

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA.

File (DUPLICATE)

NUMBERED LETTER

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, OTTAWA, CANADA.

FROM: Office of the High Commissioner for Canada,
Accra

Reference:.....

Subject: Visit of West New Guinea Delegation to
Ghana

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Date: June 13, 1962

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References

- United Nations
- Mr. Glazebrook
- Mr. Teakles
- European
- Washington
- CCOS (6)
- Permis NY
- London
- Emb. Paris
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- Lagos
- Dar-es-Salaam
- Yaoundé
- Delhi
- Karachi
- Tokyo
- Canberra
- Wellington
- Colombo
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A delegation from West New Guinea, which visited Accra for a few days under the auspices of the Netherlands Government left here on May 28. The delegation consisted of the following:

1. Mr. Marku Daisie (Leader)
2. Mr. Pania Torey
3. Mr. N. Tangahma
4. Mr. Herman Womsiwor

2. Although the Dutch Ambassador made valiant attempts he was unable to obtain an interview for the delegation with any member of the Ghana Government. He succeeded in persuading two senior officials from the Foreign Ministry to accept an invitation to a reception in honour of the West New Guineans and on the strength of this first encounter arranged a private meeting between the two officials and the delegation at their hotel.

3. According to my Dutch colleague here the Ghanaians were struck not so much by the strength of the West New Guinea case as by the colour and physiognomy of the West New Guineans, whom they thought would look like Indonesians. Their strong resemblance to Africans surprised the Ghanaians and made at least one of the officials think that perhaps Ghana was supporting the wrong side in the dispute. Despite this the other official told us that no report on their meetings with the delegation had been given to President Nkrumah and that no change was contemplated in the Ghanaian attitude.

(Sgd.) B.M. Williams

Office of the High Commissioner