

Amboinese Secede From Indonesia In New Federation's Fourth Revolt

By The Associated Press.

JAKARTA, Indonesia, April 26—Amboinese authorities declared the South Moluccas independent today. A radio message to Macassar told of this, the fourth revolt in four months within the United States of Indonesia.

The Moluccas, once renowned Spice Islands now in a commercial backwash, dot the sea between Celebes and New Guinea. Amboina is the name of both one district and the capital. They were included in the State of East Indonesia.

Military sources in Jakarta said Indonesian troops of the Netherlands Indies Army joined the rebellion. A battalion is garrisoned at Amboina. These are among troops who have been awaiting demobilization or transfer to the United States of Indonesia's Federal Army since the Netherlands gave Indonesia independence last December. The Federal Government has no soldiers in the Moluccas.

Observers in Jakarta said it

may take weeks to quell the uprising because of probable backing by the people of the area.

The independence declaration said the South Moluccas—Amboina, Banda, the Kai Islands, Ceram and Aru—no longer felt secure within the East Indonesian State and were cutting their ties with the United States of Indonesia.

The revolt, like the others, appeared to stem from efforts by Premier Mohamed Hatta's Central Government to junk the Federal structure and make a single state of all the islands based on the Indonesian Republic, which led the fight for independence.

This move was in the background of the short-lived West Java rebellion of Capt. R. R. P. (Turk) Westerling, a previous flare-up among Dutch-trained Indonesian troops in Amboina and seizure of Macassar, the East Indonesian capital, by Indonesians newly transferred from the Dutch to United States of Indonesia

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Army service. All were put down.

Neutral sources here said the Molucca Separatists were led by Dr. Soumokil, former Attorney General of East Indonesia. Other leaders were reported to be the acting chief of the previous administration on Amboina, a man named Manahutu, and a South Moluccas councilman named Wairisal. (Few Indonesians have more than one name.)

The Amboinese include a large proportion of Christians. Most Indonesians of the other islands are Moslems.

The Dutch have used the Amboinese extensively as soldiers for years because of their loyalty and fighting spirit. They fought against independence from the Dutch. Most of the Indonesians still in Dutch-officered units are Amboinese. They are scattered throughout the United States of Indonesia. Transfer of these soldiers to the Federal Army is proving one of the Government's most troublesome tasks.