

# DUTCH SEETHING ON JAVAN ATROCITIES

THE 'New York Times' Hague correspondent says the announcement that Dr. Van Mook would go to Washington to-day for a quick trip and come back to The Hague before his return to Java is a surprise move. The correspondent says the Netherlands has decided to take the United States into its confidence on Indonesia and will plead patience even if the Dutch resume military operations there.

The nation is seething with anger over the reported Indonesian atrocities. Perhaps the real reason why so many Dutchmen demand military action can be found in their love for order. They have been exasperated by the chaos in Java.

It is far less likely that the Netherlands is resorting to military action at the behest of wealthy Amsterdam bankers and industrialists as many Americans suppose.

Few Dutchmen are interested in the growing Communist activity in Indonesia. They blame Britain, USA and the United Nations Security Council for hindering their efforts to restore order.

Australian members of 19th Squadron said yesterday that the Dutch would not permit them to take any part in the fighting against the Indonesians, nor allow them to fly over Republican territory.

They said they would not mind getting into some action, but wanted to avoid the Indonesians, as capture meant almost certain torture to death.

This was not just because they were Australians, but because they were white.

"These Indonesian extremists are nice fellows," one Australian said. "They either crucify you, slit open your stomach, and toss you into a canal, bury you alive, or just carry out mutilations on your body until you die.

"One popular pastime early in the anti-Dutch struggle was to capture whites—Dutch or any other nationality—outside Batavia, mutilate them horribly and

other nationality—outside Batavia, mutilate them horribly, and toss their bodies into a canal which flows through the city.

"Sometimes six bodies a day would float through the town. One I saw was the body of a 16-year-old Dutch girl. She had been crucified, and her stomach slit open."

## SABOTAGE PRECAUTIONS

Strict precautions to prevent sabotage of the last Dutch Army plane to operate in Australia were taken at Archerfield Aerodrome on Saturday night.

The plane was heavily guarded in its hangar by armed men. This morning it will be test flown by the pilot, Captain W. Newborn, before passengers and cargo are loaded for the trip to Java, with an all-Australian crew.

These steps were ordered by Dutch authorities here, following sabotage of a Dutch Navy plane at Darwin last week, when the ailerons and elevators were slit with a razor blade.

The damage was detected before the take-off. Otherwise the plane would have crashed soon after it had left the ground.

The crew of the plane which left yesterday, a DC3, are Australians employed by the 19th Squadron, Royal Dutch Air Force.

Passengers will be the last of the Dutch and Australian members of the squadron in Brisbane.

## FIFTH PLANE

This will be the fifth Dutch Army plane to leave Brisbane

THIS WILL BE THE FIFTH DUTCH Army plane to leave Brisbane since the ban on petrol supply for the planes was imposed by unions several weeks ago. The fourth left early yesterday.

The Dutch blamed Communists for the Darwin incident and thought that similar sabotage might be attempted here in retaliation for the defeat of the petrol ban.

The Dakota which left yesterday with an all-Dutch crew also was heavily guarded at Archerfield in the last 24 hours of its stay there. It was flight tested on Friday afternoon.

## BEATING THE BAN

The story of how the Dutch beat the petrol ban was revealed yesterday. The Shell Co., usual suppliers, said that it could not supply aviation spirit in future to the Dutch because the firm had been threatened with an Australian-wide black ban by the unions, if they did so.

The RAAF station at Amberley was asked to supply fuel for the planes. RAAF headquarters, Melbourne, instructed Amberley command not to supply the Dutch.

So Australian members of the squadron were sent to aviation spirit agents at aerodromes throughout Queensland, and they bought as much spirit as possible without disclosing the purpose.

Supplies also were flown in from Koepang, 3½ hours' flying time from Darwin. Now the Dutch hold enough aviation fuel in Queensland to run the normal services to and from Batavia for at least two months.

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#### **SERVICE STOPPED**

But the Dutch have decided that to avoid political and diplomatic friction here they will close the service from to-day.

There will be no further Dutch air service between Australia and Java from now until KLM starts its commercial airline soon.

The five planes that have come to Australia since the ban have been able to lift all 19th Squadron's equipment and personnel, except a few low priority items, which will be sent later by ship.

The Associated Press Amsterdam correspondent says that Dr. Van Mook, before leaving for the United States, where he will discuss Indonesia with the United States Secretary for State (Mr. Marshall), said it was possible that he would see Dr. Evatt later.

Jozjakarta Radio officially announced that the Republican Government had asked the Australian Government to sit in the three-nation good offices commission requested by the Security Council.