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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

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CONGO

Moderate Leopoldville politicians still have not adopted a common front on the policy to be followed toward the Stanleyville and Elisabethville regimes. The reconvening of parliament has consequently been further postponed, and an early meeting seems unlikely. Kasavubu on 5 July signed an order convening parliament on 15 July; however, the provision that the two houses will hold their actual first session on a date to be set by their outgoing presidents is expected to result in further delays.

There is growing friction among Mobutu, Foreign Minister Bomboko, and Interior Minister Adoula--who have been dominating the Leopoldville political scene. Adoula, who seems to have the broadest parliamentary support of any Congolese, has been advocating an early meeting of parliament. He has told American officials he hopes to reach a compromise with Gizenga, in which the Stanleyville leader would accept a minor role in a new government.

Mobutu and Bomboko, however, seem doubtful that the moderates can control the legislature, particularly if Katanga maintains its present separatist course and refuses to attend. Bomboko recently persuaded Kasavubu not to issue a decree calling for a parliamentary meeting on 3 July. He has since modified his position somewhat but still believes that extensive negotiations among the anti-Gizenga forces

are necessary before the legislature can be permitted to assemble.

Mobutu reportedly feels that too many concessions have already been made to the Stanleyville regime and is prepared to take issue with Gizenga on procedural as well as substantive matters. He stated recently that he, Tshombé, and the premier of Albert Kalonji's South Kasai state had agreed that the parliament buildings in Leopoldville, rather than Lovanium University on the edge of the city, should be the site of the parliamentary meeting. He stated further that if this should be unacceptable to Gizenga, the Legislature should convene without representatives from Stanleyville.

Sympathizers of Gizenga in Leopoldville reportedly are supporting Jean Bolikango, the ambitious deputy premier in the Ileo cabinet, to replace Kasavubu as president of the republic. They reportedly are advising Gizenga not to insist on the premiership "at this time," on the theory that any government can be upset within a few months and the way will then be open for the Gizengists to attain power.

Economic considerations are still putting pressure on Gizenga to come to terms with Leopoldville. The Stanleyville regime has fallen behind in payments to its troops, and Gizenga was forced to cancel an Independence Day parade on 30 June.

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because of the shortage of gasoline.

The first flight of a projected airline from Athens to Stanleyville via Cairo and Khartoum arrived in Stanleyville on 1 July. The airline allegedly is financed by Greek capital and the gold reserves of the Gizenga regime, but Greek officials in the Congo believe that some of the backing came from the UAR. The airline would provide the first direct link between Stanleyville and the outside world and could furnish considerable material and moral support to Gizenga.

The Elisabethville regime continued its intransigent attitude toward Leopoldville on 4 July with a parliamentary resolution--passed with less

than a quorum present--repudiating agreements made by Tshombé before he left Leopoldville. The military agreement between Tshombé and Mobutu apparently is still in operation, and Mobutu has scheduled a visit to "his troops" in Katanga next week. However, Tshombé reportedly plans to expel the Leopoldville military mission eventually.

Tshombé's absence on "diplomatic leave" probably will preclude any early change in the Katanga position. In the meantime, UN officers who are negotiating with the Katangans over the retaining of Tshombé's forces report that Mobutu's representatives are doing little to establish their influence with the Elisabethville troops.

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