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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

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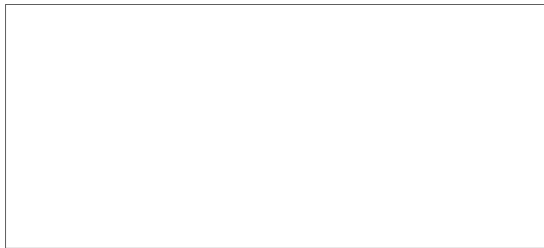


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to Stanleyville, reports that public order continues to improve there and that authorities are developing some sense of responsibility, with greater control over their armed forces. He believes that, although the principal leaders are still preoccupied with their own claims to legitimacy, Stanleyville rep-

Republic of the Congo

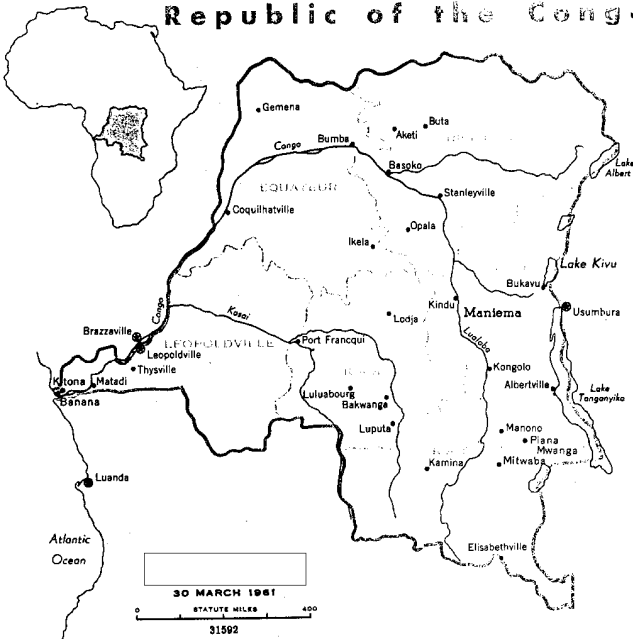
representatives might now be willing to attend a conference of Congolese leaders on some neutral ground if their security were assured by the UN. They have reportedly been in telephone contact several times with the Leopoldville government.

Moreover, they seem increasingly disenchanted with the failure of the bloc and Afro-Asian nations to send aid or diplomatic representatives. Any inclination on the part of Gizenga to negotiate with Leopoldville may be inhibited by Mulele, his Cairo representative.

There has been no change in the position of the Sudan, which continues to bar supply shipments to Stanleyville. The African states supporting Gizenga continue to talk of ways to assist him, so far fruitlessly.

Katanga

Katanga's President Tshombé, who is seeking to gain support among moderate African states for his Congo federation plan, recently suffered a rebuff to his international prestige at the hands of Liberian President Tubman, who refused to agree to a Tshombé visit because of prevailing Lumumbist sympathies in Liberia. Meanwhile, Tshombé is likely to create a problem for the UN and the West if he carries out his military effort against the Baluba tribal stronghold at Manono held by pro-Gizenga troops.



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The Katanga force, which numbers about 1,000, apparently plans to make a gradual advance on Manono from the three centers of Mitwaba, Kongolo, and Piana Mwanga; [redacted]

[redacted] the troops advancing from Mitwaba have progressed halfway to their objective without encountering serious opposition. Tshombé's forces reportedly hoped to attack Manono airport on 30 March. Because of the relatively large size of the advancing force, it would be impossible. [redacted]

[redacted] for the 400 Nigerians at Manono to prevent an attack.

The UN is taking no military action to meet the threat to Manono, but UN military commander General McKeown has been in Elisabethville trying to persuade Tshombé--so far unsuccessfully--to call off the advance.

UN officials are particularly concerned that the 60 South African volunteers or some of the other white troops serving with Katanga may clash with the UN's Nigerian troops and give rise to an incident with racial repercussions. The Swedish UN commander in Elisa-

bethville has said that he would try to arrest the South Africans as violators of the Security Council resolutions against foreign military intervention.

In addition there is considerable concern in the mining centers of Katanga that the large urban concentrations of Baluba tribesmen there may cause trouble.

The Belgian consul general in Elisabethville stated on 28 March that between 85 and 90 Belgians now serving with Tshombé's forces--military technicians under contract and volunteers for the "white legion"--would leave by mid-April. He hinted that Brussels might have to withdraw more Belgians as a result of international pressure, but he implied that the Belgian Foreign Ministry has little control over the Ministry of African Affairs, which apparently is continuing its assistance to Tshombé. The Katanga president has previously given his approval for the withdrawals but recently has become irritated over Belgian dealings with his Baluba rival, Jason Sendwe, and now is only reluctantly acquiescing in their departure. [redacted]

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