

NYC-7 2 MARCH 1961

BROWN, DUNNING
FROM NATHAN
1251 PM.

CONCERNED ABOUT RFEA NR 22 OF 1 MARCH, ANALYSIS OF SATELLITE DEVELOPMENTS, EAST BLOC, ON QUESTION OF RECOGNITION OF GIZENGA GOVERNMENT BY COUNTRIES OF EASTERN BLOC. THIS PAPER IS CAPABLE OF CONVEYING THE IMPRESSION THAT SOVIET BLOC IS SOMEWHAT SPLIT ON A POINT OF NOT INCONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE -- A PHENOMENON WHICH, IF TRUE, COULD SUGGEST NUMBERS OF POSSIBLE CONCLUSIONS. ACTUALLY, THE QUESTION OF DE JURE RECOGNITION OF THE GIZENGA REGIME IS MOOT SINCE SOVIET BLOC RECOGNIZED LUMUMBA AS ONLY LEGITIMATE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT IN THE CONGO AND SINCE GIZENGA DID NOT SUCCEED HIM BY REVOLUTION, COUP D'ETAT, ETC. SECONDLY, THE PAPER SAYS IN SO MANY WORDS THAT THE USSR "MADE NO OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS ON THE MATTER THUS FAR." THIS IS FACTUALLY INCORRECT. TASS RELEASED ON FEBRUARY 14 "TEXT OF SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDER OF PATRICE LUMUMBA" WHICH SAYS: "THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE CONGO HAS PERISHED, BUT THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF THE CONGO REPUBLIC HEADED BY HIS DEPUTY, ANTOINE GIZENGA, CONTINUES TO DISCHARGE ITS FUNCTIONS."
(MORE)

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SINCE THE QUESTION OF DE JURE RECOGNITION IS MOOT AND SINCE THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION, JUDGING FROM SATELLITE BROADCASTS, AND U.N. DEBATES, THAT ALL SATELLITE GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZE GIZENGA DE FACTO, THE IMPLICATION THAT UNANIMITY WITHIN THE SOVIET BLOC ON THE GIZENGA REGIME MAY BE INCOMPLETE COULD BE DANGEROUSLY MISLEADING.

REGARDS.

END MSG