

Indonesian Troops Revolt, Seize Eastern State Capital

Men Who Formerly Fought Under Dutch Resist Shift to Jakarta Command

By The Associated Press.

JAKARTA, Indonesia, April 5 — Rebellious Indonesian soldiers captured Macassar, Celebes seaport and state capital of East Indonesia, in forty-five minutes of shooting today. Ten persons were killed or wounded.

A cryptic communiqué from the Federal Government's Information Ministry said tonight the insurgents had been ordered to return to their garrisons and the leader had been summoned to Jakarta to answer for the uprising. The communiqué did not specify how the orders had been transmitted and it did not say that the revolt had been settled.

Officials at Dutch Army headquarters here said as far as they knew the rebels still were in control late Wednesday night. This was supported by the monitoring of a rebel radio broadcast ordering a night curfew, an indication that the rebels still held Macassar. The Commander in Chief of Netherland forces in the Indies, Buurman van



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Macassar (1) was seized by rebellious Indonesian troops. The government at Jakarta (2) said the insurgents' leader was a 26-year-old captain.

Vreeden, flew to Macassar to investigate.

The revolt apparently stems from two muddles that have plagued the fledgling United States of Indonesia from the first day of its independence a little more than three months ago:

1. The inability of the Central Government, dominated by veterans of the revolutionary Indonesian Republic, and the Dutch-spon-

Continued on Page 14, Column 6

INDONESIAN REBELS CAPTURE MACASSAR

Continued From Page 1

sored states created during the strife for independence to reconcile differences and share authority.

2. The serious problem of transferring into the new Indonesian Army about 50,000 Indonesians mostly recruited from East Indonesia—who fought on the Dutch side.

A company of about 150 men led by Capt. Andi Abdul Aziz had just been transferred into the Indonesian Army when it turned on its new commanders.

The shooting started at 5:45 A. M. when the rebels attacked 100 Federal troops in their barracks. After forty-five minutes of sporadic machine-gun fire, the Federal

soldiers were lined up and disarmed.

The rebel units quickly seized the harbor, radio station and telegraph office and began patrolling the city.

Captain Aziz said he had sent an ultimatum to a battalion of 900 Federal soldiers, whose imminent landing had set off the revolt, not to come ashore. If they tried to land, he threatened, "we will shoot them out."

The Cabinet of the State Government of East Indonesia, headed by Premier Diapari, went into emergency session.

The Premier said he was trying to avoid further bloodshed, but some members of the Cabinet had threatened to "kick them [the Federal soldiers] into the sea if they dare to land."

The battalion had been dispatched from Jakarta days ago as an occupation force for East Indonesia against the advice of the East Indonesian Government.

In Jakarta an Army spokesman

said it was likely the battalion would be ordered to return to Jakarta without attempting to land. He explained that the civilian steamer on which it had embarked was not equipped to land troops against opposition.

The uprising was the third in three months involving Indonesian soldiers who fought in the Dutch Army against the Indonesian Nationalists' successful bid for independence.

Only a few hours before the Macassar outbreak, the Federal Government had arrested Sultan Hamid II, one of the Government ministers. He was accused of having masterminded the West Java revolt at Bandung last January led by a former Dutch army captain, R. P. P. (Turk) Westerling.

Only last week a serious revolt of Indonesian soldiers still serving in the Dutch army on the island of Ambon was quelled after two days. Details of that uprising have not yet been published.