

## Facts

New Guinea, also known as Papua, is the world's second largest island; although Jakarta would prefer us to ignore Papua it is on the Australian continental shelf and has its own species of kangaroo, echidna, cassowary and other animals familiar to Australians.

Carstensz Pyramid is a 5Km tall mountain whose limestone peak is above the equator's snowline. Nearby was another mountain where the Amungme people use to live, but which is now a mine pit visible from space and dumping over 300,000 tons of waste per day into the rivers and oceans.

The Dutch East Indies company VoC was never in West Papua, it was two hundred years later in the 19th century the Netherlands government in Europe claimed West New Guinea, Europe accepted this claim in 1895. Technically it was a colony, but the Dutch were peaceful and did not greatly exploit or abuse the country and its mostly peaceful people.

The independence movement began in the 1930s, by 1960 Papuan technicians were maintaining radio stations, the telephone system, and much of the social infrastructure.

The West New Guinea Council was installed on the 5th Apr 1961, and the Morning Star flag was raised next to the Dutch tri-colour on 1st Dec 1961.

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# West Papua



Forgotten  
Ignored  
Betrayed

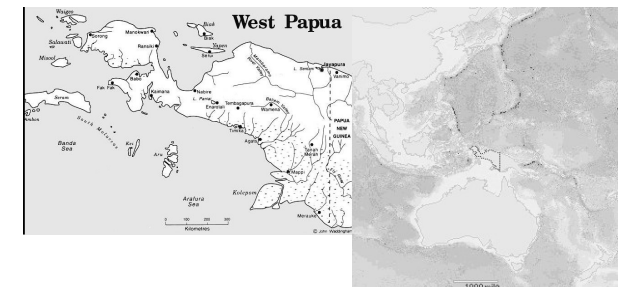
But we can  
change our  
world for the  
better . . .

West Papua is an unwilling colony of Indonesia; West Papuan people are denied freedom of speech, of assembly, and movement to flee the military and militia forces terrorising their nation.

Due to inflected people imported to West Papua by the Indonesian authorities and the lack of health, education, and other social services for the indigenous population; West Papua now suffers the worse HIV/AIDS epidemic of both the Pacific and Indonesia. Yet international AIDS charities largely ignore West Papua.

On the 10th Aug 1962 a West Papuan rally called for the United Nations to allow a Self-determination vote, West Papua is still asking for that.

We could use Australia's voice to remind  
the United Nations about our neighbours.



## The Myths

West Papuans are stone age primitives

West Papuans can not form a government

The United Nations arranged the Indonesian takeover

West Papuans already had Self-determination called the 'Act of Free Choice' in 1969

Indonesia will go to war rather than lose the mining fees paid by the US corporations

## The Truth

Traditional Papuan culture is the product of fifty thousand years of successful social and farming development ; West Papua had been adapting western sciences to their needs since the 1860s.

West Papua already elected its own national parliament in 1961; political groups had been formed and people elected to the West New Guinea Council which enjoyed national support as witnessed by Papuan support of the Morning Star flag designed and selected by the Council.

West Papuan people are an intelligent multi lingual people, who can design and form a new government after the Indonesian military leaves.

The takeover was arranged by the United States after a "pro-Indonesia group in the Whitehouse" convinced Kennedy he had to force the Netherlands and UN to sign the New York Agreement. Kennedy did not know about West Papua's gold, or that his advisers were friends of the US corporations already hoping to build the Freeport mine.

No. The 'Act' in 1969 was orchestrated by Brig. Gen. Sarwo Edhie Wibowo and US State records confirm Indonesia would not allow the Papuans to vote for independence. Also the 'Act' did not comply with the New York Agreement under whose authority it was being conducted.

Self-determination is defined by the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 1514 and 1541; which the Act did not comply with. Finally UN Resolution 2504 about the Act did not claim it was any form of "self-determination".

No, just like East Timor. But this time we should make sure the UN obeys its own procedures and allows the people to design their own government after the repressive forces leave; East Timor and PNG both had a government design which suited other people forced upon them.

## The Solution

The United Nations is the solution.

The colonised people of West Papua have tried for 45 years to get the UN to admit Papuans are asking for Self-determination.

The trouble is that the UN only allows existing members of the UN to speak at the General Assembly etc.; I believe too many UN members mistakenly believed Jakarta's position was supported by the US government instead of certain US corporations - two years ago the US Congressmen wrote a excellent set of questions about West Papua and Indonesia's claim of sovereignty to it; but *Bechtel* and the *US Indonesia Society* got the US Senate to remove that entire section. And the US public never heard about any of this.

The solution is public, popular support.  
Enough people to get the mainstream media to tell West Papua's true story.

You can help;  
if you own a web-page, or  
if you are willing to write letters or even join rallies in support of human rights you can let your MP know  
Australians do care, and let the Indonesia n police know people outside are keeping an eye on political prisoners in their gaol.  
Your help could be the feather that tips the scales of justice for our region.

At <http://wpik.org/help>  
you will find things which you can do as an individual to help our neighbours;  
and over the page you will find contact details for groups who would welcome your interest.