

WEEK: 8

Early Intervention

Dutch involvement

- Began in the Dutch quest into the Pacific during the Dutch Colonial control over what is now Indonesia and West Papua.
- 600BC Asian traders demanded with The Spice Islands to the West of New Guinea.
- Name given by a Spanish explorer Ortiz Retez “Neuva Guinea”
- The Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch then began competing for a monopoly of the Spice Trade mainly commodities like pepper, cinnamon, cassia, cardamom, ginger, turmeric and other spices.
- Dutch were a bit slow in developing the West New Guinea since as a colony from 1884 – 1901.
- They were mainly focus on the rich spice trade in the Indonesian islands and the islands to the West of New Guinea.
- For 80 years of Dutch control, New Guinea had little relevance to the rest of the Indies.
- It was referred to the lonely place with no amenities and was considered a backwater for colonial administrations.

Dutch Colonial Rule after 1945

- 1945 Indonesia became an independent republic and Netherlands retained control over Western New Guinea.
- Thousands of Dutch returned to the region to resettle after the Japanese left.
- 1960 15,500 Dutch/Eurasian and 16,600 Asian settlers there.
- The Dutch introduced a “crash program” to organise an administration which include a School of Administration, a Police Training School and a Papuan Battalion.
- **Linggajati Agreement** was signed after numerous dialogues between neighbouring countries to debate the future of West New Guinea.
- The treaty was between the Dutch and the Indonesians which recognised Indonesia as the de facto authority in Java, Madara and Sumatra.
- Responded by Provincial protest across the Indonesian archipelago against Javanese/Indonesian Rule.
- Organised Papuan resistance to foreign control was a common problem dated long in history. Dated by to at least 1938.

USA and USSR Involvement

Insert picture

- 1953 Indonesia demanded UN approval or endorsement for permission to take over Western New Guinea but unfortunately the motion was defeated by a Dutch/Australian alliance.
- Again this was repeated in 1956 and 1957.
- Apparently this issue was linked to a phase of power struggle/dominance in the period of Cold war.
- Midst of Indonesian struggle to control Western New Guinea the game of ideology gave them a little bit of hope.
- USA offered their support to the outer island rebels in the Indonesian archipelago while the USSR offered to support Indonesia.

Indonesian Takeover 1962 – 69

- After the defeat of the Dutch in the “War of Independence” the new Republic of Indonesia took over all the former Dutch territories and demanded/argued the West Papua should also be in their list of controlled territories.
- The Dutch retaliated stating the West New Guinea people were Papuans and culturally separated from the Asian people of Indonesia.
- Sukarno the aggressive leader of Indonesia staged a military take-over and Indonesian troops marched into West New Guinea in 1961-62 and fought a short war against the Dutch troops.
- The war was overlooked by the major powers because they were afraid their involvement would cause more harm than good since Indonesia has just been recognised as a Republic nation.

- Also USA had a policy over oil reserves across the globe and Indonesia just got access to an oil reserve in addition mining I West Papua's mountainous interior was also recognised by multinational mining corporations.
- Indonesia promised to hold a plebiscite or referendum in 1969 when the Papuan decided if they wanted to be part of Indonesia or independent.
- 1962 a clash along the New Guinea coast where an Indonesian boat was sunk then USA supported Indonesia for retaliating to this incident.
- Later on Australia support USA for backing Indonesia in their attack against the Dutch.
- In 1969 a so called "**Act of Free Choice**" a selected group of pro-Indonesian voters voted for all other Papuans to become a part of Indonesia.
- 2003 Indonesia created two provinces in West New Guinea – **Papua Barat** (877000 population, capital is Manokwari with Sarong the biggest city and Secondly **Papua** (3.5million estimated in 2014, capital is Jayapura)
- Indonesians migrating into West Papua outnumbered Papuans.
- 1963 continued collision amongst the pro-Papuan who demanded independence from current rule against pro-Indonesia has caused a substantial death toll estimated since 1963 about 40,000 other claimed 600,000.

BENEFITS /GAINS

- Huge mineral and oil resources.
- Timber
- Fishing
- Mining - Graberg or Freeport mine

Ways resources are monitored and organised.

- Indonesian military and police forces play a huge role as owners, office holders and collaborators in West Papua's government and the local economy.
- The military, politicians' bureaucracies became intimately involved in the most lucrative business ventures.....

Treatment of the West Papuans

- They wanted independence
- Indonesian gun them down
- "the dead spirits but free hearts"

Activity

1. When did these events occur? Add the correct date/dates:

_____ First Dutch forts and trading posts
 _____ Annexation
 _____ Incorporation into NEUI
 _____ Japanese occupation
 _____ Luns Plan presented to UN

2. What are the two dates when it is claimed the "Morning Star" flag was raised the first time?

3. How would you describe West Papuan resistance to foreign control from 1906 to 1969? Choose one of the following descriptions:

- () a relatively long history
- () extensive
- () Mostly against Dutch rule
- () Mostly against Indonesian rule

4. Write one sentence describing relations between West Papuans and foreign rulers:

