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Mr Goldsmith ✓ *agree*  
 Mr Male ✓ *A.K. Goldsmith 30/4*

SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON TIMOR

Flag 204 1. At the recent Security Council debate on Timor we felt obliged (for reasons of overall British interests) to vote in favour of a Resolution, in the company of France, Italy and China, which to our minds took insufficient account of Indonesia's attempts to comply with the previous Security Council Resolution of 22 December 1975. This deficiency led the United States and Japan to abstain on the Resolution as a whole (which was nevertheless passed by a majority of 12 votes to 0). Although we feared our action might meet with the disapproval of the Indonesian delegation, our own delegation were able to explain our vote so effectively that the Indonesians actually thanked us for our attitude.

Flag 203 2. The extent of Indonesian gratitude is now revealed by the fact that Mr Adam Malik, the Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs has addressed a personal note to the Secretary of State thanking him for our "understanding towards Indonesia's position and the support rendered by the [UK] delegation" during the recent Security Council discussions. He expressed the hope that this support will be continued.

3. Given that there could well be further occasions when we might have to vote against Indonesia at the United Nations in this way, it might be of advantage to capitalise now on the present understanding being displayed towards our view point by the Indonesians. I therefore recommend that a reply be sent by the Secretary of State to Mr Malik's message. I submit below a draft telegram to Jakarta and a draft acknowledgement to the Indonesian Ambassador in London.

4. UN Department concur.

*J L Jones*  
 J L Jones  
 South East Asian  
 Department

28 April 1976  
 cc: Mr Cortazzi  
 UN Department

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1. Diplomatic niceties apart, I agree that there are good tactical reasons for replying to Mr Malik.
2. I have amended the draft reply slightly, to tone down somewhat the prognostication of future support.

*PJEM*

P J E Male

30 April 1976

cc Mr Cortazzi  
UN Department

*Jaquie*

*AM*

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