

*Hoge commissaris te Djakarta (Lamping) aan minister van Uniezaken en Overzeese Rijksdelen (Van Maarseveen), 6 okt. 1950*

Voor Van Maarseveen persoonlijk, mede voor Stikker en Schokking persoonlijk.

Volgt tekst brief UNCI welke hedenavond aan Rum overhandigd: 'You will recall that on 4 August 1950, the United Nations Commission for Indonesia addressed letter to Dr. Moh. Hatta, then P.M. and Min. for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, expressing its hope that the Indonesian Government would soon be able to reach peaceful and satisfactory solution of the whole problem of the South-Moluccas. In this letter the Commission stressed its readiness and its desire to render any assistance within its power, and if required, to extend its good offices in any way in which the Government of the RUSI might consider appropriate.

On 12 September, this offer was brought personally to attention of present P.M. of the RI, Dr. Moh. Natsir, by the chairman of Commission who also then made the specific suggestion that Commission might visit Ambon to explore the possibilities of a negotiated settlement.

On 23 September you wrote to Commission, in reference to its letter of 4 August to Dr. Hatta, expressing appreciation of Commissions interested concern in the problem of South-Moluccas and indication willingness of Government of RI to make use of Commissions suggestions and advice so far as this could be done without prejudicing the governments status.

On 25 September, chairman of Commission addressed to you a further letter, suggesting that useful results might be achieved if Commission were to proceed by chartered merchant vessel to Amboina, where it might attempt to contact persons in control and to persuade them to conduct negotiations with your Government on the basis of the terms and conditions which your Government might be prepared to put forward. Commission also expressed its willingness in view of importance of the time-factor to proceed to Amboina with least possible delay if the offer were accepted.

On 30 September you conveyed to commission, in reply to its letter of 25 September, the view of Government of RI that intervention of Commission would not serve any useful purpose but would on the contrary, constitute an encouragement to rebels in Amboina.

About 1 October, the Commission learned informally that Dr. Leimena had recently departed for South-Moluccas, and that military operations against Amboina had commenced.

Commission recognised the desirability of avoiding publicity regarding these developments, which might in its view have led to the outbreak of disorders in the military camps in Java where Amboinese ex-KNIL personnel are quartered. For this reason, Commission took no steps at that s... (woord ontbreekt), other than to seek from you confirmation of the unofficial reports, which you were kind enough to furnish. However, in view of recent publication of an exchange of telegrams dated 5 October between the Netherlands and the Indonesian P.M.'s, and of various other reports regarding the current operations in South-Moluccas, this particular reason for silence no longer applicable. On 5 October, Commission received letter from Netherlands H.C. in Indonesia, copy of which was forwarded to you on the same date, formally requesting on behalf of the Netherlands Government that Commission use all means at its disposal in order to achieve cessation of fighting in South-Moluccas.

As pointed out in its letter of 4 August to Dr. Hatta, Commission for humanitarian reasons, is concerned with the avoidance of bloodshed, particularly among the peaceful civilian population of South-Moluccas. Commission also has a responsibility, under its terms of reference, in connection with the demobilization and repatriation of the Amboinese ex-KNIL personnel at present in Java, upon which the current military operations in Amboina could have an important bearing. For these reasons Commission, while appreciating that the final decision as

to the means to be employed in solving the problem of South-Moluccas and in restoring law and order to those islands is the responsibility of Government of RI, feels that it must once again approach your Government in regard to this matter.

Both in your letter of 23 September to Commission and in Dr. Natsir's reply to Mr. Drees' telegram of 5 October the point is made that, prior to the commencement of military operations in Amboina, the Indonesian Government had explored every possible means of achieving peaceful settlement. Commission feels that it must draw attention in this connection to the rejection by the Indonesian Government of its offer of good offices, which has been standing since 4 August, acceptance of which might have opened the way to peaceful solution of the problem.

The UNCI therefore appeals to Government of RI to halt present military operations in South-Moluccas and, even at this late stage, to further explore the possibility of a peaceful settlement by accepting Commission's offer of good offices'.

Rum is accoord gegaan met voorstel dat volledige correspondentie met de UNCI gepubliceerd zal worden. De publicatie zal morgenmiddag één uur Djakartatijd plaats vinden.