

CHAPITRE PREMIER/CHAPTER I  
NATIONS UNIES ET AUTRES ORGANISATIONS  
INTERNATIONALES  
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS

PREMIÈRE PARTIE/PART I

NATIONS UNIES  
UNITED NATIONS

SECTION A

CONGO

1.

PCO

*Note du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
pour le Cabinet*

*Memorandum from Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Cabinet*

CABINET DOCUMENT NO. 345-62

[Ottawa], October 25, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL

THE SITUATION IN THE CONGO

The slow progress in implementing the United Nations reconciliation plan for the Congo, together with evidence of a military build-up in Katanga has created the impression that Mr. Tshombe, the Katanga leader, may be delaying matters in the hope that either Prime Minister Adoula's Government will fall or the United Nations, for financial reasons, will be forced to withdraw its troops.

2. To discourage further delay and prevent a further increase in Katanga's military strength Mr. Adoula, with the approval of UN representatives, has requested Union Minière to stop paying to Katanga taxes and fees lawfully due to the Central Government. Mr. Adoula has asked the Belgian Government to urge Union Minière to comply with the above request and has also sought the help of the United Nations.

3. If Union Minière decides to comply with the Central Government's request it may insist that UN troops protect its installations and European personnel from possible retaliation by the Katanga Gendarmerie. This could mean that UN troops might be asked to occupy the mining towns and perhaps establish garrisons at the power stations and along the railway. An attempt to deploy UN troops in this way could lead to fighting.

4. The United Nations are continuing their efforts to persuade both parties to implement the reconciliation plan. Meanwhile U Thant has indicated that should it become obvious that Mr. Tshombe has no intention of cooperating he will ask representatives at the next meeting of the Congo Advisory Committee on 30 October for their government's approval of the new approach. At the same time he has made it clear that approval can be meaningful only if contributing governments are prepared to accept the possible consequences.