

Any Files of the Secretary-General: UThout
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28/09/1962 - 13/06/1963

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
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C A U T I O N

Not for release before
6 p.m. EDT Sunday, 30 September

Press Release SG/1330

WNG/27

28 September 1962

MESSAGE FROM ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT

ON TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The following is the text of the message from Acting Secretary-General U Thant on the transfer of authority to the United Nations in West New Guinea (West Irian):

On the assumption by the United Nations of its responsibility for the temporary administration of the territory of West New Guinea (West Irian), I should like to offer my sincere good wishes for the future of the territory. It is my hope that during its presence in the territory, the United Nations will receive the whole-hearted cooperation of all. The United Nations Temporary Executive Authority will, to the best of its ability, endeavor to ensure the welfare of the inhabitants as provided in the Agreement and solemnly under-written by the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia.

The Administrator appointed by the United Nations will have the main responsibility of carrying out the tasks entrusted to the Secretary-General under the Agreement. In the performance of his duties, he will be assisted by a group of international civil servants to carry on with the civil administration. There will be present small detachments of security forces under the United Nations command, including the contingent from Pakistan, whose function will essentially be to help the Administrator in the maintenance of law and order in the territory.

I hope all of you will extend to the Administrator and to his colleagues every help that they will need in carrying out the terms of the Agreement. With the goodwill of all parties concerned I am sure the United Nations will be able to fulfill its role in carrying out the Agreement in line with the Charter. I am confident that the spirit of understanding and accommodation shown during the period of the negotiation will continue to prevail and that the territory will make rapid progress in the years to come, and enjoy its full measure of prosperity.

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Press Release SG/1331
WNG/28
29 September 1962

ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF
TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The Acting Secretary-General announced today the appointment of Mr. José Rolz-Bennett, Deputy Chef de Cabinet, as temporary Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian).

Under Article IV of the Agreement "a United Nations Administrator, acceptable to Indonesia and the Netherlands" has to be appointed by the Secretary-General. The Acting Secretary-General has been in consultation with both governments in this regard and will be announcing the appointment of the Administrator shortly.

Meanwhile, as responsibility for the administration of the territory by UNTEA* has to be assumed by the United Nations with effect from 1 October, Mr. Rolz-Bennett has been designated temporary Administrator.

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* United Nations Temporary Executive Authority.

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Press Release WNG/29
1 October 1962

FAREWELL CEREMONY FOR NETHERLANDS GOVERNOR HELD IN HOLLANDIA

The following has been received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia, West New Guinea (West Irian):

The New Guinea Council held a special meeting on Friday, 28 September, to bid farewell to Dr. Pieter Johannis Platteel, the last Netherlands Governor of the territory, who left by plane shortly after the ceremony to Biak on his return to Holland.

Besides the Governor and 10 Papuan Councilmen, Jose Rolz-Bennett, the special representative of the Secretary-General in New Guinea, attended the meeting. Also present at the meeting was Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, the Pakistani Commander of the UN Security Force, the Dutch Government Department Heads, the UNTEA* directors who have already arrived in Hollandia to take over their administrative duties on 1 October, and a number of United Nations and Dutch officials.

Mr. Meset, President of the Council, and three other representatives -- one of whom was a woman -- took the floor to express their appreciation to the Governor and also to wish him "bon voyage."

Dr. Platteel thanked the Papuan Councilmen in a brief statement in which he emphasized that "the process of building up will continue" in New Guinea. Speaking of his contacts with the senior UNTEA members, Dr. Platteel said he had "noticed the serious interest and devotion with which the UN is undertaking this task." "The consolidation of security," he noted, "is receiving their constant attention and the continuation of welfare and relief work has been insured." The Governor added: "I recommend you with conviction to support this international administration, thus defending on solid grounds your rights that have been recognized by the Agreement."

Before boarding a Kroonduif DC-3 for Biak at the Sentani Airport (airport serving Hollandia), Dr. Platteel took leave of the Dutch officials and was led by Mr. Rolz-Bennett and General Said to inspect a guard of honor of the UN Security Force and another one of the Papuan Police Force.

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* United Nations Temporary Executive Authority.

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Note No. 2672
1 October 1962

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

In response to inquiries, a spokesman for the Secretary-General made the following statement:

The Acting Secretary-General, as stated before, had received an invitation to visit Hungary, and he had accepted it in principle but no date had been set for this visit.

In accepting this invitation the Secretary-General had no intention of associating himself with any alleged political initiative from any third party.

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Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

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Note No. 2673
1 October 1962

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

STATEMENT BY ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT,
MADE ON RADIO NETHERLANDS, 1 OCTOBER 1962

This first of October, when the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority in West New Guinea, or West Irian, comes into existence, signifies an important date for all of us. It is, in the first place, the culmination of difficult and protracted negotiations between Indonesia and the Netherlands which have led to full agreement with regard to the future of the territory. I am most pleased to see peaceful change and pacific settlement of disputes, as envisaged in the Charter, applied to this problem which had embittered relations between the two countries for a considerable time. Another purpose of the United Nations Charter, developing friendly relations among nations, will be fulfilled when, as a result of the settlement of this dispute, diplomatic relations between the two countries are resumed.

While the settlement of this dispute, on whatever terms, would already have been a notable achievement for the United Nations, the present agreement contains a number of novel features whose importance can hardly be over-estimated. Under the agreement, a United Nations Temporary Executive Authority will be established by, and under the jurisdiction of, the Secretary-General. The operation of this Authority will, I am sure, be an object of study for many years to come by scholars in the legal and political fields. I might mention one interesting feature. There will be two transfers of authority. First the Netherlands administration will be transferred to the United Nations Executive Authority and this Authority in turn, some time after the 1st of May 1963, will hand over full administrative responsibility to Indonesia. The period of United Nations authority is again divided in two phases, each symbolized by a different display of flags, and though these periods are relatively short, they indicate an orderly and phased transfer from one position to another.

There is another feature of this agreement which deserves attention: the consideration that has been given to the rights and interests of the inhabitants of the territory and the United Nations concern for the implementation of the relevant provisions.

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It has been said, and not without justification, that the settlement of international disputes, if they are allowed to continue for a considerable time, becomes progressively more difficult and eventually impossible. This refers, of course, to a settlement as envisaged in the United Nations Charter. The present dispute was coming close to falling into this category. Thanks to the devoted efforts of the representatives of the two countries, and I should not omit to mention my Representative, Ambassador Bunker, a solution was found at the eleventh hour, a solution that does honor to all concerned.

The 1st of October is therefore a significant day, not only in the life of the two countries most directly concerned, or the peoples of the territory, but also for the international community which, last week, with expressions of great satisfaction, approved the modalities of the settlement.

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Press Release WNG/32
2 October 1962

NETHERLANDS AND UNITED NATIONS FLAGS
HOISTED AT CEREMONIES IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The transfer of authority from the Netherlands to the United Nations in West New Guinea (West Irian) took place in the territory on 1 October with the hoisting of Dutch and United Nations flags.

One flag-raising ceremony was held at 7:30 a.m. in Hollandia, capital of the territory, at the residence of the United Nations Administrator, which is the residence of the former Netherlands Governor.

The ceremony was attended by Jose Rolz-Bennett, temporary Administrator of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) and several members of his staff, as well as by L.J. Goedhart, Netherlands representative in Hollandia, and members of the Indonesian military mission.

A second flag-hoisting ceremony was held at 8 a.m. in Imby Square in Hollandia. Mr. Rolz-Bennett and other UNTEA officials were present, together with the New Guinea National Council and Papuan and Netherlands officials.

The hoisting of the Dutch and United Nations flags was done in conformity with the Netherlands-Indonesian Agreement signed by the two countries on 15 August and approved by the UN General Assembly on 20 September. The Agreement provides for the transfer of authority first to the United Nations and then to Indonesia, and for self-determination of the inhabitants of the territory by 1969.

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Press Release WNG/33
3 October 1962

TEMPORARY UN ADMINISTRATOR REVIEWS SITUATION IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received here from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Jose Rolz-Bennett, Temporary United Nations Administrator in West New Guinea (West Irian), held his first formal staff meeting 2 October for 90 minutes and reviewed a number of questions relating to the United Nations administration in the territory.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett later addressed a press conference attended by 40 press correspondents.

In his statement at the press conference, Mr. Rolz-Bennett made the following points:

-- The territory is completely calm and normal;

-- While all essential services are being carried out by the skeleton staff with the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), the question of staff required urgently, and the strength desired to be reached progressively, is being reviewed;

-- Two groups of Indonesian officials had arrived -- one over the weekend and the other on 1 October. Due to shortage of accommodation, some of the personnel requested from Indonesia by the UNTEA had gone to Macassar, with the understanding that accommodation in Hollandia will be made available as soon as possible;

-- There were 78 "political prisoners" in Hollandia and 43 in Biak who had been sentenced to various terms for acts which may have had political connotations. A study will be made and appropriate measures will be taken within the framework of the law to set free those who had been sentenced for purely political offenses. The majority of these prisoners were Papuans. There were some Indonesians among them;

-- The UNTEA had presented a substantial request for personnel to the Indonesian Government which had acted very rapidly on it;

-- Flags would be flown in accordance with the Indonesian-Netherlands Agreement and would be hoisted gradually "so as to avoid friction or difficulties."

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Press Release WNG/34
3 October 1962

UNTEA PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON
HEALTH CONDITIONS IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(The following was received here from a UN information officer in Hollandia.)

Dr. Lawrence O. Roberts, UNTEA* Director of Public Health in West New Guinea (West Irian), stated in a press conference in Hollandia today that health conditions in the area were quite satisfactory.

Dr. Roberts, who is also WHO Regional Representative in Sydney, said that he had not made any request yet for more doctors, since out of the 57 doctors in the territory, about 37 had accepted either to stay for a definite period or to wait until their successors arrived.

He added that his department had a higher percentage of staff, who had opted to remain, than any other department in the territory.

In answer to a query, Dr. Roberts pointed out that malaria remained the biggest medical problem in West New Guinea (West Irian).

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* United Nations Temporary Executive Authority

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Press Release WNG/37
8 October 1962

AMNESTY GRANTED TO POLITICAL PRISONERS IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following is based on information received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The United Nations Temporary Administrator in West New Guinea (West Irian), Jose Rolz-Bennett, has decided to grant amnesty to all political prisoners sentenced before 1 October 1962, under the provisions of the Penal Code of the Territory.

The Amnesty Act, which was signed yesterday, will take effect on 15 October.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett will leave Hollandia tomorrow (9 October) on a tour of the outlying districts. He will travel by air to Biak, (about 200 miles northwest of Hollandia on Schouten Island), Manokwari (about 300 miles northwest of Hollandia), and Sorong (about 400 miles northwest of Hollandia).

On Wednesday, (10 October) he will visit Fakfak, on the southwest coast of the territory and then return to Hollandia via Biak.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett plans to leave Hollandia again on 14 October for Merauke, on the south coast of New Guinea and return to Hollandia the next day.

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Note No. 2680
10 October 1962

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

For background purposes, the following is the text of a statement made by Brigadier Indar Jit Rikhye, Military Advisor to the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Military Observer Team in West New Guinea, at a press conference yesterday:

Following the agreement between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia concerning West New Guinea (West Irian), the Secretary-General instructed me to immediately proceed to the territory in order to implement the agreement concerning cessation of hostilities. He also asked me to conclude arrangements for the arrival of the United Nations Security Force.

I left New York on 18 August and though somewhat thwarted by typhoon Ruth reached Biak, the international airport in the territory, on 20 August. Before I left New York the Secretary-General had already requested Pakistan to provide a contingent of about 1,000 troops for service in West New Guinea. The Secretary-General had also asked six countries -- Brazil, Ceylon, India, Ireland, Nigeria and Sweden -- to provide observers to supervise arrangements concerning cessation of hostilities in the territory. In order to expedite their arrival, the consent of the countries who had contingents in UNEF and ONUC was obtained to select officers from their contingents.

Commander Olaf Melin of Sweden, the Senior Military Observer, joined me at Tokyo and we set to work immediately on arrival in West New Guinea. We were informed by the Netherlands Military Command that they had ordered a cease-fire as from 0001 GMT 18 August and for all Netherlands ground forces to concentrate in the main garrison towns. Their air force and navy were however patrolling the skies and the seas of the territory. Shooting had stopped and there had been no incident except for two Indonesian submarines which still were in Hollandia waters. I informed the Secretary-General at once of this and the Republic of Indonesia was requested to withdraw the submarines.

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Note p. 2680
10 October 1962

I reached Hollandia on 21 August. At Sentani airport, which serves Hollandia, I was greeted by about 200 to 300 Papuans carrying placards. They were peaceful, in fact friendly and inquisitive. The placards were not hostile to the United Nations or to me, personally. I was later informed that pictures of anti-UN and anti-Indian placards had appeared in the press. I, nor any member of the UN, ever saw such placards. The Papuans are a very polite and courteous people and such an exhibition would be contrary to their form of life.

In Hollandia, after meeting the Netherlands Governor and Commander-in-Chief the situation became more clear. There were some 12,000 Netherlands forces in the territory, including about 8,000 ground forces. They had, in the main, secured Government administrative and communications centers, over which they exercised complete control. The Netherlands garrisons were at Biak, Hollandia, Sentani, Manokwari, Waigeo Island, Sorong, Fak Fak, Kaimana and Merauke. Contact with Indonesian forces was being maintained through the Papuan Civil Police, on whom the Administration had largely relied for information concerning infiltrators. Detachments of recently raised, and as yet partly-trained, Papuan Volunteer Corps were used as guides with the Netherlands forces.

The Netherlands believed there were about 800 Indonesian infiltrators at large, some 500 having been apprehended by their forces, mainly by the Papuan Police. The Indonesians were known to be in five main deployment areas, each area being about 40 to 100 kilometers wide. This was not encouraging from our point of view as it would not be easy to contact them.

On the basis of information so far received, we deployed two-men teams of UN Military Observers at all Netherlands military locations, and decided to seek more information about the Indonesian forces. A group of 21 UNMOS soon arrived and were transported by a variety of means, including Dakotas, Twin Pioneers, amphibious Beavers, destroyers, LCT's and small naval vessels. They confirmed that all was quiet, but could throw little light on the whereabouts of the Indonesian forces.

I believe, at this stage, I should describe briefly the terrain and the state of communications in West New Guinea. With the exception of the coastal belt and some inland areas, the territory is inaccessible. Navigable rivers are few and inlet waters give some access. The few airfields that exist only provide access to coastal towns and some isolated government and mission stations in the interior. The only reliable means of transport is by sea. The southern coast is however closed to all light shipping during the period from October to May, due to storm conditions. There are no connecting roads. Therefore, the government and mission centers and the people in the interior live in isolation.

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The only outside links were the monthly ship from Amsterdam via Singapore, the tri-weekly KLM service to Biak and a weekly Quantas service from Port Moresby. A powerful radio link exists between Hollandia and Amsterdam.

We established contact with New York via Amsterdam and the United Nations, Geneva, but could only reach Djakarta through Headquarters. This proved slow and proved a serious obstacle in implementing arrangements concerning the cessation of hostilities. As I was unable to make any progress I decided to fly to Djakarta to improve communications and contacts. It was imperative for the success of our mission that we establish early communications between Hollandia and Djakarta. We also needed our own aircraft and helicopters and, accordingly, requested the Secretary-General to arrange an early despatch of these aircraft to support UN observers' operations.

At Djakarta, President Sukarno received me and I conferred with the Indonesian Ministers and the Military Command responsible for West Irian operations. We reached agreement on all points. Indonesia agreed to:

1. establish radio communications with Hollandia, for which a team of their technicians would accompany me to Hollandia;
2. send a military liaison group as provided in the agreement;
3. provide texts of pamphlets to be air-dropped, calling on all Indonesians in the territory to observe the cease fire.

I returned to Hollandia with the Indonesian Military Liaison Group and radio technicians. The Netherlands had agreed to these arrangements and after some initial difficulties we established direct radio links with Djakarta. The Netherlands, Indonesia and UN liaison groups set about to locate the Indonesian forces in the territory and work out arrangements to observe the cease-fire.

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Throughout this period, in accordance with the agreement the Netherlands-owned radio stations and Indonesian radio broadcasts continued announcements concerning the Agreement. It was hoped that many of the Indonesian infiltrators may thus be informed of the end of hostilities.

We were soon joined by aircraft of the 13 AF Task Force USAF, in support of UNTEA, and we started an intensive search for Indonesian forces and increased our efforts to establish contact with them. Besides informing them about the cease-fire, the United Nations was anxious to supply them with food and provide medical assistance. Many of the Indonesians had been in the territory without resupply and medical support for several months. It presented a serious humanitarian problem.

After nearly three weeks of intensive efforts by all concerned, reports of contact with the Indonesian forces started to reach us in Hollandia and by 6 September we had fixed their positions.

The following two days, in accordance with the Agreement, Indonesian Hercules aircraft carrying UNMOS dropped pamphlets on Indonesian forces.

In order to establish personal contact with the Indonesian forces and to arrange their resupply and concentration, I sent Commander Melin to visit all UNMO stations. He was accompanied by General Eckhout of the Netherlands and General Achmed of Indonesia. This proved most valuable and resulted in our reaching an agreement on the remaining arrangements. Some supplies to meet emergency situations were arranged by the Netherlands forces. They also offered to take in for treatment all those seriously sick. It was agreed that UN aircraft should airland supplies for Indonesian forces at Sorong, Fak Fak, Kaimana and Merauke.

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The Indonesians were however reluctant to concentrate their forces as they were still suspicious of the Netherlands forces. The Indonesians stated that their concentration should be parallel to repatriation of the Netherlands forces. The Netherlands stand was that, as they were responsible for administration of the territory till 1 October, they would only start repatriation after that date. But slowly the tension was ebbing out. The goodwill shown by the Netherlands authorities towards the Indonesian liaison team and the tactfulness on the part of the Indonesians was beginning to pay. They had started to settle issues directly more and more. This indeed was a happy development.

We finally narrowed down the Indonesian concentration areas to four, with the Netherlands objecting to Merauke. This, however, was a sufficient basis to start a UN airlift for resupply to Indonesian forces. We estimated that about 1,000 Indonesians were in the territory -- 350 in the Merauke area, 250 in the Kainama area, 75 in the Fak Fak area, 180 on the Island of Misool, some 150 in the Sorong area and either 40 or 250 on the Island of Waigeo.

The Indonesian authorities, meanwhile, agreed to start concentration at four places, leaving the question of Merauke to further discussion. We arranged for the Netherlands Navy to move the men from Misool to the Sorong area. The men on Waigeo Island caused us several problems, but we were finally able to reach them by helicopters and move some 40 out.

In conjunction with the Netherlands authorities, we arranged for camps at Sorong, Sacka and Klassman, Roembati near Fak Fak, Sisir near Kainama and Kupri near Merauke as camp-sites for Indonesian forces.

A few days later we were very glad to hear that the Netherlands Government had agreed to Merauke as a concentration area. We were now able to arrange the repatriation of the Indonesian detainees. They were kept in two camps at Manokwari and on Woendi Island. I had visited the camp at Manokwari and an UNMO had been to Woendi. The Indonesians were kept in very humane and satisfactory conditions. We arranged to airlift the detainees in the returning empty USAF C-130 aircraft, which were placed at the disposal of UN for the resupply of Indonesian forces. A total of 537 detainees were repatriated and 300 tons of food and stores were airlifted from Djakarta.

On 21 September, I was able to report to the Secretary-General that all action concerning the cessation of hostilities, including concentration of the Indonesian forces, their resupply, and repatriation of Indonesian detainees had been completed.

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Throughout the period there had been no shooting. The only incident recorded was the entry of two Indonesian submarines in Hollandia waters on 21 August and the landing of 14 infiltrators. Five of them had been arrested by the Netherlands police and nine were at large. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement, this incident was referred to joint liaison teams. The Indonesian authorities finally agreed to the repatriation of the nine, which was done.

Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the UNSF, had arrived in Hollandia on 4 September. We had, concurrently with UNMO operations, held discussions with the Netherlands authorities, completed reconnaissances and planning and advised Headquarters and Pakistan of our requirements. General Said did a quick tour of the territory and recommended that instead of a four-company infantry battalion a six-company battalion was required to enable him to deploy six detachments. Each detachment had to be independent in administration and ancillary services. As much reliance has to be placed on seacraft, we arranged to procure several naval craft from the Netherlands. They are being manned by the Pakistan Navy.

To support the UNSF, four Dakotas and six helicopters of the USAF and two amphibious Otters of the RCAF have been made available. About 400 Pakistani soldiers were airlifted to West New Guinea to ensure UN presence before 1 October. Some 1,100 arrived in the territory on 6 October and will be deployed by 10 October.

In addition to the Pakistan contingent, the UNTEA has at its disposal Papuan police, the Papuan Volunteer Corps and about 1,000 Indonesian troops for maintenance of law and order. UNTEA will primarily rely upon the Papuan Police to maintain law and order. Although almost all the Dutch police officials are leaving, the police have maintained satisfactory levels of efficiency under Papuans who have received accelerated promotions.

In case of need, the Papuan Volunteer Corps would be the first to be used to support civil authority. They are a militia type of military unit. We have retained many of the original Netherlands officers to train them, together with Indonesian officers. This unit has good foundations and consists of a fine body of men who can be relied upon. Papuans have reached the ranks of Sergeant. There are six officer trainees who should be ready to join an officers training school in about six months.

I believe I should say a few words about the political and general background to the scene in the territory. There are some 13 political parties, mostly of recent origin. The Papuans had been told that the Netherlands would prepare them for self-determination by about 1970. A West New Guinea Council of about

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28 nominated members had been established by the Administration and democratic institutions were gradually, though slowly, being introduced. Since the armed action by Indonesia, political activity was on the increase. A Council of political parties was in session, when we reached Hollandia, to discuss the Agreement.

The Papuan is an intelligent, clear-thinking person. Though few have received education amongst their 7000,000 people and most live a stone away from the stone age, they have sufficient intelligence to understand what is happening about them. I have no doubt, however, that the majority know very little as to what is going on outside their own tribe or inhabitation. People of the coastal belt and in towns and villages near centers of communications are conscious of the change. They are not anti-anyone but are deeply interested to know about their own future. Little had been done to inform them of the change. There was an element of fear and suspicion. It therefore became the UNTEA's first task to inform them of the role of the UN in the agreement. We also arranged for 20 top Papuan leaders to meet with the Indonesian Government in Djakarta. These talks are in progress and have helped a lot in reducing tension in the territory.

With the departure of the Dutch and fear on the part of some, of the yet unknown Indonesian troops, some tension had built up in towns like Merauke, Fak Fak, Manokwari and Biak. Vigorous action by UNTEA succeeded in reducing this tension. The Papuans approached us with open minds and left us relieved.

Out of about 2,800 Dutch officials, some 500 agreed to remain behind. We only needed 350 to keep key installations going. With these available members and the timely arrival of UNTEA and Indonesian personnel, all services have been maintained. The number of UN employees has been kept to the minimum.

The Netherlands authorities recommend larger utilization of Indonesian personnel. This is to avoid another transfer later and to keep costs down, as UN experts are more costly.

The transfer of authority has been carried out smoothly and without incident. I believe the UN has added yet another page to its history of successes.

The UN mission in West New Guinea cannot be accomplished without the full support of the Netherlands and Indonesian Governments. The restraint shown by the Netherlands authorities and the assistance provided to UNTEA in its day to day functions, the cooperation and understanding of the Indonesian authorities are essential factors, to the success achieved by UNTEA and deserve full credit.

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On my return, I visited Indonesia and met with President Sukarno, Dr. Subandrio and the Military High Command, and in Holland I was received by the Queen and met Foreign Minister Mr. Luns, Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Bolt and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I am convinced that there is a desire on the part of both countries to fully implement the Agreement and fully support the efforts of the UN. Tension between the countries is reducing and it can be hoped that relations would improve, thereby bringing conditions in this part of the Pacific to normal.

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Press Release WNG/38
15 October 1962

UNTEA HEALTH DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEASURES TO COMBAT DISEASE IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(The following was received here from a UN information officer in Hollandia.)

Dr. Lawrence O. Roberts, Director of the Health Department of the UN Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in West New Guinea (West Irian), has issued the following statement regarding the outbreak of an infectious disease in some remote villages of the territory, and the measures being taken to combat it:

The report from the Chief of the Central Laboratory, who is investigating an outbreak of infectious disease in some remote villages in the Agats area (on the south coast of the territory, about 200 miles west of Merauke), was received today (12 October) and showed that it is a form of cholera.

The doctors and nurses are continuing their work in the area, treating patients, improving sanitation, and taking all possible measures to limit the spread of infection. All personnel of the UNTEA and of the missions are working closely together, and the missions have also provided great help regarding communications. Ample supplies of drugs, medicines and vaccine are available, and additional supplies, which were ordered from abroad as a precautionary measure, have arrived.

A total of 40 deaths were recorded up to 6 p.m. yesterday (11 October) and more villages are affected now than a week ago. All are in the Agats area.

The affected villages are in swampy, low-lying country, with no airstrips and practically no means of communication other than by boat. The outbreak was first reported to the Health Department on 4 October. However, it has been established that the first cases, with six deaths occurred on 30 September. The source of the infection is being investigated.

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Press Release WNG/39
16 October 1962

POLITICAL PRISONERS FREED IN WEST NEW GUINEA

A total of 121 prisoners -- 78 in Hollandia and 43 in Biak -- whose conviction had political connotations were freed yesterday, as the Amnesty Acts signed by the Temporary United Nations Administrator, Jose Rolz-Bennett, on 7 and 11 October took effect.

(For further details see Press Release WNG/37)

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/40
18 October 1962

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF NETHERLANDS ARMED FORCES
LEAVES HOLLANDIA FOR VOYAGE HOME

(The following information has been received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Rear Admiral L.E.J. Reeser, Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Armed Forces in West New Guinea (West Irian), left Hollandia today for Biak aboard the destroyer "Overisel" prior to his departure for the Netherlands.

He will stay in Biak until 29 October and will then fly to Amsterdam for his new assignment as Commander-in-Chief of the Fifth Fleet of the Royal Dutch Navy.

Admiral Reeser paid a farewell visit yesterday to Jose Rolz-Bennett, United Nations Temporary Administrator.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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Press Release SG/1348
WNG/41
22 October 1962

ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL APPOINTS
ADMINISTRATOR OF WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Acting Secretary-General U Thant announced today that he had invited Dr. Djalal Abdoh (Iran) to serve as Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian). He will take over this assignment from Jose Rolz-Bennett, Deputy Chef de Cabinet, who was named temporary Administrator on 29 September 1962.

Under Article IV of the Agreement "a United Nations Administrator, acceptable to Indonesia and the Netherlands" has to be appointed by the Secretary-General.

Dr. Abdoh, born in 1909 in Teheran, received the Bachelor of Science degree in 1930 from Teheran University and the Doctor of Laws degree in 1937 from the University of Paris. In that year, he was appointed Assistant Director in the Iranian Ministry of Justice and held that post until 1939.

In 1941, he served as Public Prosecutor in the High Court of Government Employees, Teheran. In 1943, he became Director-General of the Ministry of Justice. Dr. Abdoh was a member of the Iranian Parliament from 1944 to 1949.

A member of the Iranian delegation to the San Francisco Conference in 1945, Dr. Abdoh attended several sessions of the United Nations General Assembly. During the sixth session in 1951-52, he was Rapporteur of the Sixth (Legal) Committee, and during the tenth session in 1955, Vice-Chairman of the First (Political and Security) Committee.

Dr. Abdoh became Alternate Representative to the United Nations in 1949. He was Chairman of the Special Committee on Legal and Drafting Procedures of the General Assembly.

In 1954, he was named Director-General of the Political Affairs Section in the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in 1955 was acting head of the Iranian delegation to the Bandung Conference.

From 1952 to 1955, he was a member of the UN Administrative Tribunal, and Acting Representative on the Security Council in 1956. During the eleventh session of the General Assembly in 1956-57, he served as Chairman of the First (Political and Security) Committee.

Dr. Abdoh was Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1955 to March 1959, when he was elected to serve as UN Commissioner for supervising the plebiscites in the British Cameroons.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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Press Release WNG/42
22 October 1962

COMMANDER OF UN SECURITY FORCE IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(WEST IRIAN) VISITS JAKARTA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Brigadier Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the United Nations Security Force in West New Guinea (West Irian), left Hollandia for Jakarta on 19 October.

During his stay in Jakarta, he will call on senior officers of the Indonesian forces.

During the absence of Brigadier Khan, Lt. Col. K.A. Hafeez, Chief-of-Staff of the United Nations Security Force, will serve as Commander of the UNSF.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/43
24 October 1962

UN COMMANDER IN WEST NEW GUINEA
GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE IN DJAKARTA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Djakarta.)

The Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) in West New Guinea (West Irian), Brigadier Said-Uddin Khan of Pakistan, said in Djakarta yesterday, 23 October, that the transfer of administration in the territory was proceeding smoothly without "incidents" and there were no foreseeable difficulties.

Brigadier Khan, who spoke at a press conference, has been visiting Djakarta for discussions with the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr. Subandrio, the Deputy Supreme Commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces, the Deputy Commander of the Navy, and the Chief of the Indonesian police force.

He said the Pakistani forces in West New Guinea were now settling down quickly and all troops in the territory were now at the disposal of the UN Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA). Apart from the 1,500 Pakistani troops the forces include a small United States and Canadian contingent, 1,500 Indonesian troops, and the Papuan Volunteer Corps.

Brigadier Khan said no action was being taken against persons who flew the Papuan flag as a "party" flag on their own private property. However, he added that UNTEA did not recognize the flag as official.

Asked whether his forces were protecting oil interests, Brigadier Khan said his troops were entrusted with the protection of all property -- whether public or private -- against lawlessness, but he was not in a position to give information on the "future status" of property.

With the UN Commander at the press conference yesterday were the Commander of Indonesian troops in West Irian, Colonel Soedarto, and the UNTEA representative in Indonesia, Vojko P. Pavicic.

Brigadier Khan will remain in Djakarta a few more days for further talks with Indonesian officials.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/44
30 October 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR LEAVES FOR
WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), Dr. Djalal Abdoh, is scheduled to leave New York for the territory tomorrow, 31 October.

Dr. Abdoh will proceed to West New Guinea (West Irian) via Amsterdam and Djakarta.

He will arrive in Amsterdam on Thursday, 1 November, and will pay official calls on Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, Foreign Minister J. M. A. H. Luns, Secretary of State Dr. H. R. van Houten, and Minister of Interior E. H. Toxopeus.

The Administrator will arrive in Djakarta, via Teheran and Bangkok, on Wednesday, 7 November. He will remain two or three days in the Indonesian capital and will confer with President Sukarno, Foreign Minister Subandrio and other government officials.

He will leave for Biak, West New Guinea (West Irian), at a date to be announced later.

Dr. Abdoh's consultations with Netherlands and Indonesian authorities will be held within the spirit of cooperation arising out of the Agreement signed by the two governments to determine the future of the territory, by means of the transfer of authority from the Netherlands to the United Nations and then to Indonesia, with self-determination set for 1969.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release H/1742
WNG/45
30 October 1962

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REPORTS ON CHOLERA
EPIDEMIC IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following has been received from the World Health Organization's Regional Office for the Western Pacific in Manila, Philippines.)

A cholera epidemic in West New Guinea (West Irian) has caused 125 deaths out of a total of 350 reported cases, according to information received from Hollandia on 25 October at the World Health Organization's Regional Office in Manila.

Dr. I.C. Fang, Director of WHO's Western Pacific Regional Office, said that the epidemic was probably caused by the strain of cholera "El Tor vibrio" which, during the last 14 months, caused outbreaks in Indonesia, North Borneo, Sarawak, Hong Kong, Macao, the Philippines and Taiwan.

A great deal of information on the control of the disease has been gathered by WHO, and this information has been sent to the health department of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in West New Guinea. WHO has also located sources for the supply of vaccine and medicaments which are now being purchased by UNTEA.

The cholera epidemic in West New Guinea started on 30 September near the town of Merauke in an area of swamps inhabited by about 30,000 persons. However, the epidemic zone comprises only part of this area, and measures have been taken to stop the epidemic from spreading.

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UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release SG/1366
WNG/46

31 October 1962

ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT APPOINTS DEPUTY
TO UN ADMINISTRATOR IN WEST NEW GUINEA

The Acting Secretary-General today announced the appointment of Dr. Sudhir Sen (India) as Deputy to the United Nations Administrator in West New Guinea (West Irian). Until his present appointment, Dr. Sen was the Resident Representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board in Ghana. Prior to that he was Director of the Programme Division of TAB in New York.

Dr. Sen arrived in New York on 30 October 1962. After a short stay at Headquarters for purposes of briefing, he will proceed to Hollandia to take up his duties.

Before joining the United Nations, Dr. Sen held several important positions with the Indian Government, including that of Secretary to the Damodar Valley Corporation.

Dr. Sen holds a B.A. degree from Calcutta University, a B.Sc. from the London School of Economics, and a Ph.D from Bonn University.

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UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release WNG/47
1 November 1962

UN COMMANDER IN WEST NEW GUINEA
CONFERS WITH INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, the Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Security Force, (UNSF), said on his return to Hollandia from Djakarta that during his 10-day visit to Indonesia he had met with great friendliness and hospitality.

He called on high civil and military officials in the Government of the Republic of Indonesia responsible for West New Guinea (West Irian) affairs.

He conferred with President Sukarno, Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio, who is also the Cabinet Minister for West New Guinea (West Irian) affairs, and General Nasution, Minister of Defence.

The Commander of the United Nations Security Force discussed with Indonesian authorities matters of coordination between Indonesian forces in the territory and the United Nations Security Force.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1373
WNG/48
6 November 1962

ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL RECEIVES \$5 MILLION
EACH FROM INDONESIA AND NETHERLANDS FOR UN COSTS
UNDER AGREEMENT REGARDING WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Acting Secretary-General U Thant announced today that he has received further payments of \$5 million each from the Government of Indonesia and the Government of the Netherlands toward the costs and commitments of the United Nations in connection with its responsibilities under the Agreement of 15 August, signed by the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia, regarding West New Guinea (West Irian).

Initial payments of \$1 million each were received from the Government of the Netherlands on 31 August and from the Government of Indonesia on 6 September to cover such costs.

It has been agreed by the two governments that all costs of the United Nations administration of the territory would be shared equally by them and that the necessary funds to be expended by the United Nations during the period it was responsible for the administration of the territory would be made available to the Organization in advance of its need for such funds.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/49
6 November 1962

UNSF COMMANDER IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)
ISSUES STATEMENT ON STRENGTH OF INDONESIAN CONTINGENT

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia)

Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) in West New Guinea (West Irian), made the following statement yesterday, 5 November, regarding the strength of the Indonesian contingent in the territory:

"The news of large-scale reinforcement of the Indonesian contingent in West New Guinea (West Irian) is incorrect. The only increase in strength, since the signing of the Agreement, has been a support group of 125. This support group was necessary to ensure the supply, transport, medical and communications arrangements for the Indonesian troops."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/50
7 November 1962

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATOR OF WEST NEW GUINEA LEAVES FOR DJAKARTA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia)

Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), left Bangkok this afternoon for Djakarta, where he will remain for two or three days, to confer with President Sukarno, Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio and other government officials.

At a press conference held this morning at Sala Santitham, Mr. Abdoh made the following statement: "It is a great pleasure for me to be here, at the headquarters of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), and to have an opportunity to talk to the press about a question which is of great interest to the peace and prosperity of this region of South East Asia.

"As you may recall, the political situation prevailing in South East Asia last year was disturbing, among other things, because of the bitter dispute between the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of the Netherlands over West New Guinea (West Irian).

"Following appeals made by the United Nations Secretary-General, Indonesia and the Netherlands engaged a few months ago in negotiations aimed at resolving their dispute. These negotiations resulted in an understanding concerning the cessation of hostilities, and also in the reaching of an agreement, which has, fortunately, brought to an end the long dispute between the two countries.

Terms of the Agreement Recalled

"Under the Agreement reached, the administration of West New Guinea (West Irian) was transferred by the Netherlands to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), established under the jurisdiction of the Secretary-General. UNTEA will, in due course, after 1 May 1963, transfer the administration of the territory to Indonesia.

"The agreement contains certain guarantees for the population of the territory, including detailed provisions regarding the exercise of the right of self-determination. The act of self-determination is to take place before the end of 1969 with the participation of the United Nations. Under the same Agreement, all costs incurred by the United Nations will be met by the Governments of Indonesia and the Netherlands.

(more)

"I was appointed by the Secretary-General as Administrator of the territory under the Agreement, with the acceptance of both governments. I will, therefore, serve as Chief Executive Officer of UNTEA, having all the necessary authority to carry out my functions, under the direction of the Secretary-General.

"In performing the tasks entrusted to me, I will be guided first by the letter and the spirit of the Agreement; secondly, by the purposes and principles of the Charter, which will provide one of the guidelines for my administration.

Objective of the Agreement Explained

"Here, I would like to refer to a very important point. The objective of the Agreement reached between the two countries is to establish an orderly means for transferring the administration of the territory from the Netherlands to Indonesia. The United Nations is only in West Irian for a brief period and for the purpose of arranging for a smooth transfer. In these conditions, it is not for the United Nations to attempt to introduce a long-range program.

"UNTEA will be very happy to set up a realistic program of development for the territory, which may be implemented both by UNTEA, during its brief period of authority, and later by Indonesia, when it takes over the administration of the territory. Such a program can be set up in the framework of the United Nations Technical Assistance, the Special Fund and the specialized agencies. For, one of the purposes of the United Nations is not only to maintain peace and security, but also to take various initiatives to promote the economic and social development of the populations of West New Guinea (West Irian).

"Other points that I would like to bring to your attention is that UNTEA will do its best to arrange for the transfer to take place as smoothly as possible and with the least possible disruption. As you may know, under the Agreement, certain administrative positions have already been filled by persons not nationals of either Indonesia or the Netherlands.

"To fill other posts, UNTEA is turning to Indonesia for suitable candidates, because a great number of civil servants and technical personnel have already left the country, and no other nationals, to my knowledge, are prepared to work for UNTEA under short-term contracts.

"We hope to phase this gradually so that Indonesians are given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the territory, so that when the administration is transferred to Indonesia, this may be done with a minimum of disruption; and Indonesian nationals are already in a position important for ensuring an efficient day-to-day administration.

(more)

Refers to United Nations Security Force

"Another point of interest is at present the United Nations Security Force, the main contingent of which has been supplied by the Government of Pakistan and is already in the territory. If, however, I should feel that the force is insufficient, I shall request the Secretary-General to seek to supplement it.

"I have tried to bring to your attention some background of the problems relating to West New Guinea (West Irian), at the same time elaborating on my major responsibilities as Administrator of the territory.

"It remains for me to say that, in accordance with the Agreement, the transfer of administration to Indonesia can take place at any time after 1 May 1963, and it is my understanding that this transfer will take place, in full, as soon as possible after 30 April 1963."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release M/1458

WNG/51

7 November 1962

UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION TO SELL SETS OF STAMPS

NOW IN USE IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The United Nations Postal Administration announced today that it will make available to the public, sets of postal stamps now being used in West New Guinea (West Irian).

The territory is under the administration of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), in accordance with a resolution of the General Assembly [1752 (XVII)], adopted 21 September. As an initial temporary measure, supplies of stamps in use in the territory when the United Nations assumed administrative responsibility on 1 October have been overprinted with the letters "UNTEA" and distributed to the main and auxiliary postal stations throughout the territory for sale and use on all mail.

While the overprinted stamps do not constitute an actual stamp issue of the UN Postal Administration, they have become a postal medium for a vast territory under temporary UN administration. Thus, they are, in a sense, ancillary to UN stamp issues.

In response to numerous inquiries and requests for these stamps, the UN Postal Administration has arranged for the sale and distribution of quantities in sets and in mint condition only. No "First Day Covers" will be available. Each set will consist of 19 Netherlands New Guinea overprinted stamps in various denominations and will be sold at face value (equivalent to \$3.50) on, or about, 18 December.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/52
8 November 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR FOR WEST NEW GUINEA
MEETS INDONESIAN OFFICIALS

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), arrived last night (7 November) in Djakarta. He was met by the Director of the UN division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nugroho, the Ambassador of Iran, Djavad Ghadimi, and the Resident Representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board, V.P. Pavicic.

Dr. Abdoh declared upon arrival that the transfer of authority in West Irian to the Republic of Indonesia could not be advanced. The purpose of his visit to Djakarta was for discussions on problems relating to cooperation between the UN Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) and the Republic of Indonesia. He said his duties in West Irian were to prepare the smooth transfer of the territory to Indonesia and he hoped to receive cooperation from all parties.

Dutch personnel now working in West Irian, previously numbering 1,100, now amounted to 250. UNTEA will gradually increase Indonesian personnel after 1 January 1963 so as to facilitate the transfer of authority later.

Dr. Abdoh will see the Acting President of Indonesia, Dr. Djuanda, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Subandrio, as well as other senior officials, before proceeding to West Irian.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/53
12 November 1962

UN TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR IN WEST NEW GUINEA
VISITS CHOLERA-STRICKEN AREAS

(The following was received from an Information Officer in Hollandia, West New Guinea.)

At an administration meeting held on 10 November, Jose Rolz-Bennett, the United Nations Temporary Administrator in West New Guinea (West Irian) gave an account of his recent visit to Kaimana, Kokenau, Agats and Enarotali.

On Monday 5 November, he went by air with Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) to Kaimana, where he reviewed a Pakistani contingent and visited officers of the Indonesian troops stationed in the locality. He also discussed with district officials some problems requiring immediate attention.

On 6 November, accompanied by the Commander of UNSF, Mr. Rolz-Bennett visited Kokenau and inspected the hospital, where cholera patients from Kokenau and the surrounding villages are being treated.

In Agats, the Temporary Administrator witnessed the loading of medical supplies which are to be distributed in the affected villages along the waterways.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett's visit to Kokenau and Agats provided him with first-hand information on the cholera-stricken areas, and gave him an opportunity to express the appreciation of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) of the work done by doctors, hospital staff, missionaries and other personnel taking part in the treatment of patients, and in the cholera prevention campaign.

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, the United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian) left New York for the territory via Amsterdam and Djakarta, on 31 October.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/54
13 November 1962

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATOR LEAVES DJAKARTA FOR WEST NEW GUINEA

Discusses Some Political and Administrative Problems of
the Territory, at a Press Conference.

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Djakarta.)

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), declared at a press conference in Djakarta today that he had held fruitful discussions with officials of the Indonesian Government, resulting in further understanding which would facilitate the task entrusted to the UN Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in the territory.

Dr. Abdoh left Djakarta by air today for Hollandia, the capital of West New Guinea (West Irian).

The UN Administrator arrived in Djakarta on 7 November, and since then has held consultations with the Acting Prime Minister of the Republic, Dr. Djuanda, Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio, Indonesian Representative in West Irian Sudjarwo Yjondronegoro, Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces General Nasution, Commander of the Indonesian Army Major-General Achmad Jani, and other high officials.

During the press conference -- which was held before his departure in the offices of the Resident Representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board -- Dr. Abdoh referred to some of the administrative and political problem of the territory.

On the question of refilling the posts left vacant in the administrative structure of the territory, he said that the agreement between Indonesia and the Netherlands gave the United Nations freedom of action in this regard, subject to the provision that certain top positions would be filled by persons of neither Indonesian nor Netherlands nationality.

As Netherlands nationals depart, he added, Indonesians will be given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the territory so that when the administration is transferred to Indonesia they will be in a position to ensure the day-to-day operation of the government without disrupting any services.

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Dr. Abdoh said he welcomed the initiative of the Indonesian Foreign Minister suggesting the immediate initiation of various social and economic development projects, and gave assurances of UNTEA assistance to facilitate their implementation.

Problems of Self-Determination Discussed

In reply to questions on the problem of self-determination for West New Guinea (West Irian), he explained that the clause in the Indonesian-Netherlands Agreement on the question of self-determination did not specify the word "plebiscite." However, he said that he knew of no other machinery for self-determination, other than the plebiscite, which is a normal means of ascertaining the wishes of a people. He reminded the press that on two occasions he had been responsible for supervising plebiscites in the Cameroons in recent years.

Asked who would determine the form of self-determination in the territory after the UNTEA administration is over by 1 May 1963, Dr. Abdoh replied that the Indonesian government would proceed to the realization of the act of self-determination, which in the Agreement is called for by 1969.

He explained that UNTEA as such would have nothing to do with self-determination. He said that as his task would be over by 1 May 1963 and few officials would be left by the Secretary-General to assist the Government of Indonesia in preparing for the act of self-determination, a representative would probably be appointed by the Secretary-General at a later date to participate with the Indonesian Government in this regard.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/55
14 November 1962

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATOR ARRIVES IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(The following information was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), upon arrival at Hollandia today, declared that the "United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) is bound to administer the territory until after 1 May 1963," in response to questions by correspondents at the airport.

The Administrator was met at the airport by Jose Rolz-Bennett, Temporary Administrator, Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF), Louis Goedhart, Chief of the Netherlands Mission to UNTEA, Dr. M. Maramis, Deputy Chief of the Indonesian Mission, and UNTEA officials.

Dr. Abdoh was also greeted by a large number of Papuans including representatives of women's organizations who presented him with flowers.

In answer to a question by correspondents, as to whether it was possible to advance the date of transfer of UNTEA administration to Indonesia, the Administrator reiterated the statement he had made at his press conference in Djakarta, Indonesia, that UNTEA is bound by terms of the "basic document" and the Assembly resolution.

[The basic document is the Agreement signed on 15 August 1962 by representatives of Indonesia and the Netherlands concerning West New Guinea (West Irian) and which was later ratified by both countries and endorsed by the General Assembly on 21 September.]

"According to the Agreement," the Administrator added, "UNTEA is bound to administer the territory until after 1 May 1963."

Dr. Abdoh went on to say that legally it would be possible to shorten the UNTEA period, if all parties concerned agreed. "By all parties," he stressed, "I mean not only the Netherlands and Indonesia but also the United Nations itself."

The Administrator noted that the basic agreement reached between Indonesia and the Netherlands has created some rights and privileges, as well as duties for the United Nations. This was the reason why the Agreement was endorsed in the form of a resolution by the General Assembly. "Therefore," Dr. Abdoh added, "if it were practically possible at all to transfer authority to Indonesia before 1 May, it

(more)

would be necessary for the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia to agree on that point, and for the General Assembly to agree to change the basic agreement which it had endorsed."

In answer to another question, Dr. Abdoh said that "no formal request to shorten the UNTEA period of administration had been received by the United Nations."

The Administrator, concluding his statement said: "I anticipate and I am confident that the Netherlands and Indonesia will abide by the terms of the Agreement. Before proceeding to West New Guinea (West Irian), I stopped over at The Hague and later in Djakarta and I had full cooperation from the two governments."

"I am most grateful to both governments for the cooperation given me and I am confident that UNTEA will enjoy the continued cooperation of both sides," he added.

On his way to Hollandia, Dr. Abdoh changed planes in Biak airport, where he was greeted by the District Resident, George Rawlings and Major Rahman, Commander of the UNSF unit there.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/56
16 November 1962

TEMPORARY UN ADMINISTRATOR LEAVES WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Praises Cooperation of All Parties, in Farewell Message

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia)

Jose Rolz-Bennett, United Nations Temporary Administrator in West New Guinea (West Irian) and Deputy Chief de Cabinet in the United Nations Secretariat, left Hollandia this morning on return to New York, where he is expected to arrive on 6 December.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett is returning to United Nations Headquarters following the arrival of Dr. Djalal Abdoh, the United Nations Administrator, in Hollandia on 15 November.

Mr. Rolz-Bennett will be visiting Djakarta, Karachi and The Hague, while en route to New York, and will hold discussions at these places, on behalf of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), with the representatives of the governments concerned on matters of mutual interest.

Present at Sentani airport in Hollandia this morning to bid farewell to Mr. Rolz-Bennett were: Dr. Djalal Abdoh the United Nations Administrator; Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF); Louis Goedhart, Chief of the Netherlands mission; and Dr. Sudjarwo, Chief of the Indonesian mission.

In a brief farewell message before departing, Mr. Rolz-Bennett expressed his warm appreciation for the cooperation he received in carrying out the assignments entrusted to him by the Acting Secretary-General, by the people of the territory, the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia, and the officials of UNTEA.

Commenting on the initial period of UNTEA activity since 1 October, he said he was gratified to note that the implementation of the Agreement, signed by the Netherlands and Indonesian Governments, had proceeded smoothly, notwithstanding pessimistic predictions and certain difficulties created by the sudden departure, before the transfer of authority, of nearly three-fourths of Dutch officials of the previous administration.

"The atmosphere of calm which was prevailed throughout this period," Mr. Rolz-Bennett stated, "is a tribute to the population of West New Guinea (West Irian), whose respect for law and order has been amply demonstrated." He added that it was also made possible by the understanding attitude of all parties concerned.

(more)

He paid tribute to the "devoted efforts" of the UNTEA staff, including Dutch, Indonesian, Papuan, West Irianese and internationally-recruited personnel, and also to the Netherlands and Indonesian Governments, for the accomplishments achieved in organizing and putting into operation the first direct administration of a territory by the United Nations.

After only seven weeks of UNTEA administration, he commented, it was too early to make an assessment of the results, but it was encouraging to note, he stated, that those Dutch officials who stayed behind, have been working side by side with Indonesian officials, as well as with the internationally-recruited staff, and that "relations between all officials have been cordial and satisfactory."

"Now that the critical period is over," he stated, "the administration has been returning to its normal patterns and procedures, thus lightening the burden of some and utilizing, more fully, the services of the others."

Mr. Rolz-Bennett stated that "law and order have prevailed throughout the territory during this period and the security of all the inhabitants has been preserved."

The United Nations Security Force under the command of Brigadier Said-Uddin Khan, he added, "is deployed at all the main centers of the territory and constitutes an example of discipline and a firm guarantee that peace in the territory will be maintained."

He also paid tribute, in this respect, to the high degree of discipline demonstrated by the Netherlands and Indonesian troops.

It was fortunate, he concluded, that the heavy task of the UNTEA would now be tackled by a man of the stature and experience of Dr. Djalal Abdoh, under whose guidance, he was assured, the objectives of the UNTEA would be attained.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/57
19 November 1962

UNTEA DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS AND POWER VISITS DJAKARTA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Djakarta)

Pavel Komin of the United Nations Secretariat, who was recently appointed Director of Public Works and Power in the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in West New Guinea (West Irian), arrived in Djakarta on 12 November for consultations with the Indonesian Government on problems related to future development projects in the territory. He will proceed to Hollandia shortly.

Mr. Komin, of the USSR, has been with the United Nations since 1961, and was previously a member of the diplomatic service of his country, having served with the Soviet Embassies in Canada and in the United States.

He graduated in engineering from the Urals Industrial Institute in 1936 and also served as chief metallologist of the machine production factory in the Urals.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/58
21 November 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR VISITS HOSPITAL IN HOLLANDIA

(The following information was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Beginning his official duties, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), accompanied by Dr. M. C. Icasiano, Director of the Public Health Department, visited the Kotabaru Central Hospital of Hollandia this morning.

He expressed his appreciation of the fruitful cooperation between Dutch and Indonesian medical officers and nursing staff.

He stated that he found the hospital very well equipped and organized, and that services it rendered were of a very high standard.

The United Nations Administrator arrived in Hollandia on 14 November.

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UNITED NATIONS

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/60
26 November 1962

FIRST UNITED NATIONS NAVAL VESSEL ENTERS WEST NEW GUINEA WATERS

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The first naval vessel of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF), "LCT 9608," entered Hollandia Bay on 22 November. The vessel was commanded by Lieutenant Sajjad Akbar and manned by sailors of the Pakistan Navy now serving under the United Nations flag.

The "LCT 9608" is one of the largest of the nine naval crafts taken over from the Netherlands Navy. Five of these vessels were formally commissioned in Biak last week.

It is the first time that the United Nations has had its own navy. The general role assigned to the United Nations craft is to provide transport facilities for UNSF.

The vessels will also carry out patrol duties, and at present some of the boats are engaged in checking unauthorized movements of local craft of the territory along the southern coast. This is a quarantine measure imposed to keep the cholera epidemic confined to one area where it is now being progressively stamped out.

Netherlands Troops Leave Biak

It has been announced that the last unit of the Netherlands troops has left Biak en route to Amsterdam. This brings to an end the repatriation program of all Netherlands armed forces stationed in West New Guinea (West Irian).

In the Agreement of 15 August 1962, signed between the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia concerning the territory, Article VII specifies that these forces "will be repatriated as rapidly as possible." Under this clause, 9,600 Netherlands military personnel have been repatriated since the signing of the Agreement.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/62
30 November 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR INVESTS COURT OF JUSTICE
IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

The United Nations Administrator for West New Guinea (West Irian), Dr. Djalal Abdoh, this morning invested Nas Soeprapto as President of the West New Guinea (West Irian) Court of Justice, at a ceremony held at the Office of the Administrator in Hollandia.

Also invested to their offices were W. Aalbersberg, as Acting Procuror General and J.de Zoete as Acting Member of the Court.

The ceremony was attended by the Chief of the Netherlands mission, Louis Goedhart; Deputy Administrator Dr. S. Sen; the Commander of the United Nations Security Force, Brigadier General Said-Uddin Khan; Executive Secretary George Janecek; and other UNTEA officials.

Dr. Abdoh said, at the ceremony, that it was the first time that a judiciary had been constituted within a United Nations territorial administration. The United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) Courts, he stated, will be constantly relied upon to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter, to ensure respect for human rights and to preserve intact as a public trust the rights and liberties of the people of the territory.

Dr. Abdoh observed that all laws of the territory had to be in conformity with the letter and spirit of the Agreement signed on 15 August 1962 between the Governments of the Netherlands and Indonesia concerning the territory.

"The judiciary," he said, "will therefore be called upon to administer these laws, subject to their consistency with the Agreement."

Dr. Abdoh added that, being a former magistrate himself, he was particularly glad to proceed with the investiture. He also stated his confidence that the new "judiciary will constantly promote and steadfastly uphold the integrity, objectivity and high quality of the UNTEA corps."

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/63
3 December 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR DISCUSSES PERSONNEL PROBLEMS

IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), in an interview with correspondents on 1 December, mentioned the restoration of postal and tele-communications systems between the Netherlands and Indonesia and said that it was "a good sign."

In answer to questions, the Administrator said that he expected some 180 Netherlands nationals who are staff members of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) would be willing to stay on after 1 January 1963. He added that they could continue to work for the whole duration of UNTEA period if they were the best qualified persons for their jobs. "Each particular case" he said, "will be judged on its own merits."

As for Indonesian personnel coming in to fill vacancies created by outgoing Netherlands officials, Dr. Abdoh said that most of them will be "filled in" before the end of the year. He estimated that some 80 Netherlands nationals would wish to stay in the territory after the transfer of administration to Indonesia.

When asked about the status of Indonesian troops in the territory, Dr. Abdoh stressed that they are part of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) and would be used as a "last resort" if they were needed to help the police maintain law and order. He added that these troops had co-operated fully with UNTEA.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/64
4 December 1962

NEW GUINEA COUNCIL PLEDGES SUPPORT TO
NETHERLANDS-INDONESIA AGREEMENT

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer with UNTEA, Hollandia.)

Dr. Djalal Abdoh, the United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), met with the New Guinea Council in Hollandia today.

The ceremony was attended by Louis Goehardt, Chief of the Netherlands mission to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA); Dr. Soedjarwo, Chief of the Indonesian mission; Deputy Administrator Dr. S. Sen; the Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF), Brigadier-General Said-Uddin Khan; the Executive Secretary, George Janecek; and other UNTEA officials.

Dr. Abdoh emphasized the "high importance attached by UNTEA to the role of the New Guinea Council as the principal representative body in the territory."

During the ceremony, Dr. Abdoh administered the oath of office to the members of the Council.

After the introductory remarks made by Dr. Abdoh, the Council's President, T.H. Meset, followed by each member of the Council, took the new oath, swearing "allegiance to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority." Each member pledged to support loyally the provisions of the Agreement signed by Indonesia and the Netherlands on 15 August 1962, and said that he would "champion the welfare of the territory according to my ability."

The Council's current session will close tomorrow. Following the closure, the functions of the Council will be executed by the Board of Delegates, which is the hold-over committee of the Council.

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Press Release WNG/65
5 December 1962

UN ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSES CONCLUDING SESSION OF NEW GUINEA COUNCIL

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The New Guinea Council in Hollandia, West New Guinea (West Irian), concluded its session today with a closing address by Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator.

In his address, Dr. Abdoh emphasized the special responsibility of the Council to convey to the people of the territory, fully and objectively, the provisions of the Netherlands-Indonesia Agreement of 15 August, on the future of West New Guinea (West Irian).

The session was attended by the representatives of the missions of the Netherlands and Indonesia to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), the Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) and other UNTEA officials.

Addressing the Council, Dr. Abdoh said that, "as the principal representative body in the territory, through which the population participates in matters of government," this organ was of very great importance to UNTEA.

In his statement, Dr. Abdoh noted that the legislative and consultative functions of the Council "continue by reason of the provisions of existing laws which are consistent with the Agreement." He added that the Agreement contained "various references to consultation with representative councils" and laid particular emphasis on "the ultimate and decisive effect of the freely expressed wishes of the population."

Announcing that UNTEA will endeavor to achieve a smooth transition, the Administrator noted that the "collaboration of the New Guinea Council can be a matter of very real significance."

As a body of delegates, of whom more than half were elected, Dr. Abdoh stated, the Council was in a "unique position" to help establish intercommunication and genuine participation and partnership between the inhabitants and the Administering Authority.

He also stressed the role of the Council "as a forum for free expression of opinion and public discussion."

Dr. Abdoh then noted that since UNTEA administration was only established for a short period, it did not intend "to introduce a long-range program" of legislation.

(more)

The Administrator stated that, after the transfer of administration to Indonesia, the territory would exercise freedom of choice regarding its future. "For this," he said, "the full participation of both the inhabitants and their representative councils will be essential." According to the Agreement, he noted, these councils would be "consulted in advance."

Speaking of the problem of publicizing the provisions of the Agreement to the inhabitants of the territory, Dr. Abdoh said that it was "one immediate task, for which, I am in no doubt, that members of this Council are exceptionally qualified to help."

Finally, Dr. Abdoh stated that "the session, which is about to close, has witnessed the beginning of historic changes in which you and all the people of this territory will have a vital role to play."

He then thanked the Council for "the cooperation it has given to UNTEA," and declared the session closed.

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Press Release WNG/66
12 December 1962

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY OBSERVED IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a UN information officer in Hollandia.)

On the occasion of the observance of Human Rights Day at Hollandia, 10 December, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of West New Guinea (West Irian), delivered a commemorative speech in which he emphasized the importance of the worldwide celebration of the day.

The Administrator said that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on 10 December 1948 by the General Assembly of the United Nations, had a special significance and was of special importance in West New Guinea (West Irian).

He recalled that the Agreement signed by the Governments of Netherlands and Indonesia, concerning the territory on 15 August 1962, is based on the principles and purposes of both the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Agreement, he added, requires that after the full transfer of administrative authority to Indonesia, Indonesian national laws and regulations will be applicable in the territory with the understanding that they will be consistent with the rights and freedoms guaranteed to the inhabitants under the terms of the present Agreement.

Dr. Abdoh said further that, according to the Agreement, the primary task of Indonesia after resuming full administrative authority will be to intensify the education of the people, and advance their social, cultural and economic development. Efforts also will be made to accelerate the participation of the people in local government through periodic elections.

The Agreement safeguards the rights of the inhabitants of West New Guinea (West Irian) and says that UNTEA and Indonesia will guarantee fully these rights, he added.

Dr. Abdoh declared that the Agreement specifically recognizes the right of self-determination and sets a date for West New Guinea (West Irian) to exercise this right before the end of 1969, when the Government of Indonesia in cooperation with the United Nations will make arrangements for the people of the territory to decide freely on their future.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/69
17 December 1962

KOKENAU DISTRICT IN NEW GUINEA DECLARED CHOLERA FREE;
EPIDEMIC STILL CONTINUES IN AGATS

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

No case of cholera has been reported since last week in the district of Kokenau, one of the two districts along the south coast of West New Guinea (West Irian) infected by the disease.

In the district of Agats, the area infected by cholera, 428 cases -- 164 of them fatal -- were reported in the past two weeks.

Dr. Marino Icasiano, Director of Public Health, announced this morning that the district of Kokenau was now free of cholera and quarantine measures in the district were being lifted. The district of Agats, however, continued to be under quarantine.

Dr. Icasiano also announced that he was expecting 10 additional male nurses from Indonesia to reinforce the medical team currently fighting the epidemic in the Agats district.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/70
17 December 1962

AUSTRALIAN HELICOPTER ON UNITED NATIONS MISSION
CRASHES IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

An Australian helicopter loaned to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) to help fight the cholera epidemic in the southern territory, part of West New Guinea (West Irian), crashed yesterday, 16 December 1962.

The helicopter carrying supplies of vaccines and food, crashed as it was about to land in Perimapoen, a small village in the Agats district.

Lauri Simpson, one of the two crew members, suffered concussion of the brain and a fracture of his right arm. Captain Haosen, the pilot, was unharmed. Mr. Simpson was flown to Hollandia last night and was admitted to the Central Hospital. His condition is not considered serious.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/71
17 December 1962

LABOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN WEST NEW GUINEA

DISCUSSES MINIMUM WAGE, UNEMPLOYMENT

Relief Work Programs Planned

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

A 15-man Labor Advisory Committee, representing the administration, management and labor, last week discussed the question of minimum wage and unemployment in the territory of West New Guinea (West Irian).

George Daniel, Deputy Director of Social Affairs and Justice, who presided at the meeting, explained that the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) intended to start a number of construction projects to give work to as many persons as possible of the 3,600 now without work. These projects would also help in the development of the territory's economy, he said.

Labor representatives on the Advisory Committee asked for the announcement of minimum wages on the basis of proposals agreed upon by the Committee last July. Under these proposals married workers would receive five guilders per day and bachelors three guilders and fifty cents.

About 2,000 of the 3,600 Papuan workers now unemployed, are expected to have work as a result of a broad program of public works proposed by the UNTEA. The relief program will be financed by a reserve fund of one million New Guinea guilders, specially provided for in the public works budget to relieve unemployment.

Construction projects at a cost of 650,000 guilders have already been approved under this program. These projects include road building in Biak and Seroei; construction of a sea wall in Sorong, and an airstrip in Waghete, Central Highlands area; two agricultural settlement schemes near Biak; and an unemployment relief project in Merauke. A total of 1340 workers will benefit from these projects.

The balance of the reserve fund (350,000 guilders) is expected to be allocated next week to provide employment to some 660 more Papuans. The total public works budget is 6,677,000 New Guinea guilders.

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Press Release WNG/72
18 December 1962

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OUTLINED FOR WEST IRIAN

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The first series of 12 construction projects is at present underway in West New Guinea (West Irian) and the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) is considering launching others in the near future, according to Pavel Komin, Director of Public Works and Power in the territory.

"Unemployment is a major problem in the territory," he said, "and we are trying to solve it by putting into effect an extensive public works program." According to the latest information available, there are at present 3,600 unemployed in West New Guinea (West Irian).

The 12 projects include the construction in Hollandia of the New Guinea Council chambers, the Court of Justice, and several housing projects; construction of a wharf and hospital in Biak; building of houses, sport-grounds and kitchen facilities at Fak Fak; a canteen in Manokwari; and nurses quarters for a Leprosarium at Sorong.

Mr. Komin said that he was studying a plan for enlarging Sentani airport by extending the runway so that bigger aircraft could land. He also contemplated the building of a road to the beach at Hollandia.

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Background Release

Press Release WNG/73
27 December 1962

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY FORCE IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Strength of Troop Contingents and Other Units

Countries	Total Strength as of 10 December 1962								TOTAL
	Staff		Troops		Air		Navy		
	Personnel				Force				
	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>Men</u>	
Canada					4	8			12
Pakistan	8	10	37	1,357			10*	100	1,522
United States					14	50			64
	8	10	37	1,357	18	58	10*	100	1,598

Total Strength as of 10 December 1962 -- 1,598

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* Three Naval Staff Officers and one Liaison Officer at the Headquarters.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/74
28 December 1962

COMPLETE CONTROL OF CHOLERA EPIDEMIC EXPECTED
SOON IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following information was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The number of cholera cases in West New Guinea (West Irian) declined sharply in the past two weeks, and Dr. Mariano Icasiano, Director of Public Health in the territory, said that if the trend continues he expects "complete control of the epidemic in the near future."

In the district of Agats, one of the two districts on the territory's south coast which had been infected by the disease, 17 kampongs (small villages) were declared free of cholera in the last two weeks.

Kokenau, the other district infected, was declared cholera free on 8 December, and quarantine measures have been lifted in the area.

The epidemic is now concentrated in the vicinity of Perimapoen, a village near Agats. In this area, a total of only 73 cases, 18 of them fatal, was reported in the past 15 days. Four hundred and twenty-eight cases, with 164 of them fatal, had been reported for the preceding two weeks, for a total of 1,286 cases, 481 of them fatal, since the outbreak of the epidemic during the last week of September.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/78
2 January 1963

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLIES TO STUDY SITUATION IN WEST NEW GUINEA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The newly established Committee of Supplies met for the first time this morning in Hollandia to study the situation regarding supplies in the territory.

The Committee was established last week by Dr. Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator for West New Guinea (West Irian), to ensure that goods will be kept at a proper level.

The Committee is composed of Ghulam Abbas, Director of Finance; D.A. Somerville, Director of Internal Affairs; Raymond Hill, Director of Economic Affairs; and A. Moller, Director of Transport, Power and Communications.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/83
17 January 1963

JOINT FAO-INDONESIAN MISSION COMPLETES SEVEN-DAY TOUR
OF WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

A joint Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and an Indonesian mission from Djakarta has just completed a seven-day tour of West New Guinea (West Irian), to assess technical assistance needs of the Territory, both during and after the administration of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA).

The joint tour followed the recent visit to Djakarta by Dr. Sudhir Sen, Deputy Administrator of UNTEA, where he held discussions with Indonesian authorities and representatives of the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

The joint mission included: John G. Tauber, FAO Representative in Djakarta; Dr. Sadikin Sumintahardja, Chief Co-ordinator of the Agricultural Research in Indonesia, and two FAO experts, J. B. Brown, a tropical agronomist and I. K. Tomberg, a fisheries expert.

The joint mission first visited the agricultural research station in Manokuari, an important project started in 1960 by the Netherlands Administration. It is located on the north-west coast of the Territory. At Hollandia (Kotabaru), the mission held consultations with the UNTEA Administrator, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, and other UNTEA officials.

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Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/79
7 January 1963

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF INDONESIAN ARMY
CONCLUDES THREE-DAY VISIT TO WEST IRIAN

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Major-General Achmad Jani, Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian Army, has ended a three-day visit to West New Guinea (West Irian), expressing his belief that the transfer of administration from the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) to Indonesia will be achieved "smoothly".

General Jani's comment was made in a statement at Sentani airport on Friday, 4 January, before he boarded a plane for Djakarta. He said he was happy to be able to see conditions in the Territory and he expressed his appreciation of the hospitality of the United Nations Administrator, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, and the Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF), Brigadier-General Said-Uddin Khan.

General Jani arrived in Hollandia (Kotabaru) on 30 December to attend the ceremonial hoisting of the Indonesian flag alongside that of the United Nations*. He was a guest of UNTEA during his stay.

While in the Territory he visited the districts of Merauke, Kaimana, Manokwari, Sorong and Biak. He had a "useful" exchange of views with the Administrator, and was guest of honour at a dinner given by Dr. Abdoh and attended by Netherlands, Indonesian and United Nations officials.

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* See Press Release WNG/77.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/80
14 January 1963

PAPUANS PRESENT PETITION TO UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATOR

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia.)

Papuan demonstrators, numbering about 1,000, marched to the residence of United Nations Administrator, Djalal Abdoh, today, carrying Indonesian flags and banners, and asked a delegation of four to present him with series of requests concerning the future of West New Guinea (West Irian).

The demonstration was orderly and had been authorized by the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA).

The delegates received by Mr. Abdoh asked for a shortening of the UNTEA period of administration and for unification with Indonesia "in the shortest possible time". They also declared themselves "faithful to the proclamation of the Republic of Indonesia of 17 August 1945". Finally, they asked that the Territory be given "broad autonomy within the Republic of Indonesia".

The delegates presented their requests in the form of a petition signed by 18 political leaders from the area of Hollandia (Kotabaru).

The Administrator took note of the petition and informed the delegates that he would forward it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The four delegates also delivered the text of their petition to Max Maramis, acting Chief of the Indonesian Liaison Mission to UNTEA.

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UNITED NATIONS

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/82
16 January 1963

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF PAKISTANI ARMY INSPECTS CONTINGENTS WITH UNSF

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

General Mohammed Musa Khan, Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistani Army, arrived in West New Guinea (West Irian), on 15 January, on a four-day inspection tour of Pakistani contingents serving with the United Nations Security Force (UNSF).

During his stay in the territory, he will be a guest of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA).

Arriving from Djakarta, General Musa landed in Biak and was received by Brigadier-General Said-Uddin Khan, Commander-in-Chief of UNSF. General Musa began his tour today, 16 January, and visited Kaimana and Merauke. He is expected to visit Hollandia (Kotabaru) tomorrow. He is scheduled to return to Karachi on 18 January.

Meanwhile, C.R. Rao, Chief of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Djakarta, has just completed a brief survey of air traffic facilities in the two larger airports of West New Guinea (West Irian) -- Biak and Hollandia.

During his visit, Mr. Rao studied problems concerning communication facilities, airstrips, and search and rescue operations.

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UNITED NATIONS
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1425
WNG/84

24 January 1963

C.V. NARASIMHAN, CHIEF DE CABINET, TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS WITH
INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AND UNTEA ADMINISTRATOR ON MATTERS
RELATING TO WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

1. Over the past several weeks, a number of communications from Papuan (West Irianese) leaders and representatives of various groups in the territory have been received by the Secretary-General and the UNTEA Administrator, requesting that the period of UNTEA administration in West New Guinea (West Irian) be shortened and the administration transferred to Indonesia prior to 1 May 1963.

A joint declaration dated 21 November 1962, signed by representatives of the West New Guinea (West Irian) Council and several political, business and religious groups, was transmitted to the Secretary-General and to the UNTEA Administrator, expressing the gratitude of the people of West New Guinea (West Irian) for the orderly manner in which the transitional period had been conducted and stating that UNTEA having thus accomplished its mission, the time had now arrived to proceed without delay with the development of the Territory, for which the Republic of Indonesia would be responsible, together with the inhabitants of West New Guinea (West Irian).

To achieve this objective -- the declaration continued -- the period of UNTEA administration should be terminated on 31 December 1962 and the administration of the Territory transferred to the Republic of Indonesia. This declaration has been followed by other resolutions and communications having a similar purport.

2. These views were brought to the attention of the Secretary-General by Dr. Sudjarwo Tjondronegoro, Deputy to the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia and Head of the Indonesian Liaison Mission to UNTEA, who arrived in New York on 12 January 1963. During the past week, he has consulted with the Secretary-General on matters relating to the implementation of the Agreement between the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands concerning West New Guinea (West Irian), signed on 15 August 1962.

He has explained to the Secretary-General that, despite the desire of the Government of Indonesia to adhere scrupulously to the terms of the Agreement, the wishes of the people of West New Guinea (West Irian) should not be ignored, and they therefore felt it was their duty to consult with the Secretary-General on this matter.

(more)

24 January 1963

3. After due consultation with the Representative of the Netherlands, the Secretary-General has come to the conclusion that, in the circumstances, any shortening of the UNTEA period is not feasible. The Secretary-General feels, however, that within the terms of the Agreement, steps could be taken to facilitate the implementation of measures designed to advance the development of the Territory in the various branches of activity, and to take into account the wishes to which expression was given in the above-mentioned communications.

4. During the transitional period of UNTEA, two stages were envisaged: (a) the phasing out of the Netherlands civilian and military officials, which would take place substantially from 1 October to 31 December 1962; and (b) the phasing in of Indonesian administrative personnel, which was to be accelerated after the latter date.

5. With a view to facilitating in all possible ways the induction into the administration of West New Guinea (West Irian) of Indonesian officials and to ensure continuity and expansion of all essential services, especially those which concern the welfare of the people, and to help as may be possible to accelerate the plans for development of the Territory, the Secretary-General has decided to depute C. V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet, to consult with the Indonesian Government and with Dr. Djalal Abdoh, UNTEA Administrator, and to give assistance, within the terms of the Agreement, in carrying out the tasks mentioned above.

Mr. Narasimhan will arrive in Djakarta on 5 February, and after consultations with the Indonesian Government, will go to West New Guinea (West Irian) on 8 February for consultations with Dr. Abdoh. It is planned that he will return to Djakarta on 12 February for final discussions with the Indonesian Government.

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UNITED NATIONS

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/85
30 January 1963

INDONESIAN COMPANY TO TAKE OVER
NEW GUINEA COASTAL SHIPPING

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The Indonesian shipping company, "Pelni", will take over from Koninklyke Paketvaart Maatschappy (KPM) next March on services between coastal ports of the Territory and Singapore. The "Kaloekoe" and "Kasimbar" will be the last KPM ships to call in the Territory. The "Kaloekoe" will leave Singapore on 9 February, and is scheduled to sail from Hollandia on 10 March, Biak, 13 March, Manokwari, 15 March, and arrive at Sorong around 18 March. The "Kasimbar", which will call at Merauke on 5 April, will meet Kaloekoe in Sorong, and pick up passengers to continue through to Singapore. The "cycloop", a steamer chartered by KPM operating on the north coast of the Territory, will be taken over by Pelni at the end of March, together with the ship "Sungei Panai", which calls at ports in Geelvink Bay and Maccluer Gulf.

KPM personnel will act as agents for the Pelni line during the first phase of the take-over.

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UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release SG/1439
26 February 1963

LETTER FROM PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA
TO SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT

20 February 1963

I have the honour to communicate herewith the text of a cable received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia for transmission to Your Excellency. The message reads as follows:

"EXCELLENCY, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU THAT, AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH MR. C.V. NARASIMHAN, YOUR EXCELLENCY'S CHEF DE CABINET, DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO INDONESIA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA HAS DECIDED TO REOPEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. IT IS PROPOSED TO START WITH EXCHANGE OF CHARGES D'AFFAIRES FOR THE TIME BEING. PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

DR. SUBANDRIO
DEPUTY FIRST MINISTER/MINISTER FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
INDONESIA."

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) L.N. Palar
Permanent Representative of Indonesia
to the United Nations

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Background Release

Press Release WNG/87
7 February 1963

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY FORCE IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Strength of Troop Contingents and Other Units

Countries	Total Strength as of 7 February 1963								
	Staff Personnel		Troops		Air Force		Navy		TOTAL
	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	
Canada	1				3	8			12
Pakistan	9	10	37	1,371			10*	100	1,537
United States					15	44			59
Total	10	10	37	1,371	18	52	10*	100	1,608

Total Strength as of 7 February 1963 -- 1,608

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* Three Naval Staff Officers and One Liaison Officer at the Hqrs.

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Press Release WNG/88
8 February 1963

UNTEA ADMINISTRATION OF WEST NEW GUINEA
TO BE TRANSFERRED TO INDONESIA ON 1 MAY 1963

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia.)

C. V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet and Under-Secretary for General Assembly Affairs, announced at a press conference in Djakarta on 7 February that, "following my discussions in Djakarta and in consultation with the Administrator of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), I am authorized to announce, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, that the Administrator will transfer the entire administration of West New Guinea (West Irian) to the designated representative of the Republic of Indonesia, as provided in Article XII of the Agreement, at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 May 1963".

Asked by correspondents whether the Indonesian Government was aware of the contents of the statement, Mr. Narasimhan replied that the statement was made with the knowledge and approval of the Indonesian Government.

He said that the Indonesian Government had not asked the United Nations to advance the date of transfer, but had brought to the attention of the United Nations the feeling among the population of West Irian that the development and welfare could be accelerated by an earlier transfer.

Mr. Narasimhan stated that the United Nations was only a third party to the Agreement, and if no agreement could be reached between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia, then the United Nations could not take any action.

Regarding demonstrations by the Papuans, Mr. Narasimhan said that they could demonstrate but UNTEA could do nothing about it.

Asked about the possibility of the replacement of the Pakistani contingent of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF) in West Irian, Mr. Narasimhan said that the Agreement provided that there would be at least one infantry battalion and this battalion had to remain under the terms of the Agreement.

On the question of plebiscite, Mr. Narasimhan stated that the United Nations would act in consultation with the Indonesian Government, and the Government of the Netherlands, being a signatory to the Agreement, had the right to ask what the United Nations was doing in this respect.

(more)

Asked whether the personnel of the Netherlands now employed by UNTEA would be replaced, Mr. Narasimhan said that he had no idea how many were employed by UNTEA, nor how long their contract ran, but if qualified Indonesian personnel were available, the Netherlands officials would be replaced as their contracts expired, he added.

Mr. Narasimhan said the purpose of his visit to West Irian was to discuss problems and endeavour to settle them within the terms of the Agreement. The problems mainly concerned the acceleration of the induction of the administrative personnel so that Indonesia could take over on 1 May, with complete continuity in the maintenance of all essential services.

Questions were also raised at the press conference concerning "unhappy" relations between Indonesia and the Federation of Malaya.

Mr. Narasimhan said that he was "actively interested" in understanding the causes. He said that he had not been asked by the Indonesian Government or by the Government of Malaya to play any part in the problem. He had only been asked by the Secretary-General to ascertain facts and report upon return, he added.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/89
11 February 1963

TEXT OF C. V. NARASIMHAN'S STATEMENT IN HOLLANDIA

(Received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia).

The following is the text of a statement made by C.V. Narasimhan, Chief de Cabinet and Under-Secretary for General Assembly Affairs, on 10 February, at a reception in his honour in Hollandia, West New Guinea (West Irian).

"The Agreement that was signed between the Representatives of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and of the Republic of Indonesia was in many ways a historic document. It was, also, if I may say so, a very timely one, because I do not think I am exaggerating when I say that if that Agreement had not come at the time that it did, there would have been much avoidable conflict and suffering at this end of south east Asia.

"Speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, I must say we have been very gratified at the spirit of give and take, of compromise and of statesmanship shown by the leaders on both sides which enabled us to reach this Agreement, through which, in effect, the United Nations became the party of the third part.

"By the General Assembly's decision we became involved in it legally and juridically, and for the first time we have the United Nations administering a territory with all the attributes of a sovereign state.

"Now, the first stage envisaged in the Agreement, even before 1 October, was the cease-fire and the implementation of the cease-fire.

"Then, there was the stage of the Temporary Administrator which was also envisaged under the Agreement. There followed the stage of the full-fledged take-over of the administration by the United Nations, beginning 1 October.

"In the Agreement which covered a period from 1 October to 1 May, two stages were envisaged; the stage up to 31 December, when the United Nations flag would fly side by side with the flag of the Netherlands; and the stage from 31 December on to 1 May, when the United Nations flag would fly side by side with the flag of the Republic of Indonesia.

(more)

"After 31 December 1962, there was considerable pressure from the people of West Irian, that the second stage should be shortened. As I said earlier, the United Nations is only the party of the third part to the Agreement. It was not open to the Secretary-General to alter this Agreement. Even if he wished, he could not have done it, and even if there was an agreement by the two principal parties on the shortening of the period of the Administration of United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), even then, the Secretary-General would have had to place the matter before the General Assembly.

"As it was, our Indonesian colleagues made it quite clear that the Republic of Indonesia was not pressing for an earlier termination of the UNTEA period. Our colleague, Mr. Sudjarwo, came to New York to present his Government's views and he pointed out that they were acting upon the wishes of the people of the Territory, for our consideration and the consideration of our friends from the Netherlands.

"You are all aware that before I left on this mission, which is not confined to the problems of West Irian, the Secretary-General made it quite clear that after due consultation, he had reached the conclusion that any shortening of UNTEA period was not feasible.

"While I was in Djakarta, I had meetings with the Foreign Minister and with the President of the Republic himself, and with their approval I made the public announcement there that, in consultation with the Administrator, the Secretary-General had decided that we would hand over to the designated representative of the Republic of Indonesia, on Wednesday, 1 May, at 12:30 p.m.

"Now, I hope that with this decision we will all work together, and will have no further difficulty, nor any attempt by public pressure for a shortening of the UNTEA period. It is in recognition of this pressure that this date and this time have been set. Because, if you read the Agreement carefully, you will find that it contemplates the first stage of UNTEA Administration ending on 1 May; and then an indefinite second stage in the course of which the Administrator will pass judgement as to when he might hand over the administration of the Territory, in whole or in part, to the Representative of the Republic of Indonesia.

(more)

"This second stage we have curtailed to a matter of a few hours. This is our response to the wishes of the people. I do hope that from now on we will have no difficulty on this account; because we are caretakers, we are the honest brokers, we are the party of the third part to this Agreement, and it is not open to us to alter the Agreement, if we wished.

"I hope that all concerned will understand that we have done our best to meet the wishes of the people and that we will have no further difficulties on this account.

"Now, when I said the United Nations became the party of the third part, I did not mean to suggest that the United Nations was an unwilling party. Far from it, we have encouraged the settlement of this issue which had affected very adversely the relations between these two great countries, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia.

"We wanted to solve this problem to the satisfaction of both parties, and we played, first through the person of the Honourable Elsworth Bunker, who was the Ambassador of the United States to my own country, and later through the personal initiative of the Secretary-General himself, the part of the honest broker, and as a result we were able to settle this problem to the satisfaction of all concerned.

"The task, the implementation of the Agreement by the party of the third part, has been carried out in separate stages. In the first stage, by General Rikhye and his group of observers; in a later stage, by Jose Rolz-Bennett, whom we designated to consult with the representatives on the spot of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in regard to arrangements for our takeover; and lastly by Djalal Abdoh. I would like to say that the United Nations and the international community have been served with distinction by these three able representatives.

"As a result we have today a situation in which peace prevails over this entire Territory; and we are hoping that this stage of affairs will continue and we will hand over, in good order, to the Republic of Indonesia.

"It stands to reason that Mr. Abdoh cannot do this job just by himself. He has been, of course, backed up to some extent by me and my colleagues at Headquarters, however ineffectively and inadequately.

"He has also been served extremely well by the able band of international civil servants, a mere handful, if I may say so, who have worked at this end, and have made this task of administration of this vast Territory possible. To them, I would like to pay a special tribute.

(more)

"It is not easy for an international civil servant, who under the terms of his appointment is at the disposal of the Secretary-General, to forego his usual comfort in New York and to take on a difficult and sometimes unexpected job of work in a place so far away from home.

"Without a second thought, these international civil servants have done it elsewhere, all over the world, in far distant places like the Congo, and the international community owes a deep debt of gratitude to these civil servants, and because of their performance, I am proud to be one of them.

"I should also like to say how deeply indebted we are to the Government of Pakistan, which responded so rapidly to the request of the Secretary-General and provided such a fine contingent of men to serve in the security force here. To General Said-Uddin Khan (United Nations Commander of the United Nations Security Force) and his colleagues, I shall take this occasion to pay a special tribute.

"Their illustration of strength, and solidarity, has been enough to give a feeling of confidence in this area.

"You know, it is a very peculiar thing, when you have strength and you don't use it, you are much stronger than you would otherwise be. The impression of strength is enough to give confidence and this is exactly what our colleagues from Pakistan have done. Because of the confidence they have imparted and because of the spirit of co-operation, to which I have referred earlier, we have had no major difficulties.

"If you compare the period of UNTEA with the corresponding period of the early days of the United Nations in the Congo, and some of us present here have been in the Congo, you will know what I mean when I say how much smoother this has been.

"When you are on the spot there is a tendency to magnify, and to attach great importance to little incidents here and there. But in terms of what the United Nations has faced elsewhere, I would say that the work here has been conducted in conditions of great harmony and even relative peace.

"Therefore, I would say we are most grateful to the Government of Pakistan, to General Said-Uddin Khan, and his able group of assistants and his naval company. We are also grateful to the United States Air Force and to the Royal Canadian Air Force, which are also represented here and who have been playing their part in making this operation as successful as it has been, and I am confident it will continue to be.

(more)

"I would also like to pay tribute to the co-operation which the Netherlands and Indonesian Missions have so generously given us.

"I would like to say a few words before I conclude on the subject of the population of Irian Barat. From the very beginning, although there were so many differences between our Netherlands and Indonesian colleagues, they were agreed on this: that the interests of the Papuan population must come first.

"This recognition of a common interest is reflected in every clause, every article and sub-article of the Agreement and I have no doubt that when the administration of the Territory passes on to the Republic of Indonesia, they will do all they can to advance the welfare of the people in the letter and in the spirit of the Agreement.

"I am particularly glad in this connexion that the United Nations will be privileged to continue to serve the population of Irian Barat.

"While I was in Djakarta, I reached an agreement in principle with the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Dr. Subandrio, that we would set up, subject to General Assembly approval, a special United Nations fund for Irian Barat. This fund, we hope, will be used for the benefit of the population; and we hope that all Governments will contribute so that it will be a truly international effort.

"The United Nations has been connected with Irian Barat by an accident, almost, of history, but I do not feel that we should leave this place without any memorial to our temporary administration of the area, except that we have had a few distinguished civil servants working here, whose name might be remembered by the people after they have left.

"I would like to see some standing monument of our interest in, and our concern for, the economic development and welfare of the people of Irian Barat.

"I hope that in this task all of us will be partners: the United Nations, the Republic of Indonesia; the Government of the Netherlands and all Governments who value the goodwill of the population of Irian Barat.

"I hope, therefore, that I may close on this optimistic note, that through this transitional arrangement, the United Nations has not been just concerned in this operation like a ship passing through the bay of Hollandia (Kotabaru); that we have acquired, by our temporary presence here, a deep interest in the welfare of the people and that it will be our duty, in co-operation with our partners, to serve the population of Irian Barat, so that in the years to come they will remember that the United Nations was really and truly interested in their economic development and their continuing welfare."

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/90
13 February 1963

UNITED NATIONS CHIEF DE CABINET COMPLETES VISIT TO INDONESIA

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Djakarta.)

C. V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet and Under-Secretary for General Assembly Affairs, left Djakarta, Indonesia on 12 February.

He was seen off at the Kemajoran International Airport by Soedjjao Tjondronegoro, Indonesian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Nugroho, Chief of United Nations Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Apa B. Pant, Ambassador of India; and Vojko P. Pavicic, Resident Representative of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board (UNTAB) in Indonesia.

Before his departure from Djakarta, Mr. Narasimhan, at a press conference held at the UNTAB office, said that he had reported on the same morning of 12 February, to President Sukarno of Indonesia, on the results of his discussions in Hollandia (Kotabaru) with Administrator Djalal Abdoh, the Commander of the United Nations Security Force (UNSF), senior United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) officials, as well as members of the Netherlands and Indonesia Liaison Missions.

The results of the discussions in Hollandia were as follows:

The UNSF will be progressively replaced by Indonesian troops by 16 April, and the replacement is to be completed by 1 May 1963.

Netherlands officials are expected to be replaced by Indonesians not later than 31 March 1963.

The United Nations staff will leave West New Guinea (West Irian) on 1 May, except some accounts staff who will remain till the end of May, for the settling of accounts.

The Netherlands Bank, at present, is ready to hand over to the Bank of Indonesia. Chulam Abbas, Director of the Finance Department of UNTEA, is to arrive in Djakarta this week to discuss the implementation of such a transfer.

(more)

Mr. Narasimhan returned to Djakarta from Hollandia (Kotabaru), on 11 February. At a press conference in Hollandia, just prior to his departure, he said that the Indonesian Government would be sending expert teams to discuss the future development of West New Guinea (West Irian).

He hoped that "an agreed programme" could be produced which would give the United Nations a basis on which to utilize United Nations funds for the development of West New Guinea (West Irian), if such a fund was sanctioned by the General Assembly.

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Press Release WNG/91
14 February 1963

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ARRIVES IN HOLLANDIA TO DISCUSS HEALTH PROGRAMME

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

A team of four health specialists arrived in Hollandia (Kotabaru) yesterday (13 February) for a week's visit to study adjustments which may be needed in health and welfare programmes of West New Guinea (West Irian) after 1 May, when Indonesia takes over the administration of the Territory.

The team includes: Milton Gregg, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) representative in Djakarta; Dr. Henry Richards, Assistant Director of World Health Organization (WHO) Services in New Delhi; Dr. Roberto Lopez Lanzi, Acting WHO Representative in Djakarta; and Dr. Soerono, from the Indonesian Ministry of Health.

The four experts are holding discussions with Dr. Mariano Icasiano, Director of Public Health, and other medical specialists of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), to obtain first-hand knowledge of the organization of services set up under the Netherlands Administration and to determine future personnel needs in case adjustments are required in the present health programme.

WHO and UNICEF are participating in various aspects of health care in the Territory, particularly in the eradication of infectious diseases, strengthening of the administrative services and training programmes.

In addition, UNICEF gives assistance to mother and child welfare centres and milk distributing projects.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/92
18 February 1963

ADMINISTRATOR OPENS REGIONAL COUNCIL IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The first session of the Regional Council in Ransiki, on the north-west coast of West New Guinea (West Irian), was opened on 14 February by Djalal Abdoh, United Nations Administrator of the territory.

The Regional Council was established last September to "regulate domestic affairs", including the levying of taxes and the administering of customary justice.

Addressing the councilmen, Mr. Abdoh advised that in the discharge of their duties to the community they should have the welfare of the population as the "main objective".

The Administrator recalled that, under the Agreement of 15 August 1962, the Councils are to be consulted before new laws are issued or existing laws are changed. He outlined the rights of the inhabitants under the Agreement, and mentioned, in particular, those of freedom of speech, assembly and movement.

The United Nations Administrator flew to Ransiki for the ceremony and returned to Hollandia (Kotabaru) the same day. He was accompanied by David Sommerville, Director of Internal Affairs, and James C. Robertson, Chief of Police. Upon arrival at Ransiki, he was met by Peter Cameron, Divisional Commissioner for the area.

Regarding the Manokwari Agricultural Research Station, a major utility project located about 100 miles north of Ransiki, Mr. Abdoh announced that, following completion now, it will be operating at full capacity before the end of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) period.

He noted that since agriculture was "not so widely practised on this island", the station, which was started in 1960 under the Netherlands Administration, would be of "particular significance" for the economy of the territory.

He also announced that an agreement had been reached with an Indonesian firm to import additional goods into the territory, in order to "maintain a steady flow of supplies" until well after the end of the UNTEA period.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1447

WNG/95

13 March 1963

NETHERLANDS AND INDONESIA RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Secretary-General U Thant has announced that in further implementation of the Agreement and related understandings signed on 15 August 1962 concerning West New Guinea (West Irian), the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands have agreed to resume normal relations and to exchange diplomatic missions. These will have the rank of Embassies, but will, for the time being, be headed by Charges d'Affaires.

In this context, the Secretary-General has addressed, today, the following letters to the Permanent Representatives of the Netherlands and Indonesia, respectively.

Letter addressed by the Secretary-General to C.W.A. Schurmann,
Permanent Representative of the Netherlands

13 March 1963

Sir,

Further to my letter of 4 March 1963, I have the honour to inform you that I have received a communication, dated 12 March 1963, from His Excellency Ambassador L.N. Palar, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, informing me that his Government has decided to appoint Mr. Mohammad Sharif as Charge d'Affaires, with the rank of Minister, to head the Indonesian diplomatic mission to the Netherlands.

The name of the Charge d'Affaires who will head the diplomatic mission of the Netherlands to Indonesia is being simultaneously communicated to the Permanent Mission of Indonesia.

May I express on this occasion, to Your Excellency and to the Government of the Netherlands, my gratification at the resumption of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia which is a fitting and happy outcome of the Agreement and related understandings concerning West New Guinea (West Irian) signed at the United Nations Headquarters on 15 August 1962.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(more)

13 March 1963

Letter addressed by the Secretary-General to Lambertus N. Palar,
Permanent Representative of Indonesia

13 March 1963

Sir,

Further to my letter of 2 March 1963, I have the honour to inform you that I have received a communication, dated 5 March, from His Excellency Ambassador C.W.A. Schurmann, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations, informing me that his Government has decided to appoint Mr. Carl Dietrich Barkman as Charge d'Affaires, with the rank of Minister, to head the Netherlands diplomatic mission to Indonesia.

The name of the Charge d'Affaires who will head the diplomatic mission of Indonesia to the Netherlands is being simultaneously communicated to the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands.

May I express on this occasion, to Your Excellency and to the Government of Indonesia, my gratification at the resumption of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands which is a fitting and happy outcome of the Agreement and related understandings concerning West New Guinea (West Irian) signed at the United Nations Headquarters on 15 August 1962.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Press Release WNG/98
26 March 1963

INDONESIA TO GUARANTEE STABILITY OF NEW CURRENCY
TO BE INTRODUCED IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Policy Outlined at Bank Transfer

(The following was received from a UN Information Officer in Hollandia.)

The head of the Indonesian Liaison Mission to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), Dr. Sudjarwo, gave an assurance today that the stability of the new currency soon to be introduced in West New Guinea (West Irian) would be fully guaranteed by the Republic of Indonesia.

Speaking at the transfer of banking facilities in Hollandia (Kotabaru), Dr. Sudjarwo said there was "no need for alarm in the monetary field -- or over the convertibility of the new currency". The policy of the Indonesian Government was "to maintain the economic and monetary stability of the territory" when Indonesia assumed authority from the United Nations on 1 May 1963.

The banking facilities transferred to the Bank of Indonesia were those of the Hollandia (Kotabaru) branch of Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij (NHM).

Dr. Sudjarwo described the transfer as an "important occasion" because "the smooth way in which it was carried out demonstrates the goodwill and understanding of both sides". He praised UNTEA for its co-operation in effecting the transfer.

Others present at the formal transfer were the UNTEA Administrator, Djalal Abdoh; the head of the Netherlands Liaison Mission to UNTEA, Louis Goedhart; and managers of both NHM and the Bank of Indonesia.

Mr. Abdoh said it was gratifying that the efforts of UNTEA to bring about close co-operation had culminated in a "mutually satisfactory" transfer of such an important institution in the economic life of the territory.

Mr. Goedhart noted that the Administrator had eased the path of the transfer agreement. He hoped that the cordial relations between the two banks would be a happy augury for the future of the newly "re-established" relations between the Netherlands and Indonesia.

Details of the new currency introduction mentioned by Dr. Sudjarwo are to be announced by Indonesia before 1 May.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/99
26 March 1963

WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN) DECLARED FREE OF CHOLERA

The Territory of West New Guinea (West Irian) has been declared free of cholera on 23 March 1963, in accordance with international sanitary regulations, by the United Nations Administrator, Dr. Djalal Abdoh.

The epidemic of cholera began on 19 September 1962, prior to the establishment of the United Nations Temporary Administration. Since the outbreak, it has claimed a total of 510 lives, but was rapidly contained in a restricted area on the southern coast of the territory.

In less than six months, and in spite of considerable difficulties, the Health Services of UNTEA, with the assistance of the World Health Organization, have been able to free completely the territory of the infection.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/101
28 March 1963

NEW HOSPITAL OPENED IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia (Kotabaru).)

A hospital, built almost entirely of air-lifted materials, was officially opened today at Wamena in the Central Highlands of West New Guinea (West Irian) by the United Nations Administrator, Djalal Abdoh.

Construction of the hospital was started by the former Netherlands Administration and completed by the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in time for the transfer of authority to Indonesia on 1 May next. Originally estimated to cost \$200,000, the hospital is to serve the Baliem River Valley and the surrounding mountain country -- a region first "contacted" in 1947 by missionaries from the south coast.

It has 20 beds -- 10 in hospital rooms similar to those found in most countries, and 10 in small thatched huts suitable for cases requiring hospital observation but not serious enough for actual hospitalization.

Opening the hospital, Mr. Abdoh said its construction had proved "very expensive" and "full of difficulties" because materials had to be flown in by aircraft. Completion of the institution was a demonstration of the "deep concern of UNTEA for the people of the Baliem Valley".

The Administrator said missionaries had been mainly responsible for bringing the people of the Valley into contact with the medical benefits of modern living.

Fifteen missionary medical clinics and two government clinics in the region will now have a centre where seriously-ill patients can be treated by modern medical equipment. On the eve of its opening, the hospital had its first patient -- a mother who gave birth to a baby girl.

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Background Release

Press Release WNG/87
3 April 1963

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY FORCE IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

Strength of Troop Contingents and Other Units

Countries	Total Strength as of 30 March 1963								
	Staff Personnel		Troops		Air Force		Navy		TOTAL
	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	Offs.	Men	
Canada	1				3	8			12
Pakistan	9	10	36	1,369			8*	99	1,531
United States					12	37			49
TOTAL	10	10	36	1,369	15	45	8*	99	1,592

Total Strength as of 30 March 1963 -- 1,592

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* Three Naval Staff Officers and One Liaison Officer at the Headquarters.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1455
WNG/103
8 April 1963

C. V. NARASIMHAN TO REPRESENT SECRETARY-GENERAL
AT TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY OF WEST IRIAN TO INDONESIA

C. V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet, has been designated by Secretary-General U Thant to be his personal representative at the ceremony of transferring the administration of the territory of West Irian (West New Guinea) by Djalal Abdoh, Administrator of United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA), to Indonesia at Hollandia (Kotabaru) on 1 May 1963 at 12:30 p.m.

Prior to his visit to Hollandia (Kotabaru), Mr. Narasimhan has been asked by the Secretary-General to undertake a fact-finding mission which will include the following points in South East Asia: Kuching (Sarawak); Brunei, Jesselton (North Borneo); Manila; Kuala Lumpur; Singapore and Djakarta. This will be an extension of the fact-finding mission in which Mr. Narasimhan was engaged last February. He will meet Government leaders in these places and will report to the Secretary-General.

On his way back, Mr. Narasimhan will visit Bangkok, New Delhi, Geneva, London and The Hague for consultations.

He will leave New York on 10 April and plans to return to United Nations Headquarters on 9 May 1963.

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CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

Not to be used before 10:30 p.m. (EDT)
Tuesday, 30 April (12:30 p.m., West New
Guinea time, Wednesday, 1 May).

Press Release SG/1473
WNG/108
29 April 1963

MESSAGE BY SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT ON OCCASION OF TRANSFER
OF ADMINISTRATION OF WEST IRIAN (WEST NEW GUINEA) TO INDONESIA*

"On the occasion of the transfer of administration of West Irian (West New Guinea) from the United Nations to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, in accordance with the Agreement of 15 August 1962 as noted by the General Assembly by resolution 1752 (XVII), I should like to recall that for some eight months the United Nations has carried out its responsibility in the territory, initially through the United Nations observers, following the cessation of hostilities, and since 1 October 1962 through the Temporary Executive Authority.

"During this period, the United Nations has made the necessary preparation for a gradual transfer of full administrative control to the Republic of Indonesia. For us in the United Nations this has been a unique experience, which has once again proved the capacity of the United Nations to undertake a variety of functions, provided it receives adequate support from the States Members of the Organization.

"Throughout the period of UNTEA administration, I have been impressed and gratified by the spirit of accommodation shown by the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. They have displayed a realistic approach to the many problems that we have encountered during the UNTEA period. In recent weeks, the two Governments have re-established diplomatic relations, and this is a happy sequel to the solution of the West Irian (West New Guinea) question.

"In its undertaking in this territory, the United Nations has been served with distinction by the Administrator, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, and under his leadership by a group of international civil servants representing 32 nationalities. I would like to take this opportunity to pay a tribute to them for their dedication and loyalty, and also to express my personal gratitude to them. They have been ably assisted

(more)

*Scheduled to take place in Hollandia (Kotabaru) at 12:30 p.m., local time, Wednesday, 1 May.

during the earlier period of UNTEA by officials of the former Netherlands Administration, in the latter period by officials recruited from personnel provided by the Government of Indonesia and by local officials during the whole period of UNTEA. All these officials have given UNTEA unstinted support in order to enable the United Nations to fulfil its role.

"While there have been a few incidents in the earlier part of the Administration, by and large the situation in the territory has remained peaceful and calm. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the inhabitants of the territory for this display of confidence in the United Nations. The Security Force under the able command of General Said-Uddin Khan has contributed much to inspire this feeling of confidence.

"In their own respective fields of competence, the specialized agencies have given the UNTEA assistance and advice when called upon to do so. To these agencies I want to convey my sincere thanks for their co-operation.

"Before I conclude, I want to convey to the people of the territory my sincere good wishes for their future prosperity and happiness. I am confident that the Republic of Indonesia will scrupulously observe the terms of the Agreement concluded on 15 August 1962 and will ensure the exercise by the population of the territory of their right to express their wishes as to their future. The United Nations stands ready to give the Government of Indonesia all assistance in the implementation of this and the remaining parts of the Agreement."

* * * * *

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

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CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

Not to be used before 10:30 p.m. (EDT)
Tuesday, 30 April (12:30 p.m.,
West New Guinea time, Wednesday, 1 May).

Press Release SG/1474
WNG/109
29 April 1963

MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT TO BRIG. GEN. SAID-UDDIN KHAN,
COMMANDER OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY FORCE IN WEST IRIAN (WEST NEW GUINEA)*

"Upon the completion of the mission assigned to the United Nations Security Force in West Irian (West New Guinea), I wish to convey to the Pakistani army and naval contingents, to the Canadian and United States air force units, and to your Headquarters and staff, my highest appreciation for the outstanding qualities they have displayed in carrying out their duties under your command and under the authority of the United Nations Administrator. At the same time I wish to convey to the Indonesian contingent which, according to the Agreement of 15 August 1962, was placed under my authority, my appreciation and my gratitude for their loyal co-operation.

"It is particularly gratifying to note that the inhabitants of the territory displayed a remarkable respect for law and order, thus making it easier to maintain peace and security throughout the territory. To this happy result, I am sure the discipline of the UNSF contingents made an impressive contribution. I am also much gratified that such a friendly co-operation has developed between the contingents of the force and the civilian officials, especially those responsible for maintaining law and order. The UNSF contingents have joined the long and notable list of military units which have served the United Nations on assignments in distant lands which have made human understanding their objective and fraternity their tradition.

"I wish also to express my gratitude to the Governments concerned, who responded so generously to my request in providing such fine contingents of officers and men. Many in West Irian (West New Guinea) will remember the high sense of responsibility shown by all of you during your presence there, for a period which extended only over a few months, but also a period which, I hope, represents the beginning of an important era in their history. And beyond that, your unobtrusive but efficient participation in the work of the United Nations will be yet another illustration of the positive value of the United Nations to Member Governments that wish to see it develop further as an instrument at their disposal for removing international tensions and consolidating world peace."

* * * * *

* On occasion of the transfer of administration of West Irian (West New Guinea) from the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority to Indonesia, scheduled to take place in Hollandia (Kotabaru) at 12.30 p.m., local time, Wednesday, 1 May.

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CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

Not to be used before 10:30 p.m. (EDT)
Tuesday, 30 April (12:30 p.m., West New
Guinea time, Wednesday, 1 May).

Press Release WNG/110
29 April 1963

ADDRESS BY THE UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATOR OF
WEST IRIAN (WEST NEW GUINEA), DJALAL ABDOH*

"Your Excellencies, distinguished Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia and of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, distinguished Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, our honoured guest from the Republic of Indonesia, my distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

"It has fallen to my lot during these past six months to speak publicly on varying themes, but today I consider this opportunity to speak before you both a special privilege and an honour, and I do so with mixed feelings. I say mixed feelings because this is a memorable event in the history of this territory and for me and my colleagues it has been a rare privilege to participate in this unique administration, to serve the population of this territory and, in all humility, in having been able to achieve our main objectives.

"For us it is also an occasion for some regret because when we have just begun to identify ourselves with an endeavour so dear to our hearts and when we have made numerous contacts with so many of the people of this territory, the moment of separation should be upon us, although we knew that our work here was purely temporary.

"You will recollect that the United Nations, pursuing its purposes and principles under its Charter, showed its concern over the dispute that existed between Indonesia and the Netherlands regarding the territory of West Irian (West New Guinea) and this Administration was the result of an agreement which was signed on 15 August 1962 by representatives of those Governments, and which was taken note of by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

"I considered it an honour and a sign of confidence reposed in me by the Secretary-General when he appointed me as Administrator of this territory, with the concurrence of the Governments of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia, to carry out the main objectives of this agreement of 15 August 1962 --

(more)

* On occasion of the transfer of administration of West Irian (West New Guinea) from the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority to Indonesia, scheduled to take place in Hollandia (Kotabaru) at 12:30 p.m., local time, Wednesday, 1 May.

namely to ensure both a stable administration during the transitional period and a smooth transfer of full administrative control to the Republic of Indonesia on 1 May 1963.

"A brief review of the modest efforts of the UNTEA will reveal that it has tried to implement the various articles of the agreement faithfully and earnestly to achieve these twin objectives and has also endeavoured to fulfil the aims and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations concerning social, cultural or humanitarian aspects and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction, with a view to promoting the general welfare of the population of this territory.

"It was the main concern of the UNTEA administration to ensure the continuance of all public services and the maintenance of law and order, which UNTEA has successfully accomplished. During this period supplies of essential commodities were ensured, employment was kept at a satisfactory level, and the stability of the economy was maintained. Public works projects which would in the long run bring welfare and progress to the people of this territory were continued and, wherever possible, initiated or completed by this administration.

"Some of these were the opening of new hospitals, the completion of the Agricultural Research Station at Manokwari, the building of the New Guinea Council, the building of the Court of Justice, opening of more and more schools, the completion of the wharf at Biak, the provision of water supply in Merauke and Seroei, the extension of the road system and the extension of airfields.

"The budget of the UNTEA, which was being shared equally by the Netherlands and Indonesia, placed some inevitable limitations on the scope of its activities. Even so, the Administration did initiate action in the preparation of fresh public works and public utilities projects, with the collaboration of the Indonesian authorities, which would be capable of execution immediately after the transfer of full administrative control, so that no large-scale problems of unemployment or economic instability could arise.

"This Administration was also faced, from the very beginning, with the task of combatting a vile epidemic -- cholera -- in some parts of this territory, which started spreading even before the UNTEA was established. I am happy to be able to say that this Administration was able to achieve the complete eradication of this disease from the whole of this territory, although inevitably some lives were lost.

(more)

"Another field in which the Administration took particular interest was in bringing more and more of the West Irianese people into Administrative and like positions, and in imparting education and practical training to students and technicians.

"The UNTEA Administration gave special attention to preparing the population psychologically for the political changes that were taking place. The first such important change took place on 1 October 1962 when the United Nations flag was hoisted. Later, on 31 December 1962 the Netherlands flag was lowered and the flag of the Republic of Indonesia was flown side by side with the United Nations flag. You will soon see another symbolic change signifying the political evolution of this territory when the flag of the United Nations will be lowered and only the flag of the Republic of Indonesia will continue to fly.

"These are only some of the salient features of this Administration. I am certain all of you are aware of the difficulties and restrictions under which officials belonging to many nations participated in a co-operative endeavour which, by and large, has provided a heartening record of performance.

"As the Secretary-General of the United Nations remarked in the course of the discussions held in the General Assembly, this Administration was indeed an epoch-making precedent, and I am very grateful to the Governments of the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for their sustained co-operation and encouragement and constant assistance through their respective Liaison Missions. My thanks go also to my colleagues in the UNTEA Administration, each and every one of whom gave me their loyal and tireless support. I also wish to pay tribute to Mr. Jose Rolz-Bennett who was in charge of this Administration in its initial stage and who carried out his functions with distinction.

"The United Nations Security Force composed of the Pakistan contingent, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Air Force, contributed in no small measure to the fulfilment of the tasks entrusted to this Administration. Their exemplary loyalty and sense of discipline will add to the already distinguished list of the military units which have served the United Nations in other parts of the world. I wish to convey my gratitude and personal congratulations to the Commander of the UNSF and to all officers and men of the Pakistan contingent, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Air Force.

"I should not fail also to mention here the co-operation and understanding displayed by the officials belonging to the Netherlands, Indonesia and to those who belonged to this territory, and last but not least, to the people of the whole territory of West Irian (West New Guinea). I wish to add that without the lively interest and consistent support of the Secretary-General and the advice and guidance received from his distinguished Personal Representative who is present here, I personally, and my colleagues in the Administration, would not have been able to bring to this successful conclusion the mission assigned to us by the United Nations. There is no doubt that the impending change of Administration is an historic event for the people of this territory, with far reaching implications for their future welfare.

"We feel confident that the new Administration will exercise its authority to protect and promote the welfare of the people whom it has been our privilege to serve for the brief period of the last seven months. In conformity with Article XIII of the agreement of 15 August 1962, as Administrator of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority, I have great pleasure to hereby transfer the Administration of the territory to the Republic of Indonesia. I myself, and my colleagues in the UNTEA, extend all our good wishes to the Government of Indonesia and to the population of this territory.

* *** *

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Press Release WNG/112
25 April 1963

PROGRAMME FOR TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATION OF WEST IRIAN
(WEST NEW GUINEA) TO INDONESIA ANNOUNCED

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer with UNTEA, Hollandia-Kotabaru.)

Following is the programme of the ceremony marking the transfer of administration from the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) in West Irian (West New Guinea) to the Republic of Indonesia on 1 May:

- 11:15 a.m.* -- Assemblage in the Public Square of Hollandia-Kotabaru.
Appropriate music to be played by an Indonesian Army band.
- 11:40 a.m. -- Arrival of the United Nations Administrator, Djalal Abdoh,
and review of the Guard of Honour of the United Nations Security
Force (UNSF) by the Administrator.
- 11:45 a.m. -- Address by the United Nations Administrator.
- 12:05 p.m. -- Speech of acceptance of the transfer of administration by
Dr. Sudjarwo, as representative of the Republic of Indonesia.
- 12:25 p.m. -- Lowering of the United Nations flag, with salute by Guard of
Honour.
- 12:35 p.m. -- Delivery of a special message of Secretary-General U Thant by
C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet and Under-Secretary for
General Assembly Affairs, in his capacity as special represen-
tative of the Secretary-General.
- 1:05 p.m. -- Delivery of a special message of the President of the Republic
of Indonesia, Dr. Sukarno, by Dr. Subandrio, the Indonesian
Foreign Minister.
- 1:15 p.m. -- Departure of the United Nations Administrator and his party for
Sentai.
- 1:50 p.m. -- Arrival of the Administrator and his party at Sentai, received
by Guard of Honour of Indonesian troops and police.

(more)

*Hours correspond to local West Irian time, 11:15 a.m. being equal to 9:15 p.m. (EDT)
Tuesday, 30 April.

- 2:00 p.m. -- Departure of the Administrator and his party by special plane for Biak.
- 4:15 p.m. -- Arrival of the Administrator and his party at Biak, received by Guard of Honour of Indonesian armed forces and police.
- 4:30 p.m. -- Departure of the United Nations Administrator and his party by plane for Manila.

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Press Release WNG/113
27 April 1963

C. V. NARASIMHAN ARRIVES IN DJAKARTA

C. V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet, arrived in Djakarta tonight for a three-day visit, before proceeding to Hollandia (Kotabaru), West New Guinea (West Irian), where he will attend the ceremony of transferring the administration of the territory from the United Nations to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia as the personal representative of the Secretary-General.

Questioned by journalists at the airport, Mr. Narasimhan said he had had fruitful talks that day in Kuala Lumpur with the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, Tun Abdul Rahman, on the question of Malaysia, and he hoped to have fruitful exchange of views with Indonesian officials.

Mr. Narasimhan is scheduled to meet President Sukarno of Indonesia tomorrow morning, as well as the Foreign Minister Subandrio.

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United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/114
27 April 1963

SEAT OF JUSTICE OPENS IN WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)

(The following was received from a United Nations Information Officer in Hollandia.

Djalal Abdoh, the United Nations Administrator for West New Guinea (West Irian), today took part in the "roofing ceremony" at the Court of Justice construction site, which overlooks the harbour in Hollandia (Kotabaru).

"We are not merely participating in the ceremony", Mr. Abdoh said, "but we are recognizing the importance that we -- the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority and the United Nations as a whole -- attach to the rule of law and dispensation of justice."

The Court of Justice building project, initiated by the former Netherlands administration in 1961 at an estimated cost of approximately \$US175,000, is to be completed by the incoming Indonesian administration which takes over on 1 May.

The United Nations Temporary Executive Authority (UNTEA) has provided about \$US100,000 from its budget, which is shared equally by Indonesia and the Netherlands.

In his speech, Mr. Abdoh expressed his confidence that "fundamental freedoms, rights and liberties" would be upheld by the Court.

"Because", he added, "the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Charter of the United Nations have this purpose in view; and the United Nations has been directly concerned with this Seat of Justice which will be the means of enforcing these very objectives."

The ceremony also served as a farewell tribute to Pavel Komin, UNTEA Director of Public Works, whom the Administrator praised for his "energetic contribution" during the period of the UNTEA administration.

Among those attending the ceremony were: Chief Justice of the Court, Dr. Mas Soeprapto; Chief of the Netherlands liaison mission to UNTEA, Louis J. Goedhart; officials of UNTEA and the Indonesian liaison mission to UNTEA; and representatives of the contracting company and local community.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1476

WNG/115

29 April 1963

COMMUNICATION FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT TO
THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

Following is the text of a communication sent by the Secretary-General to the Government of Pakistan today, through the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations:

"With the conclusion of the mission entrusted to the Pakistan contingent in West New Guinea (West Irian), and the impending repatriation of its officers and men, the Secretary-General of the United Nations would like to express to the Government of Pakistan his appreciation for the outstanding manner in which they have discharged their duties. They have greatly contributed to the over-all success of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority in West New Guinea (West Irian).

"The Secretary-General would like to thank the Government of Pakistan for this prompt and timely assistance in providing the bulk of the United Nations Security Force, whose excellent conduct and service have made an historic contribution to peace and security in this area."

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U N I T E D N A T I O N S

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1483
WNG/118
4 May 1963

COMMUNICATION FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Following is the text of a communication sent by the Secretary-General to the Government of Canada yesterday, through the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, and upon the successful termination of the task entrusted to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority in West Irian (West New Guinea), has the honour to express to the Government of Canada his deep appreciation for their prompt and timely assistance in the provision of aircrafts and crew to provide support for the United Nations Security Force in West Irian (West New Guinea)."

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1484
WNG/119
4 May 1963

COMMUNICATION FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Following is the text of a communication sent by the Secretary-General to the Government of the United States, through the Permanent Mission of the United States to the United Nations:

"The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, and, upon the successful termination of the task entrusted to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority in West Irian (West New Guinea), has the honour to express to the Government of the United States of America his deep appreciation for its prompt and timely assistance in the provision of aircrafts and crew to provide support for the United Nations Security Force in West Irian (West New Guinea)."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release WNG/120
7 May 1963

UNTEA TO CONCLUDE OPERATIONS IN WEST IRIAN

A small group of international civil servants remained in West Irian (West New Guinea) this week to terminate operations of the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority.

UNTEA handed over the executive powers in the territory to Indonesia on 1 May, after a seven-month period of transition from the former Netherlands administration.

A total of 16 UNTEA staff members of 12 different nationalities make up the group, which has stayed behind to complete details of administration, finance auditing and transfer of facilities used by UNTEA.

The winding-up operation, directed by UNTEA Chief Administrative Officer George Janeczek, will take several weeks to complete with UNTEA personnel to leave the territory in stages.

Handing over of administrative duties are to be completed this week, financial accounts for the UNTEA period are expected to be processed till the third week of May, and local audit and inspection is due by the end of the month.

The diversification of the remaining UNTEA staff is as wide as it ever was during the UNTEA period, when 78 international civil servants from 32 nations served the administration.

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Trusteeship Council
30th Session, 13th Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1800
13 June 1963

COUNCIL CONTINUES EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS
IN TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

Questions relating to the role of the Trust Territory of New Guinea in the military arrangements of the ANZUS* Pact powers, as well as those relating to its political, social and economic development, were asked in the Trusteeship Council this afternoon, as the Council continued its examination of conditions in that territory.

The Trust Territory of New Guinea is administered by Australia.

The questions, which were answered by H. L. Niall, Special Representative, and Dudley McCarthy (Australia), were posed by Yury E. Fotin (USSR) and Dwight Dickinson (United States).

This afternoon, the Council also heard a statement by A. Salsamendi (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

The Council will meet again at 3:00 p.m. tomorrow.

Opening the questioning, Mr. Dickinson asked the Administering Authority to elaborate on the problems of providing a rate of political development which was both realistic and rapid.

Mr. Niall said that the main problems were chiefly educational.

In response to another question, Mr. Niall said that there were several New Guineans who had already indicated their interest in standing for election.

Asked whether the ratio of one representative to 30,000 electors would have a better effect in eliminating tribalism than a smaller ratio, Mr. Niall said that enlarging the electorate would be a greater help in creating a national consciousness than a smaller electorate would.

In response to another question relating to communications, Mr. Niall stated that there was an amazing growth of airstrips. It might be possible, he went on, to close the smaller hospitals and use the air service to transport people to better and larger hospitals.

(more)

* Australia, New Zealand and United States.

Mr. Fotin (USSR) then asked whether the Australian delegation acknowledged that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples applied to New Guinea.

In reply, Dudley McCarthy (Australia) said that New Guinea was proceeding to independence, and that the date for independence would be set by the people, through their elected representatives.

Mr. Fotin asked whether the Administering Authority had tried to ascertain the wishes of the people with respect to their independence, by way of a referendum, for example.

Mr. McCarthy replied that no referendum had been held. The new Assembly, he said, would express the wishes of the people.

Mr. Fotin asked when, in the view of the Administering Authority, the Trust Territory of New Guinea would obtain independence.

Mr. McCarthy replied that it was not for the Administering Authority or the Council to determine the date, but for the people themselves, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire. These means, he said, were being created as rapidly as possible, and perhaps more rapidly than in similar conditions elsewhere.

Asked whether the Declaration had been widely circulated in the territory, and what means had been employed in doing so, Mr. McCarthy replied that the document had been widely distributed in Papua and New Guinea, and was available to all who were interested in it. The Administering Authority, he went on, had tried to publicize all the work of the United Nations through all the media of communications.

Mr. Fotin asked for figures on the number of documents disseminated, and also asked whether the Administering Authority had explained the contents of the documents to the indigenous population.

Mr. McCarthy replied that great efforts had been devoted to determining the best means of undertaking such explanatory work. He said that one of the problems was that there were 200 different languages in the territory. Moreover, it was difficult to find words to describe many of the abstract concepts found in the documents. But despite these considerable difficulties, the Administering Authority was making all efforts to undertake the task.

With respect to figures on the number of documents disseminated, Mr. McCarthy said that he would not be able to provide them before the next session.

(more)

Mr. Fotin then asked whether the Assembly would become a genuine representative parliament. He considered it significant that, so far, no bill had come into force without the authority of the Administrator. Mr. Fotin wondered whether the political change represented by the new Assembly would be one of form or one of substance.

He wanted to know the reason why the membership was being restricted to 64.

Mr. Niall said that this was done at the express will of the people, as interviewed by the Select Committee of the Legislative Council. It was felt, he said, that a larger number would create the danger of having too many speakers.

Asked to clarify a statement in his report to the effect that the people of New Guinea and Papua expressed fear lest recent happenings in similar territories be repeated in theirs, if they were left to fend for themselves, Mr. Niall replied that the people were concerned about the troubles in the Congo. They were afraid, he said, that if they were given full independence before they requested it themselves, they might be exposed to internecine conflicts.

Turning to the relationship between the Trust Territory and other territories, Mr. Fotin asked what the Administering Authority was doing towards the strengthening of good neighbourly relations between the people of New Guinea and the neighbouring States and territories, particularly the western part of New Guinea. He referred to a recent cholera outbreak and asked whether concerted measures had been taken to combat it.

Mr. McCarthy said that relations between Indonesia and Australia were friendly, but also noted that Indonesia had only recently assumed the administration of West Irian. He added, in reference to Mr. Fotin's mention of the cholera outbreak, that there had been co-operation in combating the disease.

Mr. Fotin said his delegation attached importance to the recent activity of the "ANZUS bloc". He asked whether activation of the pact extended to the territory. If it did, how did it manifest itself, and what steps was the Administering Authority taking in this respect? He also wanted to know whether the ANZUS Council had taken any decision involving New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy replied that the Administering Authority had a defence responsibility for the territory, in accordance with the Charter, and with the Trusteeship Agreement.

In affirming these defence obligations, Mr. McCarthy cited a statement made by the Prime Minister of Australia on 22 May, quoting him as saying: "We will defend these territories as part of the Australian mainland. There must be no mistaken ideas about that."

(more)

Mr. Fotin commented that by involving the Trust Territory in military pacts, the Administering Authority was linking its own security with that of the people of the Trust Territory, and involving the people in something which had nothing to do with their own aims. He also stated that he had seen no reference to defence arrangements in the report of the Administering Authority.

Mr. McCarthy replied that he did not know what Mr. Fotin was getting at. The Administering Authority had never concealed what it was doing from the United Nations which was always aware of its obligations to defend the Trust Territory. He reminded Mr. Fotin that the Administering Authority had had occasion to protect the people of the Trust Territory and had lost 15,000 lives in doing so.

Mr. Fotin went on to comment that military arrangements with other States were beyond the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement to which Mr. McCarthy had referred.

Turning to the economic aspects of development, Mr. Fotin asked what were the conditions under which foreign companies operated in New Guinea.

Mr. Niall replied that all companies operating in the territory had to be registered. They were taxed, and all the revenue was paid to the territory of New Guinea.

Asked whether there was racial discrimination with respect to wages, Mr. Niall replied that there were no fixed wages, but that people were paid according to their skills. However, fringe benefits were added to the wages to encourage workers from Australia. He emphasized that there was no racial discrimination with regard to wages.

Mr. Fotin referred to an article in the Melbourne Herald, among others, in which, he said, it was stated that while the "white worker got £20 a week", the indigenous worker got "£1 to £3 a week". He asked again whether there was racial discrimination in New Guinea; whether there were clubs or cinemas from which the indigenous inhabitants were barred.

Mr. Niall said that the £1 to £3, to which reference had been made, did not include all the living expenses of the indigenous worker, who was supplied with food, clothing and transportation. When these factors were taken into account, he said, the difference from £20 was not great. He assured the representative of the USSR that there was no racial discrimination in New Guinea.

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