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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 28 MARCH 1968 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF INDONESIA AND THE NETHERLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between the Republic of Indonesia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands of 15 August 1962 concerning West New Guinea (West Irian), which entered into force upon adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 1752 (XVII), authorizing the Secretary-General to carry out the tasks entrusted to him in the Agreement. As you will recall, the Secretary-General was called upon by article XVII of the Agreement to appoint a United Nations Representative "to advise, assist and participate in arrangements which are the responsibility of Indonesia for the act of free choice". This appointment was to be made "at the proper time" in order that the Special Representative and his staff "may assume their duties in the territory one year prior to the date of self-determination".

In accordance with the above-mentioned provisions, I would be grateful if you could inform your Government that I have appointed Mr. Fernando Ortiz-Sanz as my Special Representative as of 1 April 1968. The date at which Mr. Ortiz-Sanz will assume his duties in the territory will be announced after further consultation.

In accordance with article VIII of the Agreement, I am having the text of the present letter issued as a General Assembly document.

(Signed) U THANT

Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 89, document A/5170, annex A.