

Indonesia's West Irian Rocked by Food Riots



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Rioting has been reported rocking West Irian (cross).

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Aug. 5 (AP)—Indonesia's jungled, primitive West Irian has been rocked by riots serious enough to call Foreign Minister Adam Malik to the scene as a mediator, reliable sources reported today.

He is scheduled to leave a week from today for the Indonesian part of the island of New Guinea, an area formerly known as West New Guinea and taken over from the Dutch in 1962 after several months of fighting.

The people of West Irian began rioting because of a scarcity of food that reduced those in some areas to a near-starvation level.

Special forces soldiers were sent to West Irian about six weeks ago to help put down the fighting.

One newspaper in Jakarta reported that a single plate of rice had been sold in the village of Mindiptana for 450 rupiahs, about \$4.50 at open market rates.

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