

**United Nations**

**SECURITY  
COUNCIL**

**Nations Unies**

**CONSEIL  
DE SECURITE**

UNRESTRICTED

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4 August 1947

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE AMBASSADOR  
OF THE NETHERLANDS TO THE UNITED STATES AND  
REPLIES DATED 3 AND 4 AUGUST 1947

1 August 1947

Sir,

The Security Council at its 173rd meeting, adopted the following resolution:

"The Security Council

"Noting with concern the hostilities in progress between the armed forces of the Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia

"Calls upon the parties

- (a) to cease hostilities forthwith, and
- (b) to settle their disputes by arbitration or by other peaceful means and keep the Security Council informed about the progress of the settlement.

I have the honour to request that you communicate this resolution to your Government as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Faris El Khouri  
President of the  
Security Council

H.E. Dr. E. N. van Kleffens,  
Ambassador of the Netherlands to the  
United States

/NETHERLANDS

NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

Washington, D. C.

August 3, 1947.

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm my telegram to Your Excellency of this day, reading as follows:

In a letter dated August 1, 1947, Your Excellency was so good as to communicate to me the text of the resolution adopted that day by the Security Council in respect of conditions in Java and Sumatra. I lost no time in conveying that text by telegraph to the Netherlands Government.

I have now received instructions to inform Your Excellency as follows:

The Netherlands Government, although persisting in its denial of the Council's jurisdiction in this matter, fully understands the Council's desire to see the use of arms come to an end in this as in other cases. Moreover the Netherlands Government welcomes the Council's resolution in this sense that it justifies the hope that, under the pressure of world opinion, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia will now be found disposed to carry out what so far it has failed to do in spite of constant and urgent requests and representations on the part of the Netherlands Government and notwithstanding corresponding friendly advice on the part of other powers.

In taking police action the Netherlands Government has had, from the outset, strictly limited objectives in view; reference may be made in this connection to the communication made on its behalf to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on July 21 in which the limited nature was pointed out of the action aiming at the cessation of a situation whose continuation could no longer be countenanced in the interest of the people.

Having taken into serious consideration the views which led the Security Council to address an appeal to both parties, the Netherlands Government has instructed the Lieutenant-Governor-General of the Netherlands Indies to enter into contact with the authorities of the Republic in order to arrive at the cessation on both sides of hostile action of any kind.

The Netherlands Government confidently anticipates that the good offices offered by the Government of the United States of America and gladly accepted by the Netherlands Government, will contribute greatly toward attaining the result aimed at in the resolution of the Security Council.

/Please

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration

(Signed) E. N. van Kleffens

E. N. VAN KLEFFENS

His Excellency  
Monsieur Yarie El Khoury  
President of the Security Council  
of the United Nations  
Lake Success, Long Island, N. Y.

/NETHERLANDS

NETHERLANDS DELEGATION  
To the United Nations

No. 678

August 4th, 1947

Sir,

With reference to the letter which Mr. E. N. van Kleffens addressed to Your Excellency concerning the decision taken by the Netherlands Government upon receipt of the text of the Resolution adopted by the Security Council on August 1, 1947, in respect of conditions in Java and Sumatra, I have the honour to inform you that the Lieutenant-Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies, in pursuance of the above-mentioned decision, has issued orders to the Netherlands Forces in the areas concerned to cease hostilities at midnight 4-5 August 1947, which time corresponds with 1 p.m. today, August 4, 1947, Eastern Daylight Saving Time.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) J. W. M. Snouck Hurgronje

J. W. M. SNOUCK HURGRONJE

His Excellency  
Monsieur Faris El Khoury  
President of the Security Council  
of the United Nations,  
Lake Success, Long Island, N. Y.

