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NEWS from the

American Committee on Africa

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George M. Houser
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U. S. ASKED TO RESCIND RECOGNITION OF KASAVUBU

Two hundred prominent Americans today called on the United States to rescind recognition of the Kasavubu Government of the Congo. The resolution was one of about two dozen passed at a two-day Conference on American Policy Toward Africa, sponsored by the American Committee on Africa, which was attended by civic, union, university, and church leaders.

"No faction, including the Kasavubu-Ileo Government, commands a following or respect throughout the whole Congo to merit recognition," the delegates noted. Recognition of the Kasavubu Government "tends to stultify" processes at work which, if no outside influences prevail, can bring about a new governmental alignment, they contended.

Observing that U. S. policy toward Africa, if it is to be effective, must take into account the dynamics of the desire of the African people for freedom and independence, and that "vague and general statements of sympathy are not enough," the conferees made the following specific recommendations:

That our government "let it be known" that Ferhat Abbas, Prime Minister of the Algerian Provisional Government, would be welcomed to the U. S. on a visit,

That the U. S. Embassy in South Africa be open to South Africans of all races "without any discrimination or segregation."

That in line with President Kennedy's avowed intention, as expressed in his inaugural address, to "aid people struggling to break the bonds of mass misery", the U. S. Government assist the growing number of refugees from South and South West Africa who are leaving their own countries illegally, by "offering scholarship assistance to those who are students," and "temporary asylum to those who would like to come to the United States."