Indonesia Reported to Reject U.N. Plea for an Irian Amnesty

By CHARLES MOHR
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JAKARTA, Indonesia, May 10—Indonesia has rejected an appeal for amnesty for political dissidents who opposed West Irian's revised currency and the rest of the country, according to sources here today.

The reported development followed Indonesian Government accounts of widespread terrorism and violence in the island territory, where a Dutch-dominated rebellion has been under way for more than two years.

The amnesty appeal was made by Ferdinand Ortiz Sanchez of Bolivia, United Nations representative here. According to the informants, Mr. Ortiz has also urged an expansion of civil rights for the Papuans, who are declared resident of the 150,000-square-mile territory, which lies east of Indonesia's island chain.

No Exceptions Allowed

According to these sources, Indonesia's Government has refused to extend to West Irian civil rights for political dissidents that it does not extend to other parts of Indonesia.

Officials in Jakarta asserted yesterday that the paramilitary troops had taken "complete control" of the town and airstrip there. They quoted a witness, who said the town was now under control of Indonesian forces, after a battle that had left a number of people dead.

Air Stripped

The airstrip and three others primarily used by Christian missionaries were attacked April 29 by a rebellious force of local policemen and Negrito tribesmen.

A series of incidents and disturbances have erupted since Indonesia announced in April that it would not grant West Irian the "act of free choice" that some people in the Netherlands reincorporation of the area. The United Nations, which turned the area to Indonesia in May, 1963, is assisting Indonesia in holding the election.

Most of the incidents last month were apparently inspired by a loosely federated group of dissidents known as the Free Papuan Movement.

Indonesian officers have confirmed privately that one Indonesian police battalion and six infantry police battalions were killed in clashes on Forn Island. Other incidents included an air strike on a village in the West Irian capital of Jayapura, the raising of "Free Papua" flags in several villages and in several other towns and the exchange of "shouting matches," according to sources here.

The "Farraitol incident" is also attributed to the Free Papuan Movement by Indonesian official statements, but the informed sources here think this may not be true.

One version is that public dislike for a Javanese "bupati," or Government-appointed district chief, was a major reason for the trouble at Farraitol and the surrounding lake country. This official was accused by some Indonesian sources of appropriating food, clothing and other materials earmarked for the people.

When the Government also moved to discharge the deputy police chief, an Irianese, he called the police force—which had not been paid for some time—and an uncertain number of other people and drove the guards away from the airstrip, occupying them, and, in the words of an official statement, "slinging" them.

The Indonesian military commander in West Irian, Gen. Sarwo Edhie, made a reconciliation flight over the Farraitol airstrip and was fired upon. Information sources said that five bullets hit his 440-craft and wounded at least one passenger, but not the general.

According to some sources, a punitive rocket-detonating run was later made by an Indonesian B-26 bomber, and 350 to 500 paramilitary troops were dropped over the area, and "gurued the rebels" in the area.

It is still unclear how much resistance the paramilitary men, or whether they rounded up any of the leaders, or known that the rebellious policemen were only badly administrating as well as the severe economic neglect of the area.

Chiefs to Decide

Eight regional councils made up of 1,625 tribal chiefs and more than 1,000 local urban residents will hold the "mujawaras" consultations with the Indonesian officials in July.

It is regarded here as a foregone conclusion that under such circumstances the "act of free choice" will result in a decision to retain part of Indonesia.

Knowledgeable observers, however, tend to believe that the tension between the Indonesian and the Papuans has been brought about by the severe economic neglect of the area, which took place under President Sukarno until his ouster in 1965 created favorable political conditions in West Irian.

Among the regime of Presi- dent Saharto, officials such as the Foreign Minister and Malik have sought to improve eco- nomic conditions, but because of the limited assets these efforts have had scant re- suits.