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INFO RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC H ONOLULU HI (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

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SERIAL: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

/\*\*\*\*\* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE \*\*\*\*\*/

BODY

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(b)(3):10 USC 424

COUNTRY: (U) INDONESIA (ID).

//IPSP: (U)

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SUBJECT: (b)(3):10 USC 424 / ACCUSED KOPASSUS KIDNAPPERS TRIAL  
BEGINS (U)WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY  
EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED --~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
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DOI: (U) 981218.

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SOURCE: (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "THE INDONESIAN OBSERVER", 981219,  
(U), JAKARTA, INDONESIA, IN ENGLISH. AIMED AT A FOREIGN  
READERSHIP, PRIMARILY IN JAKARTA.SUMMARY: (C) MILITARY COURT-MARTIALS BEGIN FOR MEMBERS OF THE  
ARMY'S SPECIAL FORCES ACCUSED OF KIDNAPPING ANTI-SOEHARTO  
ACTIVISTS. THE PROCESS MAY MOVE QUICKLY NOW TOWARDS A VERDICT.TEXT: 1. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE QUOTING A MILITARY SPOKESMAN,  
TRIALS WILL BEGIN TODAY (981219) FOR 11 MEMBERS OF THE ARMY  
SPECIAL FORCES (KOPASSUS) ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN KIDNAPPING  
ANTI-SOEHARTO ACTIVISTS. A MILITARY TRIBUNAL IN EAST JAKARTA IS  
THE SITE FOR THE TRIAL. THE SPOKESMAN, COL ((PANGGIH)), DID NOT  
GIVE DETAILS ON THE COURT-MARTIALS.2. (U) HEAD OF ABRI'S LEGAL AFFAIRS AGENCY (BABINKUM), MG TIMOR  
P. ((MANURUNG)), STATED ON THURSDAY (981217) THAT THE DOSSIERS OF  
THE KOPASSUS MEMBERS HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO THE MILITARY HIGH  
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE. MG CHALID ((KARIM)), ABRI'S PROSECUTOR  
GENERAL, SAYS HIS OFFICE HAS CHECKED ALL 11 DOSSIERS AND  
ESTABLISHED THEY MEET ALL OFFICIAL REQUIREMENTS. THE CASES ARE  
THEN READY FOR SUBMISSION TO A MILITARY COURT. A MILITARY COURT  
USUALLY BEGINS TRYING A CASE ABOUT TWO WEEKS AFTER RECEIVING  
DOSSIERS FROM THE MILITARY PROSECUTOR BUT IN THIS CASE THE TIME  
MAY BE SHORTENED BY HALF ACCORDING TO MG MANURUNG. HE ADDED,  
HOWEVER, THAT THIS DECISION RESTS WITH THE COURT'S CHIEF JUDGE.3. (U) OF THE 11 SUSPECTS, THE LOWEST RANKING SERVICEMAN IS A  
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER AND THE HIGHEST RANKING IS A MAJOR.  
MANURUNG AND KARIM SAY THE COURT MAY TRY ALL 11 AT ONCE,  
MAKING IT  
POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE TRIAL IN A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME.  
ACCORDING TO SOURCE, THEY ALSO SAID THE COURTS WOULD SOON BEGIN  
HANDLING THE CASES OF THE THREE SERVICEMEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED  
INTHE FATAL SHOOTING OF FOUR TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY STUDENTS LAST  
MAY.COMMENTS: 1. (C) (b)(3):10 USC 424 SOURCE ALSO MENTIONED THAT  
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS SAY THE 11 SUSPECTS ARE MERELY SCAPEGOATS  
FOR TOP-RANKING OFFICIALS WHO ORDERED THE KIDNAPPINGS. THE  
TOP-RANKING OFFICIALS SUSPECTED INCLUDE LTG (RET) PRABOWO. ABRI  
HAS PROBABLY WAITED TOO LONG TO EXPECT ANY RELIEF FROM PUBLIC  
PRESSURE AS A RESULT OF THIS TRIAL. A CONVICTION NOW COULD  
EMPHASIZE THAT NO ONE HIGHER THAN THE MAJOR AMONG THIS ELEVEN

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WILL  
EVER STAND TRIAL FOR THE KIDNAPPINGS. ANYTHING LESS WOULD LEAVE  
EVERYONE GETTING OFF, EVEN WORSE. LITTLE PROGRESS IS APPARENT IN  
OTHER INVESTIGATIONS INTO MISSING POLITICAL ACTIVISTS AND ALLEGED  
ABRI PROVOCATION DURING THE MAY RIOTS.

2. (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424 FOR FURTHER CONTACT CONCERNING  
THE CONTENTS OF THIS IIR. PLEASE REFER ANY Q UESTIONS/COMMENTS TO

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