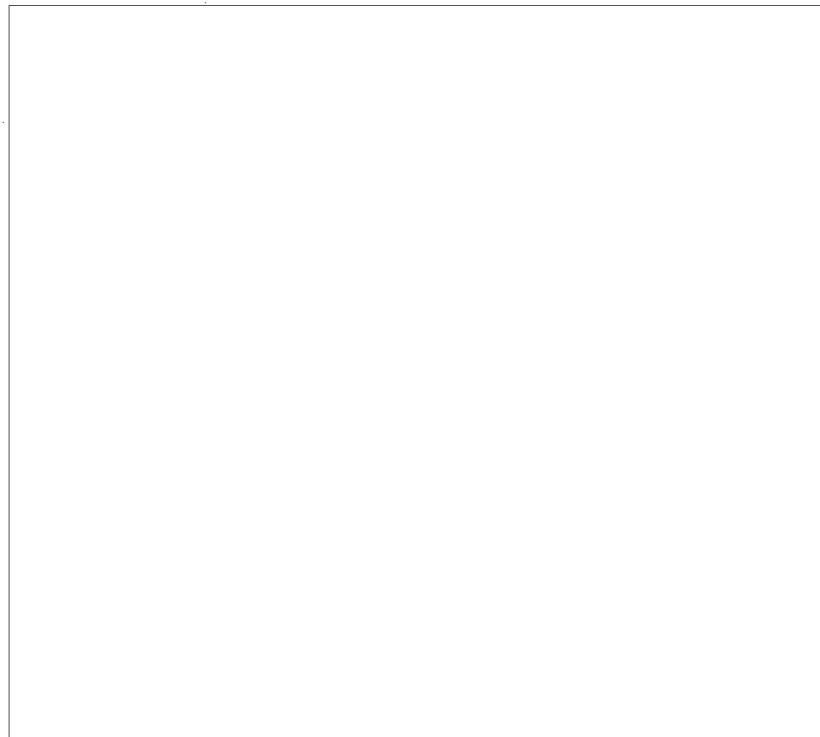
- a. The Soviet Party Presidium--the main policy making organ--is in obvious need of new faces and may get them at the end of the Central Committee plenum which convenes next Monday.

(Cont'd)

PRESIDIUM OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

<u>Full Members</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Probable Areas of Responsibility (Not Necessarily Complete)</u>
Khrushchev	69	Party First Secretary Premier Chairman, RSFSR Party Bureau	Party and government head
Brezhnev	57	Party Secretary Titular head of state	Party second-in-command
Voronov	52	RSFSR Premier	Government affairs of the Russian Republic
Kirilenko	57	First Deputy Chairman, RSFSR Party Bureau	RSFSR party-industrial affairs
Kozlov	55	Party Second Secretary	Incapacitated
Kosygin	59	First Deputy Premier	Domestic economic affairs
Kuusinen	82	Party Secretary	CPSU relations with foreign Communist parties
Mikoyan	68	First Deputy Premier	Senior adviser to Khrushchev, particularly in fields of foreign affairs and foreign trade
Podgorny	60	Party Secretary	CPSU relations with foreign Communist parties (?)
Polyansky	45	Deputy Premier	Government agricultural affairs
Suslov	61	Party Secretary	CPSU relations with foreign Communist parties Coordination of world Communist movement
Shvernik	75	Chairman, Party Commission	Heads trial board concerned with infractions of party discipline

50X6



f. Personnel actions by the Central Committee plenum may also provide clues to the lineup of Khrushchev's possible successors.

g. While Brezhnev is generally top seeded, we have been watching party secretary Podgorny's star rise. He is probably closer to Khrushchev both personally and in terms of ability and style than any of his sidekicks.

3. Ghana-USSR-US

a.

Moscow has  
offered military assistance to Ghana.

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50X1  
50X1  
50X1  
50X1  
50X1

Nkrumah

50X1  
50X1

has had some set backs recently (e.g., no mediating role in the Algerian-Moroccan dispute) in attempts to promote pan-Africanism and himself with it. There are also frustrations over failure of the cocoa conference.

50X1

(Cont'd)

f. In short, he is in a frustrated, potentially dangerous mood, according to Ambassador Mahoney.

g. It is reflected in his recent cancellation of US aid to the medical school project, in the most violent anti-US tone in the past 20 months on the Ghana radio, and, now, in the acceptance of Soviet military aid.

h. Even so, London and Ambassador Mahoney have reserved judgment and are not prepared to predict that Nkrumah intends to reduce drastically his Western contacts.

4. Laos

a. The murder last night of neutralist intelligence chief Colonel Leuang will aggravate distrust among the factions and could well lead to reprisals by pro-Communists who will try to pin the deed on Phoumi's faction.

b. Leuang, a rigid neutralist, was strongly opposed to the current trend of increased cooperation between the neutralists and rightists and was, in turn, strongly opposed by the rightists.

(Cont'd)

c. They may have done it (they were talking of it at one time), although as is usual in Laos, the possibility of a provocation is ever present.

50X1

5. Italy

a. Moro has finally managed to get a cabinet together, but to do it, he had to go back on earlier commitments and give one of the three top economic posts (Budget) to a Socialist.

b. The 24-man cabinet thus has five Socialists plus Vice Premier Nenni.

c. The right wing of the Christian Democrats does not like the setup, and the 16 assembly deputies from this faction cannot be relied on. The same goes for some 32 left-wing Socialists.

(Cont'd)

d. Even so, Moro stands a good chance of surviving the confidence vote which will come in the next week or two when he presents his government's program to the assembly.

6. Sino-Soviet Dispute

a. Behavior of the Soviets and the Chinese Communists at the World Peace Council session in Warsaw makes it clear that each side went there to test the other's intentions, and that each found the other unprepared to compromise.

b. The Soviets brought all disputed items to a vote and won. The Chinese, however, submitted detailed draft counterproposals and managed to garner enough support from Afro-Asian and Latin American delegates to give color to their claim that Peiping speaks for the underdeveloped nations.

c. Chinese Communists have done everything but walk out on the meeting to disassociate themselves from all the World Peace Council resolutions.

d. They probably will make a major case of this instance of Soviet "manipulation," but apparently are not yet ready to form their own rival peace front.

NOTES

A. Venezuela Lieutenant Colonel Chenault was released in Caracas early this morning in good health.

B. Great Britain [REDACTED]

50X1

C. Dominican Republic The leftist guerrilla force [REDACTED] has been all but subdued by government troops, with some 40 taken prisoner and 3 killed. Another group of 25 is still at large. Rumors that they received training and supplies from Cuba [REDACTED]

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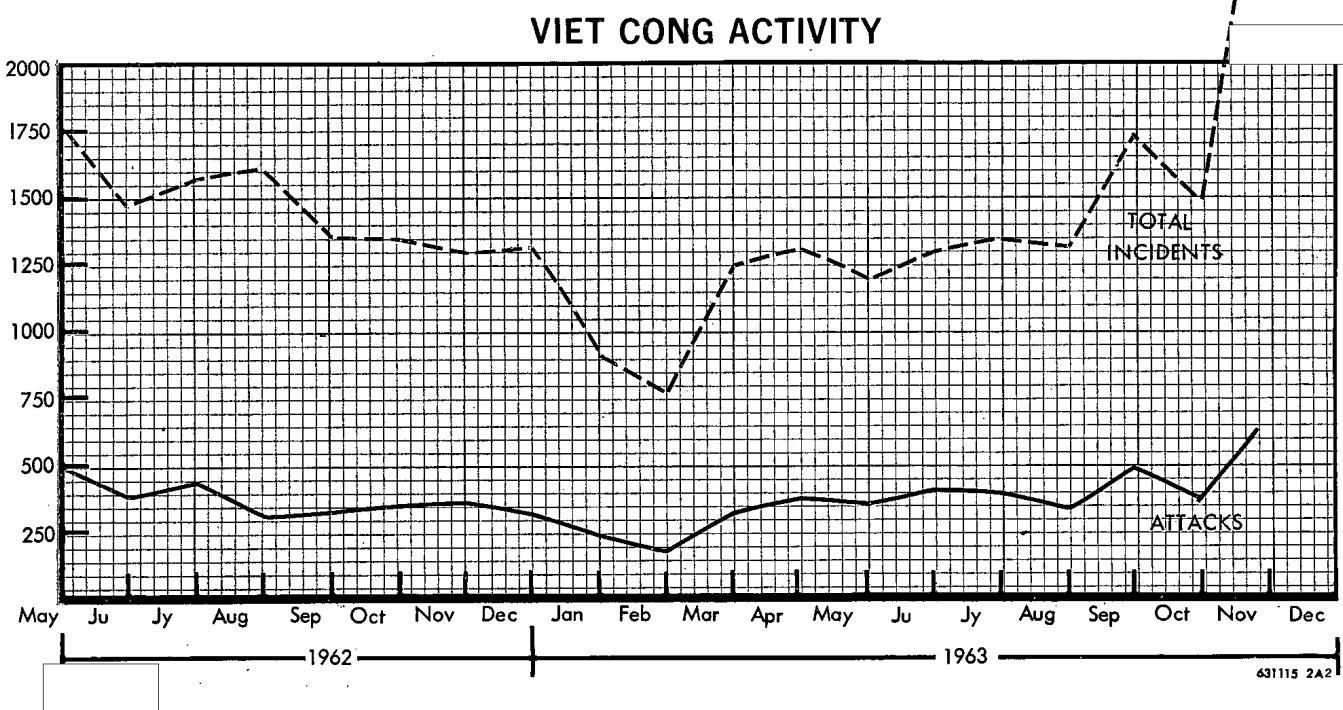
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D. Iraq Baathists in position of authority are beginning to desert the ship, some under pressure. While the non-Baathists appear to be in control, the commander of the 4th Division, a dedicated Baathist, is said to have surrounded Baghdad, and he may try to reverse the trend.

E. Thailand Sarit has named Deputy Premier and Defense Minister Thanom as acting premier and at the same time has given General Chitti the job of acting commander in chief of the army. He is urging everyone to hold together behind Thanom and they may do so while he lives, but these two wires could easily get crossed.

THROUGH  
25 NOV  
2931

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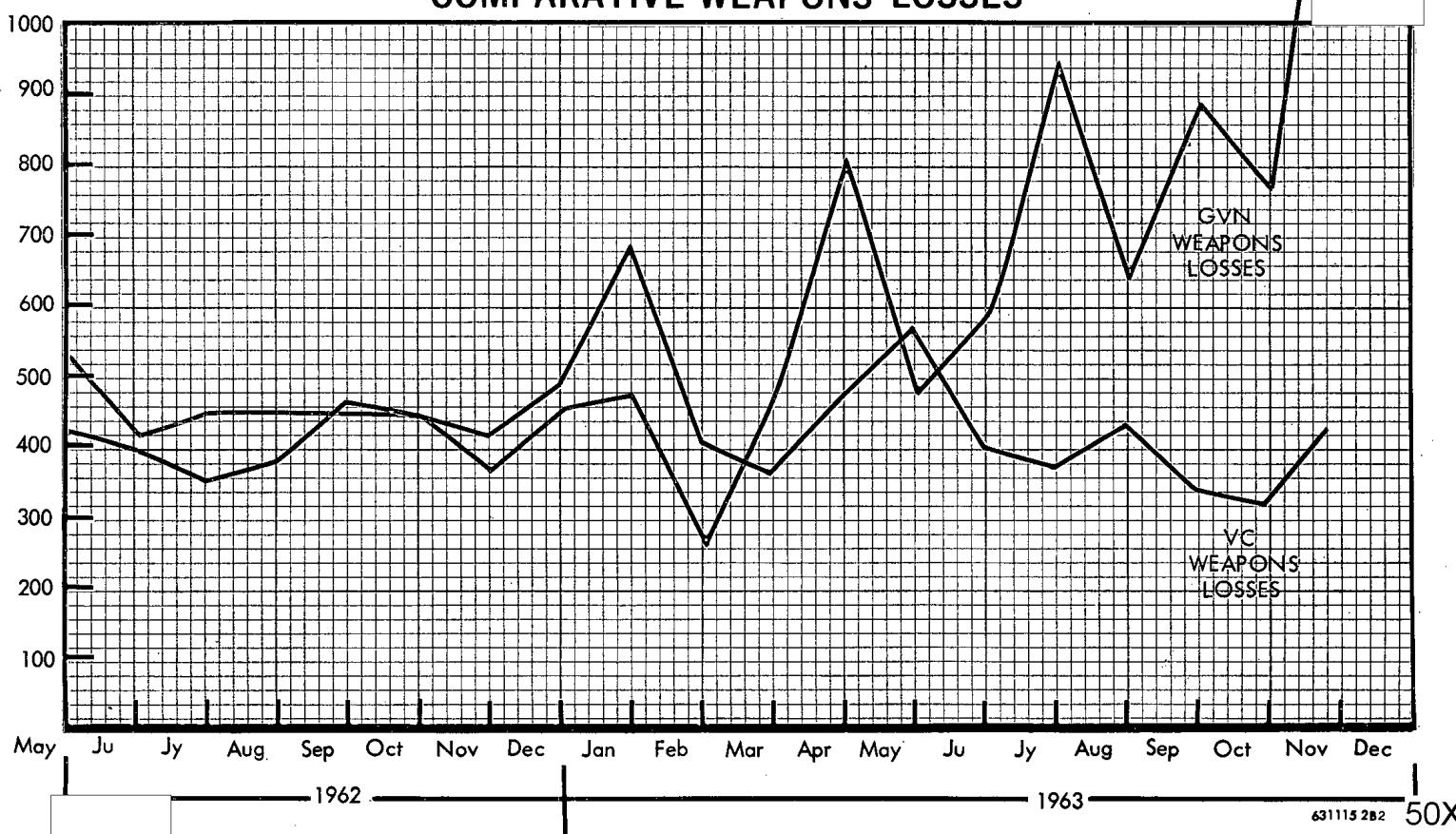


THROUGH  
25 NOV

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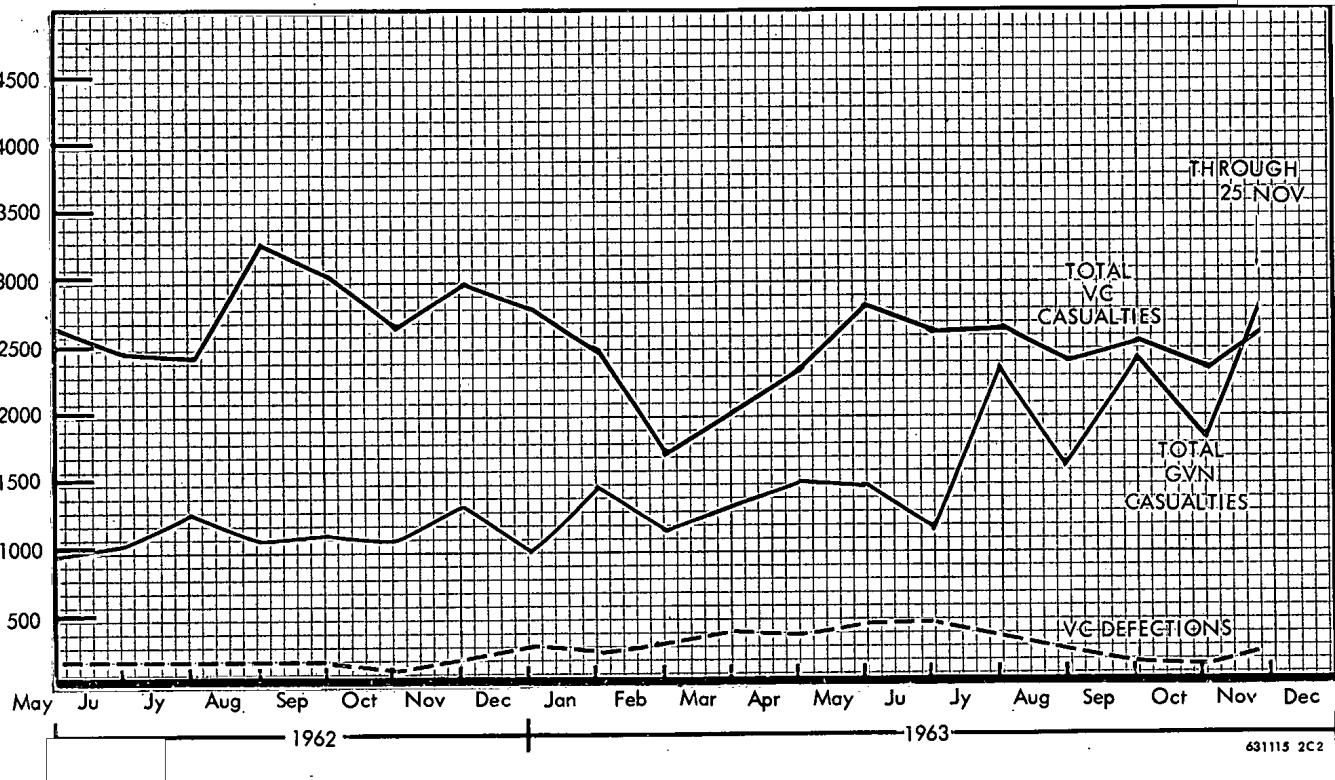
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### COMPARATIVE WEAPONS LOSSES



50X1

### COMPARATIVE CASUALTIES



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6  
~~SECRET~~ DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~

50X1

1. USSR



2. Brazil

a. Even close confidants of President Goulart no longer believe that he can solve Brazil's worsening problems.

b. They say that the President is exhausted physically and psychologically. His isolation from the realities of Brazilian political life is growing, they add.

(Cont'd)

c. General Silva, formerly Goulart's chief military adviser, asserts that the present balance between contending political forces is so precarious that any serious incident would precipitate a crisis and possibly prolonged hostilities among the political factions.

3. Dominican Republic

a. So far no evidence has been uncovered to indicate a Cuban origin for the weapons taken from the guerrillas captured this week in the mountains near the north coast.

b. [redacted] 50X11  
[redacted] 50X11  
[redacted] a press report from Miami [redacted] says that Havana radio has claimed that pro-Castro guerrillas have gotten a foothold in the Dominican Republic.

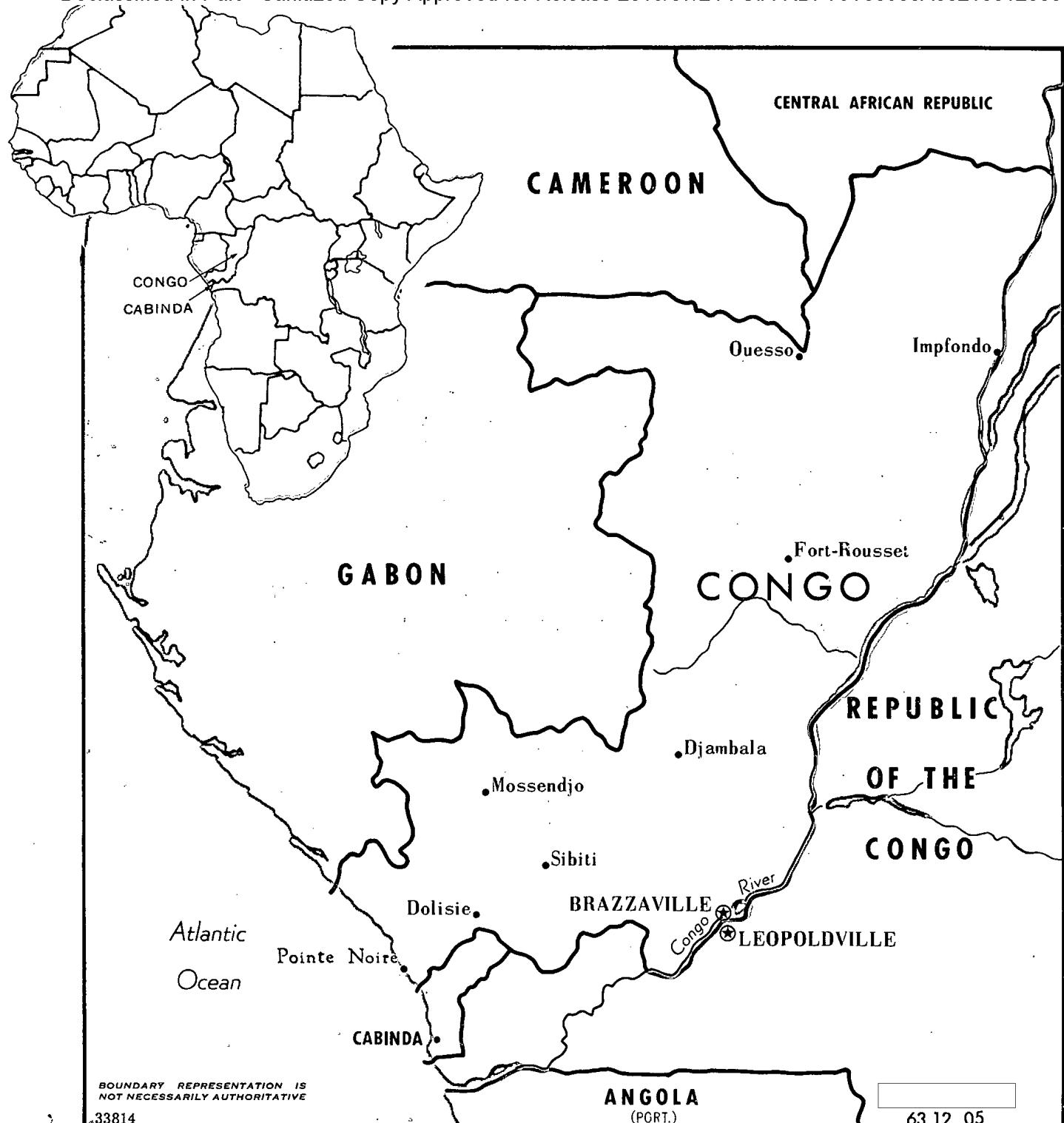
4. Cambodia

a. The Thai have reacted sharply against Sihanouk's demand for a multinational conference to guarantee Cambodian neutrality.

b. The foreign minister told US officials that the US attitude toward the proposed conference is a critical point in US-Thai relations. Our attendance would represent acceptance of Sihanouk's charges against Thailand and South Vietnam.

(Cont'd)

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c. The South Vietnamese are of course equally against the scheme.

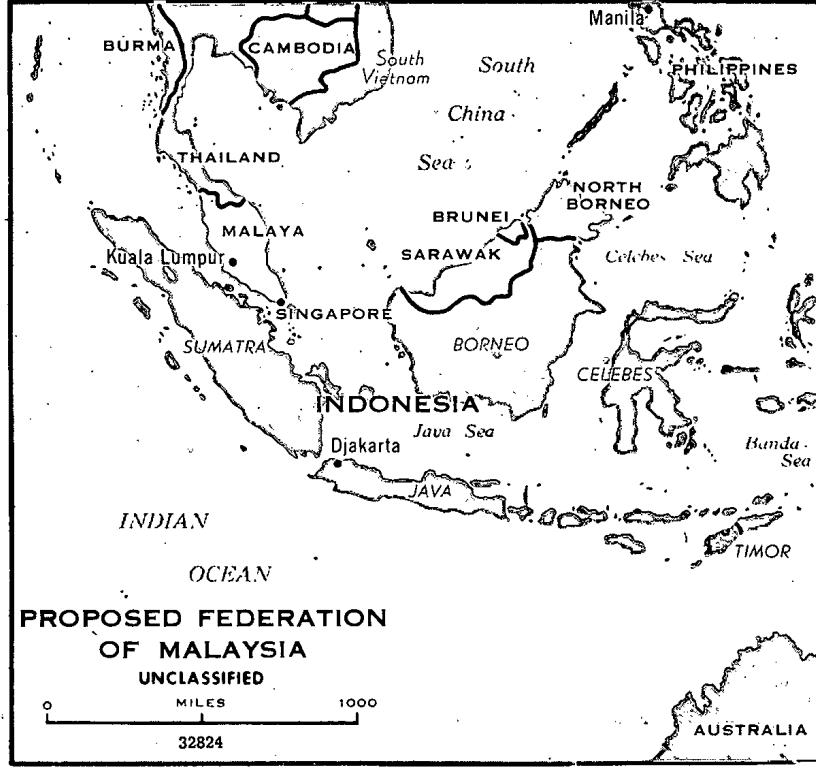
5. Congo  
(Brazzaville)

a. The political situation in Brazzaville is as confused and unstable as ever with the approach of Sunday's constitutional referendum and election.

b. Both the constitution and the congressional candidates, who are running unopposed, will probably be strongly endorsed. A number of leftist unionists and youth leaders are among the candidates, and their possible elevation to ministerial posts may signal a trend to the left.

c. Leftists are already seeking to exploit the tense situation which has developed along the border with Cabinda.

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NOTES

A. Cuba Field training of Cubans in the SAM system  
is moving ahead.

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B. Malaysia

50X1

C. Turkey There is no resolution as yet of the cabinet crisis. We expect that President Gursel, who is now testing several alternatives, may have to turn again to Prime Minister Inonu to form a government.

D. Syria There has been no resolution of the struggle between the moderate and extreme Baathists, and the possibility of a coup is still there.

E. Laos The murderers of neutralist Colonel Leuang have not been apprehended. Ambassador Unger reports that suspicions range across the whole Laotian political spectrum, from the Pathet Lao on the left to the Phoumi rightists.

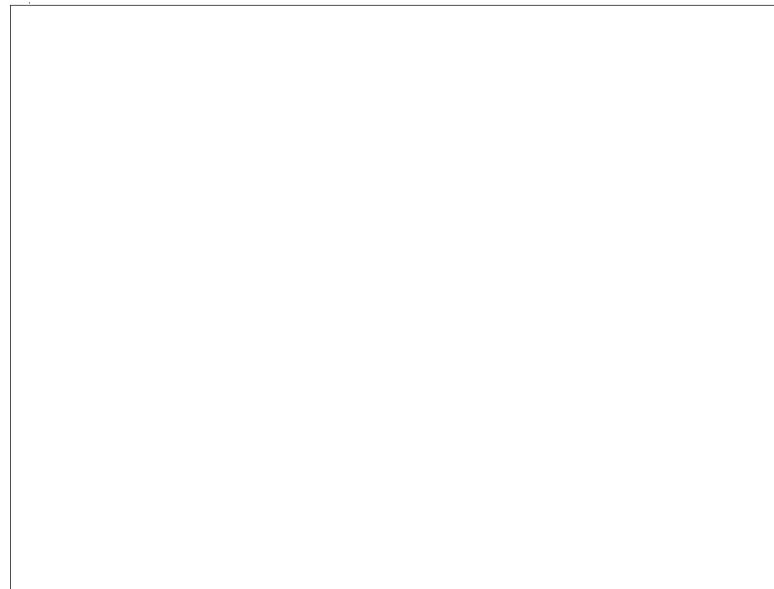
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

7 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. USSR



50X1

2. USSR

a. The Council of Ministers has approved the 1964-65 economic plan.

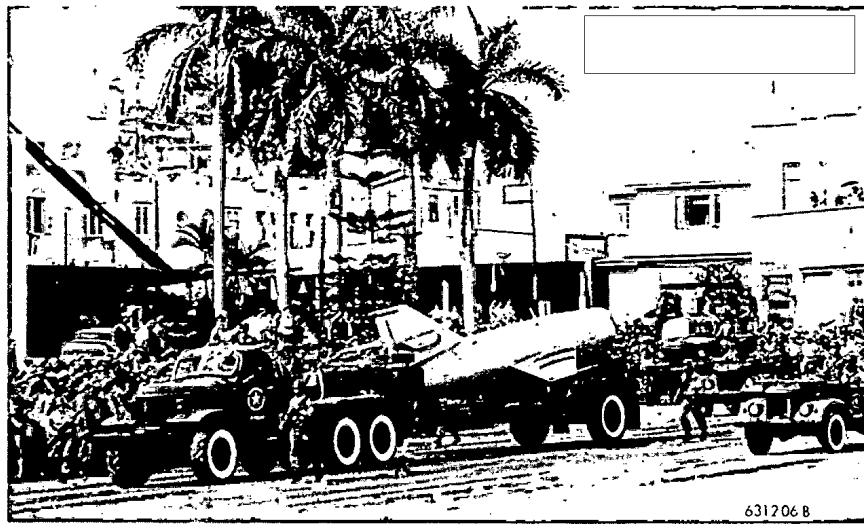
b. TASS said yesterday that the plan will ensure priority development of the chemical industry, a step-up in agriculture and a further raise in the standard of living.

c. It thus appears virtually certain that the program Khrushchev has publicized for several months will be put into effect.

(Cont'd)

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50X1



50X1

A 35 mile range cruise missile displayed  
in the Havana parade, 2 January 1963.

50X1

d. As has been previously forecast the plan will require large amounts of foreign chemical equipment, diversions of resources from other industries and some slow down in the fairly rapid rate of increase in military spending.

3. Cuba

a. Raul Castro said in a recent speech that the Soviet "coastal defense rockets" now belong to the Cuban army. He was probably telling the truth.

b. We think the Cubans have been training in cruise missile operations [redacted]. The rotation and withdrawal of some Soviet naval personnel [redacted] suggested to us then that the cruise missile system was being turned over to the Cubans.

50X1

50X1

50X1

d. In another development the Soviet cargo ship Slutsk is on the way to Cuba with [redacted] military cargo. It should arrive shortly.

50X1

50X1

(Cont'd)

50X1

e. These shipments probably involve resupply of ammunition and spare parts and delivery of some new military equipment such as tanks.



50X1

4. Laos

a. As expected, distrust among the various factions in Vientiane has sharpened following Thursday's slaying of Colonel Leuang, chief of neutralist intelligence.

b. Responsibility for the killing has not been determined and may never be. However neutralist leaders blame the right-wing forces under Colonel Sihou.

c. The shooting has revived rumors that right-wing military elements connected with former Premier Phoui Sananikone may soon try to take over control in Vientiane.

5. Venezuela

a. President Betancourt advocates strong measures to curtail Castro's subversive activities in Latin America.

b. He favors a "blockade" limited to ships outbound from Cuba for Latin American countries in order to prevent delivery of arms to insurgents in Venezuela.

c. Betancourt thinks that those Latin American countries still maintaining relations with Cuba should sever them. He also wants measures which will hold economic relations and other communications with Cuba to a minimum.

6. Cambodia

[Redacted]  
Paris is moving to strengthen its close relations with Sihanouk.

c. The press quotes a French foreign office spokesman to the effect that Defense Minister Messner will visit Phnom Penh from 4 to 7

50X1

(Cont'd)

January to discuss Sihanouk's appeal for assistance to replace US aid. Sihanouk will pay an official visit to Paris early next year.

7. Thailand-Cambodia

a. A Khmer Serei radio station directed against Cambodia has been located in Southeast Thailand

50X1  
50X1

b. Thai officials while not admitting official involvement have made it perfectly plain that they favor continuation of these broadcasts as long as Cambodian propaganda continues to attack the Bangkok regime.

8. Berlin

a. An East German offer to open the wall during the holiday season and permit West Berliners to visit relatives in East Berlin is not motivated by the Christmas spirit.

b. The small print in the offer is so worded that its acceptance would imply recognition by the West Berlin Senat of East German sovereignty. It would also underline the GDR position that West Berlin has a "special" status and is not tied to West Germany.

c. There is little danger that West Berlin will fall for this ploy.

NOTES

- A. Brazil [redacted] a group of younger officers are chaffing at the bit to oust Goulart. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1 DUA1
- B. Communist China Premier Chou En-lai's entourage on his African junket will number 60-70 people. [redacted] The itinerary will include Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Albania, Ghana, Mali, Guinea, Tanganyika, Uganda and Somalia and probably some other stopovers such as Kenya and Zanzibar. At least some of these countries will return the favor. Tanganyika's Nyerere will visit Communist China in February 1964. 50X1 50X1
- C. Cuba-Venezuela [redacted] Castro is preparing to recognize a Venezuelan government in exile composed of Venezuelan Communists in Cuba. We think there may be something to this. 50X1 50X1
- D. [redacted] 50X1

(Cont'd)

- E. Bolivia President Victor Paz Estenssoro is revamping his cabinet in order to neutralize extreme leftist opposition in the ruling MNR party. Juan Lechin, head of the pro-Communist wing of the MNR is challenging Paz for control of the party. Lechin wants to be named the MNR's presidential candidate for the 1964 elections.
- F. Iraq The evidence continues to mount that a showdown between Baathist and anti-Baathist "nationalist" elements is close at hand.
- G. Thailand

50X1

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**8 DECEMBER 1963**  
~~TOP SECRET~~



1. Bolivia

a. The tin miners at Catavi, who have been defying President Paz's government all year, yesterday seized four Americans along with a number of Bolivian technicians at the mines.

b. The miners say they are holding these people as hostages for the release of a pair of troublesome pro-Communist leaders of the miners' union, now in a government prison.

c. The authorities do not propose to accept the swap.  

50X1  
50X1

d. This could quickly lead to gunfire and even civil war, since some 2,000 of the miners are armed and the lines are drawn for a showdown between Paz and his left-wing Vice President Juan Lechin.

e. We are suggesting to Paz that he avoid using force while the Americans are still held but try to bring pressure on Lechin for their release.

2. South Vietnam

- a. Defense Minister Don admitted to Ambassador Lodge yesterday that much time had been lost in prosecuting the war against the Viet Cong.
- b. Don said certain personnel adjustments were being made and should be completed by the end of the month, after which government forces would "take off."
- c. He predicted results early next year.
- d. Don denied that the generals were divided. He thought reports to this effect stem from the emphatic manner in which most of their number express themselves in strategy huddles.

3. Cambodia

- a. Suggestions in yesterday's press dispatches out of Phnom Penh that certain Frenchmen are pushing Cambodia into Peiping's camp tend, we think, to overplay their influence.
- b. The best known of these, Charles Meyer and Jean Barre, have been in Cambodia for years writing editorials for the Sihanouk press. While their opinions do, on occasion, coincide with and reinforce Sihanouk's prejudices, they have had little better luck in harnessing the mercurial prince to a set line than anyone else.

(Cont'd)

c. In the present case, we do not believe that Sihanouk wishes to commit himself irrevocably to Peiping. His request for French assistance to replace ours is an attempt to take out insurance.

d. France has, however, been slow to react; thus, Defense Minister Messmer's visit scheduled for January was described yesterday by the French foreign office as for "preliminary" talks on aid.

e. This, and the first signs of business disruption and discontent in high places, may have led Sihanouk to begin backing water a bit on terminating US aid. His negotiators were maneuvering last week to keep key parts of the program alive for another three to six months.

4. Thailand

a. Prime Minister Sarit died at 0500 this morning Washington time.

b. General Thanom Kittikachorn has called at the Palace to see the king

50X1  
50X1

c. There are no reports of disturbances in Bangkok

50X1

NOTES

- A. Yugoslavia In a conversation with Tito last Thursday, Charge Kocher found him "remarkably vague" on a number of points. This could stem from the fact that he gave up certain of his responsibilities last summer, but some of his associates have been saying that the 71-year-old Tito has failed markedly in recent months.
- B. Brazil Yet another Brazilian political crisis seems to be approaching. Rio is full of rumors this weekend that President Goulart intends shortly to give his cabinet a more marked leftist cast. 50X1
- C. USSR-Morocco The Soviets have assured the Moroccans that further military aid is a possibility. 50X1  
50X1
- D. USSR-Cuba The Soviet AN-12 heavy military transport, which we noted en route from Moscow to Cuba landed at Havana yesterday. 50X1  
50X1
- E. Syria The tug of war between moderate and extreme Baathists goes on. pro-Nasir groups have been alerted to take advantage of any opening this struggle may give them to seize power. 50X1  
50X1

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**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**



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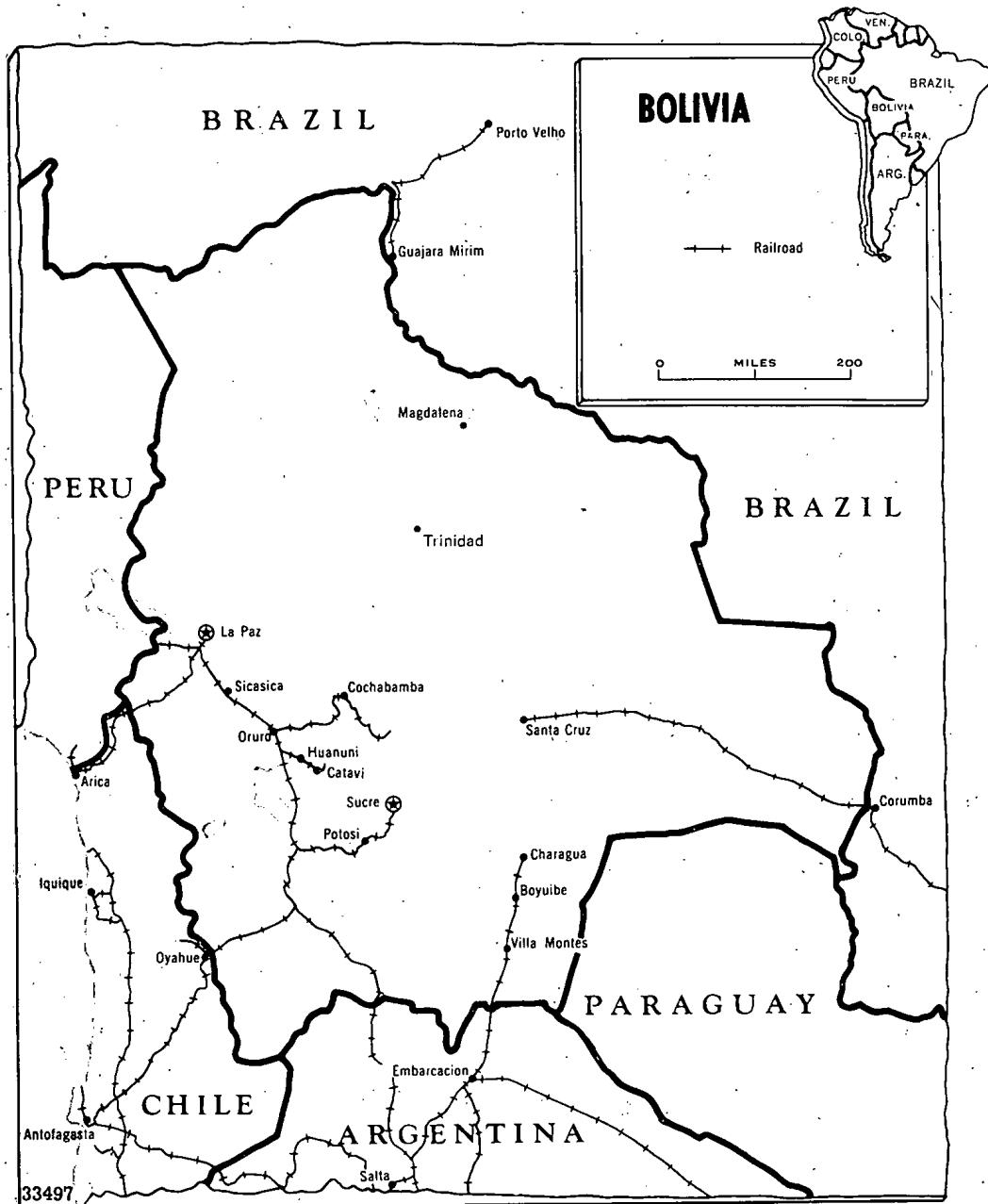
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
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**9 DECEMBER 1963  
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LATE ITEM

Bolivia

a. A Red Cross team has arrived at Catavi and met with Vice President Juan Lechin, the extremist leader, and some of the hostages but has failed to reach any agreement on their release.

b. The miners are holding a total of 21 hostages including Canadian, Swedish, West German, Dutch, and UN personnel.

c. President Paz has told our ambassador that Lechin, by going to Catavi, has accepted responsibility for the detention of the hostages and the consequences to the miners.

d. He said Lechin is now in a dilemma. If Lechin releases the hostages he will face the hostility of his supporters. If he does not he will risk national and international opprobrium for violation of criminal law.

e. The press reports the miners will start a series of strikes today at the 25 mines run by the government. Paz says if the miners go through with it they will lose all year end income and bonuses.

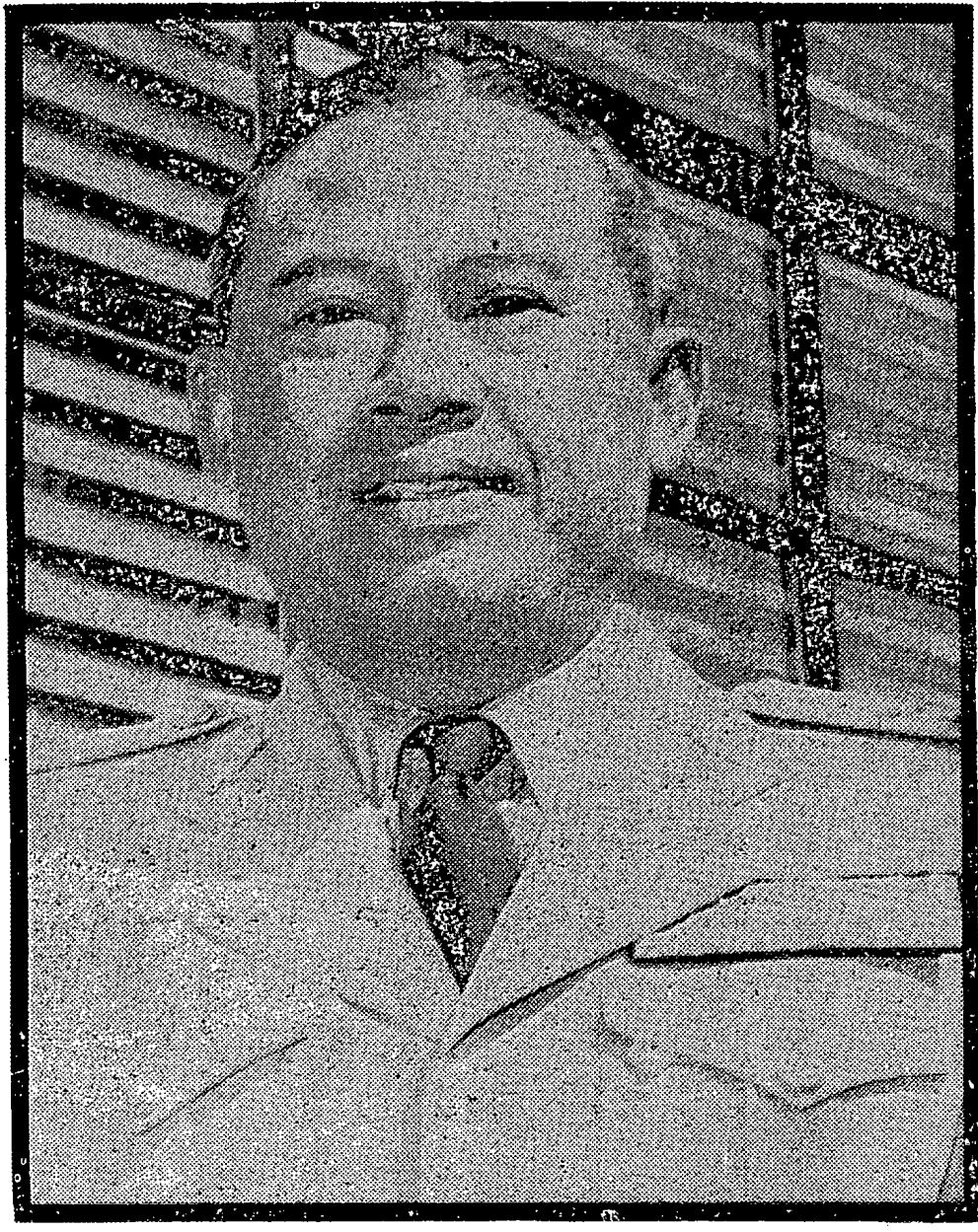
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f. Paz considers unlikely the possibility that Lechin will opt for civil war, but we are not so sure.

g. The Bolivian President said the government would make every effort to avoid bloodshed and in "the next few days" will use all pressure devices short of military action. This may imply postponement of tomorrow's paratroop drop in the Catavi area.

50X1

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**GEN. THANOM KITTIKACHORN**

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1. Thailand

- a. The King has named Thanom Kittikachorn Premier and it looks as though there will be an orderly transfer of power for the short term.
- b. General Thanom, who was Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense, had been regarded as the likely temporary successor and had been earmarked for the job by Sarit as early as 1960.
- c. The new premier had been closely associated with his predecessor since the 1957 coup which brought Sarit to power.
- d. Thanom is respected as an honest professional officer untainted by corruption and aloof from the various political machinations of his colleagues. But, because of this he has no strong personal following.
- e. He is a compromise candidate whose choice advances the cause of no political group.
- f. Thanom is not expected to depart from Sarit's policies. However, his stay at the helm may well be a short one.

(Cont'd)

g.

[redacted] the military group which vetted his appointment consider it to be temporary only. Their aim was to set up a caretaker government which would meet US approval.

50X1

50X1

## 2. Turkey-Cyprus

a. The Turkish cabinet has decided to reject President Makarios' proposals for amendment of the Cypriot constitution "definitely and publicly."

b. A public reply by the Turks will put Makarios on the spot among his fellow Greek Cypriots and further raise the tension on Cyprus.

c. If Makarios should now decide, as he has threatened, to resort to unilateral revision of the constitution, serious trouble could erupt between the Greek and Turkish communities.

d. Partition of the island--a last ditch, vastly complicated solution--might again become an active issue.

3. Laos

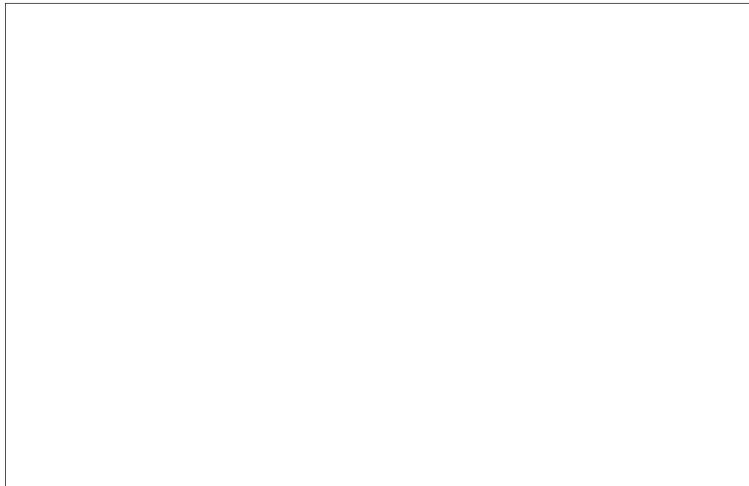
a. Both rightist chief Phoumi and neutralist leader Kong Le seem to be puffed up with their recent successes against the Pathet Lao and eager to push their luck further.

b. Kong Le says he will no longer personally meet with Pathet Lao representatives in truce talks. Phoumi says his troops' move toward the road junction at Lak Sao will probably bring them up against North Vietnamese regulars.

c. Phoumi expressed confidence his forces could handle the North Vietnamese. We think he is talking through his hat.

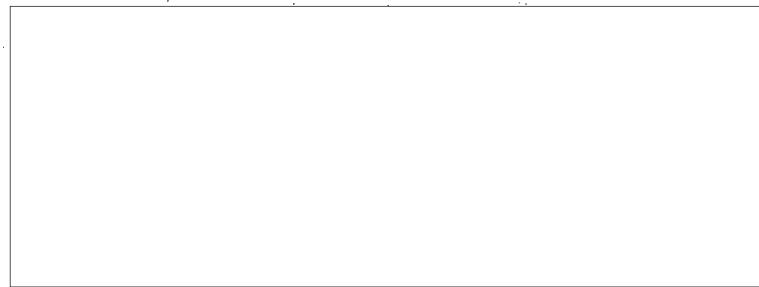
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4. France-  
Cambodia



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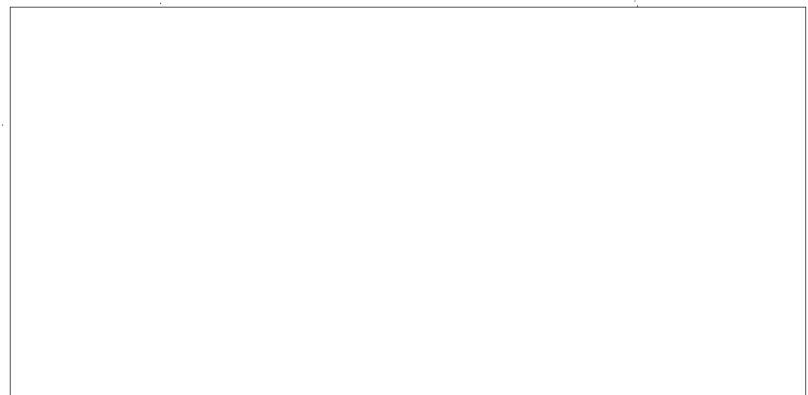
50X1



5. Italy

a. Security officials continue to have their troubles with extremist groups favoring increased autonomy for the largely German speaking South Tirol. The trial of about 100 alleged terrorists due to open today in Milan could spark terrorist acts there and in Turin and Genoa.

50X1



6. Brazil

a. Last Saturday, former Navy Minister Sylvio Heck, one of the rightist leaders, attacked President Goulart in a bitter television speech.

b. [redacted]

[redacted] this speech was intended to provoke federal authorities into counteraction against Heck. The plotters hoped that such federal measures would in time rally anti-Goulart forces to them.

50X1  
50X1

c. The prospects for a successful coup by this group of rightists are not too bright at this time. However, the Brazilian political situation is so unstable that any serious incident could have far-reaching repercussions.

7. Argentina

50X1

NOTES

- A. Mexico - Communist China We look for the Chinese to exploit their trade fair for all its worth in order to gain an acceptability previously lacking in Mexico. The fair opened Saturday in Mexico City. Many influential Mexican intellectuals favor relations with Communist countries, and Mexican economic leaders are anxious to broaden Mexican access to world markets.
- B. France - Eastern Europe Paris has decided to raise the level of its legations in Rumania, Hungary, and Bulgaria to embassies. This follows a similar move by London last week.
- C. USSR Khrushchev was still talking to the central committee plenum as of the time we went to press this morning. Early reports indicate that he concentrated on the economy in the first section of his address.

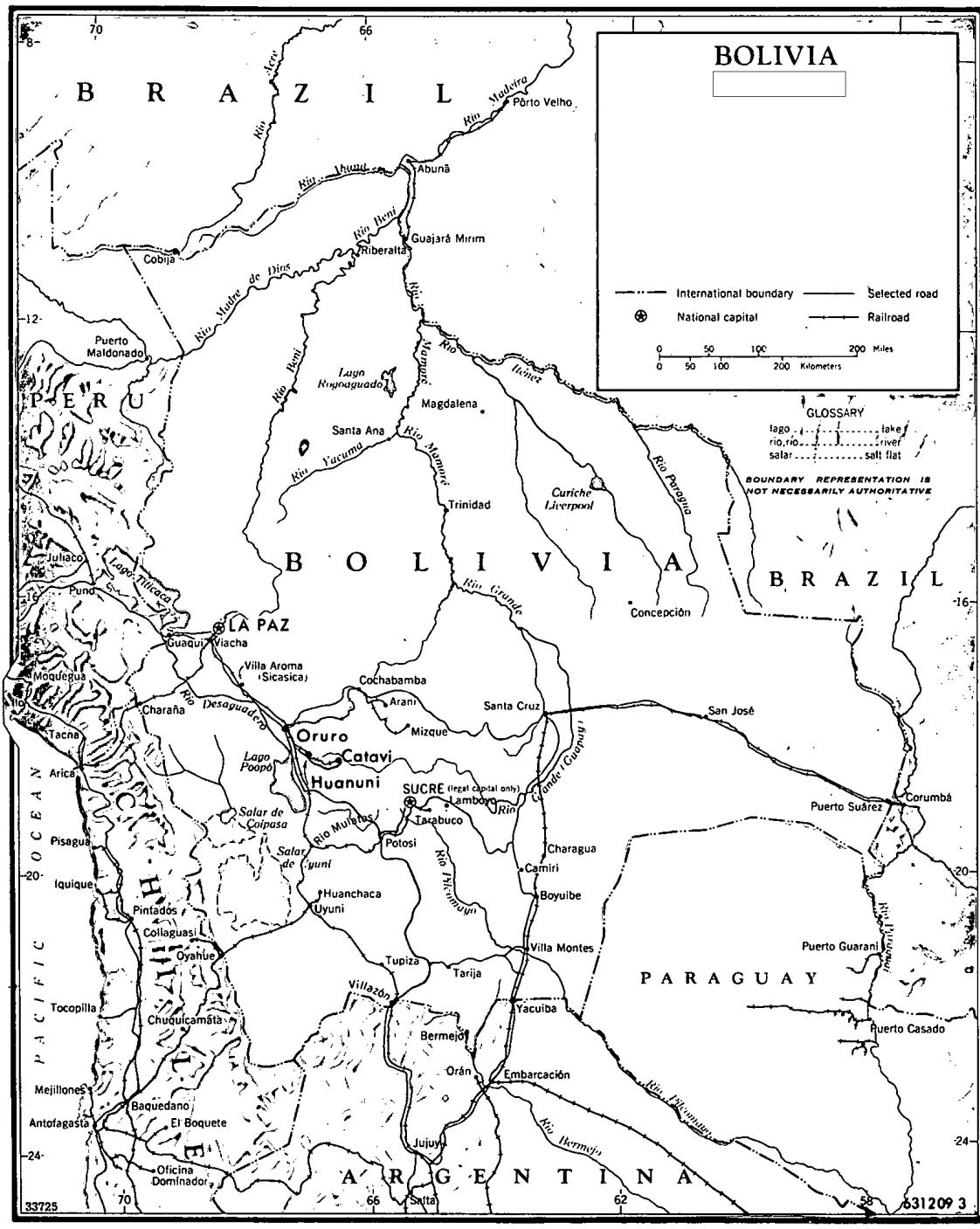
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**10 DECEMBER 1963**  
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1. Bolivia

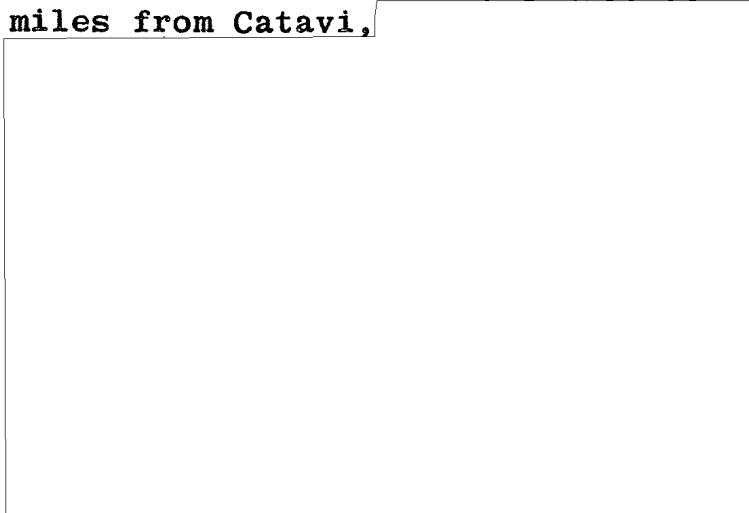
a. The situation of the 21 hostages is becoming more precarious.



50X1

c. They would be immediately imperiled, however, should hostilities break out in the showdown now in the making.

d. The government has already moved several units into Oruro, 75 miles from Catavi,



50X1

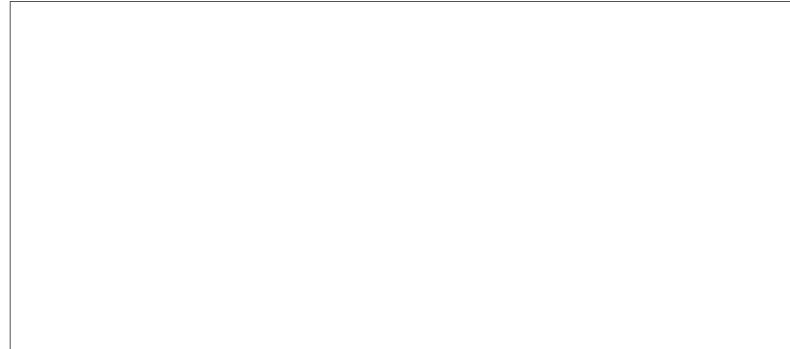
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g. President Paz says, meanwhile, that "in the next few days," he will try every possible means short of military action to obtain release of the hostages.

h. The air force will try dropping leaflets today, and emissaries of the mine workers' union are being sent in by the government to try to effect release at least of the Americans.

i. By his actions, Lechin is becoming more deeply committed to an all-out test of strength with Paz.

50X1



2. Cuba

a. Castro has stepped in personally to try to raise Cuba's trade with Western Europe.

50X1



(Cont'd)

50X1



50X1

3. USSR

a. The plan to expand the Soviet chemical industry is apparently even more massive than had been indicated earlier by Khrushchev.

b. It envisages an outlay for investment in this industry alone over the next seven years of 42 billion rubles (about \$47 billion at the official exchange rate). This is more than was allocated for all Soviet economic investments last year.

(Cont'd)

c. Khrushchev told the party plenum yesterday this would mean a slowdown in some other industries, but he did not say which ones.

d. He did say the USSR was ready to make substantial purchases in the West, but only if credit were granted.

NOTES

- A. Cuba-USSR The classroom phase of SAM training for Cubans apparently has ended.

50X1  
50X1

50X1K1

- B. Greece Karamanlis has carried out his threat to quit politics. His resignation from the party (National Radical Union) may make it possible for Papandreu, who heads the rival Center Union Party, to survive his first vote of confidence next Wednesday.
- C. Cyprus Turkish Cypriots will follow Ankara's lead in publicly rejecting Makarios' proposals to revise the constitution. Makarios intends to go ahead anyway, and violence between Greeks and Turks on the island seems unavoidable.
- D. Cambodia The Cambodians are celebrating a national holiday, declared to mark Sarit's death. As a result, Ambassador Sprouse has been unable so far to see Sihanouk to deliver our protest over the offensive Cambodian radio statement. Sprouse says this statement has not been repeated in the press.

ANNEX

**Cuban Support of Subversion in Bolivia**

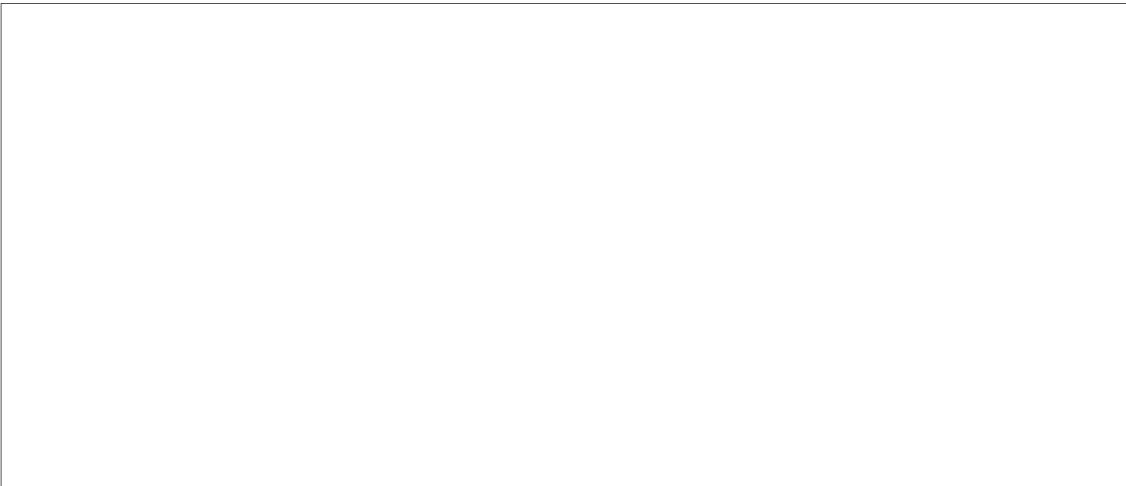
Most of the governing Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR) is loyal to President Paz who is head of the party. Forces loyal to him control two thirds of both houses of Congress.

The MNR leftists under Vice President Lechin are being increasingly denied the sources of funds which would come from holding important posts in the party and government. They are, therefore, looking to Cuba and the bloc for backing and guidance to help oust Paz from office next year.

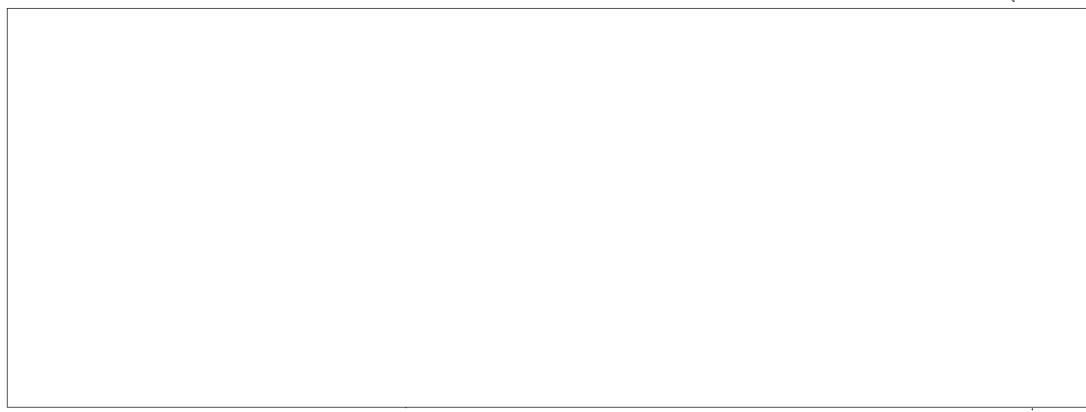
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**the Cubans in La Paz have helped terror-  
ists trained in Cuba to return [REDACTED] to  
Peru and Bolivia.**  
[REDACTED]

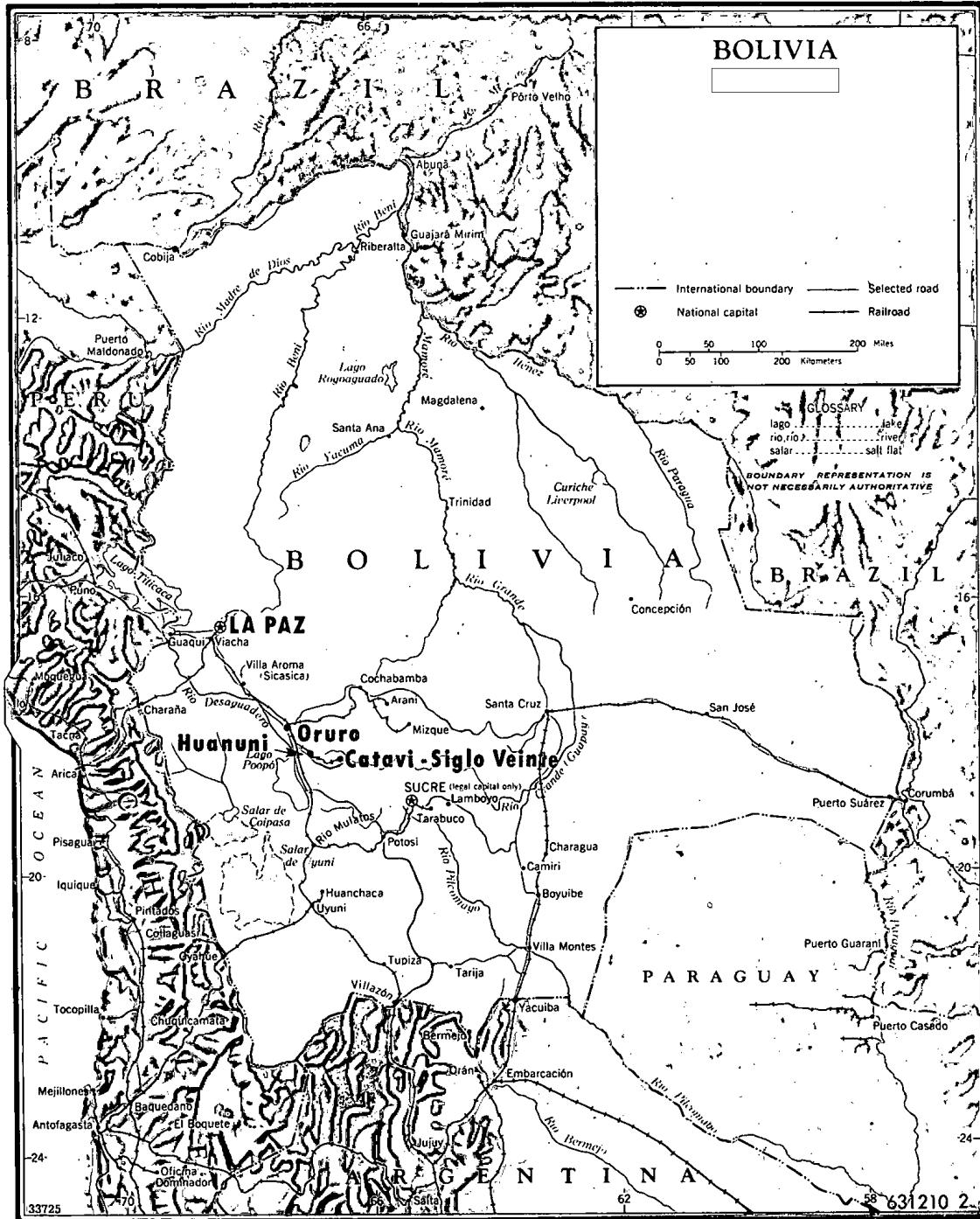
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**11 DECEMBER 1963  
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1. Bolivia

a. There was no progress yesterday toward the release of the hostages.

b. Government forces have all but sealed off the Catavi-Siglo area and are prepared to move against the miners when ordered to do so.

c. The troops may be reinforced by armed militia of the peasant organization which yesterday said it stood strongly behind President Paz.

d. Paz has delayed a decision to commit these forces and is trying a variety of intermediate measures. He has authorized the dispatch of a group from the national tin miners' union to Catavi-Siglo to negotiate the release of the four Americans. We think its chances are slim.

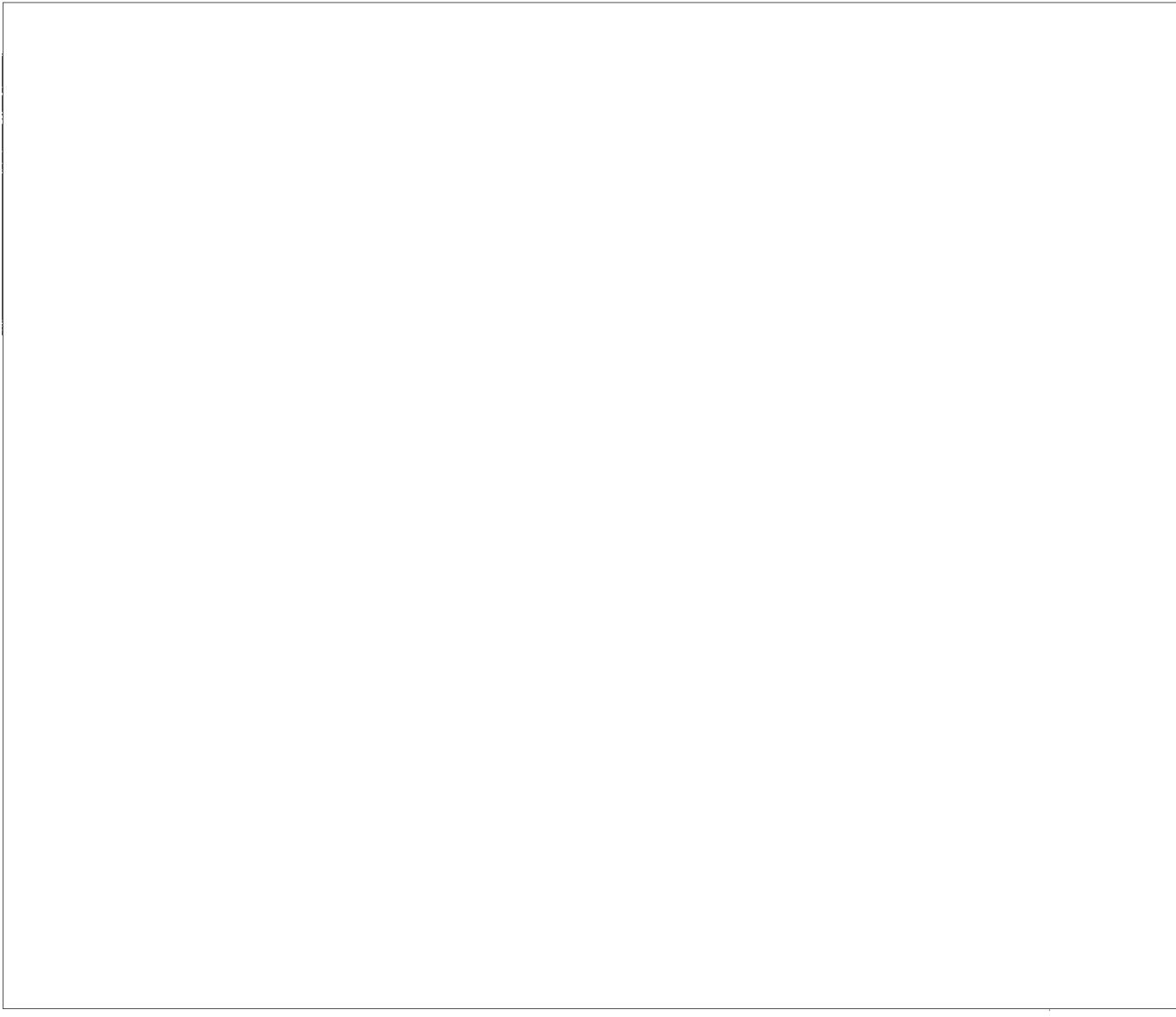
e. He has taken steps to freeze Lechin's funds and may try to cut off outside food supplies to the recalcitrant miners today.

f. Paz is not sanguine that these measures will work. Lechin yesterday reiterated that the hostages would not be released unless the government turns loose the three leaders of the tin miners' union it holds.

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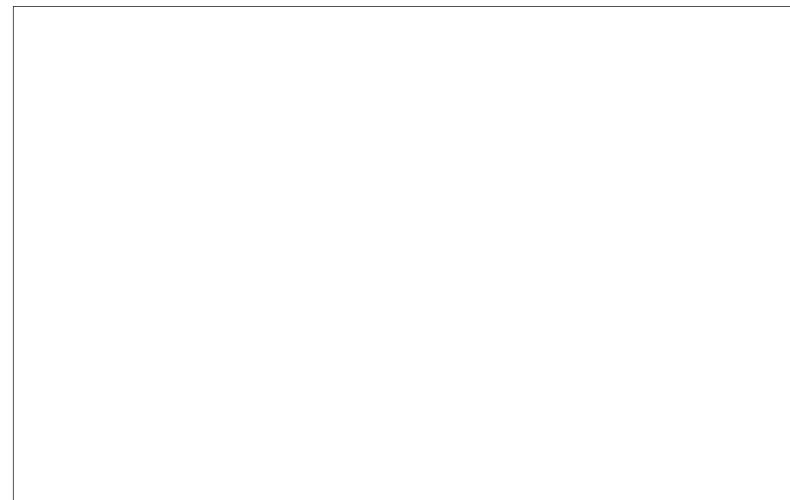
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g. Last night Paz told Ambassador Henderson that in the end he will probably have to use force or risk abandoning Bolivia to extremist control.

2. USSR-Cuba

a. The tempo of Soviet arms shipments to Cuba has quickened a bit in recent months.

50X1



3. Honduras

a. A new crisis is brewing in Tegucigalpa.

b. The agreement between the military junta and Liberal Party moderates on measures to restore constitutional rule is faltering in the absence of US recognition.

(Cont'd)

c. Moderate party leaders are having trouble keeping their followers in line. Opposition on the extreme left is taking a more violent turn.

d. A group of armed men yesterday seized the government radio for an hour and a half and broadcast threats of death to supporters of the military rulers.

e. This sort of thing could easily persuade the junta to rely on strict military rule.

4. Thailand

a. Although the post-Sarit transition has gone along smoothly thus far, the Thai government is not yet out of the woods.

b. Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn has a week to formulate his cabinet, and considerable infighting is expected.

c. As matters now stand, it is not clear whether Thanom will merely provide stop-gap leadership or whether a new leader will emerge from a power fight now going on among military leaders.

(Cont'd)

d. Generals Chitti (now army chief of staff), Krit, (commander of troops in the Bangkok area), and Praphat (minister of interior) are currently maneuvering for power. If none emerges dominant, they may end up sharing it under Thanom.

5. South Vietnam

a. Reports from Saigon say that Viet Cong guerrilla activities last month resulted in the elimination of many strategic hamlets in Long An Province, just southwest of Saigon, and in the extension of the area physically controlled by the Communists.

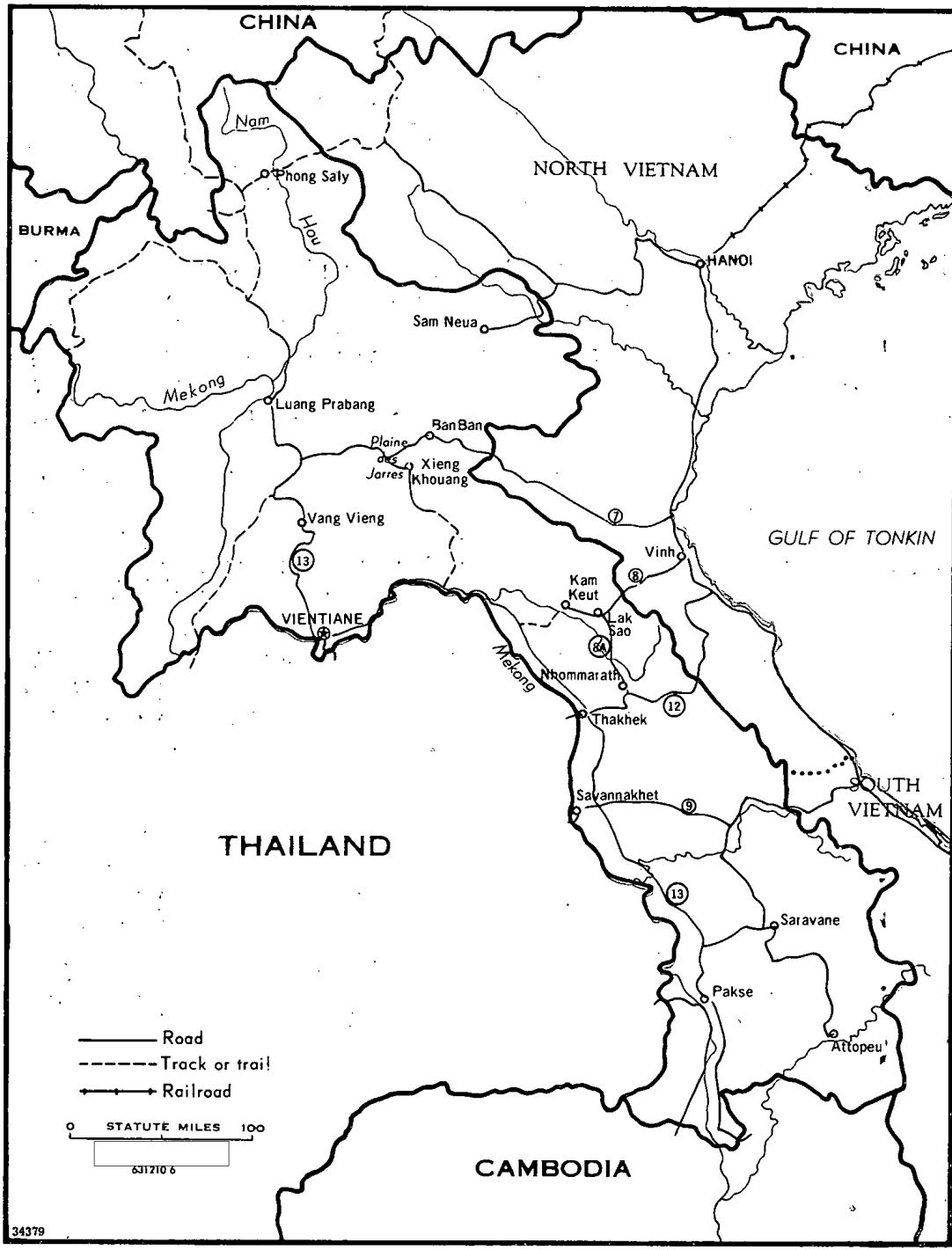
b. The province, along with two neighboring ones, bore the brunt of the intensified Communist effort following Diem's ouster.

c. Not only were the Communists relatively strong in this area, but the strategic hamlet program had been overextended to the point where all hamlets could not be protected by available forces.

d. [redacted] there has been a sharp deterioration in recent months of the security situation in Long An and other provinces near Saigon.

50X1  
50X1

**LAOS**



NOTES

- A. Laos We are suspicious of the ease with which right-wing Laotians have been advancing into Pathet Lao positions. Their latest success, the occupation of Lak Sao, a strategic post only 21 miles from the North Vietnamese border, came against only token resistance. A sharp Communist reaction could come at any time.
- B. British Guiana Prime Minister Williams of Trinidad has offered to help unseat Jagan. Williams says he is willing to send organizers from his own party, in power since 1956, to work at improving the organization of the fragmented opposition to Jagan.
- C. UAR-Algeria Nasir has dispatched  more shipments of arms and equipment to the Algerians. 50X1  
50X1  
50X1
- D. Indonesia President Sukarno has had to postpone his projected visit to Manila on 16 December to discuss Malaysia with Philippine leaders. A meeting is still in the works but it is not clear when or where. It could come during Sukarno's annual tour abroad which we hear will begin in February.
- E. Communist China Peiping has signed contracts for the delivery of half-a-million tons of Canadian wheat in the first half of next year. Purchases for the pre-harvest period now stand at 2.2 million tons, about three quarters of the Chinese average for this period in the past three years.

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F. Italy

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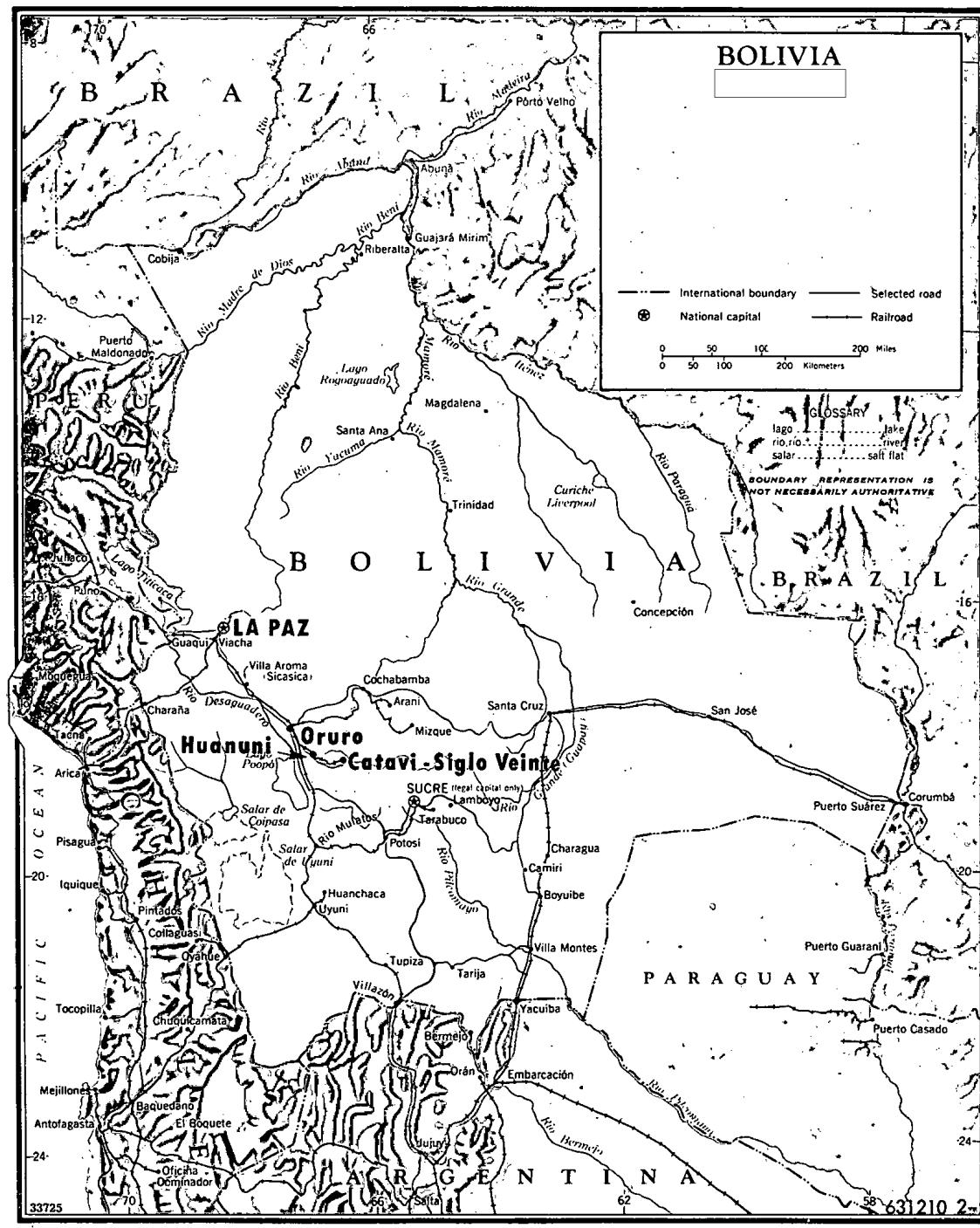
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
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**12 DECEMBER 1963**  
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LATE ITEM

Bolivia

a. Press reports this morning that the government has ruled out the use of armed force and is withdrawing troops are misleading.

b. We think they are probably based on the fact that the government has ceased sending patrols close to the mines in order not to provoke the miners into an armed clash while "negotiations" continue.

c. Paz, who a few days ago thought Lechin was in a dilemma, now admits to being in one himself.

d. He says if he bows to the demands of Lechin and the miners, he will suffer serious political defeat. On the other hand, if he risks a direct attack on the mining area, it might well mean the death of the hostages.

e. The President seems to feel he must eventually attack in force. His minister of government thinks that if Paz does not act vigorously during the next few days he will lose mass support.

(Cont'd)

50X1

[Redacted Box]

g. As far as we know, the government's ultimatum to the miners to release the hostages by mid-day tomorrow or face the use of military force still stands.

h. There may be demonstrations favoring Lechin in La Paz today.

50X1  
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50X1



1. USSR



50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

2. Kenya

a. The country becomes independent today.

b. In the two years since the British released Prime Minister Kenyatta from detention, he has become an effective political leader. But he will have a tough job keeping diverse tribal and racial antagonisms from boiling over.

(Cont'd)

c. The most pressing security problem facing the new government is the status of the Somali-inhabited Northeastern Region, an isolated, semidesert area claimed by the Somali Republic.

d. Kenyatta takes a neutralist line toward international affairs.

3. Czechoslovakia

a. It seems fairly obvious that something is amiss in the Czechoslovak regime

50X1  
50X1

b. Our best guess is that Moscow is concerned over Czech leader Novotny's inability to keep his house in order and is trying to get things back on the right track.

c. The party leader has been dragging his feet on de-Stalinization.

liberal elements in the party will be satisfied only with Novotny's ouster, and it may come to that.

50X1  
50X1

(Cont'd)

d. The country has been faced with serious economic problems which have contributed to popular dissatisfaction. Moscow may be upset over Czechoslovakia's inability or unwillingness to meet its economic commitments to the bloc.

e. If Novotny has to go, the only bloc leader likely to be sorry is Walter Ulbricht, who might read Novotny's departure as the handwriting on the wall.

4. Congo

a. The exiles across the river in Brazzaville continue plotting against the Leopoldville government.

50X1

c. Embassy Leopoldville is worried about the danger of Tshombé's possible return to the Congo to the detriment of US policies and interests, perhaps with Belgian encouragement. It sees no obstacle in the way of Tshombé's cooperation with opposition elements in Brazzaville.

5. Dominican Republic

a. The outlook for the internal political situation is still far from bright.

b. Several moderate leaders, favoring a return to constitutional government, have already concluded that growing far right influence among the armed forces, cabinet and wealthy class will prevent the regime from conducting an impartial election.

c. There are also signs that the conservative parties participating in the new administration will cooperate in this direction.

d. If fears of rightist dominance continue to grow, the scattered antigovernment guerrillas now in the mountains might well be reinforced by substantial numbers of new recruits from normally democratic elements.

6. Cambodia

a. The government has issued a communiqué stating that the department of information never alluded to the death of President Kennedy in crowing over Marshal Sarit's demise.

(Cont'd)

b. Nevertheless the communique manages to get in a nasty swipe at the US. It concludes that "Cambodia has no lesson of decency to learn from the so called civilized countries where racial discrimination periodically gives rise to manifestations of violence."



50X1

NOTES

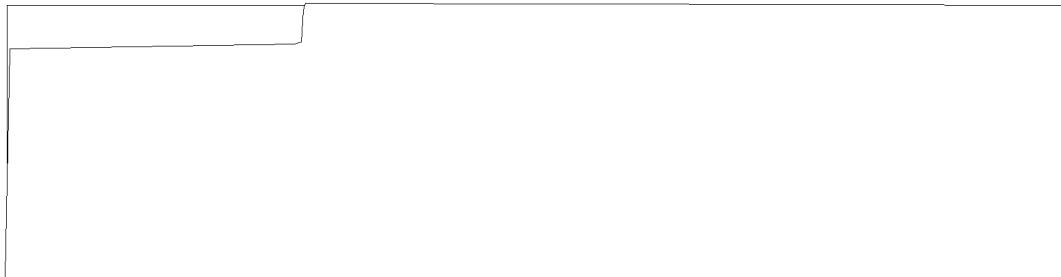
A.



50X1

- B. Italy The press reports pro-Communist leaders of the minority wing of Italy's Socialist Party walked out of a meeting last night to protest the party's participation in Premier Moro's center-left government.

C.



50X1X1

- D. USSR-Iran Moscow has made an unusual gesture in agreeing to pay half the damages resulting from its shoot-down of an Iranian plane in the border area recently. The USSR contends  
that the plane was in Soviet territory.

50X1

(Cont'd)

E. USSR-Hungary We have no information to substantiate rumors currently circulating that the Soviets are preparing to withdraw their troops from Hungary.

F. [Redacted]

50X10X1

G. UK-Aden Tuesday's bombing incident directed against the British High Commissioner will produce a hardening of the British attitude toward Yemen, Egypt, and self-government in Aden, in the opinion of our consulate there. The border with Yemen had been closed and air and land traffic with that country suspended.

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**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**

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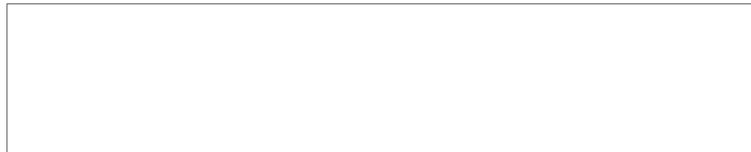
# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**13 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. Bolivia

- a. There has been no significant movement in the Bolivian situation.
- b. Paz hopes now to conciliate the miners by offering to exile their jailed leaders rather than try them.
- c. He is also allowing Monsignor Kennedy, a US priest who has been working in Bolivia for a long time, to try to negotiate a break in the deadlock.



50X1

- e. Lechin has threatened to liquidate the hostages if the government forces move.



50X1

- g. Yesterday's Lechinist demonstrations in La Paz evoked little stir.

2. Berlin

a. West Germans and East Berlin officials may reach agreement today on arrangements for permitting West Berliners to visit relatives in East Berlin between 15 December and 5 January.

b. The East Germans have been eager to get their proposal accepted and to do so have been careful to set no conditions the West Berliners could not agree to. They have accepted all arrangements proposed by the West Berliners.

c. The East Germans evidently consider the mere fact of negotiations between a member of the West Berlin Senate and an East German state secretary (in the Culture Ministry) a big step of itself.

3. Cuba-US

a. The Cubans have let us know through Swiss Ambassador Stadelhofer that they plan a "large fishing operation" soon near but not within US territorial waters.

b. The Cubans said they wanted to be sure we knew what was up so that there would be no incidents.

4. Cuba-Chile

a. The Cubans are looking to Chile for some 100,000 tons of nitrates

50X1

b. The Soviets supplied over 300,000 tons of fertilizer to Cuba this year, but, in view of their problems at home, may have told the Cubans they can no longer keep it up.

c. The Chileans are interested

50X1

5. OAS

a. Mexico

[redacted] is not bothering to wait for the OAS investigating committee to report; it has already decided that Venezuela's charge against Cuba is unfounded.

50X1

50X1

b. The arms cache, the Mexicans say, is nothing but a "plant."

c. Brazil is inclined to feel the same way and a number of others will probably now be persuaded to equivocate too.

6. Cambodia

- a. The British and French lined up about as expected in talks yesterday on Sihanouk's call for a conference to guarantee his neutrality.
- b. The British are lukewarm, will go along if "terms are acceptable."
- c. The French are strongly in favor, and worried lest rejection by the West throw Sihanouk to the Chinese.
- d. The Soviets have told the British they favor a conference-- also no surprise.
- e. The news of Sihanouk's recall of his ambassador here hit the conference room in Paris in time to reinforce US arguments. It had considerable impact on the French.

NOTES

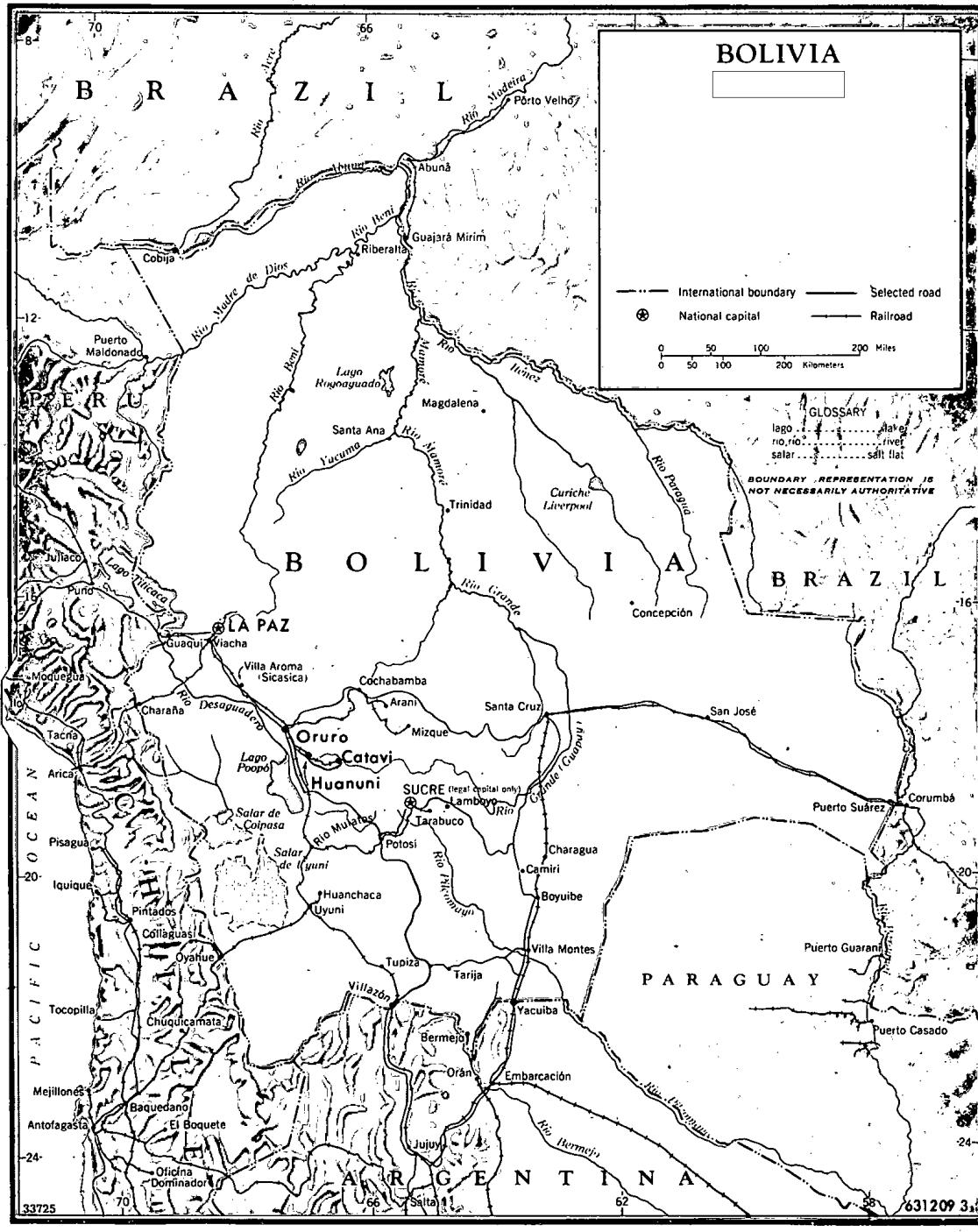
- A. International Oil Market The members of the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries seem determined to preserve the unity they displayed last week in rejecting the increase in royalties offered by the oil companies. They will be meeting again on 24 December in Riyadh to decide how best to combat the divide and conquer tactics of the companies and make their demand for higher royalty payments stick.
- B. Thailand SEATO SEATO's Thai Secretary General, Pote Sarasin, is resigning at his government's request to take up a job in the new administration at home. The present Thai representative on the SEATO council, General Konthi, is being mentioned as a possible interim replacement for Sarasin.
- C. Yemen Spinelli, the UN chief observer in Yemen, says, on the basis of "close observation," he believes there could be no more than 20,000 Egyptian troops in Yemen. Nasir's own aides on Wednesday told Ambassador Badeau that Egyptian strength there was 28,000--a figure which is probably close to fact in view of a few recent withdrawals.

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**14 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**



1. Bolivia

a. The miners, professing alarm at government troop moves near the mine area [redacted]

[redacted] negotiations are not possible in these circumstances. They have also rejected a plea from their jailed union leaders to free the hostages without conditions.

50X1  
50X1

b. Vice President Lechin on a surprise visit to La Paz yesterday offered to resign if President Paz would then release the union leaders. Paz, says the press, turned this down and countered with an offer to withdraw government forces if the hostages were turned loose.

c. As time goes on, pressure is building up on Paz to use government forces, which are ready.

[redacted]  
50X1

d. For their part the miners have called for a "general mobilization." Their militia has been active in guarding the approaches to the Catavi-Siglo complex.

(Cont'd)

e. There is good reason to believe that Lechin actually has little control over the local miners' union, and that in turn the local unions have little control over the women who are guarding the hostages.

2. Cyprus

a. Top Greek officials have assured the Makarios government that armed force from Greece would be quickly committed if Turkey should intervene militarily at any point in the Cypriot constitutional crisis.

b. This stand will embolden Makarios to make unilateral changes in the constitution.

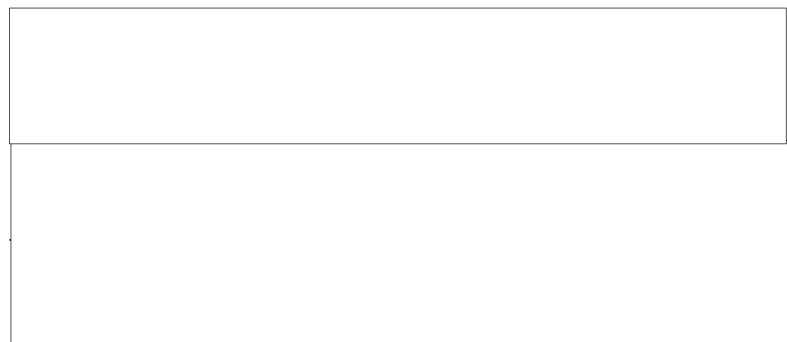
c. The Turkish Cypriots have said they would resist any such changes, and officials in Ankara say that Turkey is prepared to "go the limit" to support them.

3. USSR

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(Cont'd)

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NOTES

- A. Cambodia Sihanouk continues to careen along his anti-American way. Yesterday he terminated as "fruitless" talks on the orderly liquidation of the US aid program and demanded that all AID, MAAG and USIS personnel be out of the country by 15 January.
- B. Thailand Prime Minister Thanom and his closest collaborator Praphat have clearly emerged from the first round of the post-Sarit power struggle as the dominant figures. General Chitti has been shunted aside for the moment, but we feel that he is still a man to be reckoned with.
- C. Italy We think that Moro will get a vote of confidence next week despite threatened defections from the ranks of both the Christian Democrats and the Nenni Socialists. If these defections do take place, however, they will raise doubts as to the long-term prospects of Moro's "opening to the left."
- D. Brazil [redacted] Goulart to be particularly jittery just now. [redacted]

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50X1  
50X1

50X1

(Cont'd)

E. Venezuela Betancourt became incensed when informed of the US decision to recognize Honduras and the Dominican Republic. He said he would have to issue a public statement criticizing this move.

F. USSR-Ghana Some 40,000 tons of Soviet-supplied cement are sitting in the open in imminent danger of spoiling

This looks very much like a repeat of the 1956 Soviet aid debacle in Burma when large quantities of bloc cement were left to harden at dockside in Rangoon.

50X1

G. UAR-Yemen

Nasir's troop strength in Yemen has been reduced

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50X1

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50X1

50X1

H. Venezuela-US the Castro-supported terrorists have decided to kidnap another official of the US embassy in Caracas before Christmas.

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**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**

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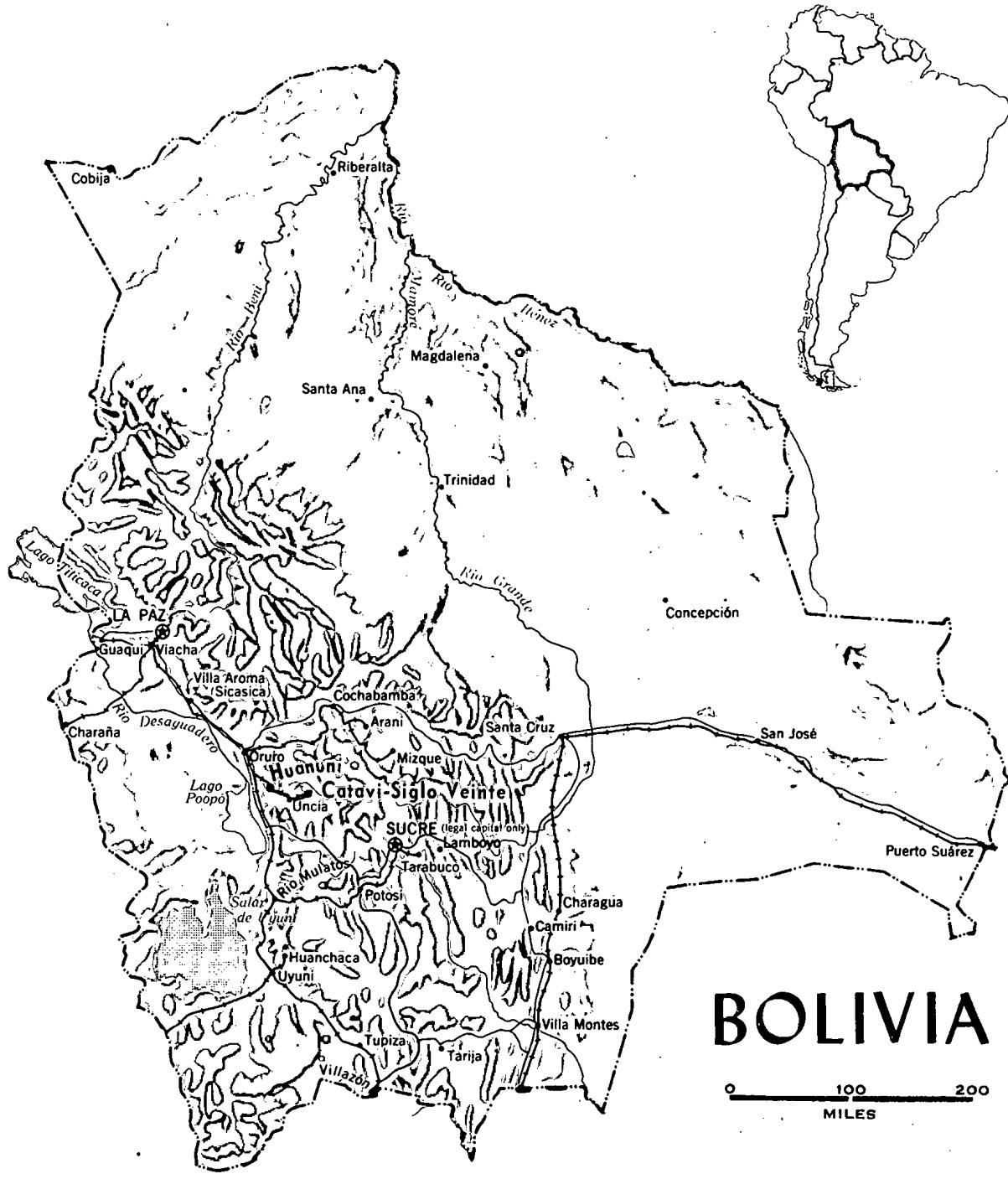
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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**16 DECEMBER 1963**  
**~~TOP SECRET~~**

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1. Bolivia

- a. The hostages had not been released as of 0900 this morning, despite the agreement between President Paz and Vice President Lechin reached this weekend.
- b. The deal calls for freedom for the hostages, simultaneous withdrawal of government troops from the mine area, and a fair trial for the jailed labor leaders.
- c. The Catavi-Siglo union yesterday acceded to these terms, but asked that "Comrade Lechin" return to the mines to explain the agreement to the miners.
- d. The Siglo radio last night indicated that the miners themselves had not made a final decision.
- e. Lechin arrived at the mines late last night. He is to address a miners' rally this morning and, if he is persuasive enough, release could follow.

2. USSR

- a. After Khrushchev's final speech to the Central Committee on Friday, we are more convinced than ever that his chemical program--as now conceived--will require a massive reshuffling of economic resources and a slowdown in the rate of military spending.

(Cont'd)

b. To reach the planned five-fold increase in chemical investments by 1970, Khrushchev will have to hold down investment not only in "non-productive" fields like housing and public service, but also in hitherto sacrosanct heavy industries.

c. Where the knife will fall in defense expenditures is uncertain. Khrushchev may have in mind picking up the 1960 program, suspended in 1961, for reducing military manpower from 3.6 to 2.4 million. The figure is now around 3.3.

d. First reports on the 1964 budget published today show a drop in direct military outlays of less than 5%. Other figures so far are consistent with the Khrushchev program.

3. Indonesia-Malaysia

a. Sukarno, who has little patience with economic problems, is disposed to ignore the strains his "crush Malaysia" policy is putting on the hard-pressed Indonesian economy.

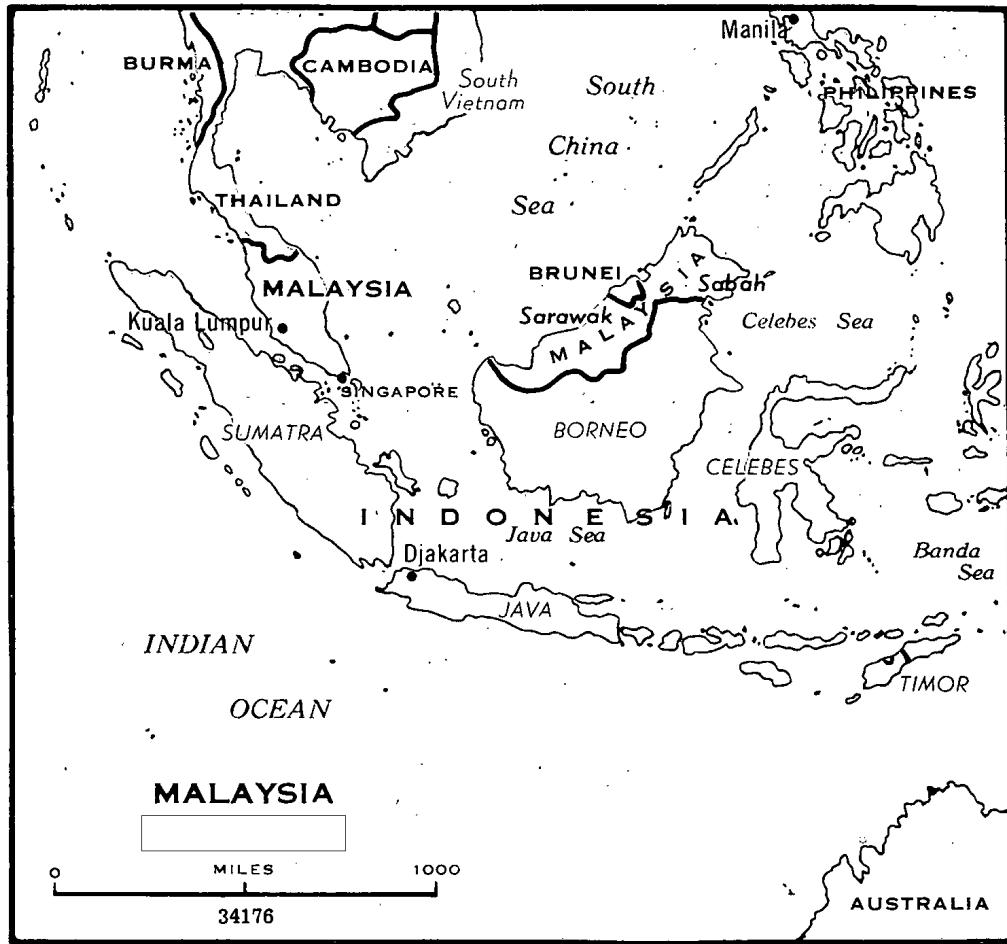
b. The Indonesian Government admitted

it does not have the foreign exchange to pay even the annual service charges on its huge (\$1.56 billion) foreign debt. In addition, this year's budget is running a far larger deficit than had been anticipated a year ago.

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(Cont'd.)

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50X1

c. Preparations continue for expansion of subversion and guerrilla warfare in Malaysia. Brunei, although not yet a part of Malaysia, is now to be included.



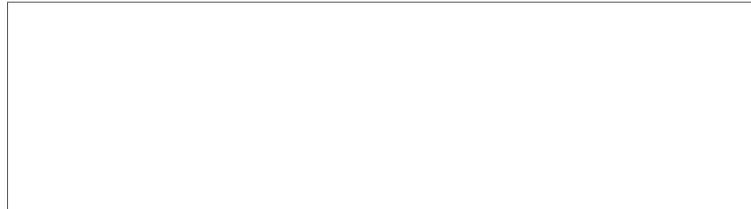
4. Brazil

a. A decree signed by President Goulart last week could lead to the cancellation of many US and other foreign mining concessions.

b. Under its terms the minister of mines has the power to suspend any mining operations he finds "prejudicial to the public interest."

c. Foreign mining concerns have come under strong leftist attack in recent months. In one state, the governor has already taken steps to cancel concessions granted to the US-owned Hanna Mining Company.

5. Cambodia



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(Cont'd)

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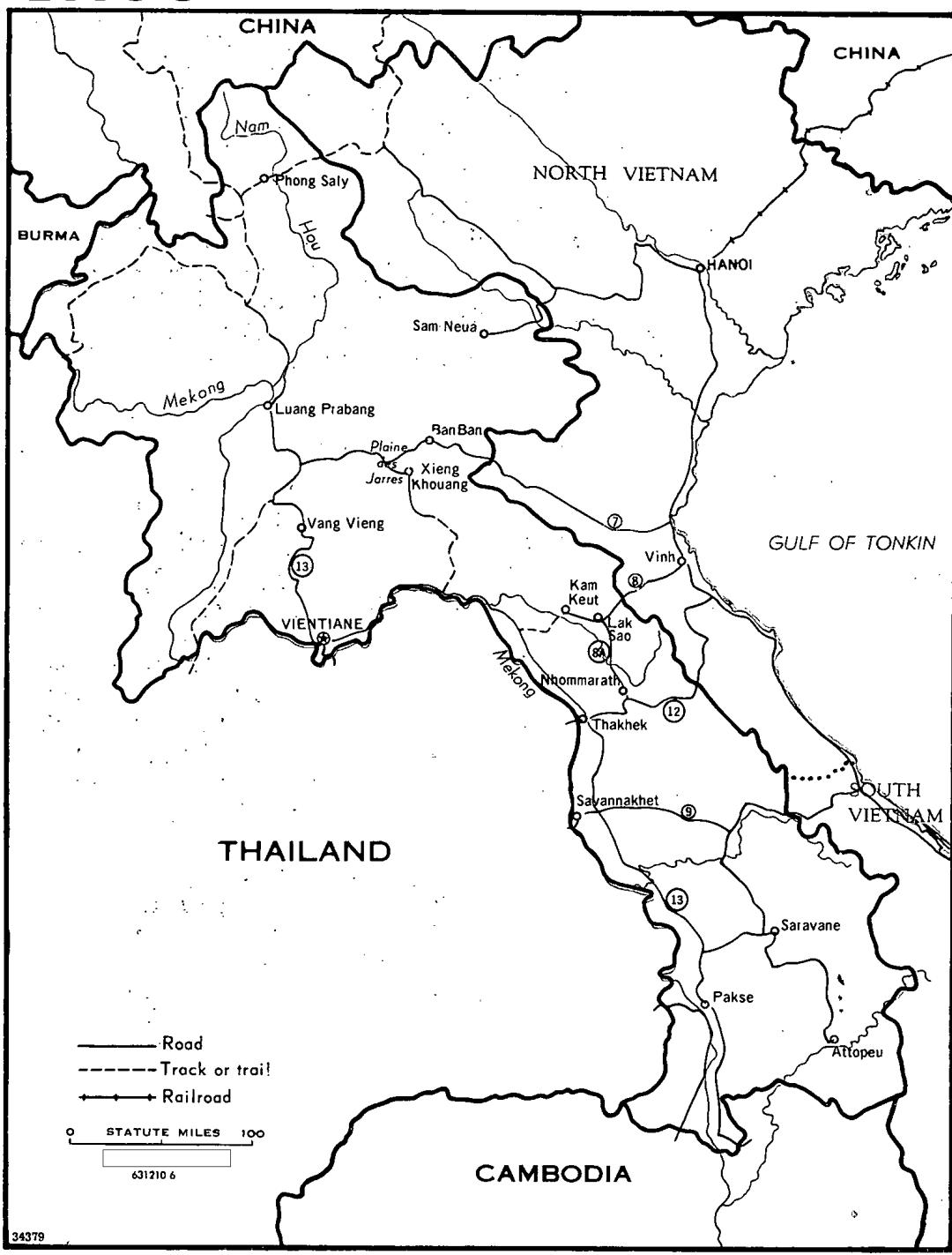


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# LAOS



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NOTES

A. South Vietnam

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50X1

B. Laos Laotian government forces are planning an attack in southern Laos to cut the so-called Ho Chi Minh trail, over which infiltrators and supplies flow from North Vietnam to the Viet Cong. If the plan is carried out, it could trigger the Communist response we have been expecting.

C. Dominican Republic Officials in Santo Domingo expect that anti-government activities by the pro-Castro "14th of June" party will be broadened soon to include violence and terrorism in the cities in support of the waning guerrilla movement in the northern hills.

50X1  
50X1

D. Turkey It will apparently take several more weeks for a new coalition government to be hammered out. President Gursel, following the failure last week by the head of the Justice Party to round up sufficient support, has asked Inonu to make another try. The military seems relaxed for the present.

E. Aden The British, fearing that the bomb throwing at Aden Airport last week was the signal for an organized Yemeni-UAR terrorist campaign, have rounded up leaders of local Arab nationalists and deported over 100 Yemenis.

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**17 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. Bolivia

- a. Release of the hostages marks a significant climb-down for Lechin.
- b. He is already attempting a recovery by making inflammatory statements against the government.

c. [redacted] the administration, for its part, will seek immediate congressional approval to outlaw the Communist Party and is considering breaking relations with Cuba. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

2. USSR

- a. The new budget is out [redacted]  
[redacted]  
A general retrenchment of the economy in support of the chemical program seems to be in train.

50X1

50X1

b. Allocations for the chemical industry are planned to increase 44 percent in 1964 and 31 percent in 1965. These figures are high compared with what has been earmarked in the last three years.

c. Steel production, which has been a symbol of the resource debate, is planned to increase at only about five percent a year. It is probably one of the activities from which resources will be shifted to chemistry.

(Cont'd)

d. Gross industrial output is scheduled to increase at about the same rate as last year with consumer industries to grow at a rate slightly higher than in 1963 but still below that of heavy industry.

e. The allocation for military expenditures in the 1964 budget is about four percent below last year's. However the TASS summary does not provide enough data to determine the real change in total military outlays.

3. Communist  
China

a.

[redacted]  
[redacted] all is not monolithic  
within the party leadership.

50X1  
50X1

b.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] Mao  
Tse-tung is no longer always able  
to hold the line against an "even  
more fanatic" group in the leadership.

50X1  
50X1  
50X1

[redacted]

50X1

(Cont'd)

d. [REDACTED]

50X1  
50X1

[REDACTED]  
factionalism within the Chinese hierarchy. Liu Shao-chi, [REDACTED]

50X1  
50X1

[REDACTED] is generally regarded as the leader of the more radical faction.

NOTES

- A. France-Mexico De Gaulle is keeping the door open for a visit to the Western hemisphere.
- 
- B. West Germany The Social Democratic Party has moved swiftly, following the death of Ollenhauer, to name West Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt Acting Party Chairman until the party convention in November 1964.
- C. Laos General Phoumi claims he is not planning a major military effort in southern Laos to cut the Ho Chi Minh trail thus risking a North Vietnamese riposte. He told Ambassador Unger his plan had been to increase intelligence activities, harassing actions and interdiction of routes in the area.
- D. Turkey Inonu has been called upon to form a new coalition government after Justice party leader Gumuspala was unable to do so.
- E. Afghanistan Former Prime Minister Prince Daud is back in the political picture trying to exert pressure on the King to forestall adoption of Prime Minister Yusuf's more liberal constitution. If Daud succeeds it may mean the beginning of the end for Yusuf.

50X1

(Cont'd)

- F. USSR Khrushchev will be on the go quite a bit in 1964. He is scheduled to visit Egypt in January and India in February. The Soviet Premier may also include Pakistan on the same trip as well as Ceylon and Nepal. In June he is scheduled for a Scandinavian visit.
- G. Berlin West Berlin and East German representatives have signed an agreement clearing the way for West Berliners to visit relatives on the other side of the wall during the Christmas holidays.
- H. Saudi Arabia King Saud and Crown Prince Faysal seem to be having their showdown.

We think Faysal has the backing of the most important elements of the family but are not sure which way the various elements of the military will throw their support.

50X1  
50X1

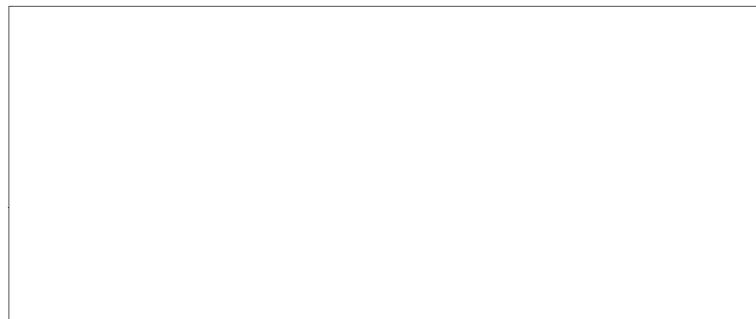
# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**18 DECEMBER 1963**  
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. South Vietnam -  
Cambodia

- a. Leaders in Saigon are obviously concerned over a rise in neutralist sentiment.
- b. They have sent a special emissary to Phnom Penh, hoping to improve relations and dissuade Sihanouk from pressing his neutrality proposals further.
- c. To make Sihanouk more receptive, they have publicly renounced the Diem regime's claim to a group of islands in the Gulf of Siam which have been in dispute.



2. Afro-Asian conference

- a. Plans for another major Afro-Asian neutrality conference are beginning to shape up.
- b. A meeting of foreign ministers of various nonaligned countries has been proposed for next month to

(Cont'd)

settle details, and their principals may meet late next summer or early in the fall.

c. Peiping is clearly worried as the conference would include India and exclude them.

d. Pointing to the "threat" of our prospective Indian Ocean Task Force, the Chinese argue for early convening of a rival conference which they could control.

[REDACTED] 50X1

3. Cuba-USSR

a. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] Cuban training with the SAMs, coast defense cruise missiles, and Komar (boat-launched) missiles, is in a "very advanced stage."

b. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] 50X1

[REDACTED] the Soviets had obtained an agreement from Castro not to use the SAMs against US high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft,

[REDACTED] 50X1

4. France - Com-  
munist China

- a. On returning from his un-official trip to Peiping, former Premier Edgar Faure recommended to De Gaulle that France go ahead and recognize the Peiping government.
- b. He had, "on his own authority," discussed terms for this with the Chinese.
- c. Faure told Ambassador Bohlen he found De Gaulle very attentive, but, as usual, the latter gave no indication what, if anything, he would do.

5. Yemen

a. [redacted]

[redacted] the Yemeni executive council and all cabinet members have submitted their resignations.

b. The move is attributed to general indignation over Egyptian refusal to allow the government to be reconstituted along lines proposed by Yemeni tribal and religious leaders. [redacted]  
[redacted]

50X1  
50X1

50X1

50X1  
50X1

6. Iraq

a. President Arif has been chipping cautiously away at Baathist sources of strength in the military with the result that the Baathists are actively plotting to overthrow him.

50X1

7. Saudi Arabia

a. There has been no break in the Saud-Faysal confrontation.

50X6

c. Faysal is still in control of things, and there have been no disturbances.

d. Saud apparently is still in his palace.

NOTES

- A. Cuba A meeting of Latin American Communists may be held in Rio toward the end of this month to decide on ways to counter anticipated OAS action in the Venezuelan arms cache case.
- B. USSR The Russians are having their trouble with some 400 African students in Moscow. This morning they clashed with police in a demonstration protesting the alleged murder of one of their number by a Russian.
- C. Turkey Inonu has failed in his bid to put together another coalition. It may take weeks before a new try is made.
- D. Italy Moro's troubles are not over, but he got his vote of confidence last night, 350 to 233. Twenty-five of the Socialist left-wing splinter group walked out before the vote--a move which suggests that for the time being at least, they will try to remain within the party.
- E. USSR-US Soviet reporting of the President's UN speech has been prompt and factual and has stressed those portions calling for strengthening peace and ending the cold war.

(Cont'd)

F. Commonwealth-Malaysia The British have been trying with some urgency to involve Australia and New Zealand in the defense of Sarawak and North Borneo. Neither country so far has conceded any need for this, and the issue may become a sore spot in relations between the Commonwealth members.

G. [redacted]

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50X1

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**19 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. South Vietnam

a. We expect another flare up in Viet Cong guerrilla activity this week.

b. The Communists have all but publicly promised a new push as their way of commemorating the third anniversary Friday of the so-called "national front for the liberation of South Vietnam," the political arm of the Viet Cong forces.

c. Viet Cong activity has diminished in the past fortnight, perhaps to rest the troops for the new effort.

d. There is little doubt that Viet Cong capabilities have been improved recently with the capture of substantial quantities of government weapons

50X1

2. Cambodia

Sihanouk laid down three conditions the US must meet before he would receive an envoy like Dean Acheson to talk about "normalizing" relations.

50X1

(Cont'd)

b. Besides several apologies, he is demanding once again that we "silence" the Khmer Serei radio. Yesterday he repeated these demands in public.

50X1

e. In a speech yesterday Sihanouk declared he had not decided how to respond to the overtures from Saigon. Talks in Phnom Penh with South Vietnam's emissary are proceeding, we understand, in a "friendly" atmosphere.

50X1

3. Cuba-US

a. Castro is said to be following a wait-and-see policy toward the new administration in the US.

50X1

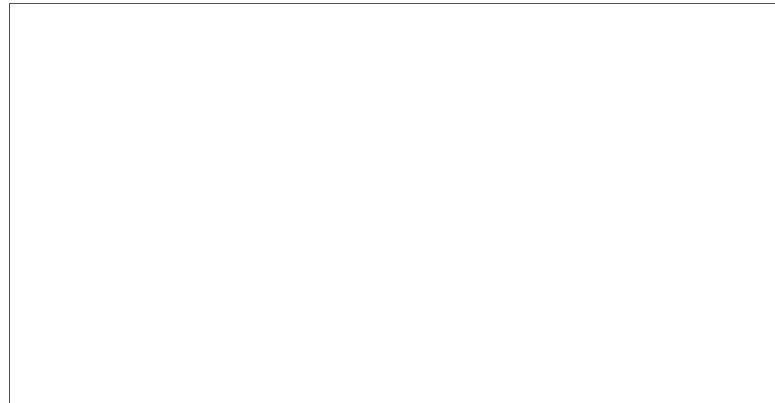
[redacted] Castro directed the Cuban government to refrain from public attacks on President Johnson and to do nothing to irritate him.

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(Cont'd)

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50X1



4. India-USSR

a. New Delhi

[redacted] to place orders for  
[redacted] surface-to-air missile com-  
plexes with the USSR.

50X1X1

50X1

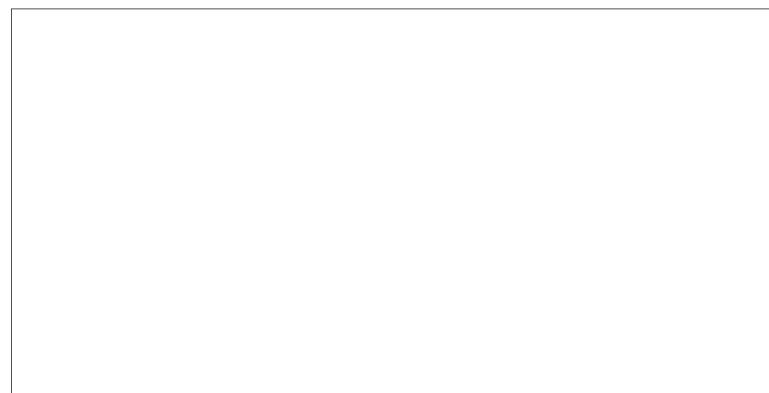
50X1



5. Saudi Arabia

a. Prince Faysal at last reports was successfully riding out his struggle with King Saud, who wants to take over the government again.

50X6



6. USSR-Algeria

a. The Soviet vessel Nikolai Burdenko docked at an Algerian port yesterday with what we believe was primarily a military cargo [redacted].

50X1

50X1

50X1



50X1

NOTES

- A. USSR An earth satellite vehicle was launched from Tyuratam [redacted] If normal procedures are followed, a TASS announcement on the event can be expected [redacted]  
[redacted] 50X1
- B. USSR-Cuba [redacted] 50X1
- C. Cuba Castro, who still has the old-line Cuban Communists on the defensive, is expected to remove more of them from positions of influence. Outside of durable and able agriculture chief Rodriguez, few in fact remain in high positions, but they are strong in the middle and lower echelons of the military and the party.
- D. Iraq The Baathist plotters have not yet made their move, but Baghdad remains uneasy in the expectation that some sort of government-Baathist confrontation impends. 50X1
- E. Yemen We have now been able to confirm [redacted]  
[redacted] 50X1  
that the Yemeni executive council and cabinet have resigned. This could mark the beginning of a new crisis between the Egyptians and Yemeni elements who resent the ubiquitous Egyptian presence. [redacted] 50X1

(Cont'd)

- F. Peru President Belaunde Terry's coalition government received a resounding vote of confidence in the municipal election early this week. In many cases government candidates ran stronger than did the President's own ticket last June.
- G. USSR-Ghana A much smaller group of Ghanaian students was back on the streets of Moscow this morning for a second day of protest on the death of one of their number. Moscow officials appear to be handling these demonstrations with restraint.

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**20 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. Cambodia

a. Ambassador Spouse concludes there is no real hope for improvement in US-Cambodian relations so long as Sihanouk is the "unquestioned arbiter" of Cambodian policy.

b. The ambassador believes the best strategy for the US is to ride the storm out. He does not believe that further overtures to Sihanouk could lead to a change in his attitude or current policies.

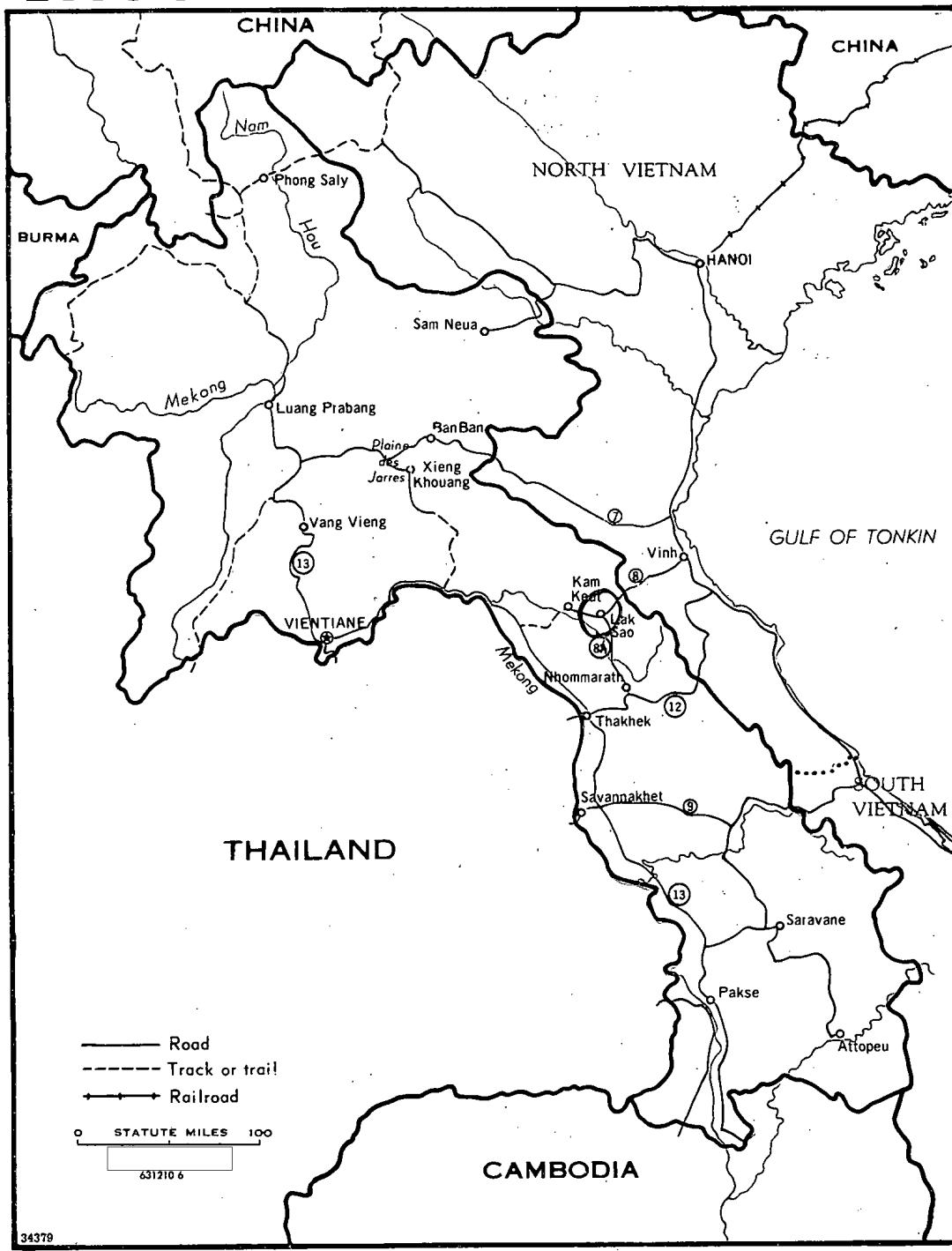
2. Brazil

a. The resignation last night of Finance Minister Carvalho Pinto may result in the appointment of a leftist to this key post in President Goulart's cabinet.

b. Goulart has been under heavy pressure from the extreme left to replace Pinto, a political moderate, with someone such as Leonel Brizola, the President's pro-Castro brother-in-law.

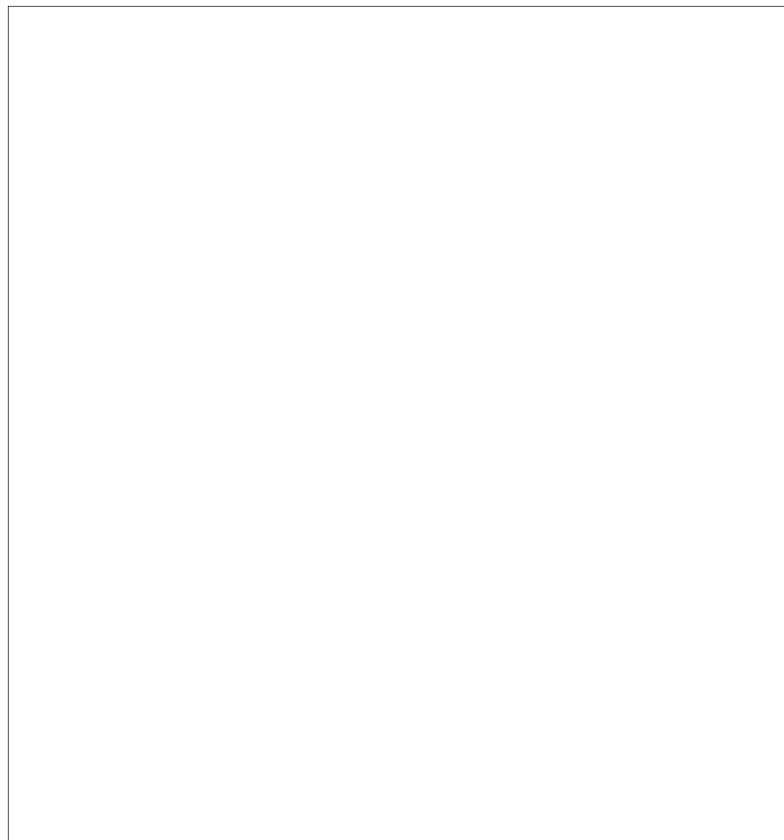
c. Brazil's financial problems are pressing, particularly in the area of debt payments, and the removal of Pinto diminishes hope for constructive action.

# LAOS



50X1

3. Egypt - Com-  
munist China



4. Laos

a. The Communists are moving  
to counter some of the recent rightist  
advances in Central Laos.

b. On Monday, a force reportedly  
consisting of one battalion of North  
Vietnamese troops recaptured the key  
road junction at Lak Sao. Right-wing  
forces had taken this town earlier  
in the month.

(Cont'd)

c. The Communists do not appear to be pressing the counter offensive further at present, possibly because they wish to keep alive Pathet Lao leader Souphanouvong's recent bid for talks with Premier Souvanna.

50X1

5. Papal visit

50X1

50X1

c. Jordanian authorities ordered on 18 December the detention of "all dangerous persons and those suspected of assassination and terrorist activities." Such persons are to be held from 1 January until the end of the Papal visit.

d. There have been two notable assassinations in Jerusalem in recent times. Count Bernadotte, the chief US mediator of the partition of Palestine in 1948, was killed there. King Abdullah of Jordan was assassinated there in 1951.

6. Cuba

a. Shipping to Cuba in November fell short of the October figures



50X1



50X1

c. Six Soviet passenger vessels docked in November and eight sailed. One Soviet arms carrier also arrived during the month.

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NOTES

A. Berlin West Berliners began moving through the wall this morning. A considerable security problem may develop. The crossing points are almost certain to be crowded at the beginning and end of visiting hours each day. We also expect an increase in the number of escape attempts from East Berlin.

B. USSR [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted]  
[redacted] 50X1

C. USSR The earth satellite vehicle placed in orbit yesterday is a recoverable, unmanned satellite--Cosmos 24 (Sputnik 49). We do not know its specific purpose. The Soviets will probably attempt to recover it in the next 7-10 days. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

D. Spain-Cuba Some sort of deal providing for the exchange of Spanish ships for Cuban sugar seems to be in the making. [redacted]

50X1

50X1

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**DOCUMENT OF INTEREST**



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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**21 DECEMBER 1963  
TOP SECRET**

1. Cyprus

- a. The rapidly-building tensions between Greek and Turkish Cypriots have erupted in the first major outbreak of violence since independence.
- b. Two Turkish Cypriots were shot dead and seven other persons were injured early this morning in what started out as a scuffle with police in the narrow streets dividing the Greek and Turkish sectors of Nicosia.
- c. Leaders of both sides began talking it out after the hour-long battle ended, but the situation is extremely unstable.
- d. Greece and Turkey will both be tempted to intervene, and their relations will at the least be severely strained.

2. Saudi Arabia

- a. The Saud-Faysal dispute is simmering down--with Faysal still in charge--but is not resolved.

50X1

(Cont'd)

c. On the Yemen, Ambassador Hart reports his feeling that Faysal may be changing his mind about ending "disengagement" after 4 January.

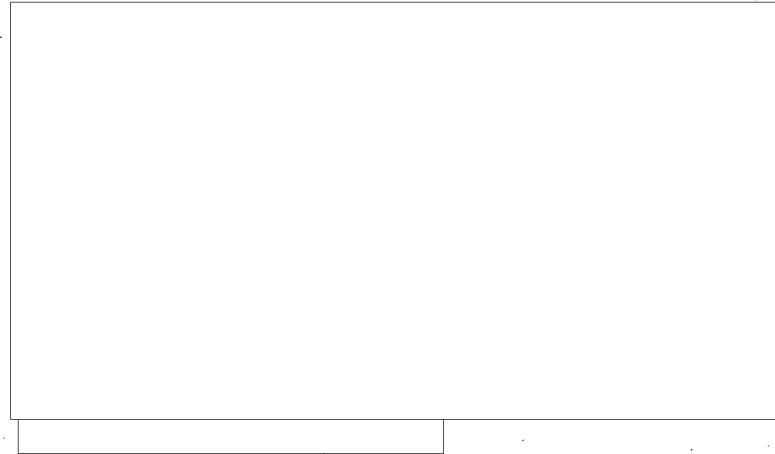
3. Cuba

a. The tenth Soviet cargo ship to deliver military supplies to Cuba since October 1962 was

50X1

[redacted] off-loading ammunition and some military equipment in Mariel on Wednesday.

50X1



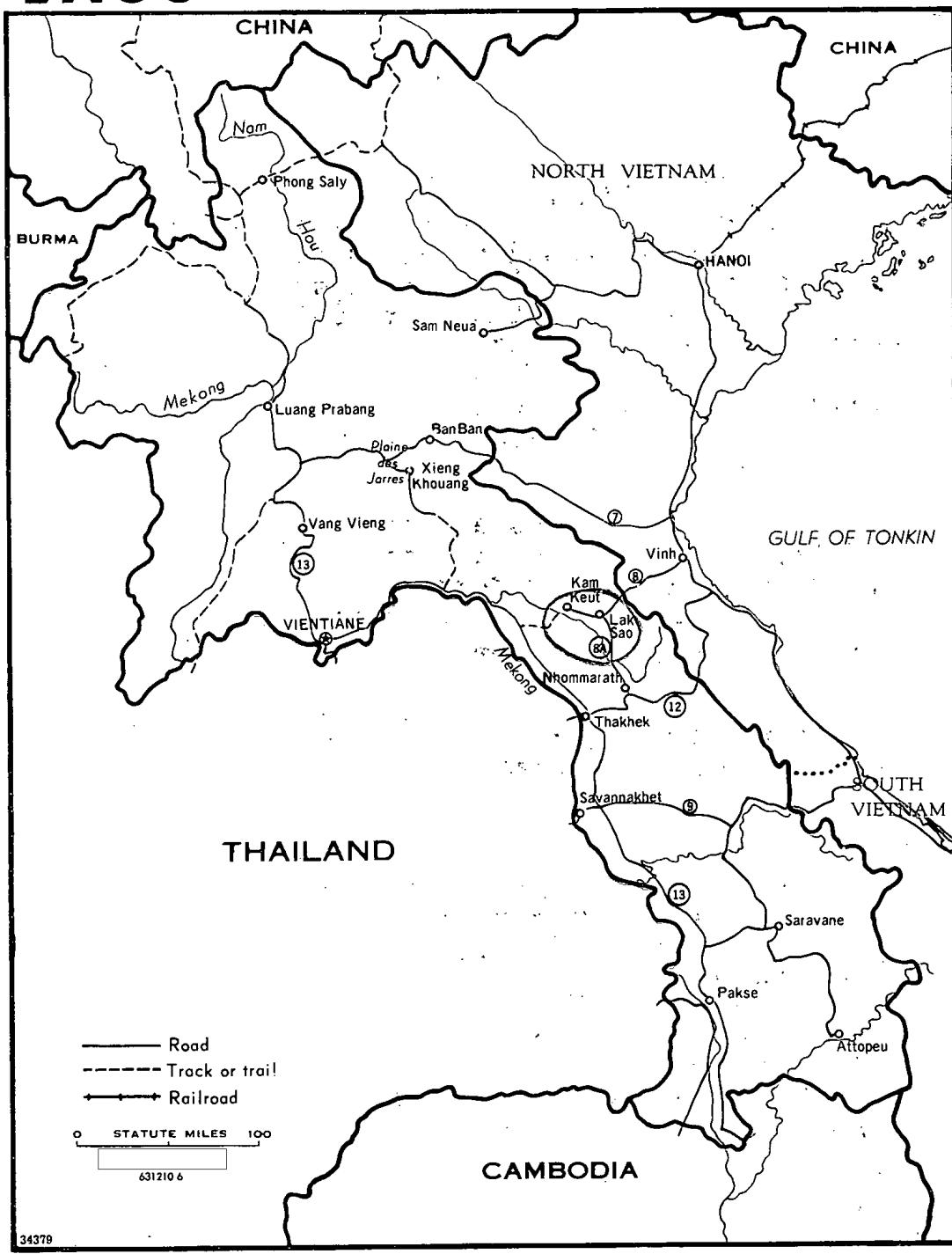
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4. Indonesia

a. As expected, Sukarno has blasted away at our plan for an Indian Ocean Task Force, which he described as a move to block the struggle with Malaysia.

(Cont'd)

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b. "We will go on to crush Malaysia. We do not tremble. US policy failed in Vietnam, Korea, Laos, and Cambodia...."

50X1

5. Laos

a. Communist troops have resumed their counter offensive in central Laos.

b. Having recaptured Lak Sao earlier this week, they are now close to regaining control of Kham Keut and are threatening the Na Kay plateau to the south as well.

c. Government troops now estimate the attacking force to be four fresh North Vietnamese battalions.

d. This is probably an exaggeration, but the Pathet Lao could not have retaken these positions without considerable Vietnamese stiffening.

NOTES

- A. USSR-NATO The Soviets tried hard to maintain what they call the "spirit of Moscow" in treating the recent NATO meeting in Paris. Commentary on the meeting has been uncommonly temperate, with the focus largely on dissention among NATO partners rather than the usual charges of "aggressive designs."
- B. USSR The Soviet press has finally mentioned the African students' riots. The line is to cry "provocation" and to warn them to "obey our laws or get out."
- C. Greece The tangled political situation has resulted in postponement of the vote of confidence for Prime Minister Papandreou, but it will still come by Christmas.
- D. Kenya Kenya, in the first few days of independence, has found Communist Bloc countries well prepared to move in with trade, aid, technical and cultural assistance and diplomatic representation. While Kenyatta's cabinet is reasonably well balanced between right and left, the leftist ministers have been able to smooth the way for these programs.

- E. Dominican Republic [Redacted]

50X1

- F. Nicaragua [Redacted]

50X1  
CONT

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**23 DECEMBER 1963**  
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cyprus

- a. There was more violence yesterday.
- b. Turks are outnumbered three to one on the island. The police are mostly Greek.
- c. Each side has a small military contingent (under 1,000) from the mainland, and both have about equal numbers (around 3,000) in clandestine forces of trained irregulars.
- d. Turkish Cypriot Vice President Kuchuk, is counselling moderation, but is not sure he can control his people much longer.
- e. Makarios told Ambassador Wilkins yesterday that, under the circumstances, he would move more slowly in pushing for constitutional changes.
- f. Perhaps so, but his declaration on Saturday that the 1959 treaty of guarantee is null and void will not help. The treaty gives Turkey (as well as Greece and Britain) the right to intervene in Cyprus.
- g. Makarios sees it as an obstacle to his plan to revise the constitution. The Turks see it as essential to the protection of their rights.

2. Dominican Republic

a. Further instability is in store following yesterday's resignation of triumvirate President de los Santos.

b. There is increased likelihood of a takeover by the far right in league with some military leaders.

c. De los Santos says his move was prompted by the massacre this weekend of pro-Castro guerrillas, including their leader "Manolo" Tavarez.

d. Influence of the far right has been on the increase of late, and we suspect de los Santos, a relative moderate, has an eye to the future and wants to dissociate himself from the current trend.

3. South Vietnam

a. There are some signs the new government is shaking off its lethargy.

b. A coordinated pacification operation has been launched in a northern coastal province, and a step up in operations is planned in two key provinces south of Saigon where the Viet Cong have made serious gains in recent weeks.

(Cont'd)

c. Contrary to expectations, there was only a slight rise in Viet Cong guerrilla activity on Friday's anniversary of their Liberation Front.

4. Morocco-Algeria

a. King Hassan has indicated to us as well at the British, French, and Spanish that he believes it will not be long before Algerian forces are more than a match for his.

b. Hassan added that the Soviets have recently indicated willingness to provide arms still not delivered under a protocol which he said was signed some time ago. It is a substantial list (e.g., 84 tanks) although it does not include aircraft.

c. Prospects for better relations between Morocco and Algeria have, meanwhile, been set back by Algeria's refusal to receive Hassan's ambassador designate to Algiers.

d. The Algerians said no Moroccan ambassador would be accepted until the Mali border commission completes its work and until Rabat patches up relations with Cairo.

5. Communist  
Bloc - Latin  
America

a. The FBI has learned from a Czech party source that Czech and Soviet leaders are "very disturbed" over Cuba's action in shipping arms to the Venezuelan terrorists.

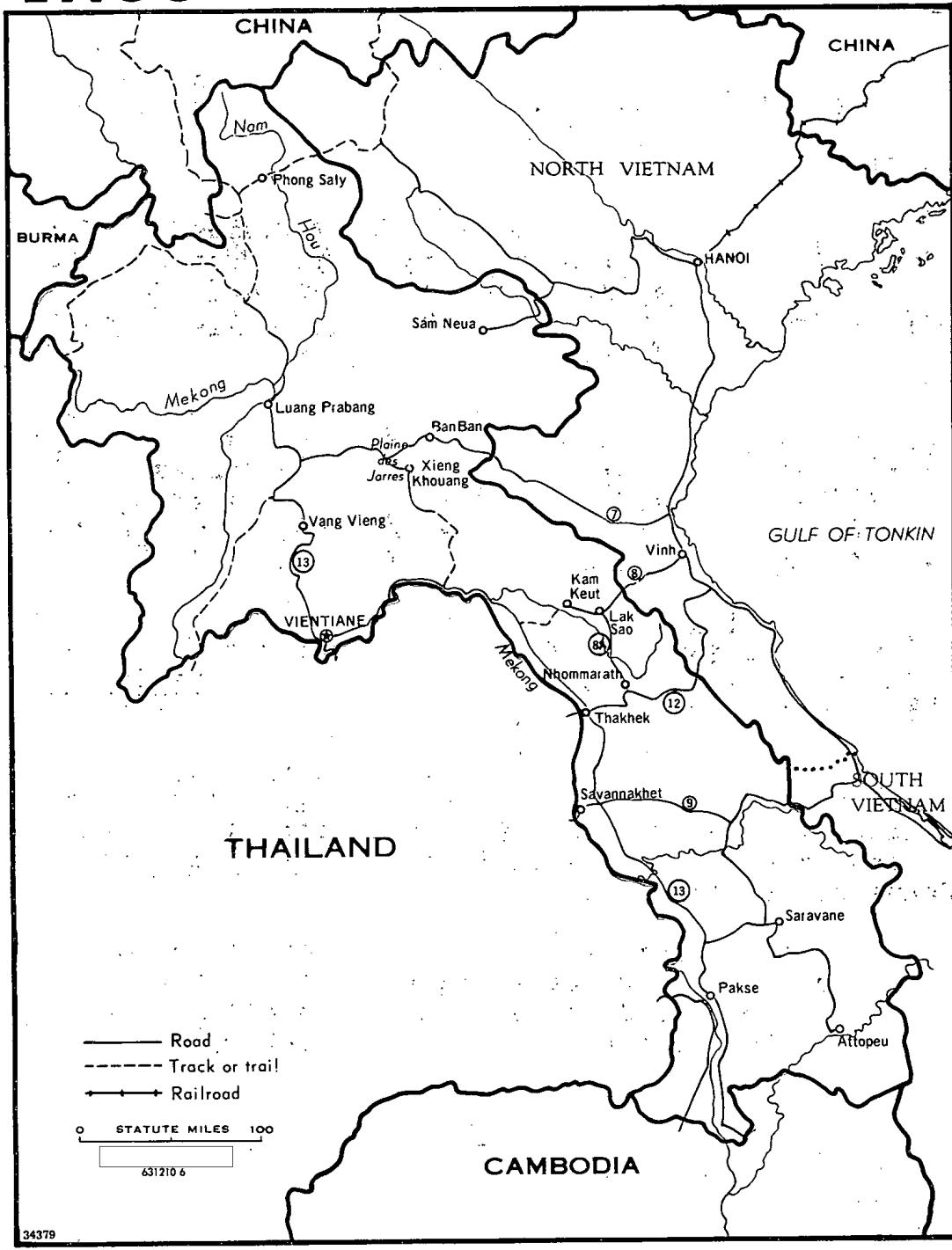
b. The Czechs, according to the report, verified that the arms did in fact come from Cuba. They are critical of Castro for what they consider a "clumsy, uncoordinated" action.

c. Other evidence of Soviet objection to Cuba's support of violent revolutionary movements comes from Khrushchev himself.

50X1

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# LAOS



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NOTES

A. Laos The Pathet Lao, with substantial help from the North Vietnamese, continue to press westward and southward in central Laos. They have now retaken Kam Keut with the only airfield in the area.

B. Cambodia - South Vietnam

50X1

Further talks may be in the making, with the Cambodians coming to Saigon this time.

50X1

50X1

C.

50X1

50X1

D.

E. USSR - African students The African students in Moscow have petitioned Khrushchev to guarantee their safety and take steps to reduce racial prejudice among Russians. Some 60 plan to leave if they do not get a satisfactory answer.

F.

50X1

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# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**24 DECEMBER 1963  
~~TOP SECRET~~**

1. Cyprus

- a. The gunfire in Nicosia continues this morning. Fighting has also been reported from villages outside the city.
- b. There are signs that President Makarios and Vice President Kuchuk may have lost control of extremist elements. Their two joint appeals for restraint yesterday went unheeded.
- c. The Greek and Turkish military contingents seem to be staying out of it and the commanders are maintaining liaison.
- d. The disorders threaten, however, to spread to Turkey itself. If so, this would follow the 1955 pattern when violence in Cyprus was followed by violence against Greek minorities in several Turkish cities.
- e. The Turkish government is extremely worried. It is pressing for early joint military intervention by British, Greek, and Turkish forces which is provided for under the 1959 treaty.
- f. The Turks want the US to associate itself somehow with this move.

(Cont'd)

50X6

[Redacted]

h. Athens is appalled and  
in a cooperative mood.

i. Its future course is not  
clear, however, following the resig-  
nation this morning of the Papandreu  
government. Papandreu had earlier  
gotten a vote of confidence but only  
with Communist support which he will  
not accept.

2. Brazil-OAS

a. Goulart has confirmed that  
Brazil will oppose any collective  
OAS action against Cuba growing out  
of the Venezuelan arms cache case.

b. In his view the matter can  
best be settled by arrangements be-  
tween the US and Venezuela, thus  
avoiding OAS action.

c. We have had a number of  
indications, however, that if the OAS  
votes for sanctions which do not in-  
volve armed OAS intervention Brazil  
will--reluctantly--respect its treaty  
obligations.

3. Czechoslovakia

a. Prague has been buzzing these last five days with a series of top-drawer party, government and military meetings.

b. They have been accompanied by unusual security precautions.

50X1

c. This has all the earmarks of another, and perhaps climatic, round in the struggle between party boss Novotny and his critics.

d. The fall-out we have had from the meetings has been light, but it does suggest that the Stalinist Novotny, whose political fortunes have been declining in the face of domestic opposition and Soviet displeasure, may be losing ground.

e. The course of events in Czechoslovakia, should Novotny fall, is not at all clear. There will be repercussions in East Germany, however, for his departure would leave Ulbricht in an uncomfortable spot as the last reigning Stalinist.

50X1

4. Rumania - Communist China

a. In yet another gesture of independence from the USSR, the Rumanians have agreed to supply aviation gas and jet fuel to the Chinese Communists next year.

b. This will be the first time that Peiping has obtained these products from other than Soviet sources.

c. The Soviets have so far been willing to continue supplying China's needs in this respect, but Peiping has been trying hard to diversify.

50X1

NOTES

A.

50X1

B. USSR-Cuba

50X1

50X1

C. USSR-Cuba The Soviets will be represented at the Castro anniversary celebration early next month by Presidium member Podgorny.

D. France

550X1

E. Indonesia Sukarno intends to follow up his public excoriation of our Indian Ocean task force plan with demonstrations today before our embassy in Djakarta. We doubt that he will allow the demonstrations to get out of hand as he did in the case of the British Embassy last September.

F. Colombia Military authorities are expecting widespread terrorist attacks during the holidays.

50X1

G. Haiti Duvalier is still trying to buy arms wherever he can abroad.

50X1

50X1

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--26 DECEMBER 1963

1. CYPRUS:

A. GREEK, TURKISH AND BRITISH FORCES IN CYPRUS HAVE BEEN PLACED UNDER UNIFIED BRITISH COMMAND.

B. SCATTERED SHOOTING HAS BEEN REPORTED SINCE LAST NIGHT'S CEASE-FIRE WENT INTO EFFECT, AND THE SITUATION REMAINS EXPLOSIVE.

C. HOWEVER, WITH THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT AND A UNIFIED COMMAND TO ENFORCE IT, THE LIKELIHOOD OF AN EXPANSION OF THE FIGHTING HAS DIMINISHED.

50X1

50X1

F. THERE WERE A FEW BRITISH, BUT NO AMERICAN CASUALTIES. CASUALTIES AMONG THE TURKS AND GREEKS MAY NUMBER SEVERAL HUNDRED.

2. GREECE: WITH PAPANDREOU'S RESIGNATION ON TUESDAY, THE CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT NEW NATIONAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS JANUARY. IF THE CRISIS IN CYPRUS CONTINUES, HOWEVER, KING PAUL MAY CALL ON THE NON-COMMUNIST PARTIES TO FORM A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION AT ONCE.

50X1

3. TURKEY: INONU, YESTERDAY, MANAGED TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT MADE UP OF HIS PARTY AND INDEPENDENTS. WE ARE NOT YET SURE WHAT HIS MARGIN IS IN THE ASSEMBLY, BUT IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE VERY SLIM.

4. SOUTH VIETNAM - CAMBODIA - US: CAMBODIA HAS MOVED QUICKLY TO FOLLOW UP SOUTH VIETNAM'S GOODWILL MISSION OF LAST WEEK. A CAMBODIAN GOODWILL MISSION HEADED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVED IN SAIGON ON TUESDAY. SIHANOUK, MEANWHILE, HAS ACCEPTED PHILIPPINE MEDIATION OF HIS DISAGREEMENTS WITH US.

5. ALGERIA-EGYPT

50X1

6. INDONESIA-US: SUKARNO IS BEING CAREFUL THAT DEMONSTRATIONS HE IS STAGING AGAINST US DO NOT GET OUT OF HAND. HIS POLICE BROKE UP THE ONE IN FRONT OF OUR EMBASSY ON TUESDAY, BUT PROPAGANDA BUILT AROUND THE INDIAN OCEAN TASK FORCE CONTINUES AND THERE MAY YET BE MORE SERIOUS TROUBLE.

50X1

**TOP SECRET**

**TOP SECRET**

50X1

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--27 DECEMBER 1963

1. CYPRUS:

A. THERE WAS NO SHOOTING IN NICOSIA LAST NIGHT AND THE CITY IS CALM THIS MORNING.

B. TURKISH AND GREEK TROOPS HAVE ACCEPTED BRITISH COMMAND AND ARE MOVING THROUGH THE STREETS TO SUPERVISE THE PRECARIOUS CEASEFIRE.

C. BRITISH FORCES ON THE ISLAND ARE BEING REINFORCED WITH A SQUADRON OF ARMORED CARS FROM LIBYA AND A BATTALION OF INFANTRY FROM ENGLAND. THEY WILL TRY TO SET UP A NEUTRAL ZONE BETWEEN THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES.

D. A GENERAL SETTLEMENT WILL BE DIFFICULT, HOWEVER. THE SCARS OF THE PAST WEEK RUN DEEP AND THERE IS REASON TO DOUBT THAT THE LEADERS OF EITHER COMMUNITY CAN CONTROL THEIR EXTREMISTS.

E. MEANWHILE THE GREEK AND TURKISH GOVERNMENTS WILL WANT TO SEE WHETHER THE BRITISH-LED EFFORT TO RESTORE ORDER WILL BE SUCCESSFUL BEFORE TAKING THEIR MILITARY FORCES OFF THE ALERT THEY WERE PUT ON YESTERDAY.

2. BERLIN:

A. WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE CHRISTMAS PASS AGREEMENT WILL LEAD TO MORE HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO GERMANIES.

(CONT'D)

B. THE CHIEF OF THE WEST GERMAN TRADE OFFICE IN BERLIN, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON TRADE WITH EAST GERMANY, SAYS THAT HIS OPPOSITE NUMBERS ARE ALREADY MANEUVERING TO BYPASS HIS OFFICE IN FAVOR OF DIRECT CONTACTS WITH BONN AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

C. ERHARD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD SUCH MANEUVERS IS NOT CLEAR, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNS THAT HE MAY PROVE MORE WILLING THAN WAS ADENAUER TO EXPLORE NEW APPROACHES.

3. GREECE: KARAMANLIS' POLITICAL HEIR KANELLOPOULOS

50X1

[REDACTED] IS NOT ABLE TO FORM A GOVERNMENT.

50X1

THIS STRENGTHENS THE PROSPECT FOR NEW ELECTIONS. PAPANDREOU IS PROPOSING THE CREATION OF A CROWN COUNCIL, MADE UP OF LEADERS FROM BOTH MAJOR PARTIES, TO HANDLE NATIONAL QUESTIONS WHILE A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT CONDUCTS THE ELECTIONS.

4. CAMBODIA: AFTER ACCEPTING THE PHILIPPINE MEDIATION OFFER, SIHANOUK CHARACTERISTICALLY IS AGAIN INSISTING THAT A RECONCILIATION IS POSSIBLE ONLY AFTER THE US MEETS HIS "CONDITIONS." HIS CURRENT LIST LOOKS MUCH LIKE THE ONE HE DREW UP LAST WEEK EXCEPT THAT HE IS NOT NOW INSISTING WE SILENCE THE KHMER SEREI RADIO.

5. COMMUNIST CHINA: PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, WITH MILDLY SUCCESSFUL VISITS TO EGYPT AND ALGERIA BEHIND HIM, MOVES TO MOROCCO TODAY. HIS ONWARD PLANS ARE VAGUE, BUT A PRESS SERVICE SAYS HIS NEXT STOP WILL BE ALBANIA, WHERE HE WILL SPEND A FEW DAYS ON FRIENDLY GROUND BEFORE RESUMING HIS AFRICAN TOUR.

50X1

6. SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE: KHRUSHCHEV'S BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO THE 70-YEAR-OLD MAO TSE-TUNG WERE NOT THE FRIENDLY GESTURE THEY APPEAR ON THE SURFACE. THE CHINESE THEMSELVES DO NOT TAKE NOTICE OF MAO'S BIRTHDAYS AND WILL REGARD THIS AS STILL ANOTHER SOVIET EFFORT TO REMIND THEM OF MAO'S SENILITY.

50X1

7. CHINA

8. CUBA-US: HAVANA'S PROPAGANDA ORGANS, AFTER AN INITIAL "WAIT-AND-SEE" PERIOD, ARE BEGINNING TO LASH OUT AT PRESIDENT JOHNSON. A CHRISTMAS EVE BROADCAST DESCRIBED THE PRESIDENT AS "IMPETUOUS" AND WARNED, THAT "IT WILL NOT BE TOO LONG BEFORE WE ARE FACED WITH EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATIONS."

9. SOUTH VIETNAM: GOVERNMENT FORCES CHALKED UP A MUCH NEEDED SUCCESS IN A PRE-CHRISTMAS OPERATION AGAINST A VIET CONG SUPPLY DEPOT AND TRAINING CENTER IN THE MY THO AREA SOUTH OF SAIGON. A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF COMMUNIST MATERIEL WAS CAPTURED AND AT LEAST 38 VIET CONG KILLED. GOVERNMENT CASUALTIES WERE LIGHT.

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**TOP SECRET**

**TOP SECRET**

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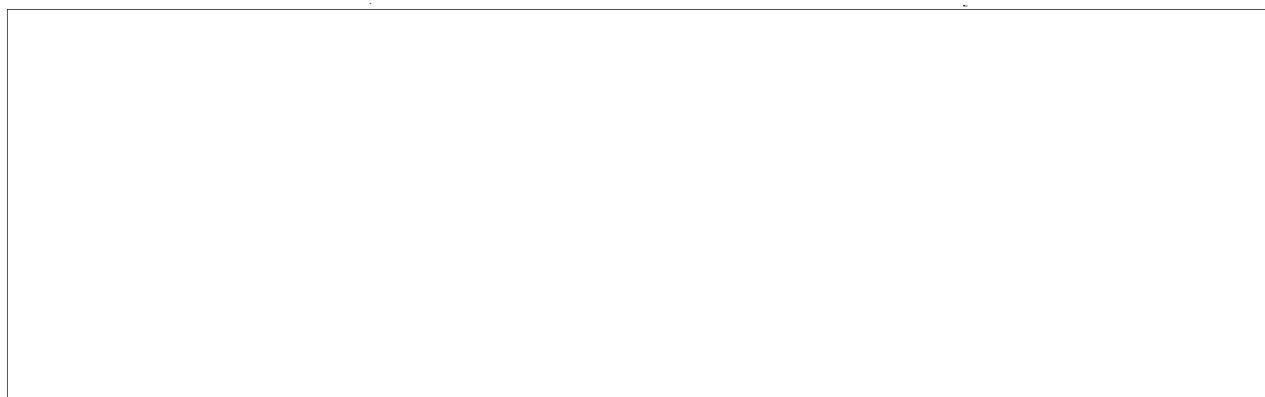
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**THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--28 DECEMBER 1963**

**1. CYPRUS:**

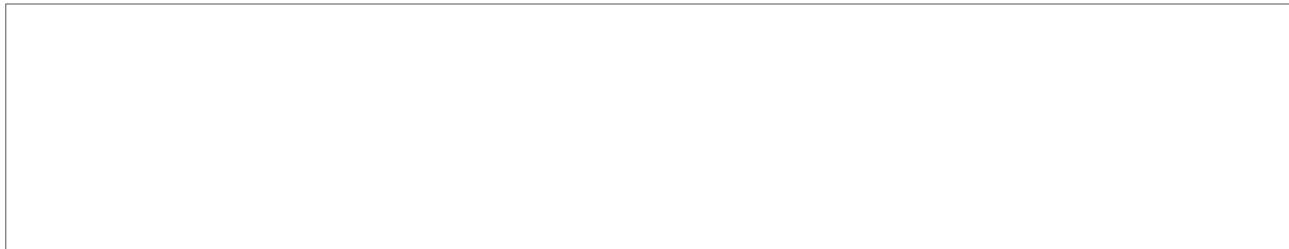
**A. NICOSIA REMAINED TENSE BUT RELATIVELY QUIET YESTERDAY.**

50X1



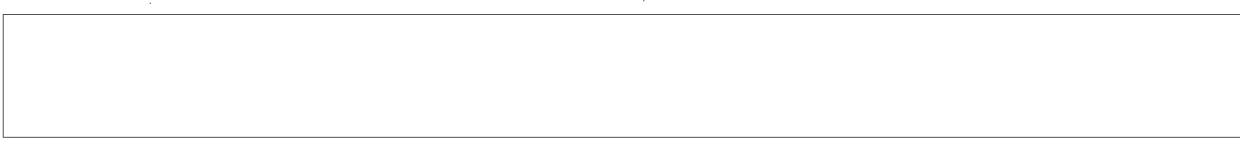
**D. SOME UNITS OF THE GREEK AND TURKISH GARRISONS ON CYPRUS  
ARE STILL DEPLOYED IN NICOSIA, PROTECTING THEIR RESPECTIVE COM-  
MUNITIES.**

50X1



**F. IT WAS THIS SHOW OF FORCE WHICH PROMPTED CYPRUS TO CALL  
FOR LAST NIGHT'S SPECIAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING WHICH CAME  
TO NOUGHT.**

50X1



**H. DUNCAN SANDYS, UK SECRETARY FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS,  
LEFT FOR CYPRUS THIS MORNING.**

50X1



50X1

2. BULGARIA:

A. AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN SOFIA WERE UNHARMED DURING YESTERDAY'S DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE US LEGATION ALTHOUGH TWO EMBASSY OFFICIALS WERE MOLESTED. NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO PENETRATE THE BUILDING.

B. THE DAMAGE CONSISTS OF FOUR PRIVATE CARS OVERTURNED AND ALMOST ALL LEGATION WINDOWS BROKEN ON THE FIRST THREE FLOORS.

C. THE FOREIGN MINISTER DELAYED ALMOST SIX HOURS IN ARRANGING AN APPOINTMENT FOR OUR CHARGE TO DELIVER HIS PROTEST.

D. HOWEVER THE BULGARIAN REPLY TO OUR PROTEST CONTAINS AN ASSURANCE THAT THE AUTHORITIES "WILL ALLOW NO FURTHER ACTIONS OF SIMILAR CHARACTER."

3. SOUTH VIETNAM:

A. THE CONTENTS OF A LARGE VIET CONG SUPPLY DEPOT CAPTURED THIS WEEK PROVIDE FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT EXTERNAL SUPPORT IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPROVED FIREPOWER OF THE COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS.

50X1

C. WHILE THE VIET CONG CONTINUE TO OBTAIN THE BULK OF THEIR ARMAMENT BY CAPTURING IT FROM GOVERNMENT TROOPS, INCREASING QUANTITIES OF BLOC-MADE EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN FOUND IN VIET CONG HANDS DURING THE PAST YEAR.

50X1

4. WEST GERMANY - ITALY: THE PRESS IN BONN REPORTED YES-TERDAY THAT CHANCELLOR ERHARD WILL MAKE A "WORKING VISIT" TO LONDON JANUARY 15-16, FOLLOWED BY AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO ROME JANUARY 27-28 IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION OF PRIME MINISTER MORO. HE WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER SCHROEDER.

5. USSR - COMMUNIST CHINA: PEIPING IS NOT LETTING UP ON MOSCOW. ON 26 DECEMBER, MAO'S BIRTHDAY, PEIPING RADIO BROADCAST A LONG ATTACK WHICH AGAIN CHARGED THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAD SUNK DEEPLY INTO "MODERN REVISIONISM" SINCE STALIN'S DEATH.

6. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: IT LOOKS AS THOUGH PARTY BOSS NOVOTNY HAS SURVIVED, THOUGH JUST BARELY, THE LATEST GO AROUND IN THE CZECH LEADERSHIP CRISIS.

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--30 DECEMBER 1963

1. CYPRUS:

A. SPORADIC INCIDENTS CONTINUE IN NICOSIA AND ELSEWHERE,  
BUT THE SITUATION REMAINS GENERALLY QUIET.

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C. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BRITISH, GREEK AND TURKISH  
GOVERNMENTS AND OF THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES HAVE NOW BEEN  
BROUGHT TOGETHER IN A POLITICAL LIAISON COMMITTEE. DUNCAN  
SANDYS HAS PROPOSED A SEVEN-POINT PEACE PLAN TO THE COMMITTEE  
INCLUDING CREATION OF A NEUTRAL ZONE.

D. BOTH ETHNIC COMMUNITIES DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY OF  
RETURNING TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE.

E. PRESIDENT MAKARIOS, WHO EXPECTS TO BE BACKED BY  
ATHENS, CONTINUES TO CALL FOR REVISING THE "UNWORKABLE" CON-  
STITUTION, WHILE TURKISH CYPRIOTS, WITH ANKARA'S SUPPORT,  
HAVE REVIVED THEIR DEMANDS FOR PARTITION OF THE ISLAND.

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2. ETHIOPIA-KENYA:

A. ETHIOPIA AND KENYA APPARENTLY ARE PUTTING TEETH INTO LAST JULY'S MUTUAL DEFENSE PACT, WHICH WAS AIMED AT CONTAINING SOMALI INSURGENCY IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

B. AN ETHIOPIAN MISSION INCLUDING SEVERAL HIGH-RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS LEFT FOR NAIROBI ON 28 DECEMBER, AND

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TROOPS MAY SOON BE SENT TO KENYA.

C. THE SOMALI REPUBLIC, WHICH RECENTLY STRENGTHENED ITS FORCES NEAR THE KENYA BORDER, MAY STEP UP SUPPORT TO THE INSURGENTS IN BOTH COUNTRIES WHEN IT HEARS OF THESE MOVES.

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3. COMMUNIST CHINA - MEXICO:

A. COMMUNIST CHINA HAS PLACED A \$28 MILLION ORDER FOR 200,000 BALES OF MEXICAN COTTON FOR DELIVERY DURING 1964, ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHINESE OFFICIALS VISITING MEXICO.

B. THIS CONTRACT WOULD ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF MEXICO'S ANTICIPATED 1964 COTTON EXPORTS. ASIDE FROM CHINA'S 1963 PURCHASES OF WHEAT--ABOUT \$18 MILLION--SINO-MEXICAN TRADE 50X1 HAS BEEN INSIGNIFICANT.

4. USSR-EGYPT

(CONT'D)

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5. ITALY-FRANCE: PRESIDENT SEGNI WILL MAKE A STATE VISIT TO PARIS FEBRUARY 19-22. PRESS REPORTS FROM PARIS THIS MORNING SAY DE GAULLE ALSO HOPES TO MEET WITH ERHARD IN FEBRUARY.
6. USSR: KHRUSHCHEV HAS GIVEN UPI CORRESPONDENT HENRY SHAPIRO A STATEMENT ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON "PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN 1964." WHILE THE TEXT WE HAVE CONTAINS NO NEW PROPOSALS, THE TONE CONTINUES TO BE FRIENDLY TOWARD THE UNITED STATES AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON.
7. GREECE: FINANCIER JOHN PARASKEVOPOULOS HAS BEEN ASKED TO FORM A CARETAKER CABINET. THE NEW NATIONAL ELECTION WILL PROBABLY BE HELD IN EARLY FEBRUARY.

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## THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--31 DECEMBER 1963

## 1. CYPRUS:

A. A BUFFER ZONE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED IN NICOSIA WHICH THE BRITISH ARE PATROLLING.

B. THIS HAS EASED TENSIONS SOMEWHAT WHILE AN EXCHANGE OF HOSTAGES AND OTHER OF SANDY'S PROPOSALS ARE BEING WORKED OUT.

C. TURKISH AND GREEK CYPRIOT FORCES STILL WILL NOT JOIN IN A JOINT PEACEKEEPING EFFORT.

D. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE HYSTERICAL APPEALS FROM TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND PUBLIC PRESSURE IN TURKEY FOR SOMETHING TO BE DONE IS BUILDING UP FAST. THE TURKISH MILITARY CONTINUE TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE ACTION.

E. WE HAVE NOTED NO SIMILAR GREEK MOVES. OUR ATTACHE IN ATHENS WAS, HOWEVER, CALLED IN FOR A BRIEFING YESTERDAY BY THE GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER ON THE "DANGEROUS SITUATION."

F. THE ATTACHE GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT THE BRIEFING WAS ANOTHER PLEA FOR NATO INTERVENTION AND NOT A WARNING OF IMPENDING GREEK MILITARY INTERVENTION.

G. TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE TALKING PARTITION AGAIN AS THE ONLY POSSIBLE SOLUTION. VICE PRESIDENT KUTCHUK TOLD NEWSMEN YESTERDAY THERE WAS NOW NO POSSIBILITY OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES LIVING TOGETHER ON THE ISLAND. "THE CONSTITUTION," HE SAID, "IS DEAD."

(CONT'D)

H. MAKARIOS HAS RESPONDED THAT ANYTHING LESS THAN COEXISTENCE WOULD BE "DISASTROUS."

2. ERHARD TALKS:

A. WEST GERMAN PAPERS OF ALL TENDENCIES ARE EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS OF ERHARD'S TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

B. STRESS WAS ON THE CEMENTING OF PERSONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION IN EASING EAST-WEST TENSIONS.

C. REAFFIRMATION OF US INTENTION TO MAINTAIN TROOP STRENGTH IN GERMANY WAS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION IN EDITORIALS, BUT WITHOUT MUCH COMMENT.

3. JAPAN - NATIONALIST CHINA:

A. THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS ARE MUTTERING DARKLY OF A BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH JAPAN OVER TOKYO'S DECISION TO RETURN A VACILLATING DEFECTOR TO THE MAINLAND.

B. WE DOUBT THEY WILL GO THIS FAR, BUT THEIR AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO HAS "RESIGNED" AND TAIPEI HAS WITHDRAWN THE NEXT FOUR RANKING MEMBERS OF ITS MISSION THERE.

C. VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS ARE EXPECTED IN THE NEXT DAY OR SO IN TAIPEI.

4. BERLIN:

A. WEST BERLIN'S DEPUTY MAYOR ALBERTZ TOLD THE PRESS YESTERDAY HIS NEGOTIATORS WOULD MEET SHORTLY WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS FURTHER, MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS

(CONT'D)

FOR WEST BERLINERS TO VISIT IN THE EASTERN SECTOR.

B. ERHARD, IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON HIS RETURN TO BONN, APPARENTLY DID NOT OPPOSE, IN PRINCIPLE, ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXPANDED CONTACTS WITH EAST BERLIN AND EAST GERMANY.

C. HE DID, HOWEVER, WARN AGAINST "COMPLICATIONS" IF WEST BERLIN CITY OFFICIALS ATTEMPTED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NEGOTIATING SUCH ARRANGEMENTS.

5. NOTES:

A. CAMBODIA: BROADCASTS PURPORTING TO BE THE "VOICES" OF NEUTRALIST AND NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND THAILAND HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR. THEY COULD ORIGINATE WITH THE VIET CONG, BUT THEIR CONTENT AND OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGEST THAT SIHANOUK IS RESPONSIBLE.

B. FRANCE - LATIN AMERICA: "INFORMED" FRENCH OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD THE PRESS THAT DE GAULLE WILL BE VISITING LATIN AMERICA TWICE IN 1964. IN MARCH HE IS GOING TO MEXICO, THE FRENCH WEST INDIES ISLANDS AND POSSIBLY SOME CENTRAL AMERICAN CAPITALS. HE GOES TO ARGENTINA, PERU AND PROBABLY SOME OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN CAPITALS IN SEPTEMBER.

C. MOROCCO - COMMUNIST CHINA: KING HASAN HAS ACCEPTED CHOU EN-LAI'S INVITATION TO VISIT PEIPING. NASIR AND BEN BELLA HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED SIMILAR INVITATIONS.

D. USSR-INDIA: A SHIPMENT OF SOVIET SAM EQUIPMENT

TO INDIA.

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