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FROM: Amembassy DJAKARTA
TO: Secretary of State
NO: A-289
INFO: Amembassy THE HAGUE

Date Sent: December 15, 1961
Rec'd: 656C.98/12-1561
Dec 21 9 15 AM '61

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Veteran Papuan leader Silar Papare told Ambassador December 12 that in response to invitation three Papuan members Papuan Council he intends return WNG in near future and assist declaring independence Papuan state. In calling on Ambassador at Residence he explained he had been appointed "Governor WNG" in 1948 and Papuan leaders are awaiting his return before announcing independence. In order avoid possible difficulties with Netherlands authorities he expressed hope Emb through Dept might be willing notify Dutch govt he is not returning as Indo agent.

Papare explained his reason for wanting to speak to Amb was that he hopes US will assist and protect new nation. Further he asked that we assist his family after his departure for WNG. He asserted Minister Priyono has accepted his daughter's credentials for study abroad and wants her to go to Moscow but he has rejected this suggestion and hopes to have her go to university in US.

Papare asserted his belief that after Papuans declare independence Indonesia will disintegrate. He maintained that he has already been in contact with several ex-rebel leaders, including Achman Hussein and Kawilarang, and that they intend to push this break-up. While he did not say so, split-up of Indonesia is probably predicated on assumption Indos will attack WNG after Papuan leaders declare independence. Close associate and adviser of Papare recently expressed opinion to member my staff attack would trigger rebellion against Sukarno.

Papare said he along with about 50 other Papuans attended National Front meeting Dec 11. He maintained Papuans were requested pledge support any command Sukarno might give following Bogor meeting next day. He said they refused since Papuan people would suffer greatest number casualties if Indos invaded WNG; claimed refusal was reason Sukarno had postponed for one week announcement his command. (he not aware of course of other events - Embtel 1042). Papare said he had criticized

Sukarno

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December 14, 1961

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Sukarno at meeting and Dep SecGen NF Djuhartono had threatened arrest him. Papare had replied Indos would not dare take such step thus implying he has strong following in WNG.

Papare said his brother-in-law had led one of Indo infiltration groups in WNG. Asserted press reports here that Dutch had sentenced him to eight years imprisonment were untrue; implied his brother-in-law has joined Papuan independence movement and is not hindered by Dutch.

Papare said it is regrettable Sukarno no longer seeks advice local Papuans re WNG. He maintained President's current advisers are military officers and people who are encouraging armed action for purpose benefiting Soviets. Explained Indonesia incapable administering WNG and would only bring communism to area.

COMMENT: It is difficult to know how seriously to take Papare. He undoubtedly is a potential leader of WNG if he in fact returns. Some of his ideas are obviously out of focus such as his remarks concerning imminent break-up Indonesia.

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December 14, 1961

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