Dutch “Could Not Stand Alone”
In N.G. Invasion

From SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS and A.A.P.-REUTER

HOLLANDIA, Wednesday.—The Dutch Secretary for Home Affairs, Dr T. H. Bot, said yesterday that if New Guinea was invaded by a force of more than 1,000 “we could not be expected to stand alone,” according to American Associated Press.

Dr Bot was responding to a question at a news conference regarding the potential vulnerability of the Netherlands to invasion. He noted that there was concern in Australia over reports that Indonesia was building up arms.

Indonesia was a country in great distress, he said, and if trouble came, the Dutch would not expect to handle it alone. Dr Bot also commented that the U.S. State Department in Washington would not comment on Dr Bot’s report.

A department spokesman said comment was never made on hypothetical cases. Australian officials in Canberra would not comment.

Position “Not Changed”

In Darwin tonight, the new Indonesian Ambassador to Australia, Brigadier-General Suadji Suromihardjo, said the new Council in Dutch New Guinea would not change the Indonesian position. What was referred to as Dutch New Guinea was, in fact, part of Indonesia, he said.

It was not proper to talk of Indonesian as “infiltrating” because it was part of their country. General Suadji said Indonesia had no intention of using force over the issue. “However, if the Dutch resort to arms, that is a different matter,” he said. “We have to defend ourselves.”

General Suadji, on his first visit to Australia, said he felt Australians understood the position in Dutch New Guinea, and other problems facing his country.

Role in U.N.
Suez Crisis

General Suadji, born in 1921, became a lieutenant-colonel when Indonesia became a republic. During the 1956-57 Suez crisis, he commanded the Indonesian contingent in the U.N. force in Egypt.