

NA JAPANS CAPITULATIE

gelegenheid voor godsdienstigen en gematigden zich te organiseren en wellicht actie van Soekarno c.s. tegen hun eigen extremistische leden.'

Mountbatten, die zijn doel had bereikt, zegde van der Plas zijn steun toe en beloofde dat hij er in Londen op zou aandringen dat Nederland alle mogelijke hulp zou krijgen bij verdere troepentransporten.

's Middags verklaarde Lawson aan de pers in Singapore, '*that Britain's fulfilment of her obligations to the Allies did not involve fighting the peoples of Java and Indo-China for the Dutch and French, respectively*'¹, en van der Plas en Mountbatten stuurden beiden telegrammen aan van Mook. Mountbatten seinde²:

'(1) *Have seen van der Plas and Slim and Christison who will be Corps Commander for the Netherlands-Indies . . .*

(2) *It is clear the situation in Java is very different to what you may have been led to expect. I therefore consider that you should fly direct to Batavia as soon as you can, where Christison will meet you. British-Indian troops start landing on Java today.*

(3) *I am absolutely convinced it will be necessary for you or preferably van der Plas on your behalf to meet all political leaders in Java in order to avoid possible revolts and bloodshed. No leader with any large following can possibly be omitted.*

(4) *I have urged van der Plas to telegraph you for your Government that it is imperative that a clear-cut statement be made about the future status of the NEI by your Government and the possible time by which such status be attained.*

Van der Plas maakte in *zijn* telegram³ melding van de 'irrevocable' beslissing die Lawson hem had meegedeeld, berichtte dat Mountbatten bij hem op besprekingen met Soekarno en Hatta had aangedrongen en deed van Mook de volgende voorstellen:

- 'a. *that you fly immediately to Batavia;*
 - b. *that you authorise me at once to begin discussions with all influential Indonesites⁴ including Chinese, Dutch and Arabs, including Soekarno and Hatta, speaking to them first individually;*
 - c. *to announce this to-morrow on the arrival of occupation troops.*
- No other possibility remains with present British policy and the situation is so urgent that unless you give contrary order I shall go ahead?*

Van Mook kan de telegrammen van Mountbatten en van der Plas, die ook nog gedecodeerd moesten worden, pas laat op de 28ste, misschien

¹ Aangehaald in *Ned-Indones. betrek. 1945-1950*, dl. I, p. 184. ² Tekst: a.v., p. 190. ³ Tekst: a.v., p. 182. ⁴ bedoeld: ingezetenen van Indonesië