

# **THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST**

**ISSUED BY THE  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**1, NOVEMBER 1963**  
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. South Vietnam  
(information up  
to 0830 EST)

a. Diem's regime is toppling before a coup launched shortly after noon today Saigon time (midnight Washington time--there is a difference of 12 hours.)

b. The coup group, headed by Army Gen. "Big" Minh, apparently has gained or is gaining the backing of all major combat units in the Saigon area.

c. Special Forces chief, Col. Tung is prisoner of the coup forces and Special Forces units are putting up no further resistance.

d. The Presidential guard, too, has been largely neutralized, and the palace, evidently with Diem still holding out in it, is currently under siege.

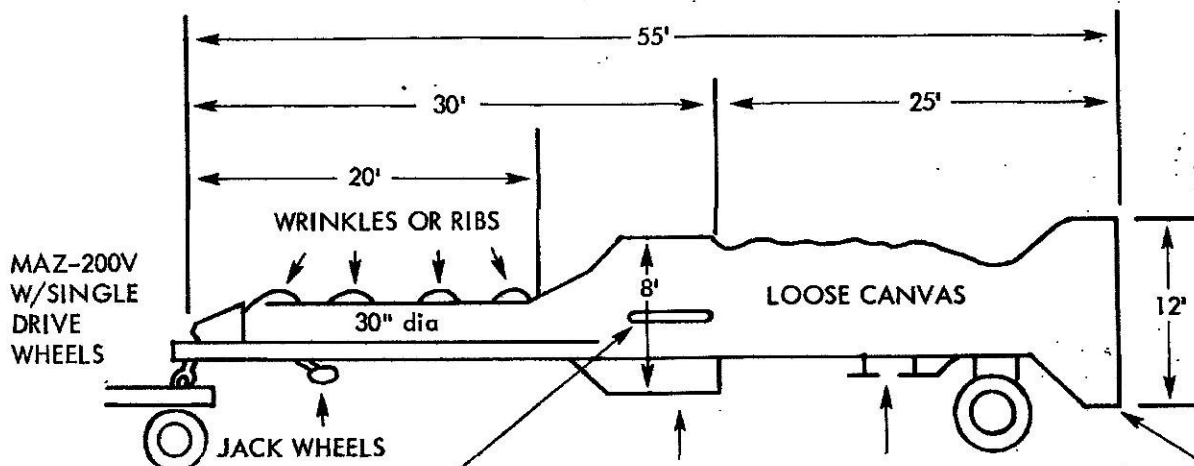
e. Coup leaders, we understand, plan to set up an exclusively civilian government as soon as the coup is consolidated.



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### POSSIBLE ABM MISSILE SEEN AT MOSCOW - OCTOBER 1963

SIDE VIEW



Entirely canvas covered.  
Details not observable.  
Not to scale.

REAR VIEW

BULGES BOTH SIDES INDICATING HORIZONTAL FINS

EXTENDS BELOW IN CENTER. BELIEVED LIGHT CORRUGATED BOOT OR HOUSING FOR VERTICAL FIN.

TWO WHEEL TYPE HAND CRANKS AND ONE LEVEL

BELIEVED TO BE LIGHT CORRUGATED METAL BOOT OR HOUSING FOR FINS DURING TRANSPORT.

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2. USSR

a. A new missile, so far still under canvas, has shown up in rehearsals for Moscow's upcoming October anniversary (7 November) parade.

b. It is appearing in company with known SAM types, but it appears too large to be an antiaircraft missile.

c. We think it may be our first look at a Soviet antimissile missile. If so it would be a likely candidate for the probable ABM system now under construction at Leningrad.

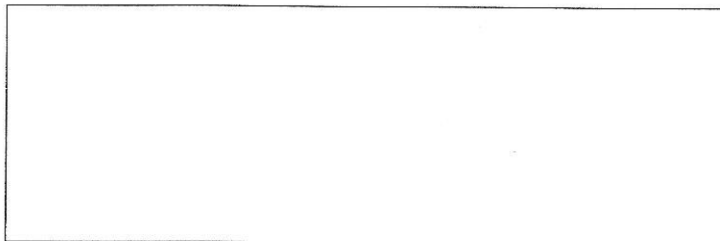
3. Communist China

a. [redacted] the Chinese may be getting ready to try to put a [redacted] satellite into orbit. They could do this with the SS-4, 1,100-mile missile [redacted]

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**New Light in a Dark Corner: Evidence on the Diem  
Coup in South Vietnam, November 1963**

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