

INDONESIANS EMBARK

GREAT SECRECY OBSERVED

BY PINKENBA WHARF OFFICIALS.

BRISBANE, Nov. 21.—Great secrecy was adopted by the wharf officials at Pinkenba to-day when 230 Indonesians were shipped aboard the Australian navy auxiliary vessel, *Manoora*, which is scheduled to sail for Batavia to-night. The officials went to great lengths to prevent the Press from entering the wharf.

No concealed weapons were found when the Indonesians and their baggage were searched this morning.

A big squad of Customs officers made a further check of the baggage before the men boarded the ship. Already aboard the *Manoora* was a number of Indonesians who embarked from Sydney. Only 16 Indonesians now remain and they will go as soon as permission is secured from the Minister for Immigration (Mr. A. A. Calwell) for their Australian wives to travel with them. Many Indonesians who boarded the vessel to-day wore diamond rings and other items of jewellery, and some had portable wireless sets and saxophones.

When the Press tried to gain admittance to the wharf, the gatekeeper said they could not enter without a pass from the Australian Navy. However, a navy spokesman said the navy had nothing to do with the wharf. It was controlled by the Dutch. Permission was then sought to see the Migration Officer (Mr. Bird) but the request was refused by a Dutch official who would not allow the Press on the wharf.

MANOORA SAILS.

The *Manoora* left port to-night. She

The Manoora left port to-night. She had aboard 242 Indonesians. The Commonwealth Migration Officer (Mr. E. Bird), who supervised the embarkation, said to-night that the Dutch authorities control the wharf area, "and even I had to establish my identity when I arrived at the wharf."

Mr. Bird said the Manoora, which is a R.A.N. vessel, would take about 12 days to reach Batavia.
