

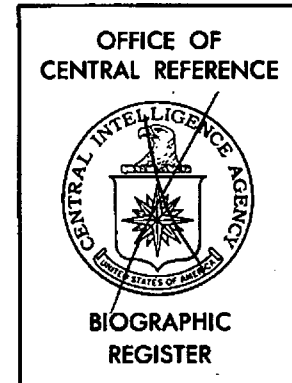
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KENYA

Joseph Anthony Zuzarte MURUMBI

Minister of External Affairs

Urbane, intelligent and articulate, Joseph Murumbi was named Kenya's Minister of External Affairs on 10 December 1964. He is a forceful, hardworking and able administrator who will certainly dominate his staff, and Kenya will probably follow a more dynamic foreign policy under Murumbi. For the previous 18 months he had been Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office. There he was a major influence in the areas of defense, internal security and foreign affairs. In both positions he has been a driving force behind President Jomo Kenyatta's Congo policy. He has apparently been the key figure in the Kenyan hard core which has directed an [redacted] anti-Tshombe campaign since September 1964.



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Murumbi has no firm political base of his own and depends on the confidence of Kenyatta, whom he serves as a lieutenant. [redacted]

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[redacted] Murumbi has tried to keep a foot in both the moderate and radical camps, but when the chips are down, he generally goes along with Kenyatta.

The son of a Goan father and a Masai mother, Murumbi was born on 8 June 1911 at Eldama Ravine in the Rift Valley province. Taken to India by his father in 1917, he was educated in Bangalore and Bellary, in southern India. He received at least a high school education and may have attended, and possibly graduated from, the University of Madras. During this period Murumbi worked for the Burma Shell Oil Company. Returning to Kenya about 1933, he farmed for a year in the Masai reserve and then served with the Kenya Medical Department from 1935 to 1941. In 1941 Murumbi went to Italian Somaliland where he served as a chief clerk in the British administration and, from 1948 to 1950, as assistant controller of imports and exports, normally a post held by a British official. When the Italians returned to administer Somalia, he lost his post and returned to Kenya where he obtained a job in a transport company.

In October 1952, after Kenyatta's arrest, Murumbi became acting general secretary of the Kenya African Union. The following March he left for India, ostensibly to study community development; instead he embarked on an eight-month speaking tour in which he advanced the views of the Kenya African nationalists. Declared a "specified person" in Kenya at this time, Murumbi settled in London. In 1954 he was a member of the Coordination Committee of the Anti-Colonial Bureau and assistant secretary of the Movement for Colonial Freedom. He was also reported to be assistant secretary of the UK section of the Congress of Peoples against Imperialism. Offered a scholarship by a Quaker school in Philadelphia in 1954, he was refused a visa because

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of his alleged participation in the Mau Mau movement, [redacted]
[redacted] Murumbi was a book dealer in London for several years. In January 1958 he was employed in the press service of the Moroccan Embassy in London. While in London he served as the representative of the Kenya African National Union (KANU).

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Returning from exile in 1961, Murumbi became an advisor to Kenyatta early the following year; about this time he was also named managing director of Sauti Ya Mwafrika (The Voice of Africa). Subsequently he became assistant to the KANU executive officer and, by early 1963, he had become the party's national treasurer. In the latter post he did an excellent job of utilizing and accounting for the funds made available to the KANU by other African countries. He gained respect for pulling dissident party elements together for the May 1963 general election and thus played a key role in the KANU's election triumph. He himself was elected from the Nairobi South constituency. In June 1963 he was named Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office. Later he played a major role in discussions with Kenya and Tanganyika about federation, and with the Somali Republic about Kenya's Northern Frontier province. By 1963 Murumbi had become a member of the Board of Directors of the Pan-African Press (PAP), and late that year he was working closely with Pío da Gama Pinto (now deceased), PAP's chairman and paymaster of the Odinga group. The two remained fast friends until Pinto's assassination in February 1965.

As part of a Kenyan delegation to the UN, Murumbi visited the US in December 1963 and while here he was given a partial Leader Grant. In April and May 1964 he was part of a group that visited, and signed aid agreements with, the USSR and Communist China. [redacted]

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[redacted] he stated that Kenyans would defend their country against imperialism. Upon his return he said, in [redacted] that America should mend its fences with Communist China and that the latter should be admitted to the UN.

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When Kenyatta went to the London Commonwealth Conference in July 1964, he appointed Murumbi Acting Prime Minister. Odinga, who regards himself as second only to Kenyatta, resented this, and so much political infighting occurred that Murumbi was reportedly considering retiring from politics.

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September 1964 marks Murumbi's departure upon a radical course. That month Kenyatta had accepted the chairmanship of the Ad Hoc Commission on the Congo established by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and Murumbi became Kenyatta's representative on the daily working level at several meetings of the commission. In late September the Ad Hoc Commission, apparently guided by Murumbi, decided to send a delegation, headed by Murumbi, to the US to talk about American aid to the Congo. The decision to send a delegation to Washington was made ultra vires since a Foreign Ministers meeting at Addis

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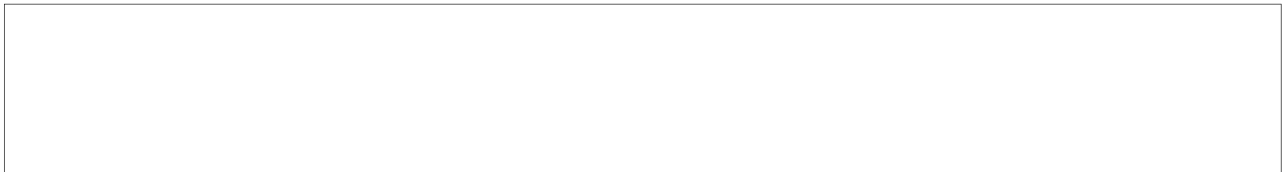
Joseph Anthony Zuzarte MURUMBI (cont.)

Ababa had already rejected the idea. The decision created difficulties



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After some discussion among the governments involved, the delegation retreated to the position that it had come to the US on a goodwill mission and that it was not the commission's intention to raise, with the US, matters affecting the sovereignty of the Congolese government. Whatever Murumbi's reasons were for engineering the move, the result was an awkward situation for the US and Kenya, particularly for President Kenyatta.



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Murumbi does not want Tshombe as Premier of the Congo

Several times he has stated that Tshombe is not the constitutional Premier since his appointment was not ratified by the Congolese Parliament within 30 days.

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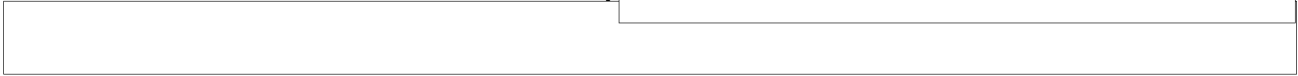
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He has recommended that the OAU and UN supervise Congolese elections, and military and technical programs.



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He has charged that imperialist powers try to dictate to small nations because they possess the atomic bomb; that crises in such places as Cyprus and Malaysia are created to keep remote areas in turmoil while the great powers develop in tranquility; that the excesses in the Congo rebellion were the fault of the Belgian-American airdrop into Stanleyville; and that the airdrop itself--planned months before--was a calculated effort to undermine the OAU;



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On the other hand, Murumbi conceded the legality of Tshombe's government in the Congo (directly contradicting his public and other private statements). He has also warmly praised President Johnson's proposal for unconditional talks on Vietnam while characterizing Peking's reaction as "stupid." And he flatly turned down an East German request for representation in Kenya, explaining that Kenya valued West German relations too highly to endanger them the way Tanzania had.

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Pinto's murder was apparently a severe blow to Murumbi. Murumbi is reportedly now determined to quit politics in a few months and retire to his farm near Kitale. During the middle of April Murumbi was reported to be



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making some effort to identify himself with the anti-Communist and anti-Odinga line put forward by the Kenya democratic parliamentary group.

Murumbi has been a delegate to several inter-African conferences, including meetings of the All-African Peoples Conference (April 1961) and the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization (February 1963). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Lumumba Trust and Fund, and of the Patrice Lumumba Institute. The institute, which has allegedly received financial support from the USSR, is reportedly designed to train KANU activists and the fund allegedly promotes educational and charitable activities. He was received by President Charles de Gaulle in March 1965.

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He is clear and unemotional on the platform, where he prefers to speak extemporaneously. Murumbi speaks fluent English as well as Italian, Hindi and Swahili. He is interested in books on Africa and has a private collection of them. Murumbi's wife, Cecilia, a Hawiya Somali, had an Italian father. The couple has at least two sons, who are reportedly studying in Mogadiscio. He is a Roman Catholic.

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