PRIME MINISTER'S FAREWELL SPEECH AT JAKARTA

The honourable, the First Minister, Tuan Haji Juanda, Ministers and friends,

The time has come for me and the other members of the mission to return to Singapore. During my short visit to this country, the Government, the leaders and the people of this country have showered me with their kindness and generosity. On my arrival from Singapore I said that eight days was but a short time and that I came with an open mind.

With an open mind I have listened to, followed and studied your problems, and also the problems that arise out of the position of the thousands of islands that dot the sea around this country - islands that have to be defended, protected, administered and developed in accordance with the development plans of the Central and provincial governments.

National Archives of Singapore

I have been very much attracted by the customs, mode of dress, and the way of life of the people in the provinces that I visited. Indonesia's crest- Bhinneka Tunggal Ika - has a greater significance to me now that I have seen with my own eyes the various dialects, religions and cultures of the people of this

country, who, inspite of these differences, are fully united under one emblem, which forms the foundation of Negara Indonesia. I am indeed very much impressed by the unity of the people here.

Believe me, we the people of Singapore, are always in sympathy with you and will try to understand the difficulties that you encounter in dealing with the problems of your State. We will follow with interest the measures taken by you and your government in implementing your development plans. We do realise that you have very big problems to solve, bigger than our problems.

The world knows that the Dutch are the most unjust of all colonialists, when it comes to dealing with the people under their oppression. And the fact that you have shown such great perseverance and determination in your fight against the Dutch and Japanese imperialists until you succeeded in ousting them, is an indication of the greatness of the Indonesian nation. And the way you brought those wicked rebels to their knees is yet another indication of the greatness of your nation. As for your struggle to bring West Irian back to Indonesia's fold, we look upon it as a struggle that is just as well as noble. We are confident that in this struggle you will succeed.

National Archives of Singapore

The First Minister, Tuan Haji Juanda, has already received an invitation from the government of Singapore to visit our country for a few days. We are looking forward to receiving him, as well as Mrs. Juanda and the other leaders in the group in Singapore. It is my ardent hope that we in Singapore will be able to return the generosity and kindness that you have showered upon us during our visit here.

Singapore's future is not much different from that of Indonesia. Both desire the closest cooperation, understanding and mutual help. We have every confidence that our two countries will be able to achieve cooperation and mutual help in many fields. I give you my assurance that we will give you all the cooperation you need.

Good-bye and good luck until we meet again.

National Archives of Singapore

JANUARY 26, 1960.