

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

11 MARCH 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

2. Syria

a. The new regime initially tolerated but finally had to put down pro-Nasir demonstrations which nearly got out of hand yesterday in Damascus.

b. Officially and publicly, Cairo is jubilant over the coup, but [redacted] sus-
picions that the regime is a Baathist creature of Baghdad's making. An official close to Nasir, speaking of Cairo's early recognition to a US Embassy contact on Saturday, let the cat out of the bag saying "we did not want Iraq to have this all to themselves."

50X1

c. The cabinet is indeed Baathist dominated (12 out of 20), and the military command, while not Baathist, is known to favor Arab unity, but not under Nasir's leadership.

d. A roundup of known Communists is underway, but in a less violent manner than in Iraq where several top party members have been put to death. Syrian extremists on the right are also being rounded up.