

JAKARTA OPPOSES DUTCH BID TO U. N.

Says 3-Nation Commission for Indonesia Could Not Be Neutral in Dispute

By **BERNARD KALB**
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JAKARTA, Indonesia, Jan. 9 —The Indonesian Foreign Ministry expressed opposition today to a Dutch suggestion that the United Nations Commission for Indonesia "act" in the dispute over Netherlands New Guinea.

A statement by a ministry spokesman said it would be "politically unaccountable" to the Indonesian people to accept the good offices of the United Nations commission in the territorial controversy.

The disputed area, a 150,000-square-mile remnant of the old Netherlands East Indies, is still controlled by the Netherlands, but Indonesia asserts it should be hers. The dispute has been commanding international attention since the Jakarta regime began a sweeping anti-Dutch campaign last month to underline its resentment over the Netherland's policy on New Guinea.

In explaining the Indonesian position today, a spokesman noted that the United Nations Commission for Indonesia, formed prior to the Dutch transfer of sovereignty to the Indonesian Government in 1949, was composed of Australia, Belgium and the United States. Two of the members, Australia and Belgium, support the Netherlands in the dispute "while the United States is said to be strictly neutral," he observed.

"How would Indonesia expect actual, objective 'good offices' of an agency of which two thirds of the votes are in favor of the Dutch?," the spokesman asked.

Army Reports Armed Clash

The Foreign Ministry statement was prompted by press reports here that the Dutch Premier, Willem Drees, had declared it was the United Nations' "duty" to "act" in the dispute. Mr. Drees was quoted as having said that the United Nations body, which was "responsible for supervising agreements" between the Netherlands and Indonesia, had never been abolished and that the dispute over "Indonesia's claim to New Guinea" was still on the United Nations agenda.

The day's developments here also included the following:

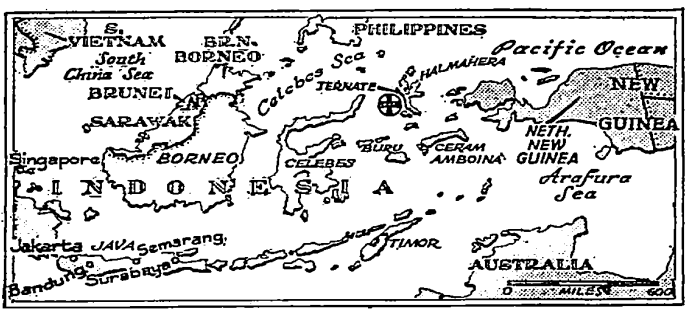
¶ The Indonesian Army divulged that an armed clash took place Dec. 31 between

troops and a mobile police brigade on the tiny East Indonesian island of Ternate, 250 miles west of Netherlands New Guinea. No casualty figures were given, nor was the cause of the conflict indicated.

¶ "Military exercises" were held in Jakarta, purportedly to double the "national vigilance." Another round of maneuvers will be held later this month, an army spokesman said.

Jakarta Sought U. N. Action

At the recent session of the United Nations General Assembly, Indonesia again attempted to have the Assembly call on the Dutch Government to negotiate the status of Netherlands New Guinea. However, her resolution failed last month to gain the required two-thirds majority in the Assembly.



The New York Times Jan. 10, 1958
CLASH ON INDONESIAN ISLAND: Army troops fought with a police brigade Dec. 31 on Ternate (cross) in Moluccas. The island is 250 miles from Netherlands New Guinea.