

MINISTER VAN MAARSEVEEN IN DE TWEDE KAMER. 26 Mei 1950.

Foto 29295 b

Tijdens de besprekingen in de Tweede Kamer van de regeringsnota omtrent de ontwikkelingen van zaken in Indonesië, voor zover de verhouding binnen de Nederlands-Indonesische Unie en de belangen van Nederland daarbij betrokken zijn, gaf de Minister van Uniezaken en Overzeese Rijksdelen de volgende uiteenzetting omtrent het Regerings standpunt met betrekking tot de onderhandelingen welke gevoerd moeten worden over de status van Nieuw-Guinea:

"At the Round Table Conference the Netherlands Government refused to transfer sovereignty over New-Guinea to Indonesia on grounds which I shall not repeat here, as they are sufficiently known. The Indonesian delegation at the Round Table Conference on the contrary insisted on the transfer of sovereignty. The result was that the conference reached a deadlock, which was overcome (without affecting the Netherlands point of view) through a proposition of the Unct, suggesting that negotiations on this problem should be continued after the Round Table Conference, while hanging the negotiations the Netherlands sovereignty over New-Guinea should be maintained. To-day both parties still hold the same view on the New-Guinea problem as at the Round Table Conference. Time and again the President of the United States of Indonesia has given to understand as his wish and even conviction that before the end of this year New-Guinea would form part of Indonesia; the Netherlands Government, however, still holds the view that even after the end of this year the authority of the Netherlands over New-Guinea should continue. Seen in this light one might say that the commission, now preparing for the negotiations which have to decide (before the end of this year) on the status of New-Guinea, is bound to be unsuccessful. This, however, is not the case. Already at the Round Table Conference, however different the the conclusions reached might be, both parties agreed on the starting-point, viz. that the interests of the people of New Guinea should be conclusive for the future of New-Guinea. And the negotiations which are to take place shortly shall also be based on this point of view. The report of the Commission now at work, shall provide both parties with the necessary material to judge what the interests of the population require. Only when both parties let themselves be guided by an objective judgement of what is in the interest of the population of New-Guinea, a solution of the problem seems within the range of possibility."