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**Indonesian Foreign Minister Repudiates News of "threats by force"
to Regain West Irian**

Questioned on Indonesia's reactions to the Dutch-Australian statement of cooperation in Irian (New Guinea), Foreign Minister Dr. Subandrio stated as follows:

"I wish Australia's policy towards Indonesia would not be based on her present superior power over Indonesia, but, on the contrary, would rather project itself in the future by establishing fortresses of peace with her neighbors in Asia, particularly with Indonesia."

The Foreign Minister acknowledged the fact that "Asia today is still in a turbulent stage of growth," and said "consequently, Australia's attitude would enable herself to also contribute to the canalization of this revolutionary process into an area of stability, which will inevitably benefit Australia herself."

Dr. Subandrio further noted that "now the time has come for the Australian Government and people and for us to calmly and soberly consider the West Irian problem."

"Indonesia is not trying to seize a territory which she is not entitled to," he stated, adding that "the duty of the Indonesian people is to realize freedom over the whole area of Indonesia, formerly under Dutch rule, so that our brethren in West Irian will not blame us for neglecting their miserable fate."

The Foreign Minister made a special appeal to the Australian people by stating that "Australia's security very much depends upon the security of the whole of Indonesia."

"With or without West Irian," he remarked, "if Indonesia in her political or military orientation will be different to Australia, then this unwarranted situation will endanger Australia's own security."

"The Indonesian people cherish their friendship with their Australian neighbors and are looking for a way of positive and solid cooperation with them in order to materialize an area of prosperity in this part of the world, from Australia to Asia," Dr. Subandrio said.

"Therefore," he emphasized, "let there be no impressions that territorial expansionism which also involves a part of Indonesia does not originate from the North, but, in fact, it comes from the South."

"I believe the Australian Government does not want to create this impression and probably the time has arrived for her to be also prepared to discuss the West Irian problem with Indonesia," the Foreign Minister stated.

Regarding some foreign news reports which alluded the Indonesian Foreign Minister for having expressed so-called "threats-by-force" if the United Nations General Assembly again failed to recommend a peaceful and satisfactory solution to the West Irian problem, Dr. Subandrio emphatically stated:

"These reports are devoid of all truth and are a complete distortion of what I have said.

"I have never mentioned 'threats to use force' in getting West Irian back to us," he concluded.
