

LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 1948 FROM THE HEAD OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to draw your attention to the special report of the Committee of Good Offices on the Indonesian Question, dated 12 December 1948. In this report it is stated that negotiations between the Republic of Indonesia and the Netherlands have broken down and that the Committee of Good Offices does not foresee the possibility of its bringing the parties together in bona fide negotiations. The Committee further states that it has no confidence that even the present unsatisfactory level of truce enforcement can be maintained as the possibility of maintaining the present truce agreement becomes more remote. The Committee has further expressed its deliberate conviction that the present situation can only lead to "intensification of the factors already making for further economic deterioration, general unrest and social upheaval. Widespread hostilities involving the conflict of organized armed groups on a large scale might be the outcome".

The situation is therefore one of extreme gravity, and, as the Committee of Good Offices itself realizes, any attempt either to keep the situation in its present extremely precarious condition or, worse, to alter it by resorting to force, would lead to a conflagration in that part of the world, the consequences of which it is impossible now to foresee.

The situation in Indonesia is a threat to the peace. Under the circumstances, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia urges the Security Council to summon an immediate meeting to consider the situation, and to take steps, first to ensure that the situation is not worsened and secondly to bring about later the resumption of negotiations, either under the auspices of the Committee of Good Offices or by any other measures the Security Council may deem fit to adopt.

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia would again emphasize that the situation is one of the utmost gravity, which calls for action by the Security Council before the Council begins its recess.

(Signed) L.N. PALAR

L.N. PALAR
Chief, Republic of Indonesia
Delegation to the United Nations
Security Council