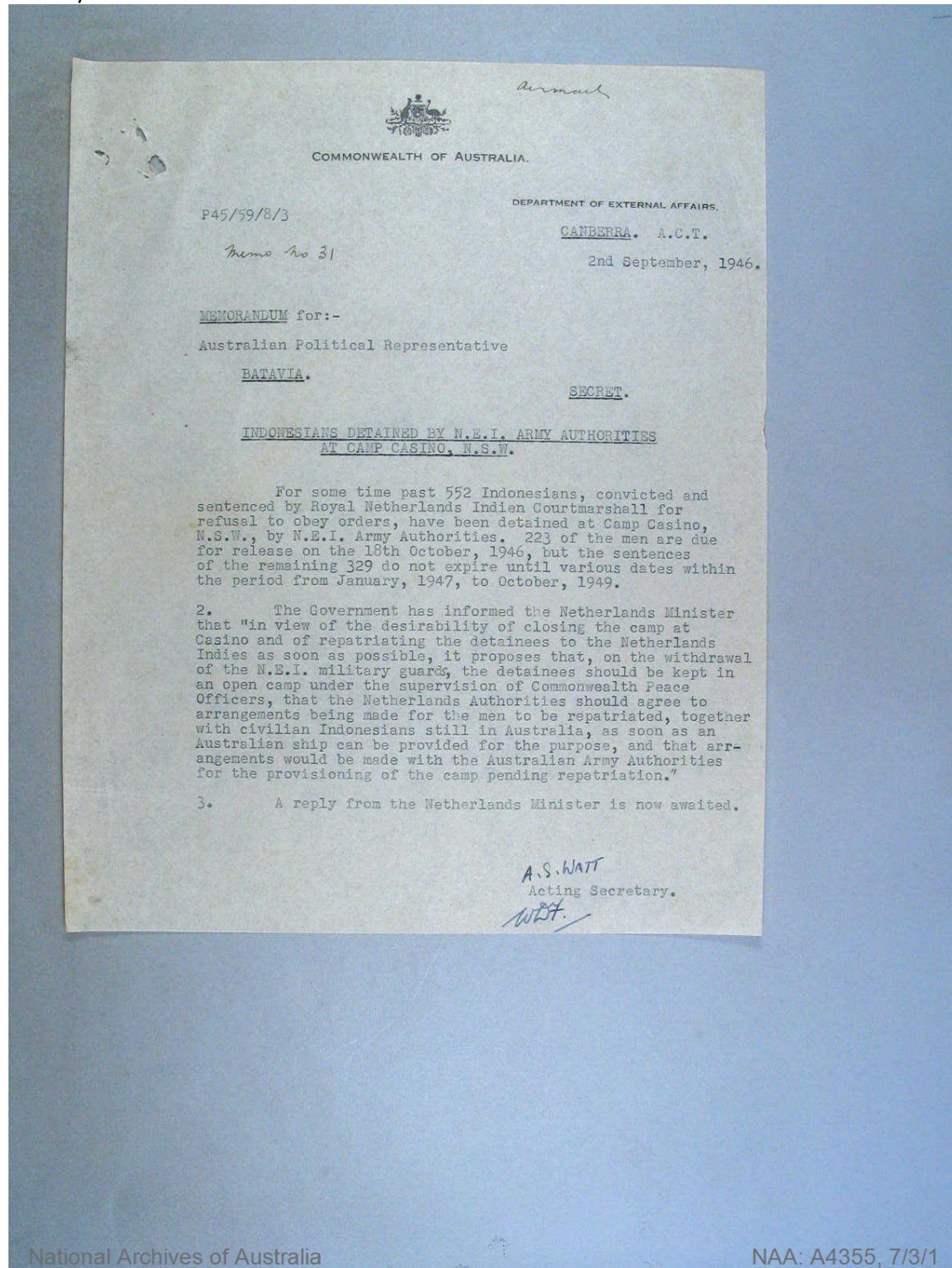


AA File. A4355. File ID 238315. Netherlands East Indies – Repatriation of Indonesians from Australia – General. 1946-48.

2nd September 1946. 552 Indonesians detained at Camp Casino need to be moved as camp is set to close. 223 are due for release on 18th October, 1946. But other 329 release dates range from January 1947 to October 1949



More on the Indonesians still in Australia. Australian Government wants all to return to Indonesia via the HMAS 'Manoora' which is due to leave Brisbane no later than November 18th (1946)



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

From: Department of External Affairs Canberra.
To: Australian Political Representative Batavia.
Dated: 1st November 1946.

I M M E D I A T E.

Addressed to The Hague No. 104.
Repeated to Batavia No. 120.

S E C R E T.

REPATRIATION OF INDONESIANS.

The Government desires that all Indonesians now in Australia should be repatriated in HMAS 'Manoora' due to leave Brisbane not later than November 18th.

2. The Indonesians concerned fall into two categories, viz:-

(a) 570 free Indonesians, 200 of whom were discharged from NEI military custody and demobilized from the NEI Army as recent as October 18th. There is no objection by the NEI authorities here to the repatriation of this group;

(b) Approximately 300 Indonesians still detained in a NEI prison camp at Casino, New South Wales, where, according to the Netherlands Minister, they are serving sentences imposed by Royal Netherlands Army courtmartial for refusing to obey orders. The NEI authorities here will not agree to their release and repatriation, but have asked us to ship them to Morotai. The Government cannot agree to this. So long after the cessation of hostilities, it is not possible to tolerate the holding of seemingly political prisoners in a foreign camp in Australia. The Netherlands Minister has declined as unacceptable an offer made by the Australian Government to keep the Indonesians at Casino in a camp pending their repatriation.

3. We have requested the Netherlands Legation to take up with the Netherlands and NEI Governments as a matter of urgency the question of the liberating from Casino camp and demobilizing from the NEI Army all Indonesians now undergoing detention with a view to their repatriation as free men in the 'Manoora' on November 18th.



-2-

We have drawn attention to :-

(a) The spirit in which the truce negotiations are being conducted in Java.

(b) The decision recently reached in Batavia for the exchange of political internees detained by Dutch and Indonesian forces.

(c) The widespread conviction of a large section of the Australian people that the Indonesians detained at Casino are in fact held in custody not simply for disobedience of military orders, but for insubordination prompted by political considerations.

(d) The unfortunate wounding and killing by NEI military guards of certain Indonesian inmates of Casino camp.

(e) The fact that the continued maintenance of Casino camp as a foreign detention barracks on Australian soil 14 months after the end of the war is an obstacle to the harmony of Dutch/Australian relations, and

(f) The fact that no legal justification for the maintenance of the camp by the Dutch will exist after the termination, at an early date, of the National Security Regulations covering the establishment of such camps.

4. Please draw attention to our approach to the Netherlands Minister at Canberra along the lines indicated in paragraph 3 emphasizing that the Australian Government desire repatriation in the 'Manoora' as free men, all Indonesians in Australia including those now undergoing detention at Casino.

5. It seems that the only way of obtaining the release of the prisoners is a decision by the Netherlands Government to terminate forthwith their sentences. If this is so, you should press unhesitatingly for such action by the Netherlands. In view of the date of sailing of the ship, you should emphasize the urgency of this issue. In any case, attention is directed to paragraph 3(f).

From: Department of External Affairs Canberra.
To: Australian Representative Batavia.
Dated: 14th November 1946.

No.125 SECRET

REPATRIATION OF INDONESIANS.

Our 124. Request immediate confirmation
Batavia as port of disembarkation. "Manoora" may
not now depart until November 20th.

The HMS 'Manoora' left Brisbane on the 21st November 1946 with the 228 Indonesians released from Casino. 324 Indonesian people were on board in total. In February 800 Indonesians had been repatriated to Indonesia about the Manoora.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Representative, Batavia.
Dated: 27th November 1946.

No.128.

HMAS "Manoora" left Brisbane on November 21st with 324 Indonesians and three Koepangers, total 327 which includes 228 released from Casino prison camp and discharged from army by the Dutch authorities. The Koepangers will be landed at Koepang.

Total also includes ten females but no Australian white wives, two men suffering mental disease and 22 suffering pulmonary tuberculosis. Regarding the latter, your attention is invited to your telegram 54 of April 27th last.

Mr. Mungoven of the Customs Department Sydney who accompanied the Indonesians as liaison officer for the Department of Immigration when over 800 were repatriated in February last by the "Manoora", is also travelling in the same capacity this trip.

Kindly arrange with local authorities to see that disembarkation at Batavia is facilitated. A positive assurance may be given that all baggage was examined by the customs authorities at Sydney and Brisbane and no firearms discovered.

Indonesians refusing to disembark the Manoora in Nanshin Maru

ONTVANGEN TELEGRAM NO.: 693

TO : SORNN FROM : MANOORA

Please pass to Mr. Ballard Australian Representative the message quote
Manoora being unduly delayed out at anchorage due to disinclination of Indonesians to disembark in Nanshin Maru for Cheribon owing no unacceptable nature of assurances given by none office holding in Indonesian who boarded the ship at -0853- this morning. Request urgent action be taken. Unquote message ends=

010545 Z

Distr.: 1,11,22,leg.

V/S P/L TOR 1345 GH 1/12/46.
(A).

The Indonesians aboard Manoora finally make it to Indonesia

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Djakarta, December 4th, 1946.

No. 294/h3/S.

Re: Assistance to Indonesians in Australia.

Section Secretary.-

To
The Representative of the Australian Government,
D j a k a r t a .

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Indonesians returning home from Australia per "Manoora" up to Djakarta have duly disembarked in Tjirebon per "Nansi Maru".

I beg you to convey the feelings of gratitude of my Government to the Australian Government for the facilities and other kinds of assistance bestowed on our nationals during their prolonged stay in Australia and on their journey homeward.

I should be also very grateful if you can render your good offices to express our special thanks to Mr. Mungoven who has conducted the transport of the Indonesians in a manner that is beyond praise.

Your obedient servant,
For the Minister for Foreign Affairs,



[Signature]
(Oetoyo).

The NEI Army has to withdraw soldiers from Camp Casino by December 15th, 1946 - the Australian Government confirmed they would look after the remaining Indonesian detainees. On the 7th of December, the Dutch secretly removed 13 Indonesian detainees and send them to Batavia where it is believed they will face court-martial on a charge of camp murder

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Representative, Batavia.
Dated: 4th December 1946.

Addressed to the Hague No.128.
Repeated to Batavia No.132.

SECRET.

Your 102 and paragraph 2 (b) of our 104 to you and 120 to Batavia.

On Nov.15, the Dutch authorities have informed us that the Netherlands Government had decided :-

- (a) that the granting of an amnesty to the Indonesians detained in camp at Casino could not be anticipated, but
- (b) that the N.E.I. Army would have to withdraw its guards from the camp at Casino on December 15th, 1946. In the event, the "Menora" sailed without embarking the Casino detainees.

2. The Australian Government accordingly proposes to look after the Casino Indonesians until a means of repatriating them is found. Can you ascertain what the status of these people will be after December 15th ?

3. While negotiations were proceeding between the Dutch and ourselves, the Dutch, without reference to us, secretly removed from the camp at Casino on the night of November 7th 13 Indonesians whom they transferred by air to Batavia where they are about to face court-martial on, it is believed, a charge of camp murder.

After Casino Camp was closed, the 319 Indonesian detainees were transferred to the Chermside Camp, Brisbane.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Representative, Batavia.
Dated: 20th December 1946.

Addressed to The Hague No.133.
Repeated to Batavia No.141.

SECRET.

Your telegram 119.

On December 14th the Dutch handed documents, purporting to be discharges from the N.E.I. Army, to the Indonesians detained at Casino and withdrew their guards. The Casino camp was thereupon closed and the 319 inmates were at once transferred as civilians to Chermside camp, Brisbane, where the Department of Immigration is caring for them pending their repatriation to Java.

16/18th January 350 to 400 Indonesians Remain in Indonesia. It is asked that the next transport vessel be Australian to prevent the unrest that happened on the previous Indonesian and Dutch transfer.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Representative, Batavia.
Dated: 15th January 1947.

15

No. 6. SECRET.

REPATRIATION OF INDONESIANS.

There are still from 350 to 400 Indonesians in Australia to be repatriated, and although no vessel is at present available, efforts are being made to secure a vessel by the end of this month.

2. In view of the difficulty experienced on the last occasion through having to tranship the Indonesians from Batavia to Cheribon, it is desired that the concurrence be obtained of both the Dutch and Indonesian authorities for an Australian ship to take the Indonesians direct to Cheribon, and for the Indonesian authorities to arrange for their reception. Ample notice will be given when final arrangements made for departure from Australia.

Telegraph whether any difficulty is likely to be experienced.

NEBURI0

How Dutch are making transport to Indonesia more difficult, Australian transport for Indonesia passengers might be better.

From: Australian Representative, Batavia.
to: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 17th January 1947.

No.8.

Your telegram No.6.

1. Disembarkation at Cheribon would suit the Indonesians very well as they have adequate facilities for accommodation and movement there.
2. It may not be so easy to arrange with the Dutch. They have recently been intensifying their control of shipping visiting these waters and a British cargo vessel unloading at Cheribon was recently escorted from there to Semarang and searched. (I am dealing with this more fully elsewhere). Probably in relation to this incident, the Dutch navy has, according to reliable press reports, issued a communiqué advising foreign shipping to report to a port under de facto Dutch authority before anchoring in a Republican port and before leaving territorial waters, so as to "prevent skippers from being ordered to such ports".
3. It may of course be possible to arrange for the Australian ship to enter and clear from a Dutch port, failing permission to go directly to Cheribon.
4. In either event conditions and guarantees would have to be discussed, and this would involve negotiations with the Dutch at a high level.
5. As the Dutch no longer recognise me (an attitude which has been made plain locally), I am not in a position to conduct these negotiations.
6. The British Consulate-General could of course be asked to handle the matter.

From Dutch officials? Restrictions on vessels allowed in waters around NEI

OUTGOING TELEGRAM 5103/47		
Cypher or Code	FROM (*) Batavia TO (A) F.O. (B) Singapore	TELEGRAM FILE COPY SENT 281800
EN CLAIR	No. (A) 72 (B) 79	of 28th Jan 47.
<u>Priority:</u>	Addressed Foreign Office No. 72 January 28th repeated Singapore for FOMA stop My immediately preceding telegram text begins	
<u>Category:</u>	Pursuant to article 1 of Regulation No. 171/DVO/VII A-3 of the Military Administration of 21st February 1942 (Official Gazette 1942 No. 17a), by which Regulation the Admiral in Command has been vested with the authority to issue orders - such orders to be published in the Official Gazette - forbidding or restricting fishing and/or shipping in waters specified by him; also pursuant to the Import Ordinance 1947 (Official Gazette No. 18); Has approved and decided:	
	As from 29th January 1947, to restrict shipping - with the exception of native praoë traffic - plying to Sumatra, Java and Madoera in Netherlands Indies waters to the West of the meridian of 116° E., in the sense that ships may only proceed in these waters, en route to:	
	A. <u>Java and Madoera</u> , if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary conditional, permit issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Semarang or the Senior Naval Officer at Tandjong Priok.	
	B. <u>East Coast of Sumatra</u> .	
	1. northwards of the latitude of 4° South as far as the Equator, if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary conditional, permit issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Palembang, or the Harbourmaster at Tandjong Pinang.	
	2. from the Equator northwards as far as Bagan Si Api-Api, if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary conditional, permit issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Belawan or the Harbourmaster at Tandjong Pinang.	
	3. from Bagan Si Api-Api northwards as far as Diamond Point (Diamantpunt), if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary conditional permit issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Belawan.	
	4. from Diamond Point northwards as far as Kotta Radja, if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary, conditional, permit issued by the Harbourmaster at Sabang.	
	C. <u>the Coast of Sumatra southwards of the Latitude of 4° South</u> , if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary, conditional, permit issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Tandjong Priok.	
	D. <u>the West Coast of Sumatra</u> .	
	1. between the latitude 4° South and Emmahaven, if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary, conditional permit, issued by the Senior Naval Officer at Tandjong Priok or the Harbourmaster at Emmahaven.	
	2. from Emmahaven northwards to Kotta Radja, if in the possession of a general or specific, if necessary conditional permit issued by the Harbourmaster at Sabang.	
Distribution.		
Advance copy.		

with the understanding that this restriction of shipping does not apply to ships bound for Surabaya, Semarang, Tandjong Priok, Palembang, Belawan or Emmahaven stop text ends.

Foreign Office pass to the Hague as my telegram No.18

MACKERETH

Decision to repatriate the final Indonesians in Australia back in April 1947 on the Australian Naval ship 'Manoora'

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Consulate-General, Batavia.
Dated: 4th March 1947.

No.26. SECRET.

Further to my telegrams 6 and 13. and your 16.

It has been decided to allot the Navy ship "Manoora" again for the final repatriation of the Indonesians still in Australia and it is expected that the vessel will leave Sydney early in April.

2. As your telegram 14 indicates that the Dutch decrees respecting shipping relates to the movement of goods and exports, it would appear that the Dutch should raise no objection to the disembarking of the Indonesians from an Australian Navy controlled ship at Cheribon.

3. Positive assurance can be given that a thorough search will be made before leaving Australia to ensure that the Indonesians carry no firearms.

4. Please make further approach to the Dutch authorities with a view to obtaining their concurrence to the disembarkation of these repatriates at Cheribon.

 Please telegraph result as soon as possible.

5/3/47.

From Dutch Officials, no problem with transport of the Indonesian detainees, but the Governor General disapproves that the Manoora plans on taking them straight to Chariboa – and wish first for the ship to check in at a port under Netherlands control to go under inspection before repatriation.

(Interpretation of Memo 4807/AB 19-2 dated 15th March
from Government Secretary, Palace).

With reference to your letter of March 5th, concerning the transport of 350 - 400 Indonesians from Australia by H.M.A.S. "Manoora", I have the honour to inform you herewith, as directed by the Lt-Governor-General, that no objections whatsoever exist from our side towards the repatriation of the Indonesians concerned. The Governor-General has however serious objections to the proposal of transporting these people direct to Cheribon as proper control what they bring with them in that event would amongst other things be impossible.

In this connection His Excellency has expressed the wish that H.M.A.S. "Manoora" should first call in at a harbour under Netherlands control - if not Tandjong Priok, Soerabais, or Semarang then Macassar - so that the repatriates can be subjected to investigation. Thereafter it could be more closely determined whether the ship concerned can proceed to Cheribon or indeed whether it would not be better for its passengers to travel to their destination in another manner.

Be assured, Sir, etc. etc.

From the Department of External Affairs: in response to the aforementioned, they say that the Dutch have no necessity of checking the boat since it comes under Australian Governments responsibility to repatriate the Indonesians

From: Department of External Affairs Canberra.
To: Australian Consul-General Batavia.
Dated: 19th March 1947.

No. 32.

S E C R E T.

Reference your telegram No. 39.

1. We note that the Dutch do not object to the repatriation of the Indonesians now in Australian custody.
2. However, as the repatriation movement is an Australian Government operation and is taking place in a Royal Australian Naval ship, we do not see the necessity for the "Manoora" to call at a Dutch controlled port for investigation of passengers and goods. We are prepared to make a search ourselves for any goods indicated by the Dutch. You should inform the Dutch accordingly, taking care to repeat our positive assurance that the Indonesian repatriates will not be allowed to carry firearms. Please report immediately the reaction of the Dutch to our attitude.
3. For your personal information, it is essential that there should be no Dutch interference or interception of these Indonesian repatriates between the time of their embarkation and their actually being handed over to the Republican authorities at Cheribon.
4. Please inform the Republican authorities in confidence that it is our wish that the repatriates should land without interference at Cheribon, and report what arrangements the Republic is likely to make for their reception at that port.

The Dutch concede to not checking the repatriates on the ship, but want their full details and a list of who will be on board.

From: Australian Consulate-General, Batavia.
To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 21st March 1947.

No.45. SECRET.

Your telegram 32.

1. I have emphasised to the Dutch authorities the points made in your paragraph 2, repeated the assurance previously given and stated our readiness to search for any goods they indicated.

2. They said they did not want to search the ship or the passengers or their goods, but would rely on our undertakings. They said they wanted to know who was actually on board and the ultimate destination in the N.E.I. of each passenger. I strongly urged that this information could surely be conveyed to them before the ship left Australia. The objection was then raised that they desired to check the actual identity, as well as the papers, of the repatriates, and this was as far as I could get.

3. The local Indonesia-Australia Association has heard that it is intended to send with the repatriates some Australian wives either of repatriates or Indonesians now here. They recommend that in view of living conditions at present this should not be done.

4. Report on Indonesian arrangements proposed at Cheribon will follow.

The response to this is that Australia will not give the Dutch any information on the repatriates present, and if they wish to know they must ask the Indonesian Republic, with whom the repatriates are returning.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Consulate-General, Batavia.
Dated: 26th March 1947.

No. 43.

SECRET.

Your telegram ~~43~~⁴⁵.

We assume that the Dutch will not actively oppose the repatriation of the Indonesians in H.M.A.S. "Manoora". For our part we cannot agree that the "Manoora" should visit a Dutch controlled port before proceeding to Cheribon. We desire this repatriation movement to take place without any interference by the Dutch. It is essential to our plan that the Indonesians should be delivered safely and peaceably into the custody of the Republican authorities at Cheribon. We do not intend to depart from this plan.

2. For your personal information, we do not desire to tell the Dutch what Indonesians will be aboard the "Manoora", nor to indicate the ultimate destination of each passenger. The Dutch are free to seek this information from the Republican authorities. In any case the final list of names of repatriates will not be available until the party is checked while at sea en route to Cheribon.

27/3/47.

Some Australian wives of the Indonesian repatriates are travelling with them, and have been done so with the full option, and were not forced.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
To: Australian Consulate-General, Batavia.
Dated: 28th March 1947.

No.47.

IMMEDIATE

Further to your ~~45~~ 45.

The Minister for Immigration wishes to learn your views regarding Australian wives of Indonesians travelling by the "Manoora" and whether you consider conditions in Java warrant passages being withheld. No such women are being forced to leave the Commonwealth but have been given the opportunity to travel by the "Manoora" if they so wish. Some of the women are adamant that they desire to accompany their husbands. All have been warned that they may not find conditions in Java congenial and that they cannot expect any assistance from the Commonwealth Government to return to Australia.

11th March 1957: A letter enquiring after Matkadir, and Indonesian man repatriated via Manoora on 19/11/1946



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

47/2/1119

3 APR 1947

GJ

11th March, 1947.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

MATKADIR, Indonesian, repatriated to
Java per H.M.A.S. "Manoora" 19.11.1946.

The abovenamed Indonesian was an inmate of
the Mental Hospital, Gladesville, New South Wales, prior
to his repatriation in November last.

2. Mr. Mungoven, of the Customs Department,
Sydney, who accompanied the Indonesians, has reported
that Matkadir was handed over to the Indonesian authorities
and admitted into a hospital at Batavia.

3. Will you kindly ask the Australian Consul-
General at Batavia to ascertain, if possible, under whose
custody Matkadir is at present. The Deputy Master in
Lunacy, Sydney, is desirous of obtaining this information
as his Office holds some funds on this man's behalf.

T.H.E. Heyes
Secretary



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

7/3/1
3 APR 1947

IC.47/23/38.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Consular Series No. 31

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

17th March, 1947.

Dear Consul-General,

We enclose copy of a memorandum received from the Department of Immigration, regarding the present whereabouts of Matkadir, an Indonesian who was repatriated to Java per H.M.A.S. "Manoora" on 19/11/1946. It would be much appreciated if appropriate enquiries could be undertaken in regard to the matter.

Yours sincerely,

 DEPARTMENT.

The Australian Consul-General,
BATAVIA.

Confirmation that Matkadir had been held at the mental hospital at Gladesville in NSW Australia and was instantly transferred to Indonesian General Hospital after repatriation. He now resides in Hospital for Mental Disease in Tjikerumeuh, Bogor as of 19th April 1947.

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Djakarta, April 23rd 1947.-

No. 55/B.II./E.

Re: Matkadir ex. Mental Hospital Gladesville
N.S.W. Australia.

Section : Public Relations.

Mr. B.C. Ballard
Australian Consul General
14., Pegangsaan West.,
Djakarta.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your letter dated 9th inst., I beg to inform you that Matkadir ex. Mental Hospital Gladesville N.S.W. Australia, after having arrived here in December last year, was directly admitted to the Indonesian General Hospital, but on the 19th inst., he has been transferred to the Hospital for Mental Disease at Tjikeumeuh, Bogor.-

Yours faithfully,

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs.,
Public Relations Branch,



M. Mochtar
(M. Mochtar).

An itinerary of the Manoora, leaving Australia at the beginning of May with the remaining Indonesian repatriates and Timorese.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

File 7/3/1.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 23rd April 1947.

No. 78.

REPATRIATION OF INDONESIANS.

H.M.A.S. "Manoora" with Indonesians and Timorese repatriates aboard will depart from Sydney on May 1st and Brisbane on May 3rd for Darwin, Dilli and Koepang thence direct to Cheribon, thence to Sourabaya to unload Dutch stores.

2. The Portuguese Timorese will be disembarked at Dilli, the Dutch Timorese at Koepang and the rest of the repatriates at Cheribon without Dutch interception. Mr. T. Mungoven of the Department of Immigration will accompany the Indonesian repatriates to ensure their being handed to the Indonesian authorities at Cheribon.

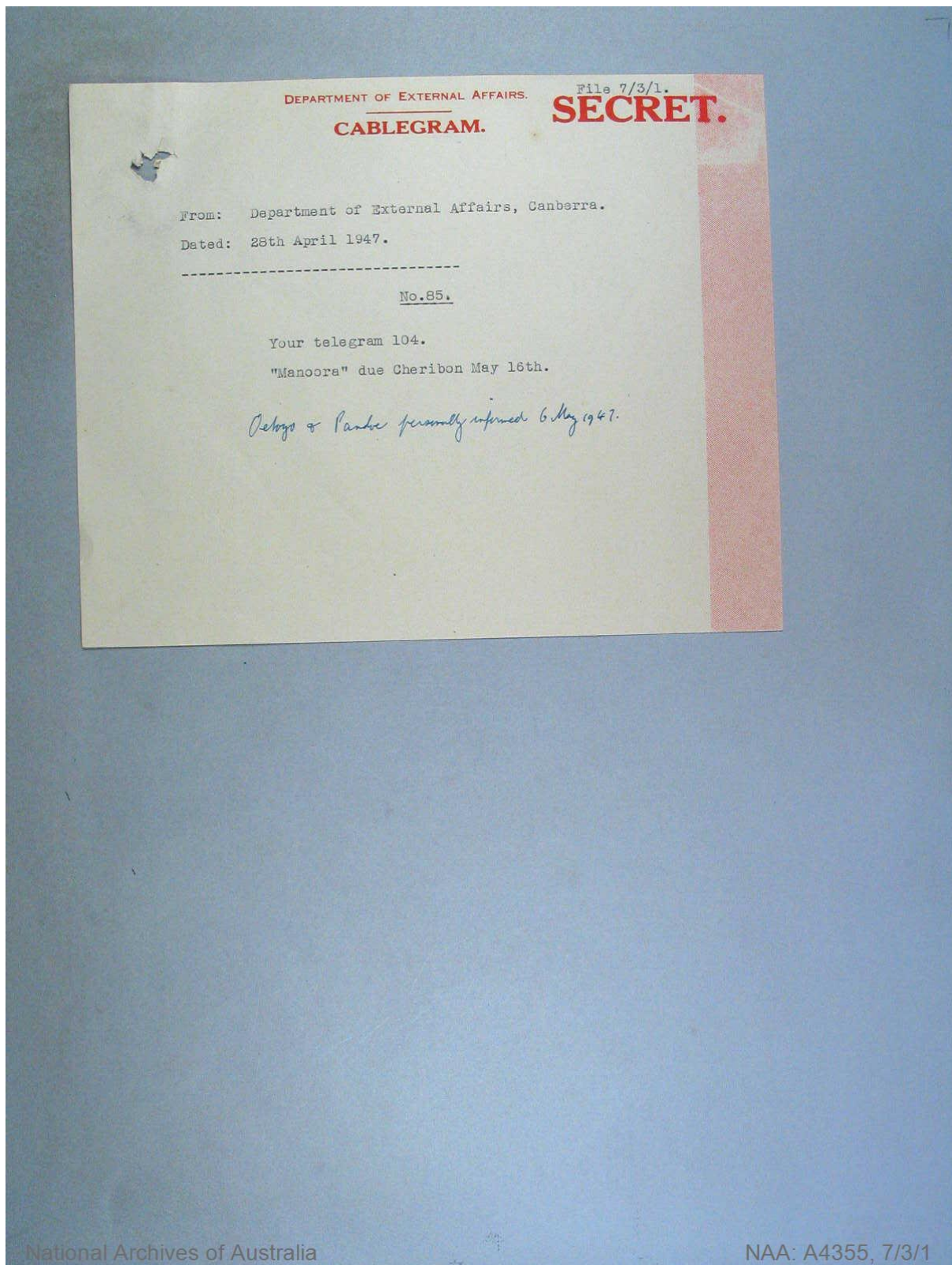
3. The Australian Legation at The Hague has advised that the first reaction of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the proposed schedule of the "Manoora" was that by calling at Koepang before proceeding to Cheribon a satisfactory solution had been found to the request of the N.E.I. Government for an initial call at a Dutch port. The Hague will however advise definitely after consulting with Batavia.

4. Press strongly for the Netherlands Government's approval to the plan outlined in paragraph 1 and advise result without delay. For your personal information, our attitude is that this movement must proceed as planned.

5. Please inform Sjahrir of Mungoven's appointment and position, and arrange for all necessary facilities to be extended to him by both the Dutch and Indonesian authorities.

23/4/47.

Manoora due Cheribon May 16th



Manoora due Koepang May 13th and Sourebaya May 18th

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. ^{File 7/3/1.}
CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 2nd May 1947.

No. 95.

Further to our 85.
"Manoora" due at Koepang May 13th and
Sourebaya May 18th.

Faluk Lusanon referred by phone 6 May 1947

3/5/47.
32

pb

Manoora due at Koepang 0800 13th May, Cheribon 0700 16th May and Sourabaya 17th May 0900

File 7/3/1.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 12th May 1947.

No.105. SECRET.

Further to our telegrams 85 and 95.

The Navy now advise that the "Manoora" due at
Koepang 0800 hours on 13th May, Cheribon 0700 hours 16th May and
Sourabaya 0900 hours on 17th May, local times.

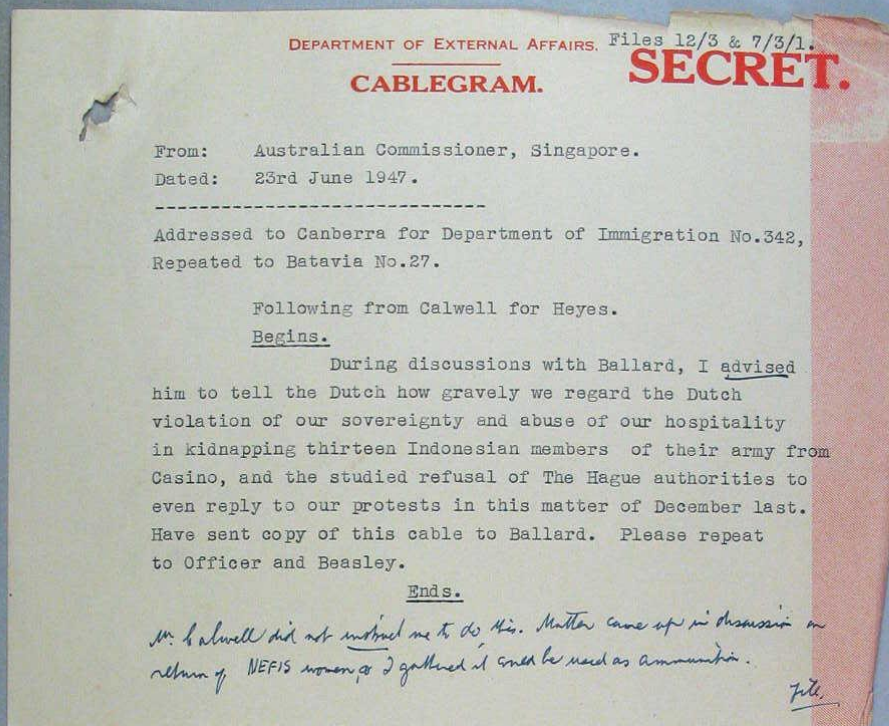
The Dutch naval authorities have been informed.
Please inform other interested authorities.

Placed in file 12 May 1947

Larkman 14 May 1947

13/5/47.

Australian anger about the Dutch taking 13 of the Indonesian repatriates away from Casino before the camp closed.



31st October, 1947. At least 8 Indonesian repatriates left in Australia, who are asking Indonesian Republic to send aircraft to retrieve them



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

7/1/9
9/3/11 ✓

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 31st October, 1947.

No. 322

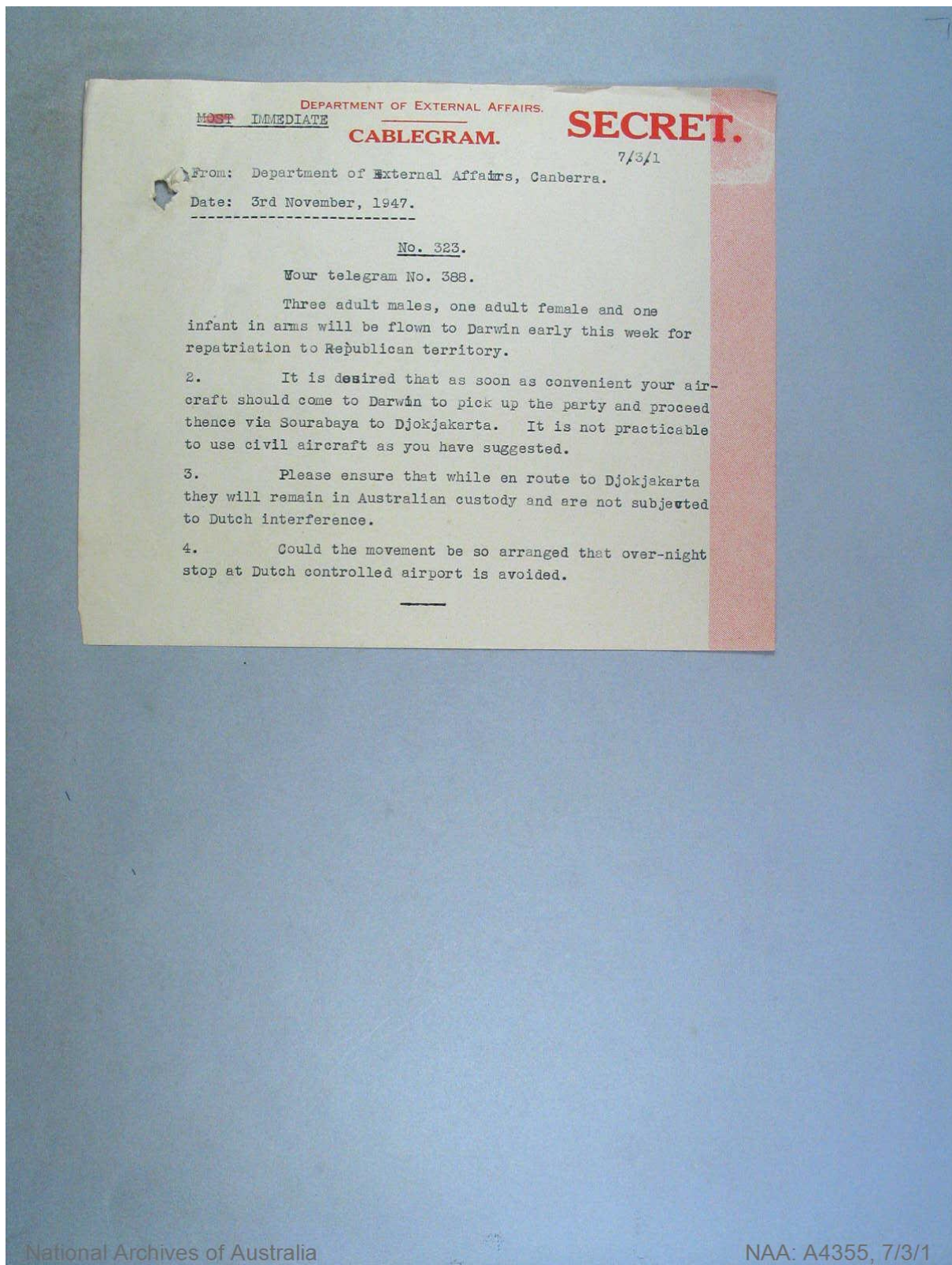
Indonesians in Australia numbering at least eight await repatriation to Republican territory.

2. It is desired that aircraft now at your disposal should proceed as soon as convenient from Batavia to Darwin to pick up the Indonesians and disembark them at Djokjakarta; preferably without calling en route at Dutch-controlled airport.

3. Could you make necessary preliminary arrangements with Republican authorities and could aircraft be spared from present duties to allow it to call at Darwin towards the end of next week? Will be glad to learn actual expected time of arrival at Darwin.

4. It may be necessary for aircraft to make similar trip later.

3rd November 1947: 3 adult males, 1 adult female and an infant are being flown to Darwin to be ready for aircraft repatriation to Indonesia





THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

7/1/9

7/3/1

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 5th ~~March~~ ^{November} 1947.

No. 328

Your telegram 392.

Flight plan approved.

2. Your telegram 393.

Major Campbell will arrive at Darwin Saturday to join aircraft. Army desire him to stay no longer than one month.

3. Names of repatriates are:

(a) David Ratukadja

(b) Slamet

(c) Bondan and Mrs. Bondan and child.
letter travelling on British passport.

All understood to be holders of Certificates of Identity issued by the Commonwealth Migration Officer. The party will have at least 600 pounds, possibly 1,000 pounds of luggage and private papers, which should not be inspected by the Dutch.

4. The C.O. of aircraft should ensure that none of the party carries arms or ammunition.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

7/3/1

7/1/9

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 6th November, 1947.

No. 331.

Our telegram No. 328.

Another Indonesian, Sugoro Atmaprasaja, is expected to reach Darwin on Monday afternoon next and will be emplaned in your aircraft for Djokjakarta.

As of 7th November 1947: Plan left from Batavia to pick up repatriates from Darwin

7/3/1

Batavia.

7th November, 1947.

The Australian Consul-General presents his compliments to the Head of the Far Eastern Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to confirm the request conveyed verbally on the 6th November 1947 that the authorities in Australia wish the approval and co-operation of the Netherlands East Indies authorities to repatriate to Djokjakarta under Australian custody the following Indonesians now in Australia:

David Ratukadja
Slamet
Bondan and Mrs. Bondan and child

In addition he has now been requested that the following Indonesian be included in the party:

Sugoro Atmaprasaja

The Australian Dakota aircraft at present attached to this Consulate-General left Batavia this morning 7th November 1947 and is proceeding to Darwin to bring to Batavia Australian Military Observer Officers as requested by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee of Good Offices on the Indonesian question and will at the same time, providing the approval of the Netherlands East Indies authorities is received, convey the Indonesians for repatriation to Djokjakarta, via Sourabaya.

The Head of the
Far Eastern Office of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
BATAVIA-C.

l.

A row of letters about the plane holding the Indonesian repatriates having to land in NEI territory – much going between Dutch and Australia

Batavia,
11th November 1947.

The Australian Consul-General at Batavia presents his compliments to the Head of the Far Eastern Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, in respect to his conversation of this morning, wishes to confirm that the Australian Authorities are only allowing the movement of the Indonesians concerned from Australia to Djokjakarta via Soerabaia on the advice from the Netherlands Legation at Canberra that the possession of the necessary visas, now granted, indicate full compliance with Netherlands East Indies entry regulation and would obviate grounds for holding the Indonesians in Soerabaia.

The Australian aeroplane conveying the Indonesians is expected to arrive at Soerabaia this morning and later proceed to Djokjakarta and then to Batavia.

b.

The Head of the Far Eastern Office
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
BATAVIA-C.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
FAR EASTERN OFFICE

Batavia, November 12th 1947
Djakarta

No. NT/10196

The Head of the Far Eastern Office presents his compliments to the Australian Consul General and with reference to the latter's note of 11th November 1947 regarding the repatriation of six Indonesians has the honour to point out that the Far Eastern Office's note of 8th November 1947, No. NT/10055, on the same subject contains no guarantee that the six persons concerned will be admitted to the Netherlands Indies or allowed to proceed to Djocja upon their arrival in Sourabaya.

In this connection it is observed that the possession of a Netherlands Indies visa is only one of the requirements for admission to the Netherlands Indies and does not exempt the holder from the application of laws and regulations governing his stay or movements in the country.

Batavia,
November 12th, 1947.



The Australian Consul General
BATAVIA

Kolff 2125

The plan with the Indonesian repatriates arrived 11am Sourabaya 12th November 1947 – here the Indonesian passengers were taken by the Dutch authorities for up to 4 hours – this letter is trying understand why



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

7/3/1

410

Batavia

13th November 1947

*Be no doubt found to
sent to the Netherlands authorities*
410
beg

The Australian Consul-General at Batavia presents his compliments to the Head of the Far Eastern Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, with reference to previous notes of 11th and 12th November 1947 with regard to the repatriation of Indonesians from Australia, has the honour to inform that at 1100 hours on 12th November 1947 the Australian Dakota (Captain Flight Lieutenant Banyan) arrived at Sourabaya with the Indonesian repatriates. There was a delay in the pre-arranged time of arrival on account of bad weather conditions in Australia preventing a night take-off.

The Captain of the aircraft reports that almost immediately on arrival at Sourabaya the repatriates were taken from his custody by the Netherlands East Indies authorities, their luggage and papers were taken off later, the aeroplane was placed under guard and the crew not allowed to enter their aeroplane.

After some hours Major Campbell, a Military Observer of the Consular Commission, who was a passenger on the aeroplane and who had been brought urgently from Australia for duty at Batavia, obtained permission from the General Officer Commanding Sourabaya Area for the aeroplane to proceed to Batavia provided that the aircraft should proceed direct and carry only the crew and himself. The aeroplane finally arrived at Batavia at 1730 hours. It was deemed necessary to obtain permission for the onward journey because no assurance could be obtained from the Netherlands East Indies authorities at Sourabaya as to when the repatriates would be allowed proceed to Djocja, as originally planned between the Australian authorities and the Netherlands Legation in Canberra.

It has been, of course, necessary to report the present situation to the Government of Australia.

It would be very much appreciated if the Head of the Far Eastern Office would be so kind as to inform the Consul-General of Australia as soon as possible when the repatriates, with their luggage and papers, will be permitted to continue their journey by the Australian aeroplane from Sourabaya to Djocja.

*Major Campbell's action in forwarding letter
to the Netherlands authorities*
The Head of the Far Eastern Office
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
BATAVIA-C.

More on how disappointing the Dutch have acted.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

7/3/1

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 13th November, 1947.

No. 343.

Your telegram No. 409.

This comes to us as a shock since, besides certain admittedly unsatisfactory written assurances, we had most explicit verbal assurances from the Netherlands Legation that the persons concerned would not be interfered with.

2. We are now considering what action should be taken. In our view, the Dutch have been equivocal to the point of dishonesty, since they knew perfectly well that we had undertaken to return the persons to Indonesia and not into the hands of those who have previously kept them in political internment in New Guinea, and that we would not have let them go if we had not been sure that we could rely on Dutch cooperation.

3. Kirby should know all these facts, as this behaviour by the Dutch towards the Indonesians is relevant to matters of the Committee. Equally, the Committee is presumably considering as a first step in the negotiations, requirements that the Dutch should grant complete amnesty to political prisoners.

4. Please make formal protest asking for an explanation and immediate return to Australian hands of all persons concerned, also protest regarding the search of Australian service plane and the exclusion of the crew.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

7/3/1 ✓

7/1/9

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 14th November, 1947.

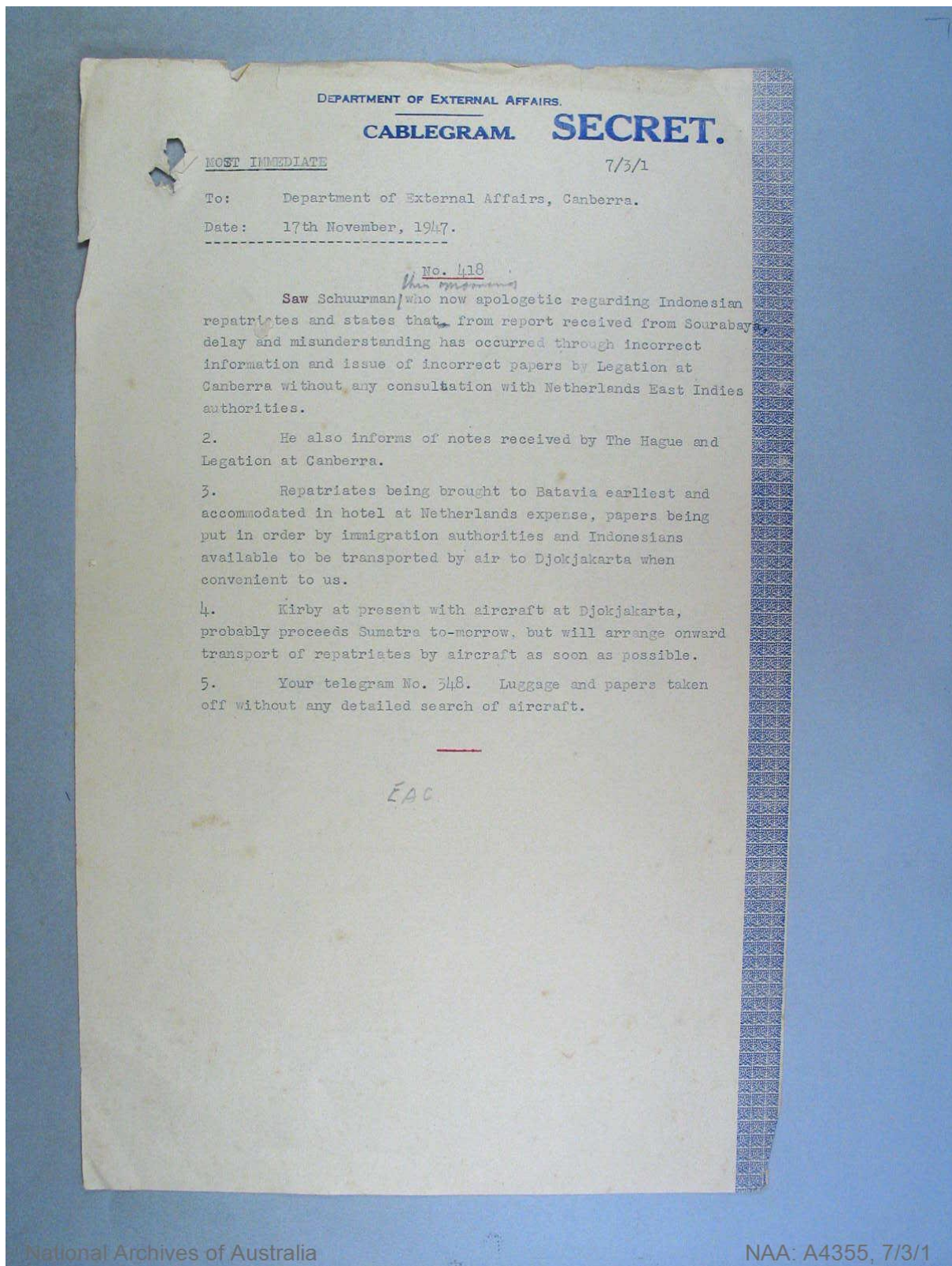
No. 346.

My telegram No. 343.

The Republican authorities at Djokjakarta will presumably have been expecting the arrival there of Bonden and the other members of the party. If so, and if they have raised the matter of the party's detention at Sourabaya, please ask Brookes to explain the circumstances to them, pointing out that we would not have sent the party via Sourabaya had we not believed that we had sufficient assurance that they would be allowed to proceed to Djokjakarta without interference and that we protested vigorously against their detention.

You should seek the opportunity to follow up your formal protest (your telegram 410) which after all merely recites the circumstances of the party's detention, with strong verbal complaint at the behaviour of the Dutch authorities.

Dutch apologise for their mistakes, have the Indonesian repatriates in a hotel at NEI expense with the aim to send them to Djokjakarta when possible.



Djokjakarta trip planned for 25th November from Sourabaya

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

7/3/1.

CABLEGRAM.

To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Dated: 20th November 1947.

No.427.

Your telegram 359.

Report incorrect.

Bondan and party still at Sourabaya. Proceeding
Batavia as previously advised. Onward journey Djokjakarta
25th November.

7/3/1
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 22nd November 1947.

No. 363.

When Mrs. Bondan arrives at Batavia, please make it clear to her, firstly that it was a complete surprise to us that there was any difficulty at Sourabaya and secondly that we acted very directly as soon as we knew of the circumstances, with the result that they are now returned to us.

Repatriates left for Djokjakarta 23rd November on RAAF plane. One Indonesian repatriate, David Retukadja voluntarily stayed at Sourabaya and will return to Timor via Dutch compliance.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

7/3/1.

CABLEGRAM.

To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.
Dated: 24TH November 1947.

No.429.

Your telegram 363.

Slamet, Bondan, Mrs. Bondan and child left for Djokjakarta by R.A.A.F. plane ~~on~~ 23rd November. Mrs. Bondan realizes hold up at Sourabaya was surprise to Australian Government and that we did everything possible to have them released.

David Retukadja voluntarily staying at Sourabaya and will be proceeding to Timor by Dutch plane with Dutch concurrence.

More on the repatriates and their journey



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

CONFIDENTIAL

1/13
7/3/1

DEPARTMENTAL DESPATCH No. 2/1947

XXXXXXXX
Australian Consulate-General,
BATAVIA.

10th December 1947.

Repatriation of Indonesians

With reference to Ministerial Despatch No. 9/1947 and my telegram No. 429, the case of the repatriation of Mr. and Mrs. Bondan and child, Mr. Slamet and Mr. Ratakadja was finally settled on 19th November 1947 when information was received from the Head of the Far Eastern Office to the effect that approval had been given by the Dutch authorities for Mr. and Mrs. Bondan and child and Mr. Slamet to proceed to Djokjakarta by the Australian aircraft. On this date the Head of the Far Eastern Office also apologised for the incident which, he stated, was caused by a series of misunderstandings and mistakes which emanated particularly from the Netherlands Legation at Canberra. Mr. Ratakadja whilst at Sourabaya expressed a desire to go to Timor instead of to Djokjakarta. The Netherlands authorities had no objection and he was allowed to proceed to Timor.

Mr. and Mrs. Bondan and child and Mr. Slamet were sent from Sourabaya to Batavia in a special Dutch aircraft on 22nd November 1947, and on 25rd November they were taken to Djokjakarta by our R.A.A.F. aircraft. Their luggage arrived from Sourabaya at a later date and was taken to Djokjakarta on a routine aircraft trip.

The question of our R.A.A.F. aircraft being placed under guard at Sourabaya on arrival from Australia with the Indonesian repatriates was further pressed by me with the Head of the Far Eastern Office, with the result that after investigation, the Captain of the aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Bunyan, received apologies from the Head of the Far Eastern Office regarding the incident.

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Consul-General

One of the Dutch repatriates, Sugoro, did not fly to Sourabaya with other repatriates, instead stayed in Darwin. The Australian Government wishes to repatriate him, but will only do so with the assurance by the NEI that the same will not hold him up when arriving as it did the other repatriates

CABLEGRAM.

7/3/1.

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 12th December, 1947.

No. 392.

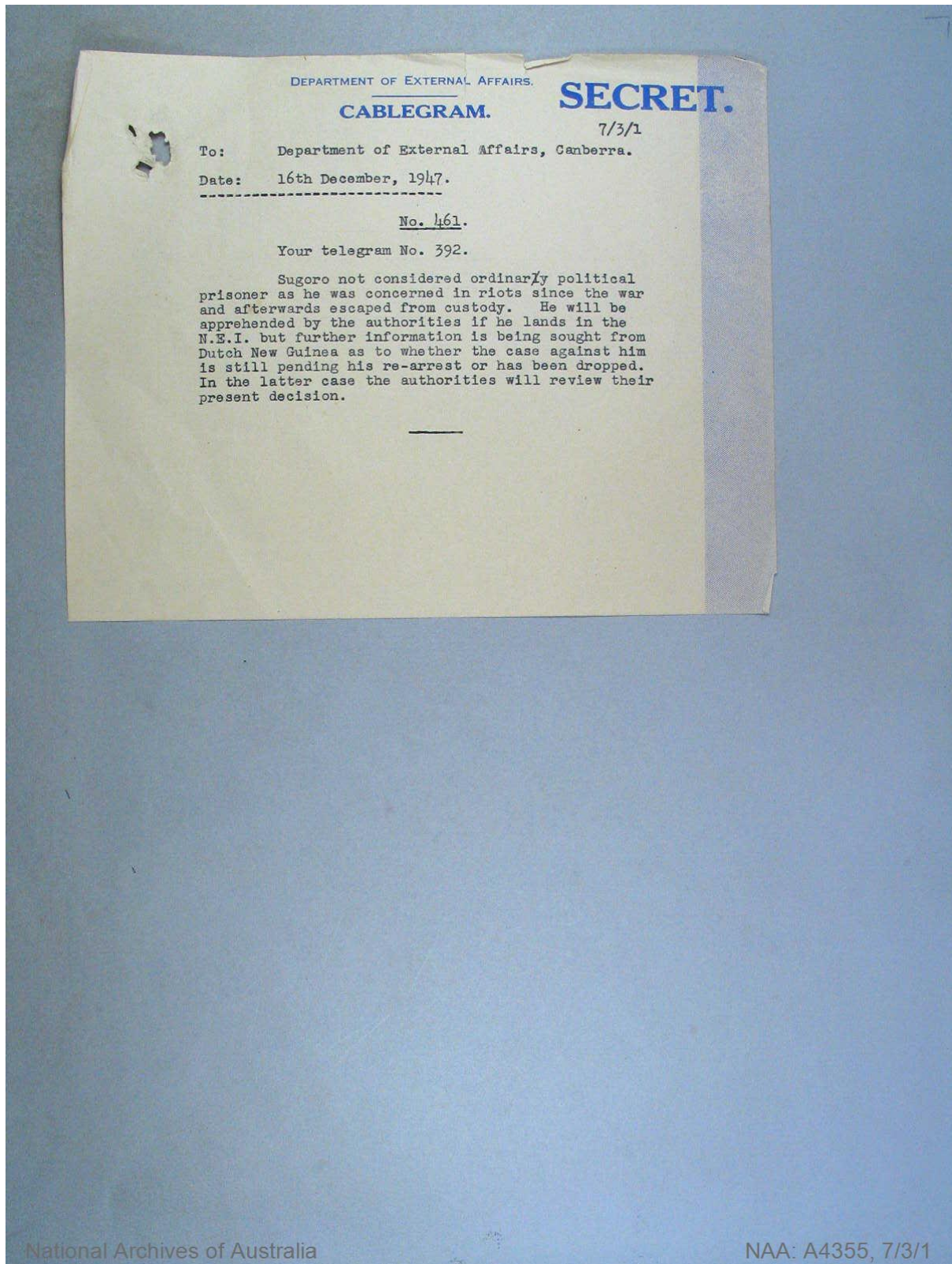
Secret.

Our telegram No. 331 and our associated telegram numbers.

Repatriation of Indonesians. In the event, as you will have gathered, we did not send Sugoro Atmaprasaja with Bondan, Slamet and others as calculated on November 12th. As a result of last minute discussions with the Netherlands Legation here we decided, since Sugoro had escaped from internment at Dutch hands it would be valuable not to additionally risk the possibility of his being apprehended at Sourabaya. We made this decision largely as a gesture to make it easier for the Netherlands East Indies authorities to allow the remaining five members of the party to proceed onward from Sourabaya without hindrance.

2. Sugoro has since been given special permission to remain at Darwin. However, we still desire to repatriate him and we consider the Netherlands East Indies authorities might be offered the opportunity to demonstrate that their action in respect of last party was in fact an error by allowing Sugoro to land in territory under their control and proceed to Djokjakarta without being subject to interrogation, arrest or detention. Please ask the authorities at Batavia whether they are prepared to give appropriate assurances and ascertain precisely with what formal requirements Sugoro will have to comply.

Confirmation that Sugoro, on arrival in NEI will likely be arrested for riots and escaping from Dutch custody, despite Australian request that he is not.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM.

~~XX~~ SECRET.

7/3/1

~~XXXXXX~~
To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 19th December, 1947.

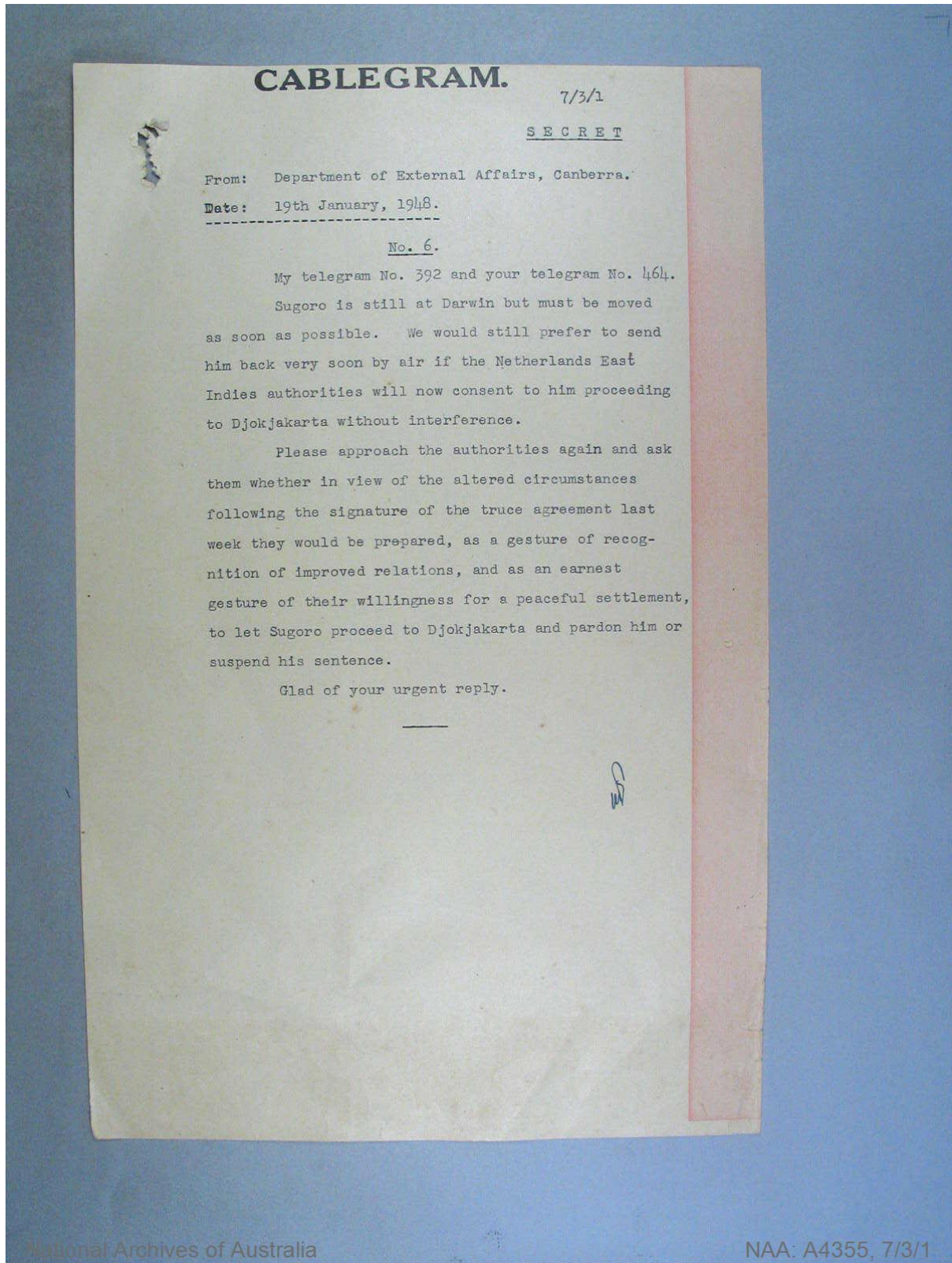
NE. 464.

~~XXXXXX~~ My telegram No. 461.

NEI authorities have been advised from New Guinea that Sugoro has been tried in absentia and awarded a term of many years' imprisonment, to be served if apprehended. As he was concerned in post-war riots authorities state they are unable to change attitude.

The Australian Department of External Affairs asks that Sugoro be allowed safe passage through NEI in allegiance with the truce which had occurred the previous week (this letter dates to 19th January 1948)

After this is a string of letters/cablegrams between people considering the position of Sugoro



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM.

SECRET.

7/3/1

~~FROM~~

To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 28th January, 1948.

No. 16.

Your telegram No. 6.

Case specially considered but Dutch again state it is not possible to alter their previous decision as others concerned are serving sentences. Sugoro stated also to be gaol-breaker prior to his last indictment. When general amnesty terms are considered Sugoro's case will be reviewed and favourable treatment will be pressed by us.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM. **SECRET.**

7/3/1

From: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 25th March, 1948.

No. 76.

Your telegram No. 16. Sugoro Atmaprasaja.

Please approach the Netherlands Indies authorities bitterly with a view to obtaining an amnesty for Sugoro in anticipation of general amnesty referred to in your telegram No. 6. If Sugoro is guilty of a criminal act the Netherlands Indies authorities should be asked to furnish details. Since, however, we have assumed his imprisonment was for political activities, we consider that it would be an appropriate and helpful gesture on the part of the Dutch to allow him to proceed to Djokjakarta without molestation.

We assume that the Committee of Good Offices is keeping up the pressure for a general amnesty which would surely help to improve the political atmosphere. Please consult Critchley and advise regarding the prospects.

About why Sugoro was imprisoned

To: Dr. Tamzil, 31st March, 1948.

SUGORO ATMAPRASAJA

Extract from Republic of Indonesia Information
Service Bulletin.

DJOKJAKARTA - March 25

In addition to reports of the Dutch News Agency "Aneta" about the revolt in Biak (Papua), one of Dr. Ratulanga's companions told "Antara" thatin Hollandia up to now sixty to seventy Indonesians are still interned by the Dutch, among whom Sugoro, advisor of the head of the Dutch civil administration there. Sugoro was pre-war interned in Digul by the Dutch and later evacuated to Australia.

W.D.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

7/3/1

CABLEGRAM.

To: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

Date: 31st March, 1948.

No. 65.

Top Secret. Your telegram No. 76.

On account of the past adamant attitude of the Dutch I have privately approached Republicans to request the Committee of Good Offices for the services of Sugoro for political talks. If the Republicans do not agree then I will see the Dutch and inform them that, if they will not agree to the unmolested journey of Sugoro to Djokjakarta, I will place the matter before the Committee of Good Offices. Critchley agrees, as no steps for a general amnesty of prisoners are being taken by the Dutch, although pressure is being exerted. Will advise.

PERSONAL & SECRET

7/3/1

13th April, 1948

Dear Tom,

I have not yet had any success with regard to the case of Sugoro Atmaprasaja, on account of Dr. Hatta's very short visit to Batavia.

I feel it is incumbent on myself to do my best to get the man away from Australia, and if you could assist while at Djokjakarta it would be very much appreciated. I still consider that if he was required by Djokja and asked for through the Committee of Good Offices this would be the best plan, even though perhaps the Dutch would not allow him to remain in Batavia once he returned to Java.

Hope you are enjoying your stay up country.

Yours

el.

F.S. Sugoro's particulars are as follows:

As advised by Dutch authorities - Sugoro has been tried in absentia and awarded a term of many years' imprisonment, to be served if apprehended. Stated to be a gaol-breaker and concerned in post-war riots.

Extract from Republic of Indonesia Information Service Bulletin:

"Djokjakarta, March 25 - In addition to reports of the Dutch News Agency 'Aneta' about the revolt in Biak (Papua), one of Dr. Ratulanga's companions told 'Antara' thatin Hollandia up to now sixty to seventy Indonesians are still interned by the Dutch, among whom Sugoro, advisor of the head of the Dutch civil administration there. Sugoro was pre-war interned in Digul by the Dutch and later evacuated to Australia."

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CABLEGRAM

SECRET.

E.A.C.

TO: Department of External Affairs, Canberra.

DATE: 8th July, 1948.

No. 167.

Your No. 177. Head of Far Eastern Office informs by note that after due consideration of Australian Government wish for safe conduct passage for Sugoro the N.E.I. Government now confirm original refusal and cannot give required assurance. Sugoro still regarded as an escaped criminal who will be apprehended to serve his term of imprisonment on return to N.E.I. Particulars of charges of incitement to participation in a revolt and of escaping for which he has been found guilty and sentenced to four years imprisonment being forwarded airmail 9/7.

WR
8/7

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
FAR EASTERN OFFICE

cc. Alg. Secretarie
BZ

Batavia, 7th July 1948
Djakarta

No. NT/8992

The Head of the Far Eastern Office of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Australian Consul General at Batavia and has the honour to refer to the latter's note of the 13th May 1948, requesting that consideration be given to the Australian Government's wish that the Indonesian Soegoro Atmoprasodjo be allowed to proceed from Australia to Republican territory.

The Netherlands Indies Government have given due consideration to the wish expressed in the aforesaid note. In view of the facts underlying their original refusal to grant Soegoro a safe-conduct to Republican territory it is regretted that an assurance as requested cannot be given.

Soegoro was tried by the Temporary Court Martial at Hollandia on a charge of incitement to participation in a revolt and, having been found guilty, was sentenced on the 31st of January 1947 to four years imprisonment under article 110 para 2 sub 1 juncto 108 of the Penal Code, juncto art. 2 of the Military Penal Code.

Meanwhile a second charge was levelled against Soegoro who, having managed to escape, was sentenced in his absence by the same court on the 19th November 1947 under art. 2 of the Military Penal Code, articles 33, 71 and 110 para, 1 of the Penal code and art. 13 para 1 juncto 2 sub b of the ordinance 1945/135.

The Netherlands Indies Government therefore look upon Soegoro as an escaped criminal who will be apprehended to serve his term on his return to the Netherlands Indies.

Batavia, 7th July 1948

The Australian Consul General
at BATAVIA.

Kolff 2125

A bit on Indonesians in USA

7/3/1
atrapradia foto

EXTRACT "ANETA" OF 23rd DECEMBER, 1948.

DEPORTATION OF INDONESIANS FROM U.S. POSTPONED

WASHINGTON, Dec 22 - An immigration office spokesman said ~~that the~~ Service has postponed the ~~deportation~~ of certain Indonesian nationals in the United States until the assurance has been ~~given~~ received from the Dutch Government they will be given safe conduct to Indonesia.

Rowland Watts, national secretary of the Workers Defence League, earlier had asked the State Department to intercede with the Immigration Service on behalf of "at least 20" Indonesians, scheduled for deportation on Wednesday, Watts said, he asked the State Department's intervention when "the Immigration Service refused to recognise the fact that anyone sent to Indonesia now would be placed in personal jeopardy, especially Indonesians who are sympathetic to the Republican Cause".

The State Department officials acknowledged receiving the request but declined further comment. However, it was learned, the Department did forward the request to the Immigration Service.

Watts said, the Immigration Service holds that under the present law Indonesians are not eligible for permanent residence in the United States. ~~the great majority are here illegally~~

He said that of approximately 1000 Indonesians now in the United States, the great majority are here illegally and that a few are deported from time to time as they come to attention of the Immigration Service. He added, however: "We cannot understand why this sudden roundup which started last week".