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CONFIDENTIAL PTQ0900

PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 01 OF 04 191110Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00
	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	STR-00	TRSE-00
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	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/021W				

-----A4F190 191110Z /38

P 191107Z FEB 99 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6191
INFO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//FPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

ROME FOR THE VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/19/09
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PHUM, PINR, MARR, MOPS, ID
SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR ROUNDUP: DIFFERENCES IN GOI OVER
HABIBIE EAST TIMOR POLICY

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 01 OF 04 191110Z

1. CLASSIFIED BY POLCOUNS EDMUND MCWILLIAMS, REASON,
1.5 (B) AND (D).

SUMMARY

2. (C) RESISTANCE TO THE HABIBIE GOVERNMENT'S NEW
APPROACH TO EAST TIMOR IS ARISING IN JAKARTA, WHERE A
WELL-FUNDED GROUP OF PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 2
 Channel: n/a

OFFICIALS IS MAKING THE ROUNDS AND ABRI VETERANS AND WIDOWS HAVE PROTESTED TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. ALTHOUGH SOME OPPOSITION ELEMENTS IN THE INDONESIAN POLITICAL SPECTRUM HARBOR REAL DOUBTS ABOUT IMMEDIATE MOVES TOWARD EAST TIMOR INDEPENDENCE (E.G., MEGAWATI AND GUS DUR), THESE LATEST EFFORTS APPEAR TO BE LARGELY ORCHESTRATED BY ELEMENTS WITHIN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ABRI WHO OPPOSE LETTING THE PROVINCE BECOME INDEPENDENT. IN EAST TIMOR ITSELF, TENSIONS REMAIN HIGH AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS SEE A DISCONNECT BETWEEN JAKARTA'S NEW APPROACH AND THE ON-THE-GROUND DYNAMICS, WHERE OLD BEHAVIOR PATTERNS STILL HOLD SWAY.

3. (C) THERE IS TALK WITHIN SOME CIRCLES OF BREAKING OFF CERTAIN "PRO-INTEGRATION" EAST TIMOR DISTRICTS BORDERING ON WEST TIMOR, BUT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THE GOI ITSELF IS ACTUALLY CONSIDERING THIS. PRO-INDEPENDENCE ACTIVISTS DISMISS THIS THREAT, EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE THAT ANY POLL WOULD SHOW STRONG SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE IN ALL OF EAST TIMOR'S 13 DISTRICTS. DESPITE DIVERGENT VIEWS WITHIN THE GOI, HABIBIE HIMSELF

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JAKART 00836 01 OF 04 191110Z
 SHOWS NO SIGNS OF BACKING AWAY FROM A DETERMINATION TO BE RID OF THE EAST TIMOR PROBLEM BY THE END OF THE YEAR. HE REPORTEDLY INTIMATED TO [REDACTED] THAT THE GOI WOULD BE READY TO WASH ITS HANDS WITH EAST TIMOR IN AS LITTLE AS THREE MONTHS. A [REDACTED] MEMO STATES THAT ALL MILITARY AND GOI CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE TO BE OUT OF THE PROVINCE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000. (SEPTTEL REPORTS CONCERNS OVER THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF AN EXODUS OF GOI PERSONNEL). MEANWHILE, A HABIBIE ADVISOR ARGUES THAT IN REALITY WIDE-RANGING AUTONOMY FOR EAST TIMOR IS A MORE DANGEROUS "PRECEDENT" FOR OTHER PROVINCES THAN OUTRIGHT INDEPENDENCE. END SUMMARY.

WELL-FUNDED PRO-INTEGRATIONISTS DESCEND ON JAKARTA

4. (C) DOZENS OF PRO-INTEGRATIONIST EAST TIMORESE HAVE BEEN IN JAKARTA THIS PAST WEEK TO ARGUE AGAINST THE INDEPENDENCE OPTION. THIS CONTINGENT, WHICH CALLS ITSELF THE "FORUM FOR UNITY, DEMOCRACY AND JUSTICE," HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDER IN BALI, FOREIGN MINISTER ALATAS, AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND HAS BEEN GIVEN AMPLE TIME TO AIR THEIR VIEWS ON THE GOVERNMENT TELEVISION CHANNEL. ALTHOUGH PORTRAYING

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 3
Channel: n/a

THEMSELVES AS "REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EAST TIMORESE PEOPLE," THIS GROUP CONSISTS ENTIRELY OF EAST TIMORESE LOCAL OFFICIALS, LOCAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, AND OTHERS WHO RECEIVE GOI PAYCHECKS (AND WHO UNDOUBTEDLY FEAR FOR THEIR PERSONAL FUTURES IN AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR).

5. (C) IN A RECENT INTERVIEW, BISHOP BELO COMPLAINED
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 JAKART 00836 01 OF 04 191110Z
THAT THE PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE IN JAKARTA WERE STAYING IN LUXURY HOTELS AND EATING AT THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN JAKARTA DURING A TIME OF SEVERE FINANCIAL CRISIS IN EAST TIMOR. VARIOUS SOURCES CLAIM THAT THIS EFFORT IS FUNDED BY ABRI AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH MAY INDICATE THAT AT LEAST SOME ELEMENTS OF THE GOI ARE NOT COMPLETELY ON BOARD WITH PRESIDENT HABIBIE'S STATED PREFERENCE THAT EAST TIMORESE OPT FOR INDEPENDENCE. ON FEBRUARY 17, A GROUP OF ABRI WAR VETERANS AND WIDOWS APPEARED BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS TO URGE THAT THEIR SACRIFICES NOT BE FORGOTTEN AND THAT EAST TIMOR NOT BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE. (COMMENT: WHETHER FUNDED BY VARIOUS GOI ELEMENTS OR NOT THESE PRO-INTEGRATIONIST INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT ALONE IN EXPRESSING QUALMS ABOUT IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE FOR EAST TIMOR, WHICH MANY (MEGAWATI, GUS DUR, EVEN BELO HIMSELF) REGARD AS A VERY CHANCY--IF NOT DANGEROUS-- PROPOSITION. END COMMENT.)

MEANWHILE, IN EAST TIMOR...

6. (C) MEANWHILE, IN EAST TIMOR ITSELF, MILITARY SOURCES HAVE TOLD A WESTERN JOURNALIST CONTACT THAT ABRI

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4538

PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 212357Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
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	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00
	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	STR-00	SVC-00
	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 4
Channel: n/a

MR-00 NFAT-00 SAS-00 /021W
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P 191107Z FEB 99
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6192
INQO RUEHXS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

ROME FOR THE VATICAN/19/09

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/19/09
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SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR ROUNDUP. DIFFERENCES IN GOI OVER
HABIBIE EAST TIMOR POLICY

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 212357Z
HABIBIE HELP ORGANIZE PRO-INT EAST TIMOR FEBRUARY WILL BE
HELDIN THE WQ TENSION DILI ITSELF.

7. DISTURBANCE IN DILI, A PRO-Q WAS SHOT AND KILLED, (##)
POLICE MOBILE BRIGADE THE DIE FOR INTEQACCORDING TO HUMAN
RIGHQOME ACTIVE IN DILI.

[REDACTED] IS BASED IN AIRDING TO [REDACTED] (IN QWAS
GIVEN 20 FIREARMS BY ABRI AF AND HIS ASSOCIATES WERE THREATENED
BY PRO-INDEENDENCE FORCES. TENS OF THOUSANDS ATTENDED THE
FUNERAL OF THE SHOOTING VICTIM IN DILI, BUT THE SITUATION
REMAINED CALM. SOME OBSERVERS, INCLUDING [REDACTED]

B1
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[REDACTED] ATTRIBUTED THIS TO A LETTER FROM
XANANQ GUSMAO APPEALING FOR RESTRAINT WHICH APPEARED IN
THE DILI NEWSPAPER.

8. (C) POLOFF MET ON FEBRUARY 17 WITH [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] AND OTHE PRO-INDEPENDENCE FIGURES
IMMEDIATELY AFTEQ THEY HAD MET WITH XANANA. [REDACTED]
SAID QHAT XANANA'S MAIN MESSAGES HAD BEEN THE NEED TO
MAINTAIN PEACE, SEEK RECONCILIATION AMONG ALL AST
TIMORESE, AND "NOT RESPOND TO PROVOCATIONQ." [REDACTED] TOLD
POLCOUNS FEBRUARY 18 THAT XANANA HAD DIRECTED THAT
HARDER LINE PRO-INDEPENDENCE GROUPS

B1

B1

B1

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 4

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 5

Channel: n/a

SEND REPRESENTA MEET WITH HIM
 DURING TO RECEIVE HIS MESSAGE (##) INTIMIDATING ACTIONS.
 (##) FORCES TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY--LEADERS URGED TAHIDI AFTER THE
 GROUP (##) SUAI AREA IN LATE
 JANUARY, BUT THE MILITARY RESPONDED THAT CONFL WERE INTERNAL
 EAST TIMOR ABRI'S FEBRUARY 17, [REDACTED] POLICE
 IN EAST TIMOR TO INVOLVE
 THEMSELVES OF LAW AND ORDER, AND QUOTE ARE REPORTING PROBLEMS
 CONFIDENTIAL

B1

PAGE 03 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 212357Z
 TO THE CNRT (COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL TIMORESE RESISTANCE) RATHER
 THAN TO THE POLICE. [REDACTED] MAINTAINED THAT WHICH
 POLICIES MAY HAVE CHANGED IN JAKARTA, ELEMENTS OF THE
 MILITARY ON THE GROUND IN EAST TIMOR CONTINUE TO PLAY
 THE SAME OLD GAMES," BY ENCOURAGING CONFLICT BETWEEN
 EAST TIMORESE.

B1

10. (C) ON FEBRUARY 17 THERE WERE FURTHER CLASHES IN
 THE MAUBARA AREA OF LIQUICA DISTRICT WHICH REPORTEDLY
 RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF A PRO-INTEGRATION HIGH SCHOOL
 STUDENT. JAKARTA PRESS REPORTS INDICATED THAT THESE
 CLASHES OCCURRED IN AN AREA WHERE A NEW PRO-INTEGRATION
 CIVILIAN MILITIA GROUP "BESI MERAH PUTIH" (RED AND WHITE
 IRON) WAS RECENTLY SET UP, AND INVOLVED A CONFLICT
 BETWEEN PRO AND ANTI-INTEGRATION VILLAGERS. ACCORDING
 TO [REDACTED] BESI MERAH PUTIH AND "NAGA MERAH PUTIH"
 (RED AND WHITE DRAGON), ALONG WITH MAHIDI, ARE THE MOST
 SIGNIFICANT PRO-INTEGRATION CIVILIAN MILITIA GROUPS
 OPERATING IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE PROVINCE

B1

11. (C) ACCORDING TO A FEBRUARY 19 PRESS REPORT, CNRT
 DEPUTY CHAIRMAN DAVID XIMENES MET WITH DEPUTY EAST TIMOR
 POLICE CHIEF COL. MAHFI SAHUDJI ON FEBRUARY 18 TO
 DEMAND THAT POLICE TAKE CONTROL OF THE SITUATION IN THE
 MAUBARA AREA, WHERE HE SAID THE PRO-INTEGRATION "RED AND
 WHITE IRON" GROUP, ARMED WITH SHARP WEAPONS, WAS
 "SPREADING TERROR." IF THE POLICE FAILED TO TAKE CHARGE
 OF THE SITUATION, XIMENES THREATENED TO HAVE THE CNRT
 ITSELF TAKE ON THE MATTER AND "CALL FOR THE MASSES TO GO
 TO MAUBARA." MAHFI DENIED THAT THE SITUATION WAS OUT
 OF CONTROL, BUT A [REDACTED]
 TOLD POLICE ON FEBRUARY 18 THAT CAR (##) HAS BEEN TOP
 CONFIDENTIAL

B1

PAGE 04 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 212357Z
 FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS INTO THE UNSTABLE SECURITY (##)

NOTE: SVC GARBLED TEXT.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 5

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 6
Channel: n/a

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4597

PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 220050Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
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	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01
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	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/021W				

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P 191107Z FEB 99
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6192
INFO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

ROME FOR THE VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/19/09
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PHUM, PINR, MARR, MOPS, ID
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 220050Z
SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR ROUNDUP: DIFFERENCES IN GOI OVER
HABIBIE EAST TIMOR POLICY

WILL HELP ORGANIZE PRO-INTEGRATION RALLIES THROUGHOUT
EAST TIMOR FEBRUARY 19. THE CENTRAL RALLY WILL BE HELD
IN THE WESTERN TOWN OF BALIBO. TENSIONS REMAIN HIGH IN
EAST TIMOR GENERALLY WITH MORE KILLINGS REPORTED AND
ARMED PRO-JAKARTA CIVILIANS CONTINUING TO CLASH WITH
PRO-INDEPENDENCE FORCES IN THE WESTERN DISTRICTS AND IN
DILI ITSELF.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 6

UNCLASSIFIED

7. (C) IN A FEBRUARY 14 DISTURBANCE IN DILI, A PRO-INDEPENDENCE CIVILIAN WAS SHOT AND KILLED, EITHER BY A MEMBER OF THE POLICE MOBILE BRIGADE (BRIMOB) OR A MEMBER OF THE ARMED CIVILIAN PRO-INTEGRATION "MAHIDI" (LIVE AND DIE FOR INTEGRATION) GROUP, WHICH, ACCORDING TO HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS, HAS NOW BECOME ACTIVE IN DILI. "MAHIDI," LED BY CANSIO CARVALHO, IS BASED IN AINARO DISTRICT, AND, ACCORDING TO CARVALHO (IN AN INTERVIEW WITH BBC), WAS GIVEN 20 FIREARMS BY ABRI AFTER CARVALHO AND HIS ASSOCIATES WERE THREATENED BY PRO-INDEPENDENCE FORCES. TENS OF THOUSANDS ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF THE SHOOTING VICTIM IN DILI, BUT THE SITUATION REMAINED CALM. SOME OBSERVERS, INCLUDING [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ATTRIBUTED THIS TO A LETTER FROM XANANA GUSMAO APPEALING FOR RESTRAINT WHICH APPEARED IN THE DILI NEWSPAPER.

B1

8. (C) POLOFF MET ON FEBRUARY 17 WITH [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AND OTHER PRO-INDEPENDENCE FIGURES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAD MET WITH XANANA. [REDACTED]
 CONFIDENTIAL

B1

B1

PAGE 03 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 220050Z
 SAID THAT XANANA'S MAIN MESSAGES HAD BEEN THE NEED TO MAINTAIN PEACE, SEEK RECONCILIATION AMONG ALL EAST TIMORESE, AND "NOT RESPOND TO PROVOCATIONS." [REDACTED] TOLD POLCOUNS FEBRUARY 18 THAT XANANA HAD DIRECTED THAT HARDER LINE PRO-INDEPENDENCE YOUTH AND STUDENT GROUPS SEND REPRESENTATIVES FROM EAST TIMOR TO MEET WITH HIM DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21 TO RECEIVE HIS MESSAGE TO AVOID PROVOCATIVE AND INTIMIDATING ACTIONS.

B1

URGING THE SECURITY FORCES TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

9. (C) MEANWHILE, ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] [REDACTED] CHURCH LEADERS URGED THE MILITARY TO DISARM MAHIDI AFTER THE GROUP KILLED FOUR CIVILIANS IN THE SUAI AREA IN LATE JANUARY, BUT THE MILITARY RESPONDED THAT CONFLICTS INVOLVING MAHIDI WERE INTERNAL EAST TIMORESE AFFAIRS AND OUT OF ABRI'S CONTROL. IN A MEETING WITH POLOFF ON FEBRUARY 17, [REDACTED] SAID THAT THE MILITARY AND POLICE IN EAST TIMOR ARE INCREASINGLY UNWILLING TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN BASIC MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER, AND THAT AS A RESULT RESIDENTS ARE REPORTING PROBLEMS TO THE CNRT (COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL TIMORESE RESISTANCE) RATHER

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THAN TO THE POLICE. [REDACTED] MAINTAINED THAT WHILE POLICIES MAY HAVE CHANGED IN JAKARTA, ELEMENTS OF THE MILITARY ON THE GROUND IN EAST TIMOR CONTINUE TO "PLAY THE SAME OLD GAMES," BY ENCOURAGING CONFLICT BETWEEN EAST TIMORESE.

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10. (C) ON FEBRUARY 17 THERE WERE FURTHER CLASHES IN
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 JAKART 00836 02 OF 04 220050Z
THE MAUBARA AREA OF LIQUICA DISTRICT WHICH REPORTEDLY RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF A PRO-INTEGRATION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. JAKARTA PRESS REPORTS INDICATED THAT THESE CLASHES OCCURRED IN AN AREA WHERE A NEW PRO-INTEGRATION CIVILIAN MILITIA GROUP "BESI MERAH PUTIH" (RED AND WHITE IRON) WAS RECENTLY SET UP, AND INVOLVED A CONFLICT BETWEEN PRO AND ANTI-INTEGRATION VILLAGERS. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] BESI MERAH PUTIH AND "NAGA MERAH PUTIH" (RED AND WHITE DRAGON), ALONG WITH MAHIDI, ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PROINTEGRATION CIVILIAN MILITIA GROUPS OPERATING IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE PROVINCE.

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11. (C) ACCORDING TO A FEBRUARY 19 PRESS REPORT, CNRT DEPUTY CHAIRMAN DAVID XIMENES MET WITH DEPUTY EAST TIMOR POLICE CHIEF COL. MAHUFI SAHUDJI ON FEBRUARY 18 TO DEMAND THAT POLICE TAKE CONTROL OF THE SITUATION IN THE MAUBARA AREA, WHERE HE SAID THE PRO-INTEGRATION "RED AND WHITE IRON" GROUP, ARMED WITH SHARP WEAPONS, WAS "SPREADING TERROR." IF THE POLICE FAILED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE SITUATION, XIMENES THREATENED TO HAVE THE CNRT ITSELF TAKE ON THE MATTER AND "CALL FOR THE MASSES TO GO TO MAUBARA." MAHUFI DENIED THAT THE SITUATION WAS OUT OF CONTROL, BUT A [REDACTED] TOLD POLOFF ON FEBRUARY 18 THAT CARE HAS BEEN FORCED TO STOP FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS IN THE MAUBARA AREA DUE TO THE UNSTABLE SECURITY SITUATION. IN A TELEPHONE

B1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ4600

PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 03 OF 04 220050Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 9

Channel: n/a

PM-00 PRS-00 P-00 SCT-00 SP-00 STR-00 TRSE-00
 USIE-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 PRM-01 DRL-02 G-00 MR-00
 NFAT-00 SAS-00 /021W

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P 191107Z FEB 99
 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6193
 INFO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
 AMEMBASSY LISBON
 AMEMBASSY ROME
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
 USMISSION GENEVA
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
 USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//FPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

ROME FOR THE VATICAN

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PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 03 OF 04 220050Z
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 HABIBIE EAST TIMOR POLICY

CONVERSATION OF FEBRUARY 19, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN DILI EXPRESSED ALARM
 OVER THREATS TO HIM AND HIS STAFF BY THE MAHIDI ELEMENTS
 NOW ACTIVE IN DILI. IN A JOINT PRESS APPEARANCE LABOR
 LEADER MUCHTAR PAKPAHAN AND XANANA ISSUED A CALL
 FEBRUARY 19 FOR THE POLICE IN EAST TIMOR TO "TAKE
 RESPONSIBILITY" FOR RESTORING ORDER.

SPLITTING OFF THE WESTERN DISTRICTS?

12. (C) RECENT CONFLICTS ARE CENTERED ALMOST ENTIRELY
 IN EAST TIMOR'S WESTERN DISTRICTS, WHICH BORDER WEST
 TIMOR. THE EASTERN HALF OF THE PROVINCE, HISTORICALLY
 MORE VOLATILE, HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET IN RECENT
 MONTHS. A NUMBER OF PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE,
 APPARENTLY CONCEDED THAT EAST TIMOR INDEPENDENCE IS NOW
 INEVITABLE, ARE MAINTAINING THAT THERE IS A
 PREPONDERANCE OF PRO-INTEGRATION SENTIMENT IN THESE

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 9

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 10

Channel: n/a

WESTERN DISTRICTS. [REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED] RECENTLY TOLD US HE BELIEVES THERE MAY BE A CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY TO SPLIT OFF THESE WESTERN "PRO-INTEGRATION" DISTRICTS AND ALLOW AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR TO RETAIN ONLY A RUMP TERRITORY CONSISTING OF THE REMAINING EASTERN DISTRICTS. HE NOTED THAT THE EASTERN-MOST PROVINCE OF LAUTEM MIGHT ALSO BE RETAINED BY JAKARTA. IN A FEBRUARY 17 ARTICLE, FRANS SEDA, CITED BY PRESIDENT HABIBIE IN RECENT MEETINGS WITH U.S. VISITORS

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JAKART 00836 03 OF 04 220050Z
 AS ONE OF HIS PRIMARY ADVISORS ON EAST TIMOR, ASSERTED THAT PRO-INTEGRATION SENTIMENT DOMINATED AREAS WEST OF DILI AND THE WESTERN SECTION OF DILI ITSELF, WHILE THE PRO-INDEPENDENCE SIDE HELD SWAY OVER TERRITORY EAST OF DILI. A GOI-FUNDED PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE STUDENT GROUP HAS MADE SIMILAR CLAIMS, ARGUING THAT ONLY 8 OF EAST TIMOR'S 13 DISTRICTS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR.

13. (C) PRO-INDEPENDENCE ACTIVISTS DISMISS THE IDEA THAT EAST TIMOR COULD BE DIVIDED ALONG PRO AND ANTI-INTEGRATION LINES. IN A FEBRUARY 17 MEETING WITH POLOFF, [REDACTED] EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ANY POLL WOULD SHOW THAT PRO-INDEPENDENCE SENTIMENT IN EAST TIMOR DOMINATES IN ALL 13 DISTRICTS, AND ARGUED THAT IN ANY CASE A REFERENDUM WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SETTLE THESE ISSUES. [REDACTED] AGREED, AND ADDED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE CURRENT VIOLENCE IN THE WESTERN AREAS OF EAST TIMOR WAS RELATED TO ANY CAMPAIGN TO SEPARATE THESE DISTRICTS. HE ATTRIBUTED THE DISTURBANCES IN THESE PREVIOUSLY DORMANT AREAS TO EMOTIONS RAISED BY THE LATE 1998 "DIALOGUE" CAMPAIGN WAGED BY PRO-REFERENDUM STUDENTS. (COMMENT. A GOI ATTEMPT TO SPLIT OFF THESE DISTRICTS WOULD PRESUMABLY BE A NON-STARTER FOR THE UN, PORTUGAL, AND THE EAST TIMORESE RESISTANCE, AND AS POINTED OUT ABOVE, WE HAVE NEVER SEEN EVIDENCE THAT PRO-INDONESIAN SENTIMENTS ARE ESPECIALLY STRONG IN THESE AREAS. THERE IS NOT YET ANY REAL EVIDENCE THAT SERIOUSLY SUCH IDEAS ARE ENTERTAINED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GOI, BUT THIS SITUATION NEVERTHELESS BEARS WATCHING. END COMMENT)

B1

B1

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 JAKART 00836 03 OF 04 220050Z

HABIBIE POINTS TOWARD INDEPENDENCE

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 10

14. (C) POLOFF AND ECONOFF MET ON FEBRUARY 17 WITH



[REDACTED] MAINTAINED THAT GRANTING EAST TIMOR WIDE-RANGING AUTONOMY SET A MORE DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR OTHER PROVINCES THAN WOULD OUTRIGHT INDEPENDENCE. HE ARGUED THAT IT WAS RELATIVELY EASY TO MAKE THE CASE THAT EAST TIMOR DIFFERED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM OTHER INDONESIAN PROVINCES AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE INDEPENDENT, BUT IF IT BECAME A MODEL FOR REAL AUTONOMY OTHER PROVINCES WOULD QUICKLY DEMAND SIMILAR TREATMENT. IN THE COURSE OF ILLUSTRATING ONE OF HIS POINTS, [REDACTED] HANDED POLOFF AND ECONOFF A SHEAF OF DOCUMENTS ON PORTUGUESE LAW. CLIPPED TO THE BACK OF THESE PAPERS (APPARENTLY INADVERTENTLY) WAS A [REDACTED] MEMO ON EAST TIMOR, THE FINAL POINT OF WHICH STATED THAT ALL MILITARY AND GOI CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE TO BE OUT OF THE PROVINCE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000. (NOTE: AFTER THIS MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED [REDACTED] TOLD US THAT IN HABIBIE'S FEBRUARY 19 MEETING WITH [REDACTED]

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CONFIDENTIAL PTQ0906

PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 04 OF 04 191114Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00
	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	STR-00	TRSE-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00	MR-00
	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/021W				

-----A4F1DB 191114Z /38

P 191107Z FEB 99
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6194
INFO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA

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Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 12
Channel: n/a

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//FPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 04 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

ROME FOR THE VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/10/09
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PHUM, PINR, MARR, MOPS, ID
SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR ROUNDUP: DIFFERENCES QN GOI OVER
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PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 04 OF 04 191114Z
HABIBIE EAST TIMOR POLICY

[REDACTED] SEPTTEL), THE
PRESIDENT TOLD [REDACTED] THAT "IN THREE MONTHS YOU CAN
DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH IT (EAST TIMOR)." END NOTE)

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WILL ABRI GO ALONG?

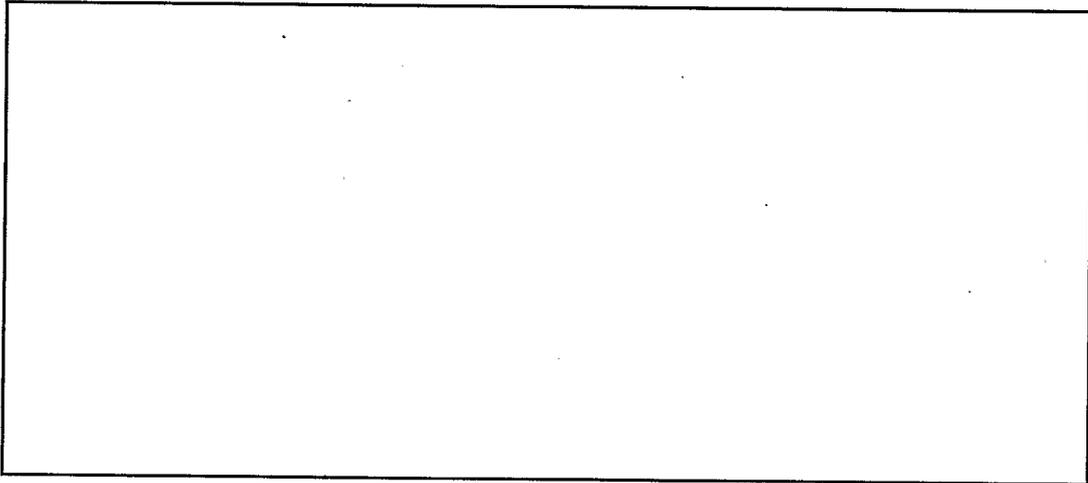
15. (C) [REDACTED] SAID THAT WHILE THERE WERE INDIVIDUAL
ABRI OFFICERS WHO HAD PERSONAL INTERESTS IN OPPOSING
EAST TIMOR INDEPENDENCE, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT ABRI AS
AN INSTITUTION WOULD ADHERE TO HABIBIE'S APPROACH. IN A
FEBRUARY 18 DISCUSSION WITH POLOFF, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] WHILE
EXTREMELY CRITICAL OF HABIBIE'S EAST TIMOR POLICY, DID
NOT SEE ABRI ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK AN INDEPENDENT EAST
TIMOR. HE ARGUED THAT FOR THE ABRI LEADERSHIP, WHICH
WAS MUCH MORE FOCUSED ON POLITICAL EVENTS IN JAKARTA,
EAST TIMOR HAD BECOME A PERIPHERAL ISSUE.

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 12

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PAGE 01 JAKART 00836 212358Z
ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00
	DINT-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
	FBIE-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00
	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	STR-00	SVC-00
	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00
	MR-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/021W			

-----A5B20B 212358Z /75

P 191107Z FEB 99
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6193
INFO ASSOCIATIONOF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
AMEMBASSY LQSBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0968Q
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//FPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECION 03 OF 04 JAKARTA 000836

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/19/09
TAGS: OREL, PGOV, PHUM, PINR, MARR, MOPS, ID
SUBJECT: EAST TIMOR ROUNDUP: DIFFERENCES IN GOI OVE
HABIBIE EAT TIMOR POLICY

(@@)FEBRUARY 19, [Redacted] IN
DIL THREATS TO HIM AND HI(##) NOW ACTIVE IN DILI. IN A JOINT
CONFIDENTIAL

B1

PAGE 02 JAKART 00836 212358Z
PRESS APPEARANCE LABOR LEADER MUCHTAR PAKPAHAN AND XQNANA
ISSUED A CALL FEBRUARY 19 FOR THE POLICE IN EAST TIMOR TO "TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY" FOR RESORING ORDER.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 14
 Channel: n/a

SPLITTING OFF THE WESTERN DISTRICTS?

Q2. (C) RECENT CONFLICTS ARE CENTERED ALMOST ENTIRELY IN EAST TIMOR'S WESTERN DISTRICTS, WHICH BORDER WEST TIMOR. THE EASTERN HALF OF THE PROVINCE, HISTORICALLY MORE VOLATILE, HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET IN RECENT MONTHS. A NUMBER OF PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE, APPARENTLY CONCEDED THAT EAST TIMOR INDEPENDENCE IS NOW INEVITABLE, ARE MAINTAINING THAT THERE IS AN OVERWHELMING PREPONDERANCE OF PRO-INTEGRATION IN THE WESTERN DISTRICTS. [REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED] RECENTLY TOLD US HE BELIEVES THERE MAY BE A CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY TO SPLIT OFF THESE WESTERN "PRO-INTEGRATION" DISTRICTS AND ALLOW AN INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR TO RETAIN ONLY A RUMP TERRITORY CONSISTING OF THE REMAINING EASTERN DISTRICTS. HE NOTED THAT THE EASTERNMOST PROVINCE OF LAUTEM MIGHT ALSO BE RETAINED BY JAKARTA. IN A FEBRUARY 17 ARTICLE, FRANS SEDA, CITED BY PRESIDENT HABIBIE IN RECENT MEETINGS WITH U.S. VISITORS AS ONE OF HIS PRIMARY ADVISORS ON EAST TIMOR, ASSERTED THAT PRO-INTEGRATION SENTIMENT DOMINATED AREAS WEST OF DILI AND THE WESTERN SECTION OF DILI ITSELF, WHILE THE PRO-INDEPENDENCE SIDE HELD SWAY OVER TERRITORY EAST OF DILI. A GOI-FUNDED PRO-INTEGRATION EAST TIMORESE STUDENT GROUP HAS MADE (##) THAT ONLY 8 OF EACH COULD BE (##)

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JAKART 00836 212358Z

13. (C) PRO-INDEPENDENCE THE IDEA THAT EAST TIMOR PRO AND ANTI-INTEGRATION LINES. IN A FEBRUARY 17 MEETING WITH POLOFF, [REDACTED] EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ANY POLL WOULD SHOW THAT PRO-INDEPENDENCE SENTIMENT IN EAST TIMOR DOMINATES IN ALL 13 DISTRICTS, AND ARGUED THAT IN ANY CASE A REFERENDUM WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SETTLE THESE ISSUES. [REDACTED] AGREED, AND ADDED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE CURRENT VIOLENCE IN THE WESTERN AREAS OF EAST TIMOR WAS RELATED TO ANY CAMPAIGN TO SEPARATE THESE DISTRICTS. HE ATTRIBUTED THE DISTURBANCES IN THESE PREVIOUSLY DORMANT AREAS TO EMOTIONS RAISED BY THE LATE 1998 "DIALOGUE" CAMPAIGN WAGED BY PRO-REFERENDUM STUDENTS. (COMMENT. A GOI ATTEMPT TO SPLIT OFF THESE DISTRICTS WOULD PRESUMABLY BE A NON-STARTER FOR THE UN, PORTUGAL, AND THE EAST TIMORESE RESISTANCE, AND AS POINTED OUT ABOVE, WE HAVE NEVER SEEN EVIDENCE THAT PRO-INDONESIAN SENTIMENTS ARE ESPECIALLY STRONG IN THESE

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 14

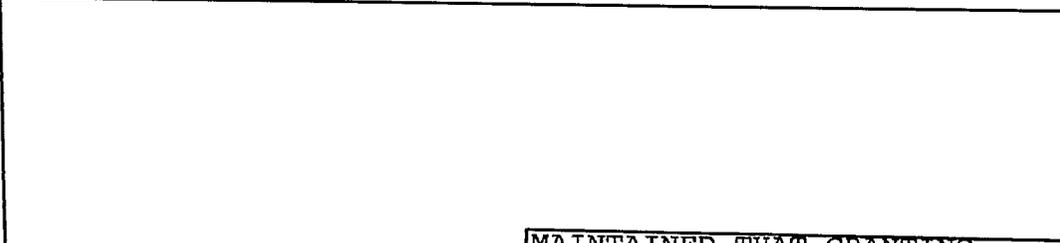
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 Document Number: 1999JAKART00836

Page: 15
 Channel: n/a

AREAS. THERE IS NOT YET ANYREAL EVIDENCE THAT SERIOUSLY SUCH IDEAS ARE ENTERTAINED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GOI, BUT THIS SITUATION NEVERTHELESS BEARS WATCHING. END COMMENT)

HABIBIE POINTS TOWARD INDEPENDECE

14. (C) POLOFF AND ECONOFF MET ON FEBRUARY 17 WITH



[REDACTED] MAINTAINED THAT GRANTING EAST TIMOR WIDE-RANGING AUTONOMY SETS A MORE DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR OTHER PROVINCS THAN WOULD OUTRIGHT INDEPENDENCE. HE ARGUED THAT IT WAS RELATIVELY EASY TO MAKE THE CASE THAT EAST TIMOR DIFFERED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM OTHER INDONESIAN PROVINCES AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE INDEPENDENT, BUT IF IT BECAME A MODEL FOR REAL AUTONOMY OTHER PROVINCES WOULD QUICKLY DEMAND SIMILAR TREATMENT. IN THE COURSE OF ILLUSTRATING ONE OF HIS POINTS, [REDACTED] HANDED POLOFF AND ECONOFF A SHEAF OF DOCUMENTS ON PORTUGUESE LAW. CLIPPED TO THE BACK OF THESE PAPERS (APPARENTLY INADVERTENTLY) WAS A [REDACTED] MEMO ON EAST TIMOR, THE FINAL POINT OF WHICH STATED THAT ALL MILITARY AND GOI CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ARE TO BE OUT OF THE PROVINCE BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2000. (NOTE: AFTR THIS MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED [REDACTED] TOLD US THAT IN HABIBIE'S FEBRUARY 19 MEETING WITH [REDACTED]

NOTE: SVC FOR GARBLED TEXT.

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Page: 15

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