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252140Z OCT 90

FROM

FM SSO DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO

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SERIAL: DODID 298-1E

BODY

SUBJ: ZAIRE: SECURITY UPGRADE. ~~(CONF)~~

DOI: 25 OCT 90 (AS OF 1610 EDT) (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

TEXT: 1. ~~(S//NF//NO)~~ GROWING INTERNAL UNREST AND REGIONAL TURMOIL HAVE REPORTEDLY PROMPTED NEW SECURITY POLICIES.

2. ~~(S//NF//NO)~~ ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE, IN MID-OCTOBER, ZAIRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER ADM MAVUA INFORMED A GROUP OF MILITARY ELITE THAT PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND THE SUPREME COMMAND OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMED FORCES (FAZ) WERE CONCERNED WITH THE COUNTRY'S PHYSICAL SECURITY POSTURE. MAJOR EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON THE CONTINUING POLITICAL UNREST IN SHABA PROVINCE AND A PERCEIVED RESURGENCE OF SEPARATIST ACTIVITIES THERE, POTENTIAL THREATS FROM ZAMBIA AND ANGOLA, AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE TUTSI-LED INSURGENCY IN RWANDA COULD SPILL OVER INTO ZAIRE'S KIVU PROVINCE.

3. ~~(S//NF//NO)~~ THE ASSEMBLED OFFICERS AGREED TO IMPLEMENT AN ARRAY OF NEW SECURITY POLICIES. THE POLICIES PROBABLY HAVING THE MOST IMPACT ARE ADDITIONAL INTERNAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, BETTER INTERAGENCY COOPERATION AND INTELLIGENCE DISSEMINATION, BETTER CUSTOMS CONTROL, CLOSING OF DESIGNATED BORDER CROSSINGS (POSSIBLY KAHEMBA, DILOLO, SAKANIA, AND BUNAGANA), INCREASED FAZ ALERT POSTURES, AND INCREASED EXTERNAL INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION.

4. ~~(CONF)~~ COMMENT: MOBUTU'S CONCERNS, ESPECIALLY IN SHABA PROVINCE, PROBABLY HAVE MERIT. HOWEVER, THE DECISION TO IMPLEMENT NEW SECURITY MEASURES COULD RESULT IN OTHER THAN THE DESIRED EFFECT. THE ABILITY OF THE STATE SECURITY FORCES TO IMPLEMENT THE IDENTIFIED IMPROVEMENTS WILL REMAIN TO BE SEEN. MOBUTU'S PRACTICE OF RANDOM

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AND FREQUENT RESHUFFLING OF AGENCY, MILITARY, AND POLITICAL HEADS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ADVERSELY IMPACT ANY EFFORT TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS IDENTIFIED IN THE RECENT MEETING. AT LOCAL LEVELS, ANY NEW ACTIONS, ESPECIALLY TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, WILL PROBABLY BE VIEWED AS INCREASED SUPPRESSION OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. FAZ UNITS, INCLUDING BORDER GUARDS AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, WHO ARE OFTEN UNPAID, WILL PROBABLY SEE THE NEW POLICIES AS A MEANS TO GARNER A BETTER SUBSISTENCE. COMBINED, THESE FACTORS COULD FURTHER ALIENATE THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN SHABA, FROM THE MOBUTU GOVERNMENT.

ADMIN

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