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ZEER GEHEIM

Land: Indonesië. *17 H 9876/17*
Onderwerp: The offer of Russian warships to ALRI.

Referenties:

Datum van
waarneming: 21 maart 1960.

Bron: Van bevriende zijde.

Opmerkingen:

Verzonden aan: de Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken.

Aan Zijne Excellentie Prof. Dr. J.E. de QUAY
Minister-President

Plein 1813 no. 4

's-GRAVENHAGE.

ZEER GEHEIM

Indonesia

THE OFFER OF RUSSIAN WARSHIPS TO ALRI

A Senior Indonesian Service Officer stated the following about the acceptance of Russian warships by ALRI:

- a) One week before KHRUSHCHEV's visit, a Russian Naval Mission of four senior officers appeared at Navy Headquarters maintaining that they were there at the invitation of the Indonesian Government. MARTADINATA, who had no knowledge of this invitation, refused to see them.
- b) Later, when MARTADINATA heard that they were offering a 20,000 ton cruiser, 4-5 submarines, a submarine rescue vessel and 6 light naval craft, he agreed to see the delegation and explained to them that ALRI had been strengthened during 1959 and that the process would continue gradually as trained Indonesian personnel become available. The Russians countered with an offer to deliver units fully crewed and to train Indonesians to take over. The offer was declined.
- c) MARTADINATA then consulted NASUTION who knew nothing of the invitation to a Soviet Naval Mission and considered that SUKARNO had issued an invitation privately. He fully supported MARTADINATA on political grounds.
- d) KHRUSHCHEV on arrival raised the matter with SUKARNO, who was in favour of accepting. MARTADINATA and NASUTION stood their ground and the subject was dropped. It has not been raised again.

The impression so far gained from MARTADINATA was that the offer of a cruiser may have been made

but had almost certainly been refused. ALRI cannot cope with more or larger ships at present. The Indonesians are willing to accept naval material but are unable to pay for more.

21 maart 1960.