

FAJ 014/1

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Mr ~~Male~~
PS/Lord Goronwy-Roberts

Telephone

pa. J. J. 21/5

EAST TIMOR

1. We have heard that the Indonesians intend to invite representatives of Embassies in Jakarta to visit East Timor on 31 May to observe regional bodies which will send delegations to the Timorese Assembly in Dili, later to forward a pro-integration resolution to Jakarta.

2. Subsequent information suggests the Indonesians' intention may be for the visitors to witness the final "act of choice" in favour of integration. The Indonesian aim is clearly to acquire a veneer of respectability for a speedy takeover of East Timor by associating distinguished foreigners with the "act of choice".

3. The Dutch are disinclined to participate. The Americans and Australians dislike being manipulated but would be likely to go. To have to choose between attendance and non-attendance would be embarrassing for us, although, at this stage, we would be inclined to advise against attending.

4. Hopefully, to avoid the necessity of choice, on 17 May we approached the Nine with a suggestion that if the Indonesians invited representatives of their countries to East Timor we should ^{all} suggest to the Indonesians that the UN should be involved (East Timor is still before the Security Council and Mr Winspeare Guicciardi is still in play). So far, only the Luxembourgers have replied - agreeing with us.

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5. According to UKMIS New York, Mr Winspeare Guicciardi has told the Indonesians that he could not accept an invitation to observe an act of self-determination as long as Indonesian troops were present (which they undoubtedly would be). UKMIS New York /have

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have suggested that there would be merit in seeking the Nine's agreement to a joint refusal of any invitation in the likely absence of UN participation. We think it would be a good idea to try and achieve this.

6. I attach a draft telegram to the Presidency Luxembourg (with which UN Department agree). There would be advantage in issuing this telegram as soon as possible.



A M Simons
South-East Asian Department


20 May 1976

I agree that we should try this.

I think we should come under greater criticism were we to send someone as Indonesian stage props to "observe" an act of self-determination than if we declared an invitation, which would at least enable us to receive some post-hoc account of conditions.

rebutting and if we
feel look at it again

PREM
20/5


Goronwy Roberts 21/5

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