

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**2 NOVEMBER 1963
TOP SECRET**

1. South Vietnam

a. The deaths of Diem and Nhu just about wrap up the generals' coup.

b. Not all versions of the story are the same, but it would appear that the brothers either committed suicide, or were done in after they surrendered. We suspect the latter.

c. The population of Saigon, in a jubilant mood today, has pulled down several symbols of Madame Nhu's authority and sacked the offices of the Times of Vietnam and another pro-Diem paper.

d. Ambassador Lodge was cheered as he drove through the streets. There have been no indications of anti-American sentiment.

e. We believe there may be some temporary dislocations in the counterinsurgency effort, particularly the strategic hamlet and paramilitary programs which Nhu had been running. Much will depend on the continuity of officialdom at the province level.

f. Initial reactions from Hanoi and Peiping have been characteristic. The US has put in "one puppet for another." We know that Viet Cong has long had standby plans to try to take advantage of a coup, but we have noted no implementation as yet.



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Coup in South Vietnam, November 1963**

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