

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

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JAKARTA, Indonesia, May 10 —Indonesia has rejected an appeal for amnesty for political dissidents who oppose Indonesian rule in vast and primitive West Irian, informed sources said today.

The reported development followed Indonesian Government accounts of widespread terror and violence in the island territory, where a decision is to be made this summer on the continuation of Indonesian rule. News correspondents have been forbidden to travel to West Irian, but informed sources in Jakarta express doubt that a large or well-organized rebellion is under way there.

The amnesty appeal was made by Ferdinand Ortiz Sanz of Bolivia, United Nations representative here. According to the informants, Mr. Ortiz has also urged an expansion of civil liberties and freedom of expression for the 800,000 Papuan, Melanesian and Negrito residents of the 159,000-square-mile territory, which lies east of Indonesia's island chain.

No Exceptions Allowed

According to these sources, Indonesia has argued that she cannot extend to West Irian civil liberties and leniency for dissidents that she does not extend to other parts of Indonesia.

Officials in Jakarta asserted yesterday that Government paratroops had taken "complete control" of the towns and airstrips of Enaratoli and Wakboe in the Lake Wissel region of the central highlands of West Irian, formerly known as West New Guinea.

These airstrips and three others primarily used by Christian missionaries were seized 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 she would not permit a one-man-one-vote plebiscite to determine whether the people of West Irian wish to remain part of Indonesia.

Indonesia's position is that an election is impractical for the neolithic people of the West Irian interior.

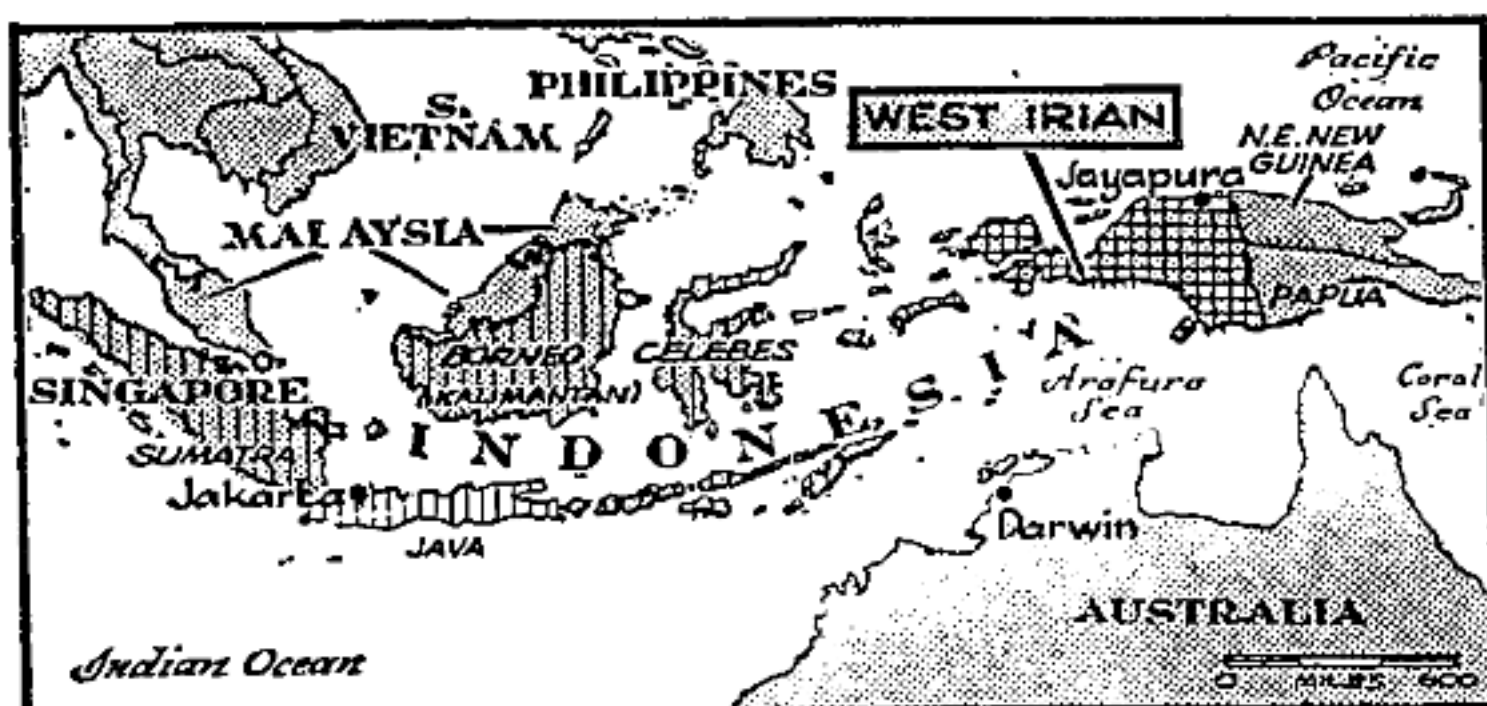
The Javanese concept of "musjawarah" or group discussion leading to consensus, will be used to implement the "act of free choice" that Indonesia promised in 1962 when the Netherlands relinquished control of the area. The United Nations, which turned the island territory over to Indonesia in May, 1963, is assisting Indonesia is holding the election.

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

Indonesian officers have confirmed privately that one Indonesian marine and six Irianese policemen were killed in clashes on Biak Island. Other incidents included an anti-Indonesian demonstration in the West Irian capital of Jayapura, the raising of "Free Papuan" flags there and in several other towns and "the exchange of some shots," according to sources here.

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

One version is that public dislike for a Javanese "bupati," or Government-appointed dis-



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trict chief, was a major reason for the trouble at Enaratoli and the surrounding lake country. This official was accused by some Indonesian sources here 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 rallied 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 airstrips, occupying them and, in the words of an official statement, "ruining" them.

The Indonesian military commander in West Irian, Gen. Sarwo Edhie, made a reconnaissance flight over the Enaratoli airstrip and was fired upon. Informed sources said that five bullets hit his Otter aircraft and wounded at least one passenger, but not the general.

According to some sources, a punitive rocket-firing run was later made by an Indonesian B-26 bomber, and 300 to 500 paratroops were dropped into the area and "pursued the rebels into the bush."

It is still unclear how much resistance the paratroops met

or whether they rounded up any rebels, but it is known that the rebellious policemen were only lightly armed.

Prolonged—but minor—resistance to the Government has also been carried out for years by primitive tribes in the so-called Bird's Head region of the northwest, where at least several hundred Arfak tribesmen are in hostile exile.

An informed observer said today, "I doubt the Papuans expect or hope to get a real, full-scale insurgency going. They just want to put the spotlight on West Irian and embarrass the Indonesian Government as much as possible."

Chiefs to Decide

Eight regional councils made up of 1,025 tribal chiefs and more or less loyal urban residents will hold the "musjawarah" consultations with 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 remain part of Indonesia.

Knowledgeable sources tend to agree that racial tensions between the Irianese and the Indonesian administrators as well as the severe economic neglect and exploitation that took place under President Sukarno until his ouster in 1965 created formidable political difficulties in West Irian.

Under the regime of President Suharto, officials such as Foreign Minister Adam Malik have sought to improve economic conditions, but because of Indonesia's limited assets these efforts have had scant results.