

NETHERLANDS LIAISON MISSION TO UNTEA
IN
WESTERN NEW GUINEA

F 15242/62

Hollandia, 6 december 1962.

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Onder verwijzing naar mijn berichtgeving langs andere weg heb ik de eer Uwer Excellentie hiernevens te doen toekomen de tekst van de redevoering welke de Administrator van West Nieuw-Guinea, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, ter gelegenheid van de sluiting van de zitting van de Nieuw-Guinea Raad heeft gehouden.

Zij gelieve voorts in vouwe dezes aan te treffen een press release, betrekking hebbende op de beëdiging van de leden van de Nieuw-Guinea Raad.

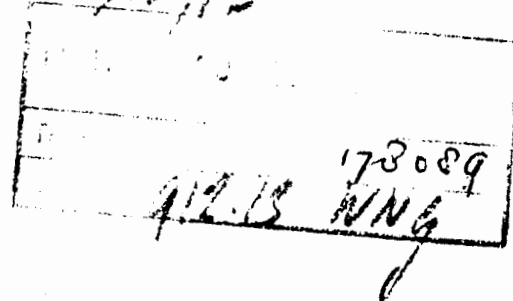
Het Hoofd van de Nederlandse Liaison
Missie bij UNTEA,

L.J. Goedhart

L.J. Goedhart. 21/12/62

A a n :
Zijne Excellentie de Minister
van Buitenlandse Zaken,
te
's - G r a v e n h a g e.

c.c.: Zijne Excellentie de Minister
van Binnenlandse Zaken.



UNITED NATIONS TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY
WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

F 15372/62

PRESS BUREAU

News Bulletin No. 11

Hollandia/Kotabaru
5 December, 1962.

SPEECH BY THE ADMINISTRATOR ON THE OCCASION OF THE
CLOSURE OF THE NEW GUINEA COUNCIL ON 5 DECEMBER 1962

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Council -

First of all, I should like to say how very glad I am to have this opportunity of meeting with you, and of addressing this Council.

As the principal representative body in the Territory, through which the population participates in matters of Government, this Council is of very great importance to UNTEA: and this is so for several reasons.

The purposes and duties of this Council include certain legislative and consultative functions which continue by reason of the provisions of the existing laws which are consistent with the Agreement between the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands signed on 15 August 1962. Some of these functions are moreover further reinforced by the actual terms of the Agreement, which contains various references to consultation with representative councils, and which also lays very particular emphasis on the ultimate and decisive effect of the freely expressed wishes of the population.

In conformity also with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, UNTEA is pledged to promote the advancement and the economic and social progress, of the inhabitants of the Territory, the development of free political institutions, and respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. On the basis of the Agreement and of these universal principles therefore, UNTEA will endeavour to achieve a smooth and orderly transition from the previous to the future administration of the Territory, and at the same time to publicize and explain the terms of

the Agreement concerning among other things the exercise of freedom of choice by the people of the Territory and the act of self-determination provided for in the Agreement. In accomplishing this task, the collaboration of the New Guinea Council can be a matter of very real significance.

As a body which consists of representatives or delegates from the various parts of the Territory, and of whom more than half were elected, the New Guinea Council seems at present to be in a unique position in this Territory. Such a representative organ, by helping to establish inter-communication and genuine participation and partnership between the inhabitants of the different parts of the Territory and the administering Authority, as well as a forum for the free expression of opinion and public discussion, can make a very valuable contribution; and this is so whether or not it is pre-occupied with a legislative programme.

Since the UNTEA Administration is only established for a short period, it is not in fact the intention to introduce at this time a long-range programme. Moreover, in matters of legislation, there is an additional reason for refraining from substantial new projects: namely that after the transfer of full administrative responsibility to the Republic of Indonesia, Indonesian national laws and regulations will in principle be applicable in the Territory, it being understood that they be consistent with the rights and freedoms guaranteed to the inhabitants under the terms of the Agreement. This means that the existing laws of the Territory only remain in force to the extent that they are consistent with the Agreement during the period of the UNTEA Administration. In view of this, it can be expected that those new laws or amendments which UNTEA will seek to enact will be proceeded with to satisfy an actual or immediate need, and are likely to be limited in number.

After the transfer of full administration to the Republic of Indonesia, and before the end of 1969, the people of the Territory will be given an opportunity to exercise freedom of choice in regard to their future, and the Agreement provides that this will be done with the assistance and participation of a United Nations representative and his staff. For this exercise of free choice and the act of self-determination, the full participation of both the inhabitants and their representative Councils will be essential and it is further expressly provided in the Agreement that the

representative councils will be consulted in advance.

At all these stages therefore, the representative councils and their members have a part to play in the implementation of the Agreement, and of the development for which it provides. In the meantime, there is one immediate task for which I am in no doubt that the members of this Council are exceptionally qualified and that is to make known and understood the provisions of the Agreement to the inhabitants of the different parts of the Territory. You who are the representatives or spokesmen of the population have a special responsibility to convey to them fully and objectively the provisions of so important a document, and you doubtless have special possibilities for accomplishing this. Your efforts in this regard will be much appreciated by UNTEA.

In compliance with the wishes of the Council, the requirements of the law, and the present circumstances, the occasion of this meeting has to be that of closing the 1962 annual session of the Council. I understand that the present session has been rather prolonged, and that current business is virtually completed, and that some members of the Council feel that their presence is required in their constituencies. In the circumstances, it is I believe the general view that no further prolongation of the current session would be justifiable.

Accordingly, acting within the framework of Article 97 Paragraph 1 of the Basic Law of the Territory, and in response to the general desire, I consent to close the current session of the New Guinea Council. I do this however on the understanding that a Board of Delegates has been duly appointed by the Council in conformity with Article 105 of the Basic Law, and that on the basis of Article 110c of the Basic Law, the Board of Delegates shall be fully empowered to act for, and to be consulted on behalf of the New Guinea Council, without reservation or restriction, during such time as the latter is not in session. It is naturally understood that a further session of the Council could, if necessary, be convened under the provisions of Article 97 Paragraph 2 of the Basic Law.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council, - your present session which is about to close has witnessed the beginning of historic changes in this Territory -- changes in which you and all the peoples of this Territory will have a vital role to play. The basic instrument of this change has been the Agreement

between the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which is making possible the peaceful transition from the old era to the new, and under the terms of which UNTEA is guiding the transition during this initial stage. UNTEA for its part will spare no effort to fulfil the duties entrusted to it under the Agreement, and in so doing will look with confidence to the population concerned and its representatives for their full support and co-operation.

In conclusion, I can only express my thanks to the Council for the services it has performed and for the co-operation it has given to UNTEA, and my hope that all those charged with public responsibility or representative positions will constantly strive to achieve, together with the free expression of opinions, the peaceful reconciliation of differences, and the increasing progress, stability and well-being of the Territory, both during and after the present period of transition.

I now declare this session of the New Guinea Council closed.

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UNITED NATIONS TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY
WEST NEW GUINEA (WEST IRIAN)
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

Press Bureau

News Release No. 126

Hollandia/Kotabaru,
4 December, 1962

MEMBERS OF THE NEW GUINEA COUNCIL TAKE OATH OF OFFICE

The Administrator, Dr. Djalal Abdoh, this morning administered the Oath of Office to 13 members of the New Guinea Council.

The Ceremony, which took place in the Administrator's office, was attended by Mr. Louis Goedhart, Chief of the Netherlands Mission; Mr. Soedjarwo, Chief of the Indonesian Mission; the Deputy Administrator, Dr. S. Sen; the Commander of the UNSF, Brigadier General Said Uddin Khan; the Executive Secretary, Mr. George Janecek; and other UNTEA officials.

Dr. Abdoh said the Ceremony was to eliminate "inconsistencies" between the Agreement concerning West New Guinea (West Irian), and the previous oath taken by the council members in the name of the Queen of the Netherlands. The Administrator remarked that "although since 1 October 1962 there has been little occasion for the New Guinea Council to exercise its legislative" functions, it was important that provision be made for the exercise of these functions in the future.

Dr. Abdoh emphasised the "high importance attached by UNTEA to the role of the New Guinea Council as the principal representative body in the Territory".

He also mentioned that following the imminent closure of the current session of the Council, these functions will be exercised by the Board of Delegates.

The Oath of Office was administered before the closure of the Council session so that the Board can operate legally. The Council's current session will close tomorrow.

After the introductory remarks made by Dr. Abdoh, the Council's President, Mr. Meset, followed by each member of the Council, took the new oath, swearing "allegiance to the United Nations Temporary Executive Authority".

In the new oath each member pledged to support loyally the provisions of the agreement, and said that he would "champion the welfare of the Territory according to my ability."