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# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



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INDONESIAN REACTION  
TO JOINT MOSCOW COMMUNIQUE

The joint Soviet-Indonesian communiqué signed in Moscow on 11 September at the conclusion of President Sukarno's visit to the Soviet Union has been severely criticized in Indonesia as violating the country's independent foreign policy. Press and political criticism led on 17 September to the denunciation of the statement by 14 of 25 members of Indonesia's coalition cabinet.

The communiqué pledged closer friendship between the peoples of the two countries, anticipated increased cultural and economic relations, and expressed mutual agreement on such international issues as Suez, the testing of atomic weapons, and military pacts.

The party is in Austria, will visit Czechoslovakia, and then leave for Communist China in time to participate in the anniversary celebration of the Peiping regime on 1 October.

Response in Indonesia

In Djakarta, two major cabinet parties--the strongly anti-Communist Masjumi and the vacillating Nahdlatul Ulama--have respectively "condemned" the statement and expressed "displeasure." Some complaints have pointed out that the communiqué made no mention of Indonesia's claim to Netherlands New Guinea.

The only important political group which has supported the communiqué wholeheartedly is the Indonesian Communist Party, which probably hopes to exploit any rift in the government coalition. The National Party, which heads the coalition, has, however, sought to play down the communiqué as having "no significance."

The government, nevertheless, has attempted to halt the criticism, particularly in the press, before it could result in further embarrassment. Prime Minister Ali on 15 September ordered the army to issue an emergency decree banning publications critical of government officials. An independent Djakarta daily, Indonesia Raya, immediately compared the decree with "brutal colonial regulations."

Aid Agreement

Meanwhile, a Soviet-Indonesian aid agreement for \$100,000,000 which was signed on 15 September in Djakarta has drawn no criticism. Apparently the agreement is considered to be well within the framework of Indonesia's independent foreign policy. Officials may regard it as balancing the \$100,000,000 credit granted by the Export-Import Bank in 1950 and exhausted only this year. The grant of \$105,000,000 worth of American agricultural commodities last spring is also considered a factor in permitting a balancing arrangement with the bloc.

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