

Bishop Urges Action In Canberra

"Explosive Situation" Seen In New Guinea Settlement

The Bishop Armidale, the Rt. Rev. J. S. Moyes, yesterday said that with the West New Guinea settlement, Australians were in an explosive situation which could affect areas and peoples beyond the limits of West New Guinea.

"I speak as a citizen, and not in any official capacity, on a matter that is of world significance," Bishop Moyes said.

"I am not concerned, and I doubt whether public opinion is concerned, with any issue as narrow as the ownership of a few thousand square miles of uninhabited swamp land in West New Guinea.

"There are serious and far-reaching moral issues involved in the future of the people of West New Guinea, and that is my concern.

"It should be made clear to Australians that the agreement signed between the Netherlands and Indonesia was not negotiated under United Nations auspices, but with Mr Ellsworth Bunker, of the United States, as chairman and mediator.

"Neither party acted specifically at the behest of the United Nations. The agreement still has to come before the Assembly for discussion.

"As far as the majority of the members of the United Nations are concerned, it seems to me that their view was expressed some eight months ago on a motion brought forward by the Brazzaville powers, namely, that the United Nations should then send a 'Presence' into New Guinea to assume control of the administration. The voting was a few short of 75 per cent required to make this mandatory.

"The matter was never discussed in the Security Council for the reason that the veto would have prevented any decision being reached.

"Three Facts To Remember" "We Australians should remember and think upon three facts about the attitude of President Soekarno of Indonesia.

"First, despite repeated assurances to the contrary, he did send armed forces against New Guinea, and as recently as three days before the agreement was signed.

"Second, apart from his own immediate minority political party, which is lawful in Indonesia is the Communist Party, which is the next largest (after Russia and China) in the world.

"Third, the leaders of all other political parties in Indonesia are or have been in recent times imprisoned. They include such distinguished men as Dr Sjahrir and Dr Rum.

political refugees from West New Guinea? "(2) Will it instruct our representative in the United Nations to press for the concrete guarantees that there will be a genuinely free vote of the indigenous population in 1969, pressing indeed to the point of insisting that there be an effective 'Presence' of the United Nations in West New Guinea up to and including that time? "(3) Will the Government consider that it might be absurd to talk of independence of one part of New Guinea and not the other, and therefore set their minds and hands to devising and putting to the United Nations a scheme for the unification and independence of the whole island?"



Mr Goodsell (left) speaks to Mr Heffron, at Kingsford Smith Airport yesterday.

Aid To Cut Red Tape

The N.S.W. Public Service Board will establish a central bureau to help the public deal with State Government departments, the chairman of the N.S.W. Public Service Board, Mr J. W. Goodsell, said yesterday.

Mr Goodsell said the bureau would advise people where to go with particular problems and give them any information they needed. It would also help them to fill in Government forms. Mr Goodsell announced the formation of the bureau on his return from a four-month trip overseas.

The Premier, Mr Heffron, and State Government officials met him at Kingsford Smith Airport when he arrived by Air-India. Mr Goodsell said: "It can be tremendously confusing to the man in the street to know where to go in seeking information or services from Government departments.

"To illustrate this—there are 66 departments and sub-departments within the scope of the Public Service Board. "The board will seek a central city site and establish the bureau on ground level. "It will be open to the public and will also take telephone inquiries for information."

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