# Six Killed in Foiled Coup Attempt in Congo



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Six individuals were killed and approximately 50 arrested following a failed coup attempt against President Felix Tshisekedi's government in Congo. The incidents unfolded on Sunday, May 19, 2024, in the capital city of Kinshasa.

The coup, allegedly led by exiled opposition figure Christian Malanga, involved armed men attacking the presidential palace and the residence of Vital Kamerhe, a close ally of Tshisekedi. Christian Malanga, 41, traveled from Utah with his son Marcel Malanga, 21, and led the assault before being shot dead by presidential guards.

During the attack, gunfire was reported by witnesses around 4 a.m. local time. Both Christian and Marcel Malanga had previously expressed intentions regarding a possible conflict on social media. Christian Malanga had a military background, having reached the rank of captain in Congo’s military before moving to the U.S.

Marcel Malanga was captured by Congolese forces and his mother, Britney Sawyer of Utah, described him as an innocent boy following his father. Ekenge, the army spokesperson, confirmed three American citizens were among those detained.

As the country assesses the aftermath, the United States and the United Nations have expressed their readiness to cooperate with Congolese authorities in the investigation.