

# JAKARTA SEIZES DUTCH ESTATES; SETS NEW POLICY

## Indonesia Takes Over Rich Plantations to Forestall Sporadic Worker Action

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Special to The New York Times.

**JAKARTA, Indonesia, Dec. 9**—The Government assumed control today of the multi-million-dollar Dutch plantation properties in Indonesia.

The move was announced in a communiqué issued by Premier Djuanda. The take-over also included Dutch properties partly Indonesian-owned and all factories, experimental estates, laboratories and transport equipment belonging to the agricultural enterprises.

The Premier's announcement marked a decisive shift in the handling of the movement against Dutch economic interests. It reflected the Government's intention to take over Dutch enterprises in a planned and comprehensive fashion rather than through sporadic take-overs by workers' groups, such as took place during the last week.

### Cause Is West New Guinea

The anti-Dutch campaign stems from Dutch control of West New Guinea, which Indonesia claims. The campaign began after the United Nations failed to adopt a resolution calling on the Netherlands and Indonesia to try to negotiate a settlement.

The Indonesian Government's action is believed to have forestalled a large-scale movement among workers to take over Dutch agricultural estates. Such a movement was foreshadowed by the occupation of a number of plantations in the Bandung area over the week-end.

Premier Djuanda's announcement followed a similar action in Jakarta this morning. Worker groups that had taken over the city's three large Dutch banks Saturday and declared them the property of the Republic of Indonesia were removed from control. The establishments were returned to operation by their Dutch managers under the joint supervision of the military and the Bank of Indonesia, the central bank.

In other developments during the day, an approach was made by workers to the management of the Batavia Petroleum Company. It represented the threat of a take-over move against this big oil producer and refiner.

Unidentified persons took

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nine automobiles from the company headquarters here. The British Embassy protested. The British have considerable holdings in the company. The police recovered and returned five of the cars.

Worker take-overs entered the field of small business with the occupation of two printing shops and two rubber factories in Bandung, a furniture plant, an electrical appliance factory and a travel agency in Jakarta and seven businesses in Tasikmalaja. The spread of worker take-overs into small business may force a Government move similar to the one announced for plantations today.

The explosion of the Army's biggest ammunition dump in Bandung last night was said to have resulted from an accidental fire. It was at first suspected that the blast, which rocked Bandung and caused a nightlong fire, had been caused by politically-motivated sabotage.

Indonesian fears that Dutch-officered ships of the Dutch KPM Company would flee Indonesia if they were permitted to put to sea is keeping most of the K. P. M. fleet in Indonesian ports. The result is largely paralyzing shipping services among the country's many islands.

The chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce left for Europe to arrange the shifting of auctions for Indonesian products from Rotterdam to West Germany. He said he would also act in the matter of eliminating the handling by Dutch banks of Indonesian financial dealings with the European Payments Union.

Premier Djuanda's communiqué on agricultural properties put Dutch managers and Indonesian personnel under Government supervision. They were told to continue working and obey all further orders from the Government under penalty of martial law regulations.

Workers were warned not to engage in activities detrimental to the enterprises. Minister of Agriculture Sadjarwo was made chief administrator of the Gov-

ernment-controlled system of estates.

Jakarta's plantation action was preceded by a similar move by Col. Djamin Gintings, military administrator of Northeast Sumatra. Simultaneously with the Jakarta announcement came a statement from the Council of Central Sumatra that all Dutch estates and other properties would be placed under Indonesian supervision.

Both Central and Northeast Sumatra are under regimes that exercise considerable independence from Jakarta. The Central Sumatra announcement said the move was being taken to circumvent actions by Communists and other Leftists against the Dutch enterprises.

The exact form of the new Government system for the hundreds of Dutch rubber, tea, sisal, copra, palm oil, tobacco, chinchona sugar and coffee plantations was not stated today. It seemed to be a kind of nationalization. The program will be elaborated at a press conference tomorrow.

Business resumed at the Dutch banks at noon today. Their treasuries had been depleted by wholesale withdrawals last week and the Bank of Indonesia advanced money to them with which to carry on.

It was estimated here tonight that more than forty of KPM's ninety-seven ships were immobilized in Indonesian ports. The Indonesians are afraid that if the ships leave harbor they may flee.

It has been widely reported here that one or more small Dutch warships are in waters near Indonesia ready to assist KPM ships that attempt to escape. It has been reported here that twenty KPM ships are already in Singapore and several in Penang.

Meanwhile, the vanguard of Dutch nationals expected to leave Indonesia in the thousands soon have been given exit visas by the Indonesian Government. Two hundred and fifty have received departure papers.

Many Dutch here want to stay and refuse to believe they will be forced to leave.



**TAKES DUTCH LAND:**  
Premier Djuanda of Indonesia. Government assumed control yesterday of all Dutch plantation properties.