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From: British High Commission, Canberra.

I N D O N E S I A.

The reason(s) that the Indonesians began operations against West Irian was because they knew that none of the Allies of Netherlands (and particularly United States) wished to get involved in operations in South Pacific and that the Dutch would be left to fight it out for themselves. We are determined to defend Borneo Territories but we would much rather not have to do so by force of arms if it can be avoided. A clear warning to Indonesians to effect that we, the Americans, New Zealanders and Australians would all be equally concerned if the Indonesians were to go into Borneo Territories would certainly deter them. The American statement was most helpful but we do not know how much further they might be prepared to go in private or in public. The main question to be thrashed out in Washington is how firm a warning to Indonesians we can all agree on.

2. Apart from this we ought to think carefully whether there are any inducements to good behaviour which we could offer Indonesians. We have certain political proposals in mind and Philippine Delegation in London have also made a suggestion during talks for joint discussions with the Indonesians for security of area.

3. Finally there is the question of American aid which is of great importance to the Indonesians. We would consider United States aid to Indonesians at a time when they were actively infiltrating into North Borneo as a direct encouragement to them to pursue hostilities against us.

4. We want to discuss the whole range of political, economic and military factors affecting all of us in respect of Indonesia's present policies.

British High Commission,
CANBERRA.

31st January, 1963.

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Indonesia - Quadripartite talks in Washington