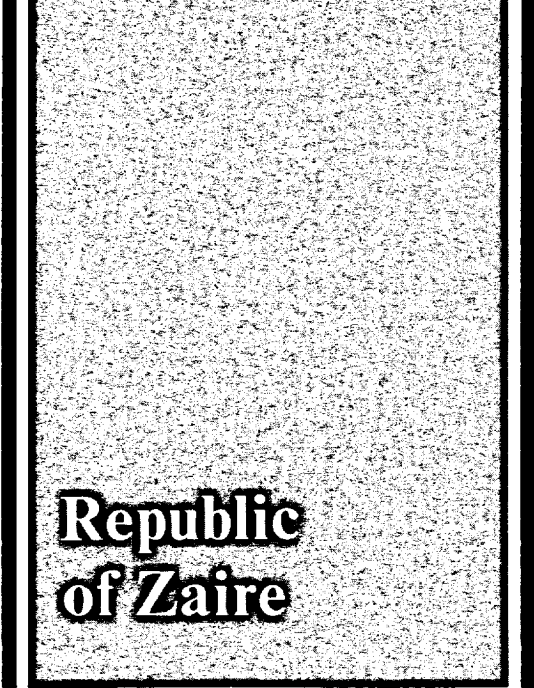




Republic of Zaire

Date of Independence:	June 30, 1960
Capital:	Kinshasa
Population:	31,627,000
Head of State:	His Excellency Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko
Economy:	The country's vast natural resources are as yet largely unexploited. Exports primarily copper, cobalt, diamonds and vener.

Canada/Zaire Relations: Canadian presence in Zaire dates back to the UN force sent to that country during the Congo crisis. Since then, relations between the two countries have been founded principally on co-operation, gradually broadening to include political and commercial issues. A number of Canadian firms are involved in the country's mining, agricultural and forestry sectors. Senator Martial Asselin was delegated to represent Canada at the November 1985 ceremonies marking the twentieth anniversary of the Zaire revolution.

His Excellency Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko: Born in 1930. Professional soldier. In June 1960, Secretary of State for National Defence in the Lumumba government. In 1961, Major-General and Commander-in-Chief of the army; in November 1965, Head of State. Founded the Mouvement populaire de la Révolution in 1970. Re-elected for a third term in 1984.