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**A Voyage To New Guinea, And The Moluccas, From  
Balambangan: Including An Account of Magindano,  
Sooloo, and other Islands; And Illustrated With Thirty  
Copperplates, Performed In The Tartar Galley, ...**

**Forrest, Thomas**

**London, 1779**

To The Court Of Directors, Of The Honorable East India Company.

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LETTER TO THE

COURT OF DIRECTORS,

OF THE HONORABLE

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING early devoted myself to your service, and been many years employed in it abroad, I cannot but feel myself peculiarly interested in the prosperity of this great Company, whose approbation has been the ambition of my life.

When you were pleased, in the year 1770, to confer on me, by a special commission, the command of your marine, on the West-coast of Sumatra, I repaired thither, with the zeal such confidence must inspire, and in the hope of opportunity to prove myself not quite unworthy of it.

Sometime after my arrival at Fort Marlborough, your plan of a settlement on the Island of Balambangan, afforded me such opportunity: by permission of the Governor and Council, I embarked with Mr. Herbert, who was appointed Chief on that Service.

I had not been long at Balambangan, when that Gentleman communicated to me your orders for exploring Islands to the eastward, and proposed to me the honor of executing the arduous task.

To

