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## Congo 1961: Tracking CIA-Backed Weapon Smuggling in Africa's Copper Belt

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# CONGO 1961: TRACKING CIA- BACKED WEAPON SMUGGLING IN AFRICA'S COPPERBELT

PRESENTER – BRIAN MOTT // UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

MENTOR – DR NORM JONES // UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY



# BACKGROUND

- JUNE 30, 1960 – CONGOLESE INDEPENDENCE
- JULY 11, 1960 – KATANGA SECEDES
- JULY 14, 1960 – UN PEACEKEEPERS ARRIVE
- FEBRUARY, 1961 – THREE FOUGA MAGISTERS SMUGGLED TO KATANGA
- SEPTEMBER 18, 1961 – UN SECRETARY GENERAL KILLED



<https://www.worldatlas.com/upload/31/85/9a/cd-02.jpg>



# WHERE DID THE MAGISTERS COME FROM?

- **TIME MAGAZINE** - "THE PLANES PROBABLY CAME FROM THE BELGIANS"
- **DAVID N. GIBBS** - "THE CIA ASSISTED KATANGA AND DELIVERED FOUGA MAGISTERS"
- **JULES GERARD-LIBOIS** – KATANGA ORGANIZED IT ON THEIR OWN THROUGH ZAMBIAN ARMS DEALER: 'ATTALA'



<https://minijets.org/fr/300-500/turbomeca-marbore/fouga-cm170r-magister/magister-en-afrique>



# THREE PRIMARY QUESTIONS

- WHO WAS SEVEN SEAS AIRLINES?
- WHO WAS ATTALA?
- WHO SUPPLIED THE MAGISTERS?



<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/12/former-raf-pilot-shot-down-un-chief-dag-hammarskjold-1961-plane>



# RESEARCH





# RESEARCH

- National Archives
- United Nations Archives
- Dutch National Military Museum
- CIA CREST Archive
- US Military Aircraft Transaction Records





# WHO WAS SEVEN SEAS AIRLINES?

- *WASHINGTON MONTHLY* ARTICLE CLAIMS THEY WERE A CIA PROPRIETARY.
- SEVEN SEAS CAUGHT SMUGGLING MUNITIONS TO KATANGA
- LAWYER MANAGED CIA PROPRIETARIES IN THE 1950S
- AIRPLANE TRANSACTIONS WITH OTHER PROPRIETARIES
- STATE DEPARTMENT AND UN SUSPECT THEY'RE A CIA PROPRIETARY.

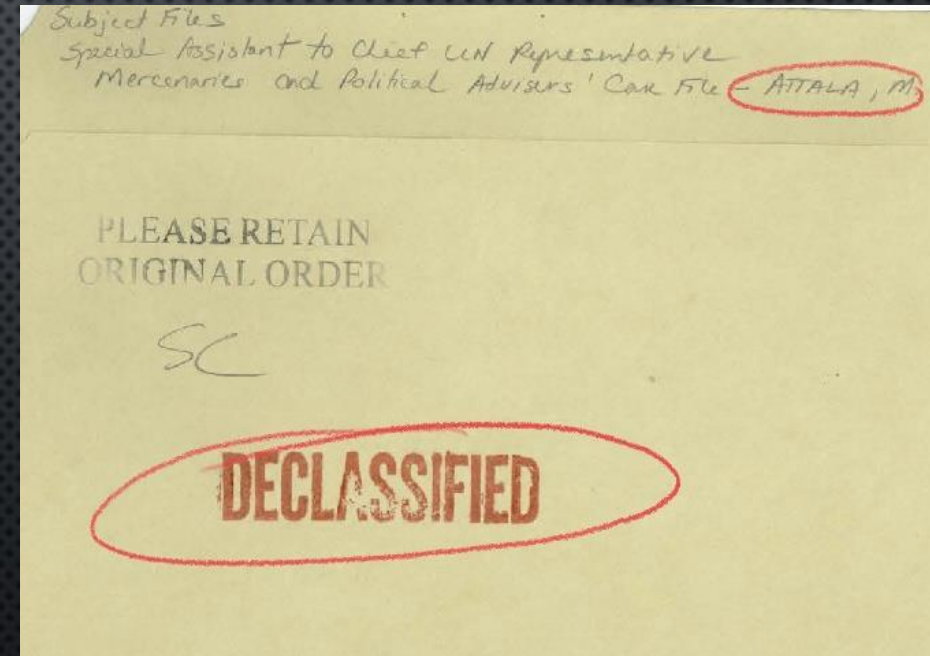


<https://www.nmm.nl/zoeken-in-de-collectie/detail/311801/>



# WHO WAS ATTALA?

- STATE DEPARTMENT DOCUMENTS REFERENCE AN "M. ATTALA"
- UN ARCHIVES HAS FOLDER "ATTALA, M"
- PROCURED WAR MATERIEL FOR KATANGA
- FRENCH CONSUL CONFIRMS ATTALA AS DEALER
- I FOUND HIS FIRST NAME AND THAT HE'S TWO PEOPLE





# WHO SUPPLIED THE MAGISTERS?

- FACTORY DIRECT, NOT FROM AN ARSENAL
- FUNDED BY BELGIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION
- ORCHESTRATED BY THE ATTALAS
- TRANSPORTED TO KATANGA BY SEVEN SEAS AIRLINES

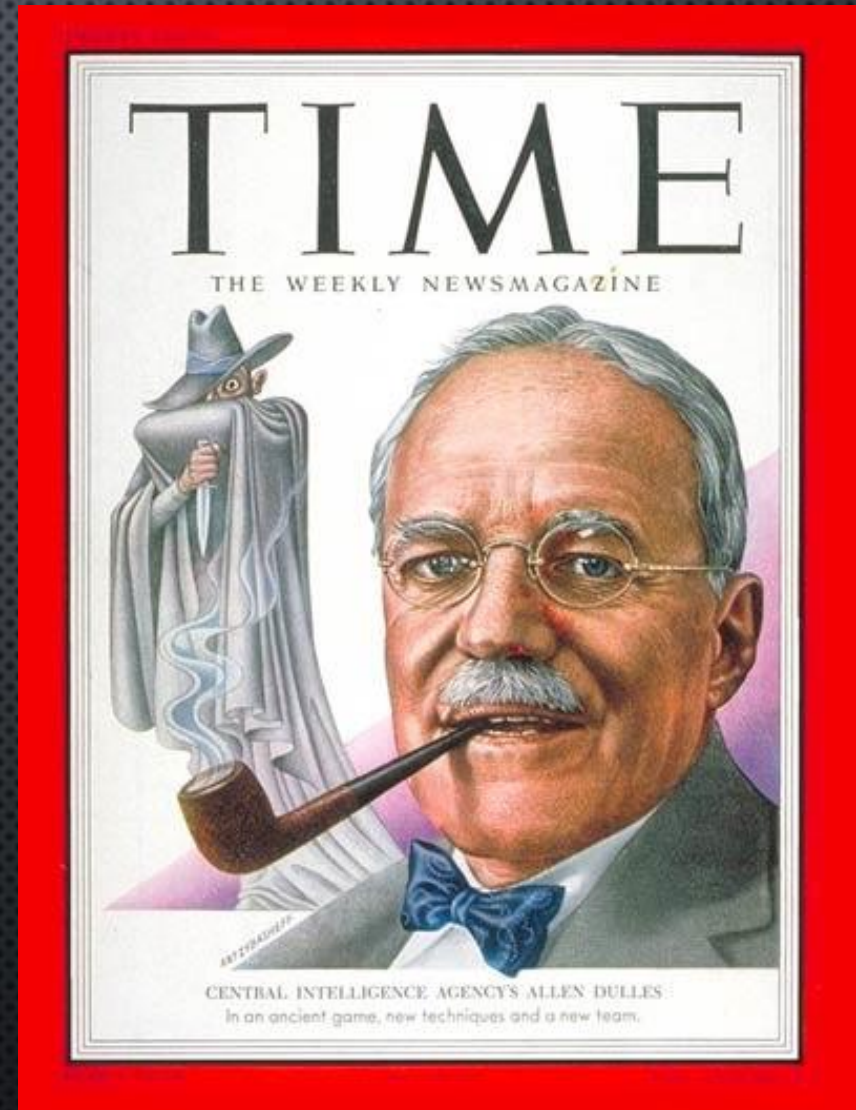


<http://saadonline.uk/archives/2894>



# WHAT NEXT?

- THIS WAS PART OF CIA STRATEGY SHIFT
- DULLES PLAN CARRIED OUT BY SUCCESSORS
- CONGO STATION CHIEF TRANSFERRED TO LAOS



[https://img.timeinc.net/time/magazine/archive/covers/1953/1101530803\\_400.jpg](https://img.timeinc.net/time/magazine/archive/covers/1953/1101530803_400.jpg)



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