

# Small files: Tibet 1959-1961, West Irian (Dutch New Guinea) 1958-1961, Yeme...

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West Irian (Dutch New Guinea)

15 Jan. - 3 Feb. 58

Schmidt, G. (Arncliffe, Australia)

- 2 letters from D.H.

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West Irian (Dutch New Guinea)

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15 Jan. - 3 Feb. 58

Schmidt, G. (Arndcliffe, Australia)

- 2 letters from D.H.

15 January 1958

PERSONAL

Dear Mr. Schmidt,

The other day I received your letter of 6 December. The only action open to the United Nations officially is a notification to the Government of Indonesia in accordance with the rules laid down for Human Rights cases. That, in this case, does not satisfy me and I have therefore felt that in a personal capacity, outside the rules applying to my office, I should take the matter up with the Indonesian authorities.

For that reason I have today seen Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, telling him about your demarche, my sympathy for your stand and my concern that this matter be treated with the greatest fairness and full consideration of the humanitarian interests which should be taken into account. I thus addressed a personal appeal through him to the Indonesian Government in favour of your father.

Dr. Ali replied that as I had not made it an official demarche but a personal appeal, he would transmit my reaction to his Government. He felt sure that the views, for which I made myself a spokesman, and the humanitarian interests involved would be heeded by the Indonesian authorities. However, he obviously was of the view that, matters being what they are, it would not serve a good purpose to cut into the legal procedures and attract public attention by any kind of publicized interventions.

Sorry that I cannot do more but I wish to assure you that the action taken is all I can do in your assistance.

Let us hope that things will turn out well.

Very sincerely yours,

Dag Hammarskjöld

Mr. G. Schmidt  
38 Knight Street  
Arncliffe, N.S.W.  
Australia

3 February 1958

PERSONAL

Dear Mr. Schmidt,

With reference to my letter of 15 January, 1958, regarding the case of your father, I have received a letter from Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, .... a copy of which I enclose herewith for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld.

Mr. G. Schmidt,  
38 Knight Street,  
Arncliffe, N.S.W.,  
Australia.