



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/1663
3 August 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT DATED 28 JULY 1950 FROM THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR
INDONESIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
CONCERNING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS
INDONESIAN ARMY AND THE NETHERLANDS ARMY
HIGH COMMAND IN INDONESIA

No: UNCI/782

Djakarta, 28 July 1950

1. We have the honour to report that on 26 July the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) and the Netherlands Army High Command in Indonesia were dissolved.
2. At the time of the transfer of sovereignty to the Republic of the United States of Indonesia on 27 December 1949, there were in Indonesia approximately 80,000 troops of the Royal Netherlands Army (AL) and approximately 65,000 troops of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL). Under the agreements reached at the Round Table Conference, the former were to be withdrawn from Indonesia, while the latter were either to be absorbed into the armed forces of the Netherlands or of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, or to be demobilized and repatriated.
3. At an early date, the parties reached agreement on the establishment of assembly areas for troops under Netherlands Command and on the conditions under which these troops would render military and technical assistance to the Republic of the United States of Indonesia. The parties also agreed on joint directives for the reorganization of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) and other land forces formed by the Netherlands Government in Indonesia, and for the transfer of their installations, material and maintenance services.
4. Some difficulties arose in relation to the implementation of article 31 of part II of the Regulations on Military Affairs of the Agreements concluded at The Hague, which specifies a time-limit for the reorganization of the land forces formed or equipped by or under the authority of the former Netherlands Indonesian Government. These difficulties were settled by an agreement reached between the two Governments on 15 July 1950. A copy of the agreement was communicated to the

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Commission by a letter dated 21 July and signed jointly by the Prime Minister of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia and the High Commissioner of the Netherlands in Indonesia (Annex).

This agreement provided for the dissolution of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) by 26 July 1950. Any Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) troops remaining under Netherlands Command at that date were to be given temporarily the status of Royal Netherlands Army personnel and, pending demobilization and return to their ultimate destination, were to be assembled in a limited number of places. The agreement also provided that as from 26 July, the Netherlands Army High Command in Indonesia was to be dissolved and a "Liquidation Command" established under Netherlands military direction and under the supervision of the Netherlands High Commissioner; the Liquidation Command will have no operational functions, its duties being purely administrative. The Liquidation Command will furnish all information regarding the progress of its activities to a liaison group of the Defence Ministry of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia and also to the Military Observers of the United Nations Commission for Indonesia.

5. In formal ceremonies on 25 July, the Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Forces in Indonesia transferred the Headquarters of his General Staff to the Indonesian Army and the High Commissioner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Indonesia announced the dissolution of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL). The Commission was present at these ceremonies. The Netherlands Commander-in-Chief and his Chief-of-Staff departed for Holland a few hours later.

6. Since the transfer of sovereignty some 67,000 men of the Royal Netherlands Army (KL) have departed from Indonesia either for repatriation to Holland or resettlement; from the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) some 26,000 have been incorporated with the armed forces of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, while some 18,750 have been demobilized in Indonesia, and 3,250 have departed for the Netherlands.

As of 26 July, the forces under the Liquidation Command comprise 13,000 former members of the Royal Netherlands Army (KL) due for repatriation and 17,000 former members of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army (KNIL) of whom 5,000 are to be evacuated to the Netherlands and 12,000 are to be demobilized in Indonesia.

T.W. CURTIS (Chairman) (Australia)

(Signed) Paul BIHIN (Belgium)

E.A. DOW, Jr. (United States of America)

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ANNEX

LETTER DATED 21 JULY 1950 FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE
UNITED STATES OF INDONESIA AND THE NETHERLANDS HIGH COMMISSIONER
TO THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR INDONESIA FORWARDING
THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF A MEMORANDUM REGARDING
THE TERMINATION OF THE REORGANIZATION OF
THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS
INDONESIAN ARMY

No. 4671/50

Djakarta, 21 July 1950

We have the honour to forward for your Commission's information the English translation of a memorandum regarding the termination of the reorganization of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army which document was signed by us on behalf of our respective Governments on 15 July 1950.

(Signed) Moh. HATTA

Prime Minister of the Republic
of the United States of
Indonesia

(Signed) H.M. HIRSCHFELD

High Commissioner of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands
in Indonesia

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE TERMINATION OF THE
REORGANIZATION OF THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS
INDONESIAN ARMY (KNIL)

The Prime Minister of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, on behalf of his Government, and the High Commissioner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Indonesia, on behalf of the Netherlands Government, have agreed upon the following regarding the reorganization of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army and the liquidation of the personnel incorporated therein.

1. The Netherlands Government shall dissolve the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army on 26 July 1950.
2. Prior to or on that date there shall be dissolved:

The Cabinet of the Commander of the Netherlands Forces in Indonesia;
The Headquarters of the General Staff;
The Headquarters of the Adjutant-General;
The Headquarters of the Quartermaster-General;
The Headquarters of the Engineers Corps;
The Headquarters of the Military Medical Service;
All Netherlands Unit Commands.

3. Simultaneously with the dissolution of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army, the Netherlands Government shall establish a Liquidation Command under Netherlands military direction. This Liquidation Command shall be under the supervision of the High Commissioner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Indonesia. Its task shall be to complete as soon as possible the Administrative liquidation - including the transportation to their places of final destination - of the former military personnel of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army which have not yet been discharged, as well as the repatriation of the units of the Royal Netherlands Army still remaining in Indonesia.

A liaison group of the Defence Ministry of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia shall be attached to the Liquidation Command. The Liquidation Command shall furnish all information regarding the progress of the liquidation activities to this liaison group and also to the military observers of the United Nations Commission for Indonesia.

4. The Forces under the jurisdiction of the Liquidation Command shall not be used operationally.
5. Former Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army military personnel of Netherlands nationality shall, as from 24 July 1950, (either temporarily or definitely) obtain the status of Royal Netherlands Army personnel. In order to enable the Netherlands Government to fulfill its obligations towards the former Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army military personnel of Indonesian nationality properly, the Government of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia has consented that these former military personnel of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army temporarily obtain the status of Royal Netherlands Army personnel as from 24 July, in so far as circumstances do not permit them to be transported to their places of origin before 24 July 1950. Until their discharge, full responsibility for these military personnel rests with the Netherlands Government. The assignment of this temporary status of Royal Netherlands Army personnel has the sole purpose of ensuring an orderly liquidation, during which disciplinary relations will be maintained and the Netherlands Command will be able to effectuate any measures which may be necessary for that purpose.

On transport to their final destinations the former military personnel of the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army shall embark unarmed. The authorities concerned of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia shall be given the opportunity of ascertaining that this is done.

To those former Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army military personnel of Indonesian nationality who so express the wish, full opportunity shall be given to be discharged outside their places of origin.

6. A joint committee shall be established immediately in order to elaborate the financial consequences of this agreement and to determine in what way the funds necessary for the Liquidation Command and the forces under this Command shall be made available and to what accounts they shall be charged.

7. On 26 July 1950, the forces under the Liquidation Command shall be concentrated in the following places:
- a. In the areas of Djakarta, Bogor, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya and Makassar;
 - b. In several places in the Southern and Eastern districts of Borneo, which places shall be evacuated as soon as possible with the highest priority;
 - c. In the transit-camps at Menado and Timor Kupang.

In good time before 26 July, the Netherlands military authorities concerned shall request the necessary facilities from the competent military authorities of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia. After 26 July, liaison officers of the territorial Commanders of the Republic of the United States of Indonesia shall be attached to the Netherlands area-commands so as to be kept informed continuously and completely of the state of the liquidation activities.

8. Prior to 26 July all movables and immovables used by the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army shall have been transferred by order of the Commander, Netherlands Army Forces in Indonesia, to the Republic of the United States of Indonesia. An arrangement will be made by which the necessary movables and immovables shall be lent by the Republic of the United States of Indonesia to the Netherlands Liquidation Command and the troops under this command. The Liquidation Command shall replace the armaments received in loan from the Republic of the United States of Indonesia as soon as possible by an equivalent quantity of Royal Netherlands Army armaments.
9. The High Commissioner of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Indonesia confirms that the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army military personnel in the South-Moluccas, who have refused to obey the orders of the Commander, Netherlands Army Forces in Indonesia, have been removed from the Royal Netherlands Indonesian Army, the Netherlands Government having without avail exhausted all means at its disposal to make the military personnel in question submit again to military discipline.

(Signed) Dr. Moh. HATTA
Prime Minister of the Republic
of the United States of
Indonesia

(Signed) Dr. H.M. HIRSCHFELD
High Commissioner of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands
in Indonesia
