



Assassination of Lumumba (10.10.2)

Background:

Beginning in 1884 a large portion of Central Africa came under the control of first the King of Belgium and later the Belgian government itself. This region, known as the Congo, was home to many diverse groups which did not often have a tradition of cooperation. After WWII a trend of independence movements took hold in the colonized world, the Congo was no exception. In the late 1950's the National Congolese Movement (MNC) was formed as a nationwide party that would bring various factions together to achieve independence. One of its co-founders, Patrice Lumumba, was a symbol and leader of this movement and when his party won the majority in national elections he was selected as the new prime minister.

Prompt:

Why was Patrice Lumumba assassinated?

Task:

In a well thought out essay:

- Write a claim in response to the prompt.
- Support your claim by using at least four pieces of evidence from the documents, background reading, and research as to why Patrice Lumumba was assassinated.
- Be sure to explain how the evidence you have chosen supports your claim
- Incorporate an additional piece of evidence that argues against your claim and use your evidence to counter that opposing claim.