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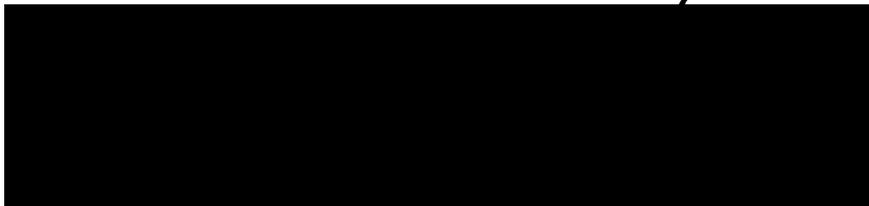
# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: JUL 2000



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGO

Adoula announced on 28 July that he intended to present a new constitution for parliamentary approval in September. The proposed draft reportedly would provide for a greater degree of provincial autonomy than the Belgian-drafted Loi Fondamentale under which the Congo now operates. Leopoldville has asked the UN to select specialists to help, and the Secretariat is now trying to recruit Swiss, Nigerian, and Canadian experts on federalism.

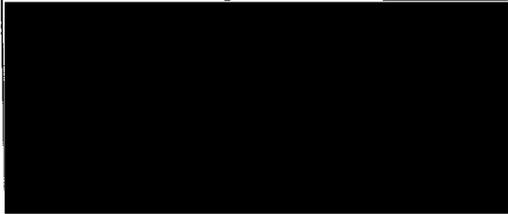
Tshombé responded favorably to Adoula's announcement, but said he would await a show of the premier's sincerity. Tshombé's request that representatives of all six provinces participate in writing the constitution would, if accepted, probably impede progress. Ambassador Gullion has warned that the politically weakened Adoula probably cannot afford extended discussion of constitutional principles, and UN Acting Secretary General Thant suggests that for the same reason Adoula may not be able to make any important concessions.

Adoula, who is very discouraged with the slow progress on the Katangan problem, may still be thinking of trying to exert more pressure on Tshombé by attempting new attacks in northern Katanga. The movement last week of the Fifth Battalion from Stanleyville to Kabalo in northern Katanga was reported to be a normal rotation of troops.



Tshombé took a conciliatory line in a press conference on 27 July, but UN, US, and other diplomatic officials consider this another psychological warfare move. Expressing his "earnest desire" to resume negotiations with Leopoldville, Tshombé again called for Adoula to appoint his members to the four joint commissions agreed on in June to regulate the differences between Katanga and the central government, and urged that they report within three months. Tshombé still insists on a veto over the commissions' findings. A usually reliable source in Elisabethville states that Tshombé's statement was prompted by European advisers who felt that a less intransigent line would undercut possible UN or Western moves against Katanga.

Tshombé is cocky and confident of his position.



Meanwhile, anti-Adoula politicians, supported by Tshombé, are continuing their efforts to line up support. Former vice-premiers Jean Bolikango and Christophe Gbenye and former minister of justice Remy Mwamba have sought to enlist the backing of UN civil affairs chief Khiari and of the bishop of



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Leopoldville, and on 29 July  
a delegation headed by Gbenye

to bid for US support. They  
said the Adoula government was  
illegal, criticized Adoula's  
handling of negotiations with  
Tshombé, and emphasized their  
anit-Communist orientation.  
One unconfirmed report states  
that Bolikango, whom the op-  
position seems to be pumping  
as Adoula's replacement, is  
receiving financial support  
from the Societé Generale,  
the Belgian holding company  
which controls Union Miniere.

Partially as a result of  
consultations with his Congo  
Adivsory Committee (CAC), com-  
posed of UN members who have  
contributed troops to the Congo  
operation, Thant now believes  
that the existing UN mandates  
give him sufficient authority  
to use economic pressures on  
Tshombé and to assist the cen-  
tral government's army in main-  
taining law and order "in all  
ways short of actual combat."  
Thant remains firmly opposed to  
any UN military initiative, how-  
ever, and the CAC supports this  
stand. He intends to present  
a written report to the Security  
Council between 10 and 15 August  
on his plans for future action,  
and, according to Under Secretary  
Bunche, the UN is unlikely to  
take any "dramatic action" on  
the Congo before then;

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