

THE WHITE HOUSE

OUTGOING MESSAGE



WHASA

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17 SEPT 65 50X1
DATE

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PRESIDENTS INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

1. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELISABETHVILLE REMAIN ERRATIC AND OFFICIAL REPORTING IS RUNNING WELL BEHIND EVENTS. OUR LATEST INFORMATION SUGGESTS THAT THE MILITARY SITUATION IN KATANGA HAS QUIETED, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING. THE UN APPEARS TO BE MERELY HOLDING ITS POSITIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF REINFORCEMENTS WHICH ARE TO INCLUDE A GROUP OF MALAYAN ARMORED CARS, AN ETHIOPIAN BATTALION FROM STANLEYVILLE, AND AN INDIAN BATTALION FROM LEOPOLDVILLE. AT LEAST SOME OF THE MALAYANS HAVE ARRIVED, AND THE OTHER REINFORCEMENTS SHOULD ARRIVE WITHIN A FEW HOURS. SIX F-86 JETS FROM ETHIOPIA, REQUESTED BY HAMMARSKJOLD TO OVERCOME THE SUPERIORITY OF THE TWO-PLANE (BUT ONE-PILOT) KATANGAN AIR FORCE, MAY REACH KATANGA TODAY.

UNCONFIRMED UN REPORTS INDICATE THAT UN TROOPS AT JADOTVILLE AND KAMINA CONTINUE TO HOLD OUT. THE UN CLAIMS THE IRISH BATTALION AT JADOTVILLE HAS ARRANGED A TEMPORARY TRUCE WITH OPPOSING AFRICAN FORCES. THE UN ALSO REPORTS THAT THE EUROPEANS WHO HAVE BEEN SPARKING THE ATTACKS IN ELISABETHVILLE ARE TAKING A LESS ACTIVE ROLE

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IN THE OPERATIONS.

MEANWHILE, THE UN IS CONTINUING ITS EFFORTS TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS WITH TSHOMBE, WHO APPARENTLY REMAINS IN HIS PALACE IN ELISABETHVILLE. HAMMARSKJOLD, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ADOULA CABINET, HAS OFFERED TO ENTER THE NEGOTIATIONS DIRECTLY. AT THE SAME TIME, LATE PRESS REPORTS FROM ELISABETHVILLE ASSERT THAT UN REPRESENTATIVE O'BRIEN HAS OBTAINED TSHOMBE'S AGREEMENT TO MEET ACROSS THE BORDER IN NORTHERN RHODESIA AND THAT A CEASE-FIRE HAS BEEN REACHED IN ELISABETHVILLE. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER TSHOMBE WILL ACTUALLY COME TO A MEETING, AND IF THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF AN ACCOMODATION BETWEEN HIM AND THE UN, NEITHER OF WHOM HAS YET INDICATED A NEGOTIATING POSITION.

ON BALANCE, THE POSITION OF THE UN APPEARS TO HAVE IMPROVED SOMEWHAT, BUT SERIOUS FIGHTING COULD ERUPT AGAIN AT ANY MOMENT.

2. BLOC PROPAGANDA ON US TEST RESUMPTION. SINCE YESTERDAY'S FIRST BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE US STEP, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL MORE EXTENSIVE PROPAGANDA PIECES OUT OF MOSCOW DIRECTED AT WESTERN

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AUDIENCES. THE LINE AT THIS POINT, IS THAT THE US TEST REQUIRED EXTENSIVE ADVANCE PREPARATION, PROVING US HYPOCRISY IN THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS AND JUSTIFYING MOSCOW'S ACTION IN BEATING US TO THE PUNCH. THE PIECES NOTE THAT THE US HAS ALL ALONG SOUGHT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MOSCOW BY BANNING ONLY ATMOSPHERE TESTS AND IMPLY THAT THESE ARE MORE ESSENTIAL TO THE USSR THAN TO THE US. MOSCOW ALSO CLAIMS THAT THE US PLANS, IN ANY CASE, TO TEST IN THE ATMOSPHERE LATER. THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER COVERAGE AS YET ON NEUTRALIST AND WESTERN REACTIONS.

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3. BERLIN SITUATION. NO SIGNIFICANT NEW DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

First West German election returns available early evening.