

DCI BRIEFING

19 May 1961

CONGO

- I. With Tshombé in detention, power struggle in Congo is presently between Leopoldville and Stanleyville regimes.
 - A. Gizenga has rejected Kasavubu's call for reconvening of parliament in Leopoldville.
 - B. Emphasizing his claim to represent legal Congo government, Gizenga has insisted that parliament meet in Kamina, Katanga, with safety of deputies assured by contingents from various radical African states.
- II. Although there is still room for negotiations between Kasavubu and Gizenga, any early meeting of parliament will probably be without representation from Stanleyville.
 - A. Kasavubu faced with choice of attempting placate Gizenga, or convening parliament which would have little claim to represent Katanga or Orientale provinces. However, he has implied he will go through with stated intent to recall parliament.
 - B. Neither Kasavubu nor Gizenga can be assured that parliament would uphold his claim to be chief spokesman for Congo.
 - C. Gizenga regime has strong diplomatic support from the Bloc and the radical African states, but is troubled by internal factionalism.

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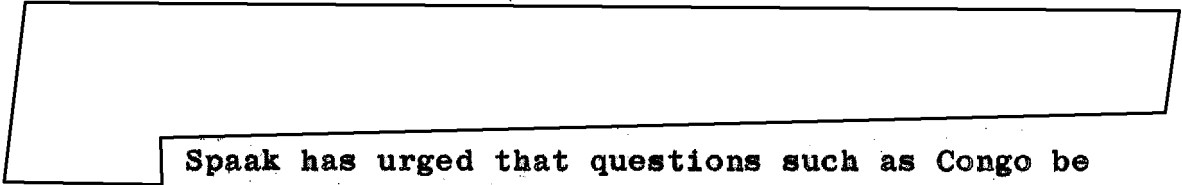
S E C R E T

- III. In Leopoldville, relations between UN and Kasavubu government have improved following Kasavubu's demand that Tshombé expel his foreign advisors, a UN-supported move which in effect allied UN and Leopoldville government against Tshombé.
- A. Nonetheless, the planned return of Dayal to Congo (about 25 May) will reduce cooperation and possibly even lead to disorders.
 - B. UN military presence--even with 20,000 troops in Congo--still inadequate and of doubtful effectiveness. UN has withdrawn from area of most serious tribal disturbances in Kasai Province after Ghanaian troops suffered over 30 casualties in clash with Congo Army soldiers.
- IV. In Katanga, Tshombé's lieutenants taking wait-and-see attitude.
- A. Triumvirate which has succeeded Tshombé has attempted to improve relations with UN, and has agreed to withdrawal of foreign mercenaries.
 - B. Withdrawal of mercenaries, although proceeding slowly, has increased Belgian fears of new violence in Katanga.
- V. New Belgian government, through Foreign Minister Spaak, has indicated willingness to strengthen Leopoldville government at Tshombé's expense.
- A. Spaak favors withdrawal of Belgian "political advisors" from Katanga, to be followed by gradual withdrawal of advisors to Congo armed forces.

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S E C R E T

B.



Spaak has urged that questions such as Congo be discussed more fully in NATO, with a view to more unified policies by NATO members.

C. Hammarskjold has indicated dissatisfaction at pace of Belgian withdrawal from Katanga.

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