

7 September 1960

CONGO

- I. President Kasavubu has failed in his bid to remove Lumumba from office and moderate supporters of the president are now panicking in fear of Lumumba retaliation.
- A. Lumumba appears to have retained influence over the Force Publique and his call up of troops from Thysville has prompted moderate Foreign Minister Bomboko to request asylum at the US embassy today.
1. Police broke up pro-Kasavubu demonstration with gunfire on yesterday.
- B. Cabinet supported Lumumba in session on 5-6 September, accused Kasavubu of treason and took over his powers temporarily.
- C. Parliament meeting today, but Lumumba's opposition not likely obtain 2/3 vote in both houses needed to remove premier. In any event, Lumumba prepared to govern without parliament and to violate controversial legal restrictions.
1. Most parliamentarians totally uninformed about situation and susceptible to Lumumba threats.
 2. Senate President Ileo, one of few potential leaders, reported closeted with Kasavubu and afraid to come to parliament.
- D. Growing tension between Lumumba and UN likely to cause early showdown.
1. Premier protested UN control of radio station and airports, likely to demand UN withdrawal if he believes UN protecting leaders of opposition with UN troops.

State Department review
completed

[REDACTED]

Approved For Release 2004/01/15 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200090030-2
E. Excesses of Lumumba opposed by African nations.

1. Conference of African states in Leopoldville supported UN action.
2. On 5 September President Nkrumah of Ghana told American ambassador that he feared cold war coming to Africa; Lumumba will not be restrained by Ghana because "Accra totally committed to UN." Nkrumah asking for Security Council meeting to give UN greater hand in resolving Congo problem.

II. Lumumba faces opposition in at least two provinces.

- A. Lumumba's troops have not yet defeated Baluba tribal supporters of secessionist Mining State in Kasai province, but fighting is resulting in heavy casualties and resort to savagery. Possibly forerunner of invasion of Katanga.
- B. Katanga premier Tshombé taking defense measures against expected attack, strengthening army from present 1,100 men to planned 3,000-man force in four weeks with considerable Belgian material and training aid.
- C. Tshombé in turn faces possible tribal outbreak in north Katanga at same time as Lumumba invasion.

III. Significant growth of USSR influence in Congo during past two weeks.

- A. 10 IL-14 transports arrived on food lift but will be used for internal transport.
 1. [REDACTED] suspects cargo included disassembled machine guns as well as food and spare parts despite Greek inspection. Believes "civilian" 8-man crews are in fact military personnel.

Approved For Release 2004/01/15 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200090030-2

2. Planes give Lumumba significant logistics support for a campaign against Katanga, but planes not likely get involved in actual fighting.

3. Airlifted 200 Lumumba troops Kasai on 5 September.

- C. Two Soviet merchant ships have delivered cargoes of wheat, sugar and milk as well as 100 trucks, parts, repair shop and number of technicians.
- D. European Communist nations providing some medical assistance.
1. 15 Soviet physicians and 5 nurses as well as 38 medical personnel from East German and Czechoslovakia now in Congo. Poland has offered to supply 20-man engineering team and Czechs reportedly have offered to send teachers.
- E. USSR believed to have capability supply adequate numbers of mining engineers and agronomists to compensate for loss of Belgian personnel.
1. Development credits could be given Congo in return for mineral exports such as copper and industrial diamonds if central government controls Kasai and Katanga.

Approved For Release 2004/01/15 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001200090030-2

25X1