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PTQ1356

RELEASED IN PART
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ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	AID-00	AIT-03	AMAD-01	ACQ-01
	CIAE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	FBIE-00	H-01
	IM-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	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-01	DRL-04	G-00	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/027W				

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R 251032Z SEP 98
 FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3802
 INFO SECDEF WASHDC
 USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 ASEAN COLLECTIVE
 AMEMBASSY BEIJING
 AMCONSUL HONG KONG
 AIT TAIPEI 1007
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 JAKARTA 005076

USCINCPAC FOR AMB SALMON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/25/03
 TAGS: PHUM, PREL, PGOV, SCUL, ID
 SUBJECT: RIOT/RAPE INVESTIGATION TEAM LEADER SUSPECTS LINKS
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PAGE 02 JAKART 05076 01 OF 02 251038Z
 CONNECTING RECENT RIOTS, KIDNAPPINGS AND STUDENT KILLINGS

REF: A) JAKARTA 4985, B) JAKARTA 4680

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY POLCOUNS ED MCWILLIAMS REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D).
2. (C) SUMMARY: THE LEADER OF THE FACT-FINDING TEAM INVESTIGATING THE RIOTS AND SEXUAL ASSAULTS/RAPES WHICH, ACCORDING TO WELL-FOUNDED REPORTING, TRANSPIRED IN A NUMBER OF INDONESIAN CITIES IN MAY, HAS TESTIFIED BEFORE A PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION ABOUT THE TEAM'S PRELIMINARY FINDINGS. HE SAID THAT THE TEAM HAD A "VERY STRONG BASIS OF EVIDENCE THAT SEXUAL ASSAULTS AND RAPES OCCURRED." HE ALSO STATED THAT THE TEAM BELIEVED THE RIOTS MAY HAVE BEEN

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CONNECTED TO THE KIDNAPPING AND TORTURE OF POLITICAL ACTIVISTS AND TO THE SHOOTING DEATH OF STUDENTS AT TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY. HE CLAIMED HE HAD ABRI COMMANDER GENERAL WIRANTO'S ASSURANCE THAT THE TEAM COULD INTERVIEW MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY HONOR BOARD WHICH INVESTIGATED THE INVOLVEMENT OF SENIOR MILITARY LEADERS, INCLUDING LT. GENERAL PRABOWO (RET), ABOUT THE KIDNAPPINGS SO AS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF LINKS. SEPARATELY, A SENIOR MILITARY OFFICIAL HAS STATED THAT PRABOWO WILL SOON FACE A COURT MARTIAL. UNCONFIRMED REPORTING CLAIMS THAT SOME OF THE STILL-MISSING ACTIVISTS MAY BE ALIVE BUT IN VERY POOR CONDITION. WE NOTE THAT

ALSO BELIEVES THE THREE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES WERE LINKED. END SUMMARY

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INTERIM TEAM REPORT ON SUBJECT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RAPES:

3. (U) THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT-ORGANIZED FACT FINDING TEAM
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INVESTIGATING THE MAY RIOTING (AND RAPES) TESTIFIED BEFORE A PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION ON SEPTEMBER 24. HIS TESTIMONY, AS ANTICIPATED REF A, INCLUDED AN AFFIRMATION THAT THE TEAM HAD SOLID EVIDENCE THAT SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RAPES HAD OCCURRED. HE STATED THAT THE TEAM "HAD FOUND THAT THERE (WAS) A VERY STRONG BASIS OF EVIDENCE THAT SEXUAL ASSAULTS AND ALSO RAPES OCCURRED DURING THE RIOTS." HE ADDED THAT THE TEAM WAS SEEKING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS (INCLUDING RAPE) IN SOLO, SURABAYA, MEDAN, PALEMBANG AND LAMPUNG, AS WELL AS JAKARTA. (COMMENT: WE ARE AWARE OF INVESTIGATIONS ALSO REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULT/RAPE IN BEKASI AND TANGERANG. END COMMENT)

4. (C) CHARLES HIMAWAN, A MEMBER OF THE INDONESIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WHO HAS BEEN ASSISTING THE FACT FINDING TEAM AS LIAISON WITH THE COMMISSION, TOLD POLOFF SEPTEMBER 24 THAT THE TEAM HAD BEEN ABLE TO GATHER EVIDENCE FROM MEDICAL WORKERS AND OTHERS WITH DIRECT ACCESS TO VICTIMS. MARZUKI DID NOT ELABORATE ON THE TEAM'S SOURCES IN HIS PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

TEAM LEADER SUSPECTS LINKS BETWEEN RIOTS AND OTHER INVESTIGATIONS:

5. (U) MARZUKI, WHO IS ALSO VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE INDONESIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, TOLD THE PARLIAMENTARIANS THAT THE TEAM BELIEVED THERE WERE LINKS BETWEEN THE RIOTS, THE ABDUCTIONS/TORTURE OF POLITICAL ACTIVISTS AND THE SHOOTING DEATH OF FOUR TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. "THESE CONDITIONS (THE RIOTING) WERE SHAPED BY THE SHOOTING AT TRISAKTI, BUT WERE ALSO AFFECTED BY A SERIES OF VIOLENT ACTS AGAINST ACTIVISTS AND STUDENTS AND ABDUCTIONS OF THEM," MARZUKI TOLD THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION.

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6. (U) MARZUKI ADDED THAT THE TEAM WAS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE MILITARY MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN THE RIOTS. "WE ARE LOOKING VERY CLOSELY INTO THAT POSSIBILITY AND INTO A VARIETY OF POSSIBILITIES OF LINKS BUT WE CANNOT MAKE ANY FIRM CONCLUSION AT THIS MOMENT."

7. (U) MARZUKI SAID THAT THE TEAM WAS SEEKING ACCESS TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE RECENT MILITARY HONOR BOARD WHICH TOOK TESTIMONY FROM FORMER LT. GENERAL PRABOWO AND OTHER SENIOR MILITARY OFFICIALS IN CONNECTION WITH THE KIDNAPPING AND TORTURE OF POLITICAL ACTIVISTS. MARZUKI TOLD THE PARLIAMENTARIANS THAT "THE ABRI COMMANDER (WIRANTO) HAS ASSURED US THAT WE CAN HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE (HONOR BOARD) AND THEY WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE TEAM."

PRABOWO YET TO FACE COURT MARTIAL?

8. (U) SEPARATELY, MILITARY POLICE COMMANDER MAJOR GENERAL SYAMSU DJALAL TOLD THE PRESS, SEPTEMBER 24, THAT FORMER LT. GENERAL PRABOWO WOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE A MILITARY TRIBUNAL AFTER 11 MEMBERS OF THE ARMY'S SPECIAL FORCES (KOPASSUS) WERE TRIED FOR THEIR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE KIDNAPPING OF DISSIDENTS. HE CLAIMED THAT THE COURT MARTIAL WOULD BEGIN SOON.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 JAKARTA 005076

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9. (C) [REDACTED] TOLD LABATT, SEPTEMBER 24, THAT THERE IS REPORTING THAT THREE OF THE 14 MISSING ACTIVISTS ARE STILL ALIVE BUT THAT THEY WERE "PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY RUINED AND PARALYZED." ACCORDING TO THIS REPORTING, ABRI IS UNWILLING TO ADMIT THEY ARE STILL ALIVE AND RELEASE THEM BECAUSE OF THEIR OBVIOUS SEVERE MISTREATMENT/TORTURE. EARLIER, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] TOLD POLCOUNS THAT THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT TWO OF THE VICTIMS WERE STILL ALIVE, BUT WERE IN VERY BAD CONDITION.

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10. (C) COMMENT: REF B REPORTED THAT THE [REDACTED] BELIEVED THAT THERE WERE LINKS AMONG THE MAY RIOTS, THE TRISAKTI KILLINGS AND THE KIDNAPPING/TORTURE OF ACTIVISTS. SPECIFICALLY, HE TOLD POLCOUNS HE BELIEVED THAT A JOINT SECURITY FORCE UNIT, OPERATING CLANDESTINELY WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS, MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ALL THREE CRIMINAL ACTIONS. HE ASSESSED THAT SUCH AN OPERATION HAD A PRECEDENT IN THE NOTORIOUS MULTI-FORCE OPERATION CODE-NAMED "PETRUS" WHICH WAS CONDUCTED IN 1984-85 AND WHICH TARGETED ALLEGED CRIMINAL ELEMENTS IN JAKARTA FOR KIDNAPPING AND KILLING. MARZUKI AND THE RIOT FACT-FINDING TEAM APPEAR TO BE MOVING IN THE SAME DIRECTION WITH THEIR ANALYSIS.
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