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19 August 1960

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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DAILY BRIEF



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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

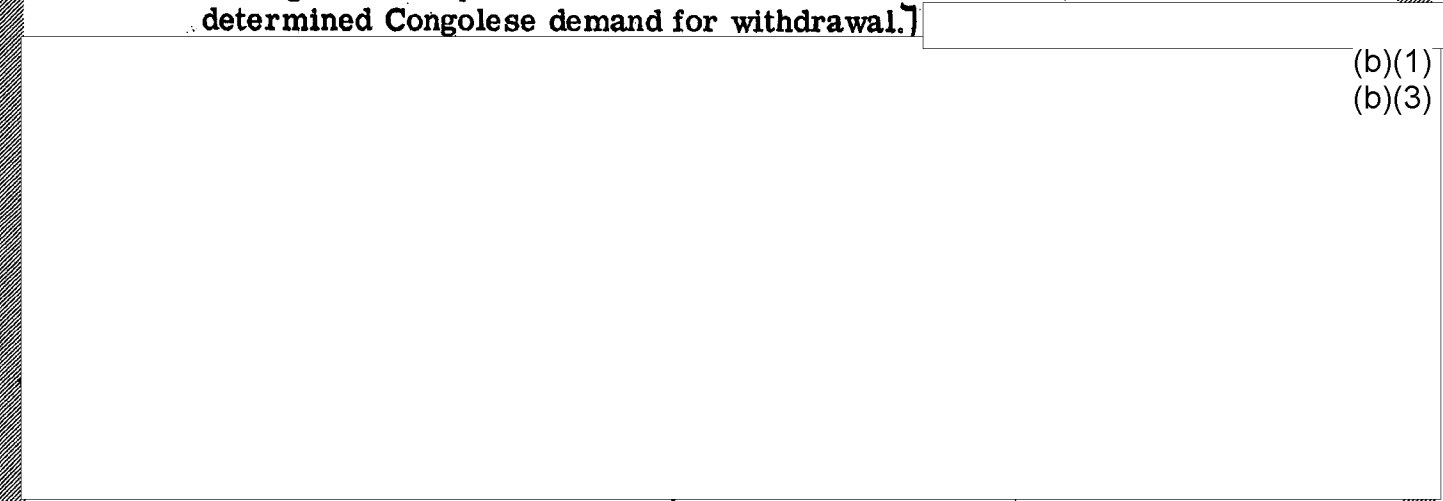
*Republic of the Congo: [UN forces in the Congo have reportedly been authorized to shoot in their own defense following new anti-Western and anti-white incidents which were apparently instigated by Lumumba. On 18 August, a Canadian officer of the UN force was injured and other Canadians subjected to indignities by Force Publique soldiers at the Leopoldville airport. US Ambassador Timberlake--who was barred by Congolese soldiers from Lumumba's residence on 18 August--warns that the Force Publique could be incited to action against the UN troops, or to new depredations against whites in general.

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Secretary General Hammarskjold, meanwhile, has stated that he will invite any nation in the Security Council which disagrees with his recent actions in the Congo to present its views, possibly in the form of a resolution. He appears confident that a critical resolution will obtain only the votes of the two Communist nations. The British, meanwhile, are exploring means of averting a showdown between Lumumba and Hammarskjold, believing that UN operations could not continue in the face of a determined Congolese demand for withdrawal.]

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The Situation in the Congo

Premier Lumumba's fulminations against Secretary General Hammarskjold and against non-African contingents of the UN occupying force have led to new anti-Western and anti-white incidents in Leopoldville. On 18 August, a Canadian officer was clubbed and other Canadians forced to lie down and be searched by members of Lumumba's Force Publique during a "security check" at Leopoldville airport. UN troops were subsequently authorized to shoot if necessary in their own defense. On the same day, US Ambassador Timberlake was barred by Congolese soldiers from entering Lumumba's residence.]

Ambassador Timberlake observed on 17 August that the physical presence of a UN force in the Congo was by itself insufficient to maintain order. He reported that "thousands" of armed and undisciplined Force Publique soldiers were still at large in the Congo and that the situation had become critical in Leopoldville, where such units had come under the personal authority of Lumumba. He added that the Force Publique could be incited to action against the UN troops or even against whites in general.]

Lumumba's most recent anti-UN proclamations have coincided with seemingly stepped-up bloc and Communist activity in the Congo. Two leading officials of the Belgian Communist party reportedly plan to arrive in Leopoldville on 23 August to supervise the establishment of a "true" Communist party in the Congo. On 16 August, a four-man delegation from the East German Foreign Ministry left Berlin unannounced for Prague, from where it was to fly to the Congo on an unstated mission. At the same time, members of the Czech delegation to the International Labor Organization in Geneva stated that Prague was prepared to assist the Congo "in all possible ways," including personnel, materiel, and finances. The Czech interior minister had stated on 13 August that Prague was sending the Congo "immediate" aid worth about \$300,000.]

In New York, Secretary General Hammarskjold has stated that he will invite any nation in the Security Council which

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disagrees with his recent actions in the Congo to present its views, possibly in the form of a resolution. He appears confident that a critical resolution will obtain only the votes of the two Communist members.]

[Concerning a possible UN withdrawal from the Congo, Hammarskjold professed to regard such a demand by Lumumba as unlikely. He expressed the conviction that Lumumba is being advised by Communists in Leopoldville, but stated that he could see no alternative to Lumumba at this time.]

[The British Foreign Office is exploring means of averting a showdown between Lumumba and Hammarskjold, believing that the UN operations could not continue in the face of a determined Congolese demand for withdrawal. The preliminary British views are that the best way of supporting the UN effort would be by tackling the constitutional dispute between Lumumba and Tshombé, perhaps by having the UN Security Council appoint a committee of three African nations to seek to resolve the issue.]

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