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COPY NO. *2 of*

OCI NO. 0300/61

5 October 1961

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

DOCUMENT NO. 12
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS SECRET 1990
NEXT REVIEW DATE:
AUTH: HR 10-2
DATE: 23 June 80

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENTS

The 16th UN General Assembly is in its third week of general debate. Most activity, however, is taking place in private negotiations among UN members on such key issues as the admission of Mongolia and Mauritania and the appointment of an interim secretary general.

Admission of Mongolia

The Security Council on 3 October again deferred consideration of Mauritania's and Mongolia's membership applications. All 11 council members acquiesced in the deferral, reportedly to allow time for further negotiations with Nationalist China on its opposition to Mongolia's entry into the UN. The USSR still insists it will veto Mauritania's application if Mongolia is rejected. Mauritania's application is first on the agenda, but the USSR has circumvented this tactical dilemma by threatening to veto Mauritania's admission unless Mongolia has already been accepted.

The Security Council will probably meet again soon on the problem, and a Nationalist veto of Mongolia then could accelerate the assembly debate on Chinese UN representation and might also lead to early Soviet efforts to have the assembly reject Taipei's credentials--a vote requiring only a simple majority. The West wants to have the issue debated as an "important question" requiring a two-thirds vote.

Although spokesmen for the twelve French African states in the Brazzaville group continue to assert that they will oppose Taipei as a bloc if Mauritania is denied UN membership because of a Nationalist veto of Mongolia, there are indications that the group is not as unified on this issue as some spokesmen claim. Foreign Ministry officials of Cameroon, Togo, and even Senegal have recently expressed opposition to Chinese Communist membership in the UN. However, resentment of Taipei could

possibly be such that the group in the end would vote as a bloc and oppose Nationalist China.

The Secretary Generalship

The Soviet delegation has further modified its position on Dag Hammarskjold's successor in an effort to meet the Afro-Asians' objections and to gain their support for some form of the troika principle. The bloc is currently pressing a proposal for the Security Council to name a provisional "chief of the secretariat" plus three deputies--one each from the West, the Soviet bloc, and the neutral states. This four-man directorate would be required to act in the spirit of "concord" and to serve until April 1963, when Hammarskjold's term would have expired.

In his explanation of this plan to Ambassador Stevenson, chief Soviet delegate Zerlin was ambiguous on the question of whether the Soviet terminology involved a veto power for the deputies. On 1 October, however, the Soviet delegation published a formal statement outlining the proposals and denying that Moscow envisaged a veto power by any of the deputies.

The Soviet delegation has been seeking support from Afro-Asians for this latest plan. The USSR reportedly has agreed to the appointment of Burma's U Thant as interim secretary general with full powers.

The USSR's main purpose seems to be to avoid a decision which would reconfirm the existing situation and represent a defeat for the Soviet contention that the executive branch of the UN should be reorganized.

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