NEW COUNCIL FOR WEST N.G. BEGINS SESSION

From SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS AND A.P.-REUTER
HOLLANDIA, Wednesday. — The West New Guinea Council, with 23 native members out of 28, began its life today.

The Council has elected members — only three of them Dutch — and 12 appointed members — two Dutch.

Twenty-two of the natives are from various parts of New Guinea. The other was born in Indonesia but has been in the Administration for 19 years.

The chairman, Mr. S. G. E. Gelpke, is a Dutchman with 15 years of experience in the Administration.

The Dutch State Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr. H. Bot, asked the Council to make its wishes on self-determination known within a year.

He said in a speech to the Council that Holland would continue to give moral and financial help to the Territories, so that it could achieve independence as soon as possible.

Policy "Directly Influenced"

He said the development towards independence should take place against the Dutch Government's 10-year plan for the Territories.

The extent of the plan was not an arbitrary attempt to set a limit on the attainment of self-government, but a calculated effort to make the Territories self-supporting within a year. The difference was that the Council was not asked to put into effect the plan in any hurried or unwise way.

Mr. Bot said the inauguration of the Council marked a new era in the history of the Netherlands and the Dutch administration of New Guinea.

Government policy would be directly influenced by the

U.S. Absence Attacked

We Pupanus now possess a new objective: to make the United States realize that this is not the case and we are determined that other countries too are in a position to satisfy themselves of this fact.

We hope to be in a position in the near future to personally convince the United States that these are the facts.

In New York, today, the new United States Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. F. J. Plisson, presented a note to the Dutch Government, stating that the U.S. viewed the Council as a continuation of colonialism.

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