

~~SECRET~~
NOFORN;



(b)(3)

CONTROLS
SECRET NOFORN
SECTION 1 OF 2

NOFORN;
~~SECRET~~

SECRET
NOFORN;

CITE CIA 359057

SERIAL: [redacted]

(b)(3)

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

PASS: [redacted]

(b)(3)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE
REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--NOFORN

DIST: 24 JANUARY 2001

COUNTRY: ZIMBABWE/CONGO(K)

SUBJ: BELIEF BY DROC AND ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENTS THAT THE UNITED
STATES MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN KABILA'S **ASSASSINATION**;
ZIMBABWEAN PLANS FOR PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION IN THE DROC

DOI: [redacted]

(b)(1)

SOURCE: [redacted]

(b)(3)

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(3)

SUMMARY: NONE

TEXT: 1. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

[redacted] IN MEETINGS HELD IN HARARE, ZIMBABWE, BETWEEN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DROC) AND ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS FOLLOWING THE MID-JANUARY **ASSASSINATION** OF DROC PRESIDENT
LAURENT ((KABILA)), DROC OFFICIALS PUT FORTH THE THEORY THAT THE
UNITED STATES (U.S.), SPECIFICALLY U.S. INTELLIGENCE, WAS INVOLVED IN
KABILA'S **ASSASSINATION**. THE DROC OFFICIALS TOLD ZIMBABWEAN OFFICIALS
THEY BELIEVED KABILA'S **ASSASSINATION** WAS DELIBERATELY TIMED TO
COINCIDE WITH THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE **ASSASSINATION** OF CONGOLESE PRIME
MINISTER **PATRICE ((LUMUMBA))** IN 1961, WHICH THEY ALSO BELIEVE WAS
CARRIED OUT BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE. THIS ASSERTION, COMBINED WITH
KABILA'S MARXIST POLITICAL BACKGROUND AND THE PERSISTENT PERCEPTION
BY THE DROC AND ZIMBABWE OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR RWANDA AND UGANDA IN THE
DROC WAR, HAS LED ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO GIVE SERIOUS
CONSIDERATION TO U.S. INVOLVEMENT, EITHER UNILATERALLY OR THROUGH ITS
SUPPORT TO THE OPPOSING FORCES IN THE REGION. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

[redacted] ZIMBABWEAN OFFICIALS CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF U.S.
INVOLVEMENT IN THE **ASSASSINATION** AS NO MORE OR LESS LIKELY THAN THE
OTHER THEORIES DISCUSSED WITH DROC OFFICIALS, INCLUDING COUP ATTEMPTS
BY DROC GENERALS AND/OR DROC'S ALLIES. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

NOFORN;

SECRET

SECRET
NOFORN;

[REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] (b)(3)

2. REGARDING THE DROC PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION, [REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] ZIMBABWE HAD THE UPPER HAND IN ANY DECISION AS TO WHO WOULD (b)(3)

SUCCEED THE ELDER KABILA, AND THAT INTERIM PRESIDENT JOSEPH ((KABILA)) WOULD CONTINUE TO BE THE REAL POWER BEHIND ANY NEW PRESIDENT. TO THIS END, ZIMBABWE WOULD ENSURE THAT, IF A NEW PRESIDENT WERE SELECTED TO REPLACE JOSEPH KABILA, THE LATTER WOULD BE NAMED VICE PRESIDENT OR MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THE CURRENT PLAN OF SENIOR ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IS TO REACH A CONSENSUS BY THE ALLIED POWERS, WITH THE DROC HAVING THE FINAL SAY. ZIMBABWE IS CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT DROC OFFICIALS WILL ACQUIESCE TO ZIMBABWE'S PREFERENCE, GIVEN THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND ZIMBABWE'S ROLE AS THE DROC'S MAIN SOURCE OF MILITARY SUPPORT.

[REDACTED] THE ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT ANTICIPATE (b)(1)
ANY MAJOR DISAGREEMENTS WITH ANGOLA OR NAMIBIA ON THE SUCCESSION (b)(3)
ISSUE. [REDACTED] THE ZIMBABWEANS BELIEVE THEIR ROLE AS THE MAIN (b)(1)
PLAYER IN THIS ISSUE WAS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT NEARLY HALF THE (b)(3)
DROC CABINET CAME TO HARARE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE **ASSASSINATION**, FOR
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ZIMBABWEAN LEADERSHIP ON DEALING WITH THE
ASSASSINATION AND ESTABLISHING AN INTERIM DROC GOVERNMENT.

3. [REDACTED] PRESIDENT ROBERT ((MUGABE)) HAD (b)(1)
ENSURED THE WORD WAS OUT TO DROC PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANTS TO COME TO (b)(3)
HARARE FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THEIR PLANS FOR THE DROC, TO INCLUDE
RAPHAEL KATEBE ((KATOTO)), A CONGOLESE BUSINESSMAN RESIDING IN
BELGIUM, AND A NATIVE OF KATANGA, DROC. [REDACTED] (b)(1)
KATOTO HAD APPROACHED THE ZIMBABWEANS THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES (NFI) (b)(3)
ABOUT ZIMBABWEAN SUPPORT FOR HIS CANDIDACY.

4. [REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] (b)(3)

POC: [REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] COMMENTS, EVALUATIONS, AND REQUIREMENTS WELCOME. (b)(3)

ADMIN
ACQ: [REDACTED] (b)(1)
DISSEM: [REDACTED] (b)(3)
[REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] (b)(3)

NOFORN;
SECRET

SECRET
NOFORN;

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

WARNING: REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

[Redacted]

(b)(3)

ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

END OF MESSAGE SECRET.

CABLETYPE: [Redacted]

(b)(3)

BT

#1348

NNNN

NOFORN;
SECRET