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DOS REVIEWED 18-Mar-2013: DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE IN FULL

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AMERICAN EMBASSY

Brussels, Belgium, August 24, 1950

Dear Jake:

I take pleasure in acknowledging receipt of your letter of August 10, 1950 regarding Mr. J. Robert Sowder. Mr. Sowder called on me in July and said that he had known me during the war. But frankly I did not remember him. He impresses me as an aggressive businessman but I have no personal interest in him.

The business part of his visit here as far as it relates to the Embassy was handled by our Commercial Attaché, Mr. Patten D. Allen, and I enclose for your confidential information a copy of Mr. Allen's despatch No. 41, dated July 20, 1950 to the Department.

I was most interested to learn what you say regarding Hooker Doolittle. Please do remember me to him and give him my warm regards. Whatever may be said about Hooker, he cannot be accused of having any but positive opinions. Lots of times he is right.

We try to follow the Indonesian news but I am sure we are only aware of a fragment of the picture. The local press is full of stories about Westerling's return to Holland. *He has just arrived by plane in Brussels. The authorities don't seem to know what disposition to make of him.*

With warmest regards, believe me,

Yours ever,

Robert Murphy

Encl.

Cy of Despatch 41,7/20/50.

Jacob D. Beam, Esq.,
Counselor of Embassy,
American Embassy,
Djakarta, Indonesia.

RM:td

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

Djakarta, Indonesia, October 31, 1950.

PERSONAL - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Bob:

You will shortly be receiving a visit from the new Indonesian Minister. He has the rather fantastic name of Anak Agung Gde Agung and in addition is a Balinese prince. He is still in his early thirties and has a great deal of charm and sense. He is one of the most honorable men I have met here and has been equally severe with his own people as he has with the Dutch in furthering the Indonesian struggle for independence. He was a courageous Minister of the Interior and in fact got into trouble for standing up for what he believed was right. I think you will enjoy meeting him and he will have many interesting things to tell you about Indonesia. For further information about him you might like to read a biographical despatch, a copy of which we sent to you several weeks ago.

Merle left last Sunday for a month's visit in consultation in Washington. In the meantime I have plenty to do. I wonder if you have as much trouble as we do with ECA? Fortunately we are spared a MAAC Mission but have a lot of Communists and other problems to keep us occupied.

With the best to yourself and your family.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob D. Beam

The Honorable
Robert D. Murphy,
American Ambassador,
Brussels.