

*Prof. Steg*

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COPY NO. 70

OCI NO. 0440/62

26 October 1962

# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: JUL 2000

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

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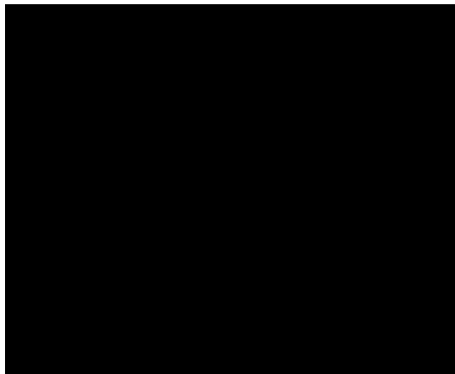
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CONGO DEVELOPMENTS

No progress has been made on the UN reconciliation plan for the Congo since Adoula repudiated the cease-fire and financial agreements on 17 October, despite his expression of full support for the UN plan and the statement in his communiqué with Under Secretary McGhee that the "bridges are not cut." He has ordered a halt to any reactivation of joint commission talks in Elisabethville pending talks with UN Under Secretary Bunche, who arrived in Leopoldville on 22 October.

Adoula told Ambassador Gullion that his action did not mean a rupture of the talks, but rather a suspension. The tone of his 18 October press conference, however, indicates that Adoula's position has considerably stiffened. Stressing the 27-month delay in attaining a Katanga settlement, Adoula said again that the UN plan could not be negotiated, that it constituted a whole which must be accepted or rejected by Tshombé, and that he would not enter into any talks with Tshombé.

Tshombé has reacted slowly, but on 22 October he informed UN officials in Elisabethville that any attempt by Adoula to renegotiate the cease-fire signed on 16 October would raise new problems and result in long delay. The Katangan leader has not yet commented on the UN-drafted constitution.



UN air reconnaissance supports previous reports that Tshombé has added Vampire jets to his air force. One such aircraft was sighted at Kolwezi airport, and there may be a total of four. Reports on the fighting between Katangan and Congolese forces which occurred in northern Katanga just prior to the cease-fire indicated that the Katangans were using their recently acquired Harvard piston trainers to strafe and possibly bomb Congolese positions.

In Brussels, Adoula's recent moves have produced a highly adverse reaction. Foreign Minister Spaak's chances of obtaining domestic support for economic pressures on Tshombé have been further reduced. Spaak has indicated, moreover, that any Belgian decision to increase economic assistance to Leopoldville would have to await a more constructive attitude on Adoula's part.

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