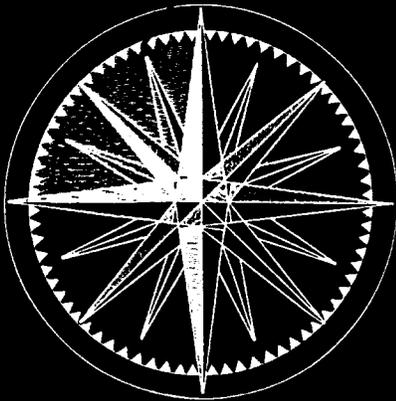


SECRET



20 September 1963

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WEEKLY SUMMARY

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JUL 2000

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

~~SECRET~~

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

PUBLIC ORDER PROBLEMS STILL PLAGUE CONGO

A quorum of deputies and senators has finally shown up in Leopoldville to enable the fall session of the Congolese Parliament to open. Premier Adoula's opponents again elected their candidate for president of the lower house but did not make a clean sweep of all the lower house offices as they did in the spring session. Adoula's plan to restrict Parliament to constitution making has failed, and it seems certain that the legislators will also insist on "normal business"--i.e., harrying the government.

Tshombé meanwhile seems about to reappear in the Congo limelight. At the moment he is still in Barcelona, but reports persist that he will soon return to the Congo. The former Katangan leader has twice appealed to Adoula for a reconciliation, but to date the premier has not replied. Adoula may actually favor Tshombé's return, but would probably prefer that he remain in exile at least until after parliamentary elections next spring.

Recent activities of Tshombé's former Katangan gendarmes and reports of a new gathering of white mercenaries should give Adoula further reasons for caution. Remnants of Tshombé's force--which once numbered 18,000--have been reported in a semiorganized state in half a dozen places in Katanga. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a gendarmerie force of some 4,000 is camped south of Elisabethville near the Northern Rhodesian border. Officials of the East Katanga provincial government say there is a steady trickle of former gendarmes from their jobs in Elisabethville back into the bush. UN officials are convinced that fighting between the gendarmes and the Congo National Army is likely when UN forces depart. The UN is not, however, planning any military operations against the gendarmerie groups.

The question of the continued presence of UN forces after December remains unsettled. U Thant, anxious to disengage, insists that a minimum UN force would have to consist of 6,000 men and would cost some \$30 million annually. He feels such an operation cannot be supported and is beyond his terms of reference. US observers believe a highly mobile force half that size would suffice. There is considerable African support for the principle of retention of UN forces until mid-1964, but Thant is doubtful the necessary money can be voted. He has suggested that the solution might be for Leopoldville to obtain troops through bilateral arrangements, outside the UN framework, with interested Western countries paying the bills. [REDACTED]