The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “Zaire, Republic of - President Mobutu” of the National Security Adviser’s Presidential Correspondence with Foreign Leaders Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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November 21, 1975

Dear Mr. President:

On the tenth anniversary of the Second Republic and of your own accession to the office of President, I am pleased to extend to you and to the people of Zaire my warm congratulations and good wishes.

This has been a decade of impressive accomplishment in Zaire. All Zairians may look back with pride upon the fruits of their labor: stability throughout the land; the tapping of Zaire's enormous economic potential; the ennoblement of the nation's cultural heritage; and the achievement of a position of responsibility and respect in African and world councils. These accomplishments stand as a tribute to the dedication of the Zairian people and to the wisdom and steadfastness of their leadership.

The past decade has also been one of mutually beneficial cooperation between our two nations. I attach great importance to the good relations that have always existed and will, I am confident, continue to exist between the United States and Zaire.

On this happy anniversary, I know I speak for my fellow citizens in saluting you and the people of Zaire and in wishing to all Zairians continued peace and progress.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General Mobutu Sese Seko
President of the Republic of Zaire
Kinshasa
Zaire celebrates the tenth anniversary of the Second Republic November 24, and the Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Ed Mulcahy, is going to Kinshasa to represent the United States during the celebration.

In view of the important United States interests in Zaire, our close ties with the country and with President Mobutu, and our common interest in promoting stability in Southern Africa, I believe it would be useful for Ambassador Mulcahy to carry to Mobutu a personal greeting on this important anniversary. Accordingly, I have attached a suggested text which has been cleared by Paul Theis' office (Tab A).

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter to President Mobutu at Tab A.
TDX MESSAGE NO. 1511
CLASSIFICATION: LIMITED OFFICIAL

DESCRIPTION OF MSG: Telegram to Kinshasa re National Day Msg from President

FRO: Officer, Office Symbol, Extension

TO: Mrs. Davis, Extension

DELIVER TO: EXTENSION: ROOM NUMBER:

FOR: CLEARANCE / ANY INFORMATION PER REQUEST CONTENT

REMARKS: To be sent telegraphically prior to November 24

VALIDATED FOR TRANSMISSION BY: Jack W. Orris Jr., Executive Secretary, Officer
Subject: National Day Message from President Ford

Please deliver following message to President Mobutu at appropriate time before November 24:

Dear Mr. President:

On the tenth anniversary of the Second Republic and of your own accession to the office of President, I am pleased to extend to you and to the people of Zaire my warm congratulations and good wishes.

This has been a decade of impressive accomplishment. All Zairians may look back with great pride upon the fruits of their collective labor: the preservation of peace throughout the land; the tapping of Zaire's enormous economic potential; the celebration of the nation's proud cultural heritage; the advancement of African and world council; and the achievement of a position of responsibility and respect in African and world councils. These accomplishments stand as a tribute to the hard work and perseverance of the great Zairian people and to the vision and steadfastness of their leadership.

The past decade has also been one of mutually beneficial cooperation between our two nations. I want you to know...
I ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE GOOD RELATIONS THAT HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ZAIRE.

ON THIS HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, I SPEAK FOR MY FELLOW CITIZENS IN SALUTING YOU AND THE PEOPLE OF ZAIRE AND IN WISHING TO ALL ZAIREANS CONTINUED PEACE AND PROGRESS. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD.

USG DOES NOT INTEND RELEASE TEXT BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE BY GZ.
November 19

To Mr. Halpain

We need to get a signature on this no later than 4 p.m. Thursday, November 20. Since Ed Nulcey leaves early Friday morning for Kinshasa, possible the general could authorize a signature and we could work through Siska Iseck.

JNB
MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

ACTION

November 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:  BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM:  HAL HORAN

SUBJECT:  National Day Message to Zaire's President Mobutu

Zaire is celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Second Republic November 24, and Ed Mulcahy is going to Kinshasa to represent the United States. In view of our close and cooperative relations with Zaire and our mutual interest in promoting stability in Southern Africa, I believe it would be useful if Ed could carry with him a signed letter of greeting from President Ford to President Mobutu. I recognize that the message (Tab A), as recommended by State, is more effusive than is normal, but I believe this is appropriate in this instance.

Paul Theis' office has cleared the text of the letter.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you forward to the President the memo at Tab I.
**NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE**

TO: PRES
PRES

FROM: KISINGER, H.

REFERENCE:

CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE

LOW
NO FORM
NO DTS

C EYES ONLY
EXD

CODE WORD
TS
SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: National Day May 6 Review

**INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION**

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**DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION AGENT**

**SUBSEQUENT ROUTING ACTIONS**

- **DATE**: 11/19
  - **FROM**: [Redacted]
  - **TO**: [Redacted]
  - **Action**: [Redacted]

- **DATE**: 11/21
  - **FROM**: [Redacted]
  - **TO**: [Redacted]
  - **Action**: [Redacted]

- **DATE**: 11/21
  - **FROM**: [Redacted]
  - **TO**: [Redacted]
  - **Action**: [Redacted]

**DISPATCH**: [Redacted]

**DISP METER**: [Redacted]

**CERT ID**: SA SF

**PROC**: WP NB

**CLOSE**: PY CO

**N O V 2 2 7 5**
Dear Mr. President:

I was very pleased to receive Foreign Commissioner Nguza Karl-I-Bond earlier this year and to read and consider your thoughtful letter which he delivered. I appreciated the opportunity to meet Commissioner Nguza and was impressed with his insight into the Angola problem. I have kept in mind the concern for the safety and defense of Zaire expressed in your letter and have asked Secretary Kissinger to pursue this matter further during his meetings with you.

The United States places great importance on its friendship with Zaire. Although the hostilities in Angola have subsided, we are concerned about the heavy reliance of the MPLA on foreign communist military forces and its apparent unwillingness to broaden its narrow political base. My Government will continue to oppose Cuban and Soviet interference in Africa and will encourage a free dialogue within Angola and between Angola and its African neighbors.

I share your belief that Zaire's security can best be preserved by ensuring that Zaire is economically and militarily strong. Therefore I intend to work diligently with the United States Congress to provide adequate economic and military assistance. I greatly respect your courageous decision to work out a stabilization agreement with the International Monetary Fund. The United States will do what it can to reinforce this effort to stabilize and develop the Zairian economy.
I have asked Secretary Kissinger to continue our exchange of views on the problems of peace, security, and development in Central Africa during his visit to your country. He carries my warmest personal regards and comes with my personal encouragement to review with you what needs to be done to assist Zaire through this difficult period.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lieutenant General Mobutu Sese Seko
President of the Republic of Zaire
Kinshasa
Kinshasa, le 23 juillet 1976

A Son Excellence Monsieur
Gerald FORD
Président des États-Unis d’Amérique

WASHINGTON, D.C.
(U.S.A.)

Monsieur le Président,

J’ai bien reçu les différents émissaires et messages que vous aviez bien voulu me faire parvenir, et je vous prie de trouver, ici, l’expression de mes sincères remerciements pour les efforts que ne cessent de déployer les États-Unis d’Amérique en vue d’aboutir à un dénouement pacifique du problème angolais.

Grâce, d’ailleurs, à la diplomatie active déployée par nos deux pays, le pire a pu être évité au dernier Sommet de l’Organisation de l’Unité Africaine, à Addis-Abeba, car le groupe des pays pro-soviétiques rendait la situation très dangereuse.

L’Afrique traverse actuellement un des moments les plus sombres de son histoire.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
State Dept. Guidelines
Date Déclassified 9/17/93
By [Signature] NARA, Date 7/11/94
Cette situation est encore plus grave pour le Zaïre, car à l'heure actuelle, la fermeture des voies d'évacuation des produits miniers du Shaba par l'Angola ainsi que le contrôle total de l'embouchure du fleuve Zaïre par le MPLA constituent, pour l'économie de Mon pays, une véritable catastrophe.

C'est pourquoi, Je dépêche auprès de votre haute personne un de mes plus proches collaborateurs de grande confiance, le Citoyen NGUZA Karl-i-Bond, Secrétaire Permanent du Bureau Politique, que J'ai chargé de vous remettre ce message d'amitié.

Je m'adresse à Votre Excellence, parce que depuis 1960, nous entreténons avec Votre pays d'importantes relations d'amitié sur tous les plans.

Toutefois, le problème le plus brûlant qui se pose au niveau de nos relations, est celui qui touche à la sécurité et à la défense du Zaïre. Le Citoyen NGUZA Karl-i-Bond qui possède tous les détails à ce sujet, vous l'expliquera en long et en large.

Les adversaires du Zaïre disposent des moyens de destruction de loin plus importants aux moyens actuels de Mon pays.

Le souci de la République du Zaïre a toujours été de rechercher la paix et de renforcer l'unité de l'Afrique, et non sa division. Mais, hélas !, les ingérences extérieures des grandes puissances et, surtout, l'intervention militaire massive de l'Union Soviétique et de Cuba en Angola menacent l'Afrique centrale et, particulièrement, le Zaïre.
Voilà pourquoi, Monsieur le Président, J'estime que les États-Unis d'Amérique doivent faire face à leurs responsabilités envers le Zaïre.

Au seuil de cette année nouvelle qui commence, Je formule les vœux de voir les relations amicales qui existent entre nos deux pays, connaître un développement toujours plus croissant et plus harmonieux.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

MOBUTU SESE SEKO NGENDU WA NA BANGA

Général de Corps d'Armée