BRITISH EMBASSY,

5.929

31/3

THE HAGUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

March 31, 1961

Dear Dr

I have been instructed by Lord Home

to deliver to you the enclosed personal

message.

DOSSIER

Noble) N AFGESCHREVEN MOL VAN BUITENLANDSE Z KEN **NSIE** Dr. J.M.A.H. Luns, DIR The Royal Netherlands Mir Affairs Foreign THE HAGUE. Fotonr

CONFIDEN

Kenmerk: Britse ambassade Den Haag. ©BuZa, archief BZ, GS 1955-19641223 http://resources.huygens.knaw.nl/indonesischebetrekkingen1945-1969/Nederlands-indonesischeBetrekkingen1950-1963/Document/20901

CONFIDENTIAL

Following upon our conversation on March 14 and a subsequent talk with your Ambassador, I have again carefully considered the question of inviting President Sukarno to this country. I remain of the opinion that it would be to the advantage of all of us to have him here during his forthcoming world tour, in the hope that we can exert a favourable influence upon his attitude towards the West.

I have therefore now instructed our Ambassador in Djakarta to invite him to come to the United Kingdom for an official visit as the guest of Her Majesty's Government at some time during the month of June. I know that this decision will be distasteful to you but I am convinced that it gives us the best chance of preventing a further deterioration in his attitude.

It is my intention not to publish the invitation until a reply has been received and a date for simultaneous publication has been agreed between us and Djakarta. I am sure you will agree with me that we should try to avoid any publicity of a nature which would seem to underline a difference of opinion between us on this question. Please let me know if there is any way in which you think I can help in this respect. I shall be away next week in Washington but I have asked the Lord Privy Seal to see your Ambassador immediately after Easter in order to give him a fuller account of the reasons for my decision.

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