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**SECURITY
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**CONSEIL
DE SECURITE**

S/1180
4 January 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 3 JANUARY 1949 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NETHERLANDS
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONCERNING THE INDONESIAN
QUESTION AND REPLY THERETO DATED 4 JANUARY 1949

January 3, 1949

Sir,

Acting upon the instructions of the Netherlands Government I have the honour to refer to the text of the two statements which Dr. van Roijen made on behalf of my Government in the session of the Security Council on December 27th 1948 and in the session of the Security Council on December 29th 1948. These statements were made in connection with the Resolutions of the Security Council of December 24th (document S/1150) and of December 28th 1948 (document No. S/1164 and S/1165).

Before the Netherlands Government had taken a decision with regard to these resolutions a number of communications were received by the Netherlands Delegation in Batavia from the Committee of Good Offices concerning e.g. the cessation of hostilities, the release of the members of the Cabinet of the Republic and other questions, to which in one instance (letter of the Committee of Good Offices of December 28th) a reply was requested on the very day on which the letter was received by the Netherlands Delegation. It was obviously impossible for the Netherlands Delegation. It was obviously impossible for the Netherlands Delegation to reply before the Netherlands Government had made a decision concerning the resolutions of the Security Council.

The Netherlands Government suggests that in order to avoid any possible duplication, confusion and misunderstanding, it seems desirable that questions which are the subject of direct discussions within the Security Council should not at the same time be dealt with by executive organs in Indonesia of the Netherlands Government and the Committee of Good Offices.

Moreover certain statements of the Committee of Good Offices are not entirely in accordance with the facts; e.g. the paragraph in the Committee of Good Offices' report of December 29th stating that all military observers had been concentrated in Batavia, is not correct.

/Some

Some military observers have remained in the field since the beginning of the action. Instructions to enable the Committee of Good Offices, the Consular Commission and the Military Observers to carry out the task which has been assigned to them, have been sent to the Indonesian Government in Batavia and these organs will be informed forthwith concerning the implementation of these instructions. It should be pointed out however, that certain practical difficulties will have to be overcome and that visits of these organs to certain areas may entail considerable personal risk for which the Netherlands Government must disclaim responsibility.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) Snouck Hurgronje

General the Honourable A.G.L. McNaughton, P.C.,
C.H., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
President of the Security Council,
Permanent Delegation of Canada to the United Nations,
630 Fifth Avenue, NEW YORK 22, N.Y.

/REPLY

REPLY

4 January 1949

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 3rd, which I have asked the Secretary-General to circulate to other members of the Security Council for their information, together with this reply.

I note particularly in the penultimate sentence of your letter that "Instructions to enable the Committee of Good Offices, the Consular Commission and the military observers to carry out the tasks which have been assigned to them, have been sent to the Indonesian Government in Batavia and these organs will be informed forthwith concerning implementation of their instructions."

I am asking the Secretary-General also to bring the contents of your letter to the attention of the Committee of Good Offices and the Consular Commission, immediately.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A.G.L. McNaughton
President of the Security Council

Jonkheer J.W.M. Snouck Hurgronje,
Permanent Representative of
The Netherlands to the
United Nations,
10 Rockefeller Plaza,
New York 20, N.Y.
