

Asian country would like to take over the territory from a European country. Surely, at the very least, we are entitled to the opinion of the International Court on the legal issue, and, when it is possible, the opinion of the people of West New Guinea themselves, exercising their right to determine their own future.

In the light of these views the Canadian Delegation can see no virtue in the draft resolution tabled by thirteen delegations. The only interpretation to be placed on this resolution, taken in conjunction with the statements of the distinguished representative of Indonesia, is that we should now accept and agree to the transfer of sovereignty to Indonesia without benefit of any legal judgement, and in the absence of any indication of the wishes of the people concerned.

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