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Land: Indonesië.  
Onderwerp: Army disagreement with Foreign Minister  
SUBANDRIO's stand on West Irian.

SECRET  
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GEHEIM

Referenties:  
Feitelijke datum: 16-21 oktober 1961.  
Datum van waarneming: November 1961.  
Bron: Van bevriende zijde.

Opmerkingen:

Verzonden aan: de Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken.

Aan Zijne Excellentie Prof. Dr. J.E. de QUAY  
Minister-President

Plein 1813 no. 4

's-GRAVENHAGE.

SECRET

## Indonesia

ARMY DISAGREEMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SUBANDRIO'S  
STAND ON WEST IRIAN

On 19 October the Department of Foreign Affairs asked the National Front to arrange a mass rally to welcome home Foreign Minister SUBANDRIO. The National Front agreed and started making preparations, but on 21 October, the day before SUBANDRIO's scheduled arrival and after all preparations had been made, Minister SUDIBJO, Secretary General of the National Front, ordered all arrangements cancelled. People involved in planning the demonstration later learned that the Army had refused to issue a permit for a welcoming rally for SUBANDRIO.

Army leaders are very angry at Foreign Minister SUBANDRIO for urging that a deadline for an attack on West Irian be set. They consider SUBANDRIO to be trying to decide a military question solely on the basis of political expediency. Army leaders also dislike SUBANDRIO's brand of diplomacy in which he favors threats and belligerent statements. General NASUTION and other Army leaders have decided to make SUBANDRIO's position difficult after his return by asking him to account for various statements he has made and through other means, such as encouraging anti-SUBANDRIO elements both inside and outside of the Foreign Department.

On 16 October General NASUTION met with Foreign Department Secretary General SUWITO to discuss foreign policy and other matters. Both NASUTION and SUWITO were generally pleased with the results of the meeting. SUWITO told a close associate afterwards that

he agreed with NASUTION's stand that a peaceful solution should be sought to the West Irian question and that SUBANDRIO's belligerent approach was both unwise and dangerous. SUWITO said that he and NASUTION agreed with SUBANDRIO's stand that prior talks must be held and an understanding reached with the Dutch before the Dutch proposal on West Irian is debated in the United Nations.

Comment: It is surprising that NASUTION and SUWITO had such a friendly meeting since SUWITO is generally considered to be a RUSLAN ABDULGANI man and ABDULGANI is strongly disliked by NASUTION and other Army leaders. However, aside from his initial sponsorship by ABDULGANI in being appointed to his position, SUWITO is considered quite objective and capable in carrying out his responsibilities. The results and tone of his meeting with NASUTION are considered to have enhanced SUWITO's chances of being named Foreign Minister if SUBANDRIO is replaced.

November 1961.