



DUTCH TO RECOGNIZE EAST SUMATRA STATE

New York Times

Batavia, Java, December 29 1947 (AP) – A Dutch spokesman disclosed today the formation of the first Dutch-approved State in Netherlands Indies territory over which the Netherlands had recognized the authority of the Indonesian Republic under the Cheribon Agreement.

The new State (Negara) is East Sumatra, embracing the islands of the East Coast area over which the Dutch regained control during two weeks of "police action" last July. It has a population of about 2,000,000 – largely Malays – and includes most of the European and American-owned rubber, palm oil and tobacco plantations on Sumatra.

The spokesman said that the Dutch Governor General, Dr. Hubertus J. van Mook, in a Christmas Day decree, elevated East Sumatra to a state from the next lower status of "Daerah Istimewa," which has some autonomous power but is usually a unit of a state.

A well-informed Dutch source said that the island of Madura, off the northeast coast of Java, was expected to receive autonomous status "in a very short time," either as a State or Daerah Istimewa.

The States will become full members in a federated United States of Indonesia which the Dutch plan to assist with, the source said.

Indonesian acceptance of the plan was understood to be unconditional, but it was believed that the letter would contain "helpful" suggestions.

Dr. Amir Sjarifudin, Indonesian Republic Premier, did not return with the Republic's delegation, as he was ill and had urgent affairs to which he must pay attention in the Republic's capital, Republican sources said.

U.S. BEER CRISIS IN BERLIN ENDS

New York Times

Berlin, December 6 1947– For four days Americans were forbidden to buy beer in Berlin, because one American was reported to have been poisoned by the thin German brew. At noon today the ban was lifted. A bit of sleuthing had revealed that the man who was "poisoned" had ingested nineteen bottles in quick succession.

BRITISH NOW SEEK TO ADVANCE ENDING OF PALESTINE RULE

Times of London

Jerusalem, January 1 1948 – The Palestinian Government now considers it in the best general interest that the mandate regarding Palestinian rule should end sooner than May 15, provided that the United Nations commission agrees, and it is possible that the date may be advanced by about six weeks.

Thus, if the commission agreed, and did this in the middle of January, it would come here in the middle of March, perhaps after a visit to London.

The Government still prefers a short overlap and aims at handing over full responsibility two weeks after the commission's arrival. April 1 would be a good date because it is the end of the financial year.

New Year's Day casualties in the communal fighting were put tentatively at four dead and twenty-six wounded. Between 500 and 700 unauthorized immigrants waded ashore from a beached ship at Nahariya, Palestine, while the British were herding more than

11,000 others from two other large vessels into Cyprus detention camps, press agencies reported.

The alternative to a quick end of the mandate would be that Britain should remain indefinitely, assisting directly in partition and trying to maintain order with all the forces at her command, which would be a complete reversal of Britain's declared policy and more than Britain could afford.

There seems to some little reason why the civil functions of office should not be ready in three months for handing over to the United Nations Commission which, in turn, will find a "prefabricated" Jewish Government ready to attempt its task and even some willingness among the Arab municipal authorities to assume control of purely local services without prejudice to the general political issue.

The doubts that arise, come after and concern the Army and police, who at present are the platform on which the Government machine rests and whose whole

operational strength is now employed in giving that support. The platform cannot be dismantled in earnest until the Government resting on it has been dissolved and in any case the military would not have time in three months to depart even if it had no other task.

A large part of the Army and its supplies will still be in Palestine by April and the question is whether after the end of British rule the Army can live in autonomous corridors and continue its evacuation without becoming involved in events around it.

The cost of the civil evacuation likely will be a charge on Palestine and the cost of military evacuation a charge on Britain.

Although evacuation applies to British officialdom, British commercial residents are not altogether excluded from events. Soon they will be asked to say whether they desire to leave under the Government's wing or stay on their own responsibility.

U.S., BRITAIN CONFER ON MOVE IN GREECE

Herbert L. Matthews

New York Times

London, December 29 1947 – The next step in Greece is up to the United States, it was learned today that talks about it are going on in Washington between the British and Americans.

British officials say they are prepared to stand firm. The British have between a battalion and a brigade of troops in Greece and will keep them there despite intensified war following the setting up of the "First Provisional Democratic Government of Free Greece."

Britain takes the stance that it is not necessary to keep in or send to Greece large military forces. If one British soldier were killed deliberately by an authorized member of General Markos' guerilla army, it would be enough to precipitate an extremely serious situation, it was said.

In other words, officials here feel that the presence of British troops has great practical as well as symbolic value. They believe that the presence of even a bat-

talion of United States troops would have still greater value.

Officials here would not say that the British Government was urging the United States Government to send troops to Greece, but that might be considered a fair assumption. Officials here feel that the great decision facing Washington, and the only one that really matters, is whether to send American soldiers to Greece. They do not like the idea of "holding the fort alone" with their troops.

As this is the holiday season no quick decisions are expected, at least on this side. At any rate, the highest British opinion here is that there is no great hurry. The severity of the winter in the Greek mountains does not permit extensive campaigning. Moreover, it is felt that the United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans should have a chance to do what it can.

While there would be no surprise if Albania recognized the Greek Communist Government and little surprise if Bulgaria and Yugoslavia followed suit, no

one here seems to expect Moscow to make any overt move.

Moscow radio's rhetoric about Greece and also Trieste seems to indicate some caution.

Accusations against the United States and Britain are accompanied by disclaimers that the Russians are not currently engaging, nor do they plan to engage. While British officials do not take such statements at face value, they seem to feel that Moscow is not planning drastic actions soon.

Britain is prepared for a Russian move any time, and as far as Trieste is concerned she has been prepared ever since Marshal Tito's Yugoslav forces tried to rush into Trieste on September 15, when the Italian peace treaty took effect.

The British believe that the Russian tactics are for a "cold war" against the European Recovery Program and the Truman Doctrine with a certain degree of caution. There is probably less anxiety here than in Washington, although it is conceded that the Russians are playing with fire.

ZIONIST GROUP CALLS UPON U.N. TO RESTORE ORDER

New York Times

January 2 1948 – The Mizrahi Organization of America, the religious Zionist group, appealed to the United Nations yesterday to adopt "immediate and firm measures to restore law and order in the Holy Land." The organization also asked that the United States make ships available for the transport of Jewish refugees "from their vale of tears into the new Jewish State."

The representative of the Mizrahi also requested that "the American Government make available to the Yishuv military aid in the form of weapons and supplies for defense against the onslaughts of her threatening Arab neighbors."

DUTCH RESTATE CASE ON SECURITY IN JAVA

New York Times

Batavia, Java, December 30 1947 (AP) – The Dutch announced today they would transfer the responsibility for the security of those now under Dutch protection only to a Federal Government of Indonesia "that can guarantee that same security and liberty."

"The Netherlands Government with all the means at their disposal will remain in the last resort responsible for the security and liberty of those now under their protection," said a communique restating Dutch demands concerning the transitional period before Indonesia achieves independence within the Dutch Commonwealth.

On August 11 the Netherlands declared to the United Nations Security Council that the Dutch planned to create an interim government.

"Nothing would be more gratifying to the Netherlands Government," today's communique said, "than the cessation of violence on the part of the Government of the Republic and the guarantee of order and security which make it possible to begin the peaceful reconstruction of the whole of Indonesia as a federal state."

The Netherlands Indies Army announced that its casualties in the Indonesian conflict from the time of the United Nations ceasefire order of August 5 through December 13 totaled 332 killed, 999 wounded and 25 missing.

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ARAB CHIEF WARNS OF WORSE FIGHTING

*Sam Pope Brewer
New York Times*

Jerusalem, December 31 1947 — Killing in Palestine will mount to unpredictable pitch unless the British oppose the United Nations partition decision, Emile Ghory, the most active leader of Arab nationalism inside Palestine said today during a comparative lull in the Arab-Jewish clashes. The casualties reported by the police up to a late hour tonight included two Jews killed in Jerusalem, one in Haifa and one in Tel-Aviv; one Arab killed in Tel-Aviv and one British policeman shot outside a Jerusalem restaurant in the Jewish quarter by unidentified persons. Mr. Ghory, American-educated and an outstanding member of the

Arab Higher Committee here, asserted that the Arabs were acting entirely defensively, but must retaliate whenever attacked. He said that in the present circumstances his only criticism of attacks by the Arabs was that "there are not enough." When asked what would become of the Jews, Mr. Ghory said those who were here or whose families were here before 1918 would be treated the same as the Arabs, while others would be considered aliens. "But you have many aliens in America and England who are not citizens but are permitted to live there," he added. While Mr. Ghory did not acknowledge knowing anything of decisions about senior field commanders, he conceded that the most active man in the field at the moment in Pal-

estine was likely Sheikh Hassan Salameh. Sheikh Salameh, who during the war was dropped by parachute in Palestine as a German major to combat the British and was never caught, is in charge of the Arab forces in the whole Lydda-Jaffa district and probably was responsible for the numerous recent train robberies, Mr. Ghory said. "We do not consider them robberies," he remarked. "They are stopping supplies from reaching the enemy, just as the Allies kept them from the Germans during the war." Though the casualty list was low today, tension was high. The Arab population expected some sort of violent counter-reprisal for the heavy toll taken by the Arabs in the consolidated petroleum refineries in Haifa after a bomb was

thrown among them. All Arab shops in Mamillah Road, Jerusalem, adjoining the Jewish section, were closed for fear of attack. The city's atmosphere was heavy with hate and expectation. A spokesman for the Jewish Agency for Palestine, at the daily press conference, took occasion to disclaim Agency responsibility for the Haganah's acts and said that, although some foreign correspondents refused to believe there was no agreement between the agency and the Irgun Zvai Leumi, he considered that yesterday's attack should show them that the Irgun did not heed the Agency. Fighting in the Mevor Haim quarter paused last night but resumed today at 2 a.m., though without casualties. Reported at first as a brush

between Arab and Jewish patrols, it was learned today to have been a carefully planned Arab attack on the Jewish quarter of Mevor Haim, which was broken up by six police armored cars rushed there when the fighting began to seem serious. The British authorities tonight issued a communique praising the conduct of the Arab auxiliary police and the Arab Legion troops present when forty-one Jews were beaten to death with clubs and scrap iron in the refineries in Haifa following the Jewish bombing yesterday. The communique said the Arab Legion and Arab auxiliary police kept rioters away from the buildings they were guarding, thereby protecting the Jews inside, and escorted thirty to forty Jews out to safety.

INDIA INFORMS U.N. SHE MAY ATTACK

*A.M. Rosenthal
New York Times*

Lake Success, N.Y., January 2 1948 — India told the United Nations today that she might send troops into Pakistan unless the sister Dominion stopped aiding Moslem raiders in Kashmir. The Security Council was immediately called into session for Tuesday afternoon to hear both sides.

The official business before the Security Council will be New Delhi's 2,500-word bill of particulars accusing Pakistan of having armed scores of thousands of the Kashmir raiders and supplied bases for 100,000 more massed on the border of the province.

Asserting that any attack by India on Pakistan to prevent help for an invasion of Kashmir would be self-defense, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister, said in New Delhi that his country did not now intend to strike across its borders.

India accused Pakistan of aggression in a dispute that endangered peace and was a matter of "extreme urgency," for the United Nations. It is up to the Council, India declared, to order Pakistan to keep hands off Kashmir.

Twice in its declaration to the Council the Indian Government stressed the need for quick action. New Delhi said that the raiders were well trained, well deployed, and that Indian and Kashmir

forces were being pressed hard.

The complaint asserted that the Indian Government "must, in self-defense, reserve to themselves the freedom to take, at any time when it may become necessary, such military action as they may consider the situation requires."

Officials of the Pakistan Embassy in Washington said that new comments must await word from the home Government, but the British Foreign Office took notice of the seriousness of the situation by dispatching Philip Noel-Baker, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, to serve as British delegate during the Security Council debate.

From Prime Minister Attlee's residence came a statement emphasizing the need for speed. "A satisfactory solution," the Prime Minister said, "very largely depends on the speed with which the Security Council can deal with the question."

Mr. Attlee pledged Britain's support to any solution that would restore peaceful relations between the two Dominions.

Press dispatches from New Delhi had said that India would complain to the United Nations, but the sharpness of the text of the charges and the clear warning that war between India and Pakistan was a possibility that shocked some delegations.

The nine-page complaint, signed

by Dr. P.P. Pillai, India's permanent representative to the United Nations, was based on Article 35 of the Charter, which gives members the right to call the Security Council's attention to situations that might endanger peace.

The Indian side of the dispute is that since September Kashmir has been subjected to raids from tribesmen moving from Pakistan. The complaint told of towns sacked, houses burned and Kashmir citizens killed. By the end of October civil administration had stopped, Kashmir troops were spread thinly all over the state and the raiders were nearing the major city, Srinagar, the complaint said.

Sir Hari Singh, Hindu ruler of predominantly Moslem Kashmir, then appealed to India for military help and asked that his province be allowed to join India. Before the transfer of power in the subcontinent from Britain to India and Pakistan, Kashmir's foreign relations were controlled by London.

India's answer, the complaint recounted, was to send troops and promise a plebiscite once the state had been cleared of the "invaders." India's intervention, the petition continued, saved Srinagar, but New Delhi troops were still faced with almost 34,000 raiders who were systematically carrying booty home as inducement to recruits.

In addition, India charged,

100,000 armed men are gathered in Pakistan on the borders of Kashmir and many are being trained by Pakistani Army officers.

Summing up, India declared that the raiders had to pass through Pakistan, that they were using Pakistani bases, that they had modern weapons that could only have come from Pakistan, and that they were fed and supplied from Pakistan.

The indefinite continuation of the battle is a drain on India's resources and a constant threat to the maintenance of peace on the Indian subcontinent, the letter said.

It added: "The Government of India has no option therefore but to take more effective military action in order to rid the Jammu and Kashmir state of the invader."

"In order that the objective of expelling the invader from Indian territory and preventing him from launching fresh attacks should be quickly achieved, Indian troops would have to enter Pakistani territory."

Specifically, New Delhi asked for a council with a three-point purview to:

- (1) Prevent Pakistan military and civil personnel from participating in the "invasion."
- (2) Call on other nations to stay out of the fighting.
- (3) Deny to the invaders use of Pakistani territory, supplies and all other kinds of aid.

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