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REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO/KATANGA

SITUATION IN AN AROUND ELIZABETHVILLE

REPORT NO. **TDCS** 3/516,614

SCHLESINGE

12 JULY 1962 DATE DISTR.

PRECEDENCE PRIORITY BELK FORRESTAL

JOHNSON

DATE OF 12 JULY 1962, LATE MORNING (LOCAL TIME)

PLACE & KATANGA, ELIZABETHVILLE (12 JULY 1962)

DATE ACO. APPRAISAL 2 REFERENCES

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FIELD REPORT NO

RASKIN SAUNDERS

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

SOURCE

COMPETENT AMERICAN OBSERVER (B) FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION

THE SITUATION IN ELIZABETHVILLE AND IN THE NATIVE COMMUNES IS TENSE AND POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE. OBSERVATIONS IN THE LATE MORNING OF 12 JULY OF THE U.N. EMPLACEMENTS, AND BEHIND THE KATANGAN LINES, SHOWED THAT INDIAN FORCES OF THE U.N. ARE NOW DEEPLY DUG IN AROUND A LARGE SCHOOL AREA NEXT TO THE ROADBLOCK ON THE MAIN TRAFFIC ROUTE BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN AND THE AFRICAN CITY. THERE ARE NUMEROUS ARMORED CARS AND COMBAT-READY TROOPS. THESE, TOGETHER WITH THE LONG-EXISTING ROAD BLOCK WHICH HAS NOW BEEN STRENGTHENED BY TUNISIAN U.N. TROUPS ON THE AL-TERNATE ROAD TO THE COMMUNES, HAVE VIRTUALLY SEALED OFF THE NATIVE CITY. TRAFFIC WAS BEING ALLOWED TO PASS, BUT AFRICAN CROWDS WERE COLLECTING NEAR THE EMPLACE-MENTS ON BOTH SIDES.

ARMED KATANGAN TROOPS HAVE MOVED FROM DEEP IN THE COMMUNES TO HIDDEN

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POSITIONS 100 YARDS FROM THE U.N. ROAD BLOCK, WHERE THEY WERE ALERTLY FACING U.N. TROOPS. THE POLICE WERE MUCH IN EVIDENCE TO KEEP ORDER IN THE COMMUNES. CIVILIANS WERE APPREHENSIVE BUT ORDERLY.

- 3. A LUNDA CHIEF TOLD A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE THAT THE AFRICANS EXPECTED A U.N. ATTACK BEFORE THE END OF THE DAY.
- 4. FIELD DISTRIBUTION STATE CINCLANT

END OF MESSAGE

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