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# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



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## CONGO

About 160 of the 216 members of the Congolese legislature have arrived at Lovanium University outside of Leopoldville, the site agreed on for the reconvening of parliament by leaders of the Leopoldville and Stanleyville factions. Extensive negotiations are taking place as the two regimes--Elisabethville is so far not represented--maneuver for position. UN officials are hopeful that the session can get under way in the next few days.

Moderates in Leopoldville appear to be making an effort to develop a cabinet slate under Interior Minister Adoula. The Leopoldville faction remains weakened by the mutual suspicions of its leaders, however, and appears unsure of its ability to dominate parliament. Premier Ileo, realizing that his chances of retaining his position once parliament convenes are virtually nil, is continuing his tactics to delay the session.

Tshombé still insists that he will permit his delegates to attend the session only if there is a prior "summit meeting" of Congolese leaders. Since attendance at parliament by representatives from Elisabethville would reduce Gizenga's chances, it is questionable that Gizenga would agree to such a meeting.

Tshombé is under considerable pressure from the UN to abandon his separatist position,

and tension between UN and Katanga troops in northern Katanga is increasing. The American consul in Elisabethville believes that Tshombé is currently at a peak of intransigence and is unlikely to change his attitude. Moreover, the Katanga president's close associates, especially Vice President Kibwe and Interior Minister Munongo, seem even more strongly opposed than he is to the idea of reintegration with the rest of the country.

According to a UN official, Kibwe has repudiated the recent reaffirmation of the military accord between Tshombé and Mobutu and has warned Tshombé not to attend parliament on peril of assassination by rightist European elements in Elisabethville. There are also indications of unrest, stemming from grievances concerning pay and promotions, within the Katanga army.

Leaders in the Leopoldville regime regard Tshombé's seven deputies and eight senators as an important and perhaps essential factor in their power struggle with Gizenga, and non-attendance by these representatives will increase Leopoldville's misgivings concerning the session.

More than 60 parliamentarians arrived in Leopoldville from Stanleyville aboard UN aircraft on 17 July. The group was headed by Christophe Gbenye, Gizenga's extremist interior minister. Gizenga remained in Stanleyville as a result of an illness.

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Spokesmen associated with the Stanleyville regime have implied that Gizenga will seek the Congo premiership when parliament opens. The spokesmen allege, however, that Gizenga will accept whatever verdict results from the forthcoming session. One representative indicated that there was strong anti-Kasavubu sentiment in the Stanleyville group, suggesting that the President's position may become a major issue in Leopoldville.

In view of the continuing struggle between the Leopoldville and Stanleyville groups, prospects for the early formation of an effective coalition government appear slight. Each side seems cautiously optimistic concerning its prospects for controlling parliament, and neither is likely to accept with good grace the position of a minority group in a coalition. Gizenga's followers, however, may feel that their greater cohesiveness will permit them eventually to control any government, and that even a coalition offers greater promise than "going it alone" in remote Orientale Province.

Foreign Minister Spaak informed UN Secretary General Hammarskjold on 12 July that he fully agreed with the UN policy on the withdrawal of political and military advisers from Ka-

tanga and was urging private interests to exert economic pressure on Tshombé. According to Spaak, Hammarskjold did not press the question of immediate withdrawal of all Belgian military officers other than to indicate that the sooner it was accomplished in an orderly fashion with appropriate replacements the better.

Spaak has been reluctant to withdraw all Belgian elements without assurances that order will be maintained, for violence to Belgian civilians would adversely affect the tenure of the Lefevre-Spaak government. In reply to heavy attacks from rightist elements in the Belgian Chamber of Deputies regarding the expulsion of Thyssens--Tshombé's leading Belgian adviser--Spaak stated that much of the present difficulty in the Congo arose from the fact that some Belgians at home and in the Congo have intervened in internal Congolese affairs. Spaak believes that the Union Minière, the large Belgian combine in Katanga, has not been effectively using its influence with Tshombé to get him to cooperate with the moderates and send delegates to parliament. Although Spaak has written Tshombé saying that he cannot continue to rely on Belgian political and military support and urging him to accept a unified federal Congo, Spaak feels that the Belgian Government's influence with Tshombé has been greatly reduced.

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