

AMBASSADE VAN HET KONINKRIJK DER NEDERLANDEN

ROYAL NETHERLANDS  
EMBASSY

ZEER GEHEIM.

No. 1425/GS.190/486.

Canberra, 10 mei 1962.

Gesprek met Dean Rusk.

Met verwijzing naar mijn berichtgeving langs andere weg heb ik de eer Uwer Excellentie hiernevens te doen toekomen copie van het aide memoire, hetwelk ik gisteren aan Secretary of State Dean Rusk overhandigde in de aanwezigheid van de heer Bell.

Het leek mij wenselijk onze bezwaren ook schriftelijk vast te leggen, teneinde zeker te zijn dat deze niet in de drukte van de Anzus Conferentie verkeerd of onvolledig zouden overkomen.

Bijl.: 1.

De Ambassadeur,

AFGESCHREVEN

*J.G. de Beus*  
(J.G. de Beus)

Zijner Excellentie  
de Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken  
te 's-GRAVENHAGE.

A I D E M E M O I R E

During the second conversation between the United States Secretary of State and the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Affairs in Athens on May 6 it was agreed that the United States Government would transmit to the Indonesian Government that "the Netherlands Government has informed the United States Government that the Netherlands are prepared fully to discuss with Indonesia all aspects of the so called Bunker plan, it being understood that both parties will be free to bring up on the agenda all items for discussion which they deem relevant".

On May 7 the United States State Department informed the Netherlands Embassy that it had been decided to rescind the permission which had provisionally been given for the troops on board the ship "Zuiderkruis" to take shore leave in Hawaii on May 12 and 13, and furthermore that permission was refused to the "Waterman" to bunker in Hawaii, the ship being allowed, however, to take in sufficient oil in Panama to continue its journey directly to Netherlands New Guinea.

The reasons given for these decisions are that the Netherlands had said that they would appreciate continuation of United States mediation but had up to now failed to take a decision about the continuation of the secret negotiations. In view of the fact that the Bunker plan has now been under consideration for over a month it was feared that this would strengthen Indonesian suspicions that the Netherlands are purposely dragging negotiations in order to send reinforcements to Netherlands New Guinea in the meantime. The State Department said that its expectation that a decision would be taken in Athens to resume negotiations had not been realised, which forced the State Department to inform Indonesia of further delay. This would put the United States in a difficult position if in the meantime it provided services in Hawaii for the transportation of Netherlands reinforcements during the present interval in the negotiations.

The Netherlands Government is highly surprised about these very unfavourable decisions, which do not seem to take into account the stepped up Indonesian acts of aggression and the fact that it is not the Netherlands but Indonesia which has broken off negotiations. However, it seems likely that the decisions of the State Department were taken without knowledge of the agreement reached between Mr. Rusk and Mr. Luns in Athens on May 6. The Netherlands therefore fervently hope that the United States Secretary of State will see his way clear to change the two abovementioned decisions in view of the understanding reached in Athens.

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