

Dutch New Guinea.

THE PRIME MINISTER

The following is a series of points taken from my note book. Most of them are ideas put forward from one source or another, for use in a statement.

- (a) We have to begin to break down in the public mind the idea that the retention of West New Guinea in friendly hands, is ~~material~~ ^{essential} to our own defence and security.
- (b) Refer back to the United Nations debate and the outcome, by which negotiations between the Parties was commended "without prejudice to respect for the will and self-determination of the peoples".
- (c) From the time of the Subandrio visit, our position has been -
 - (i) recognition of Dutch sovereignty, but with that goes the right of the Dutch to negotiate;
 - (ii) that we would respect the outcome of any negotiations voluntarily entered into;
 - (iii) the importance, as far as we are concerned, of self-determination;
 - (iv) reliance on assurances as to no use of force and as to no claims now or later on Eastern New Guinea;
 - (v) basic underlying friendship for Indonesia.
- (d) The need for Australia to act in concert with its own major allies in this, as in most great matters. This means that we should not, just as our major allies do not, declare positions singly or unilaterally. If possible, we could play up the usefulness of the U.N. taking this matter up (this may have been intended only as a suggestion for diplomatic action, and in any case, I would greatly doubt whether we should, by public statement, advocate new U.N. activity).
- (e) We will continue in close co-operation with U.S. and Great Britain in exploring world opinion and bringing the processes of the world community to bear towards the avoidance of force.
- (f) But it is not appropriate to elaborate publicly the detail of matters which are under discussion with other countries.

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- (g) We remain opposed to the use of force and we expect both undertakings - as to avoidance of force and as to no claims on East New Guinea - to be honoured.
- (h) Our attitude to any breach of these assurances has already been given.
- (i) We march with the U.S. and the U.K. on all matters. It is not in our interest to act alone.

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