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CDS

(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

HEADER

R 190014Z DEC 98
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC

(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

R 180938Z DEC 98

INFO RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC

RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC (b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

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RUEALGX/SAFE WASHDC

BT

CONTROLS

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SERIAL: (U) IIR

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BODY

COUNTRY: (U) **INDONESIA** (ID)

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LEMHANAS GOVERNOR LTG AGUM ((GUMELAR))

WARNS OF POSSIBLE MASS UNREST DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGNS (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY
EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED --

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SOURCE: A. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "THE JAKARTA POST," 981218,
JAKARTA, **INDONESIA**, IN ENGLISH. AIMED MOSTLY AT A WESTERN
READERSHIP, QUITE FRANK OF LATE IN ITS CRITICISM OF THE
GOVERNMENT.

B. (S) (b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424,1.4 (c)

SUMMARY: (U) LEMHANAS GOVERNOR LTG AGUM ((GUMELAR)) VOICES
CONCERN THAT GROWING POLITICAL TENSIONS BETWEEN RIVAL POLITICAL
PARTIES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS COULD LEAD TO MASS UNREST DURING THE
ELECTION CAMPAIGNS; EXPRESSES FRUSTRATION OVER PRESIDENT HABIBIE'S
CANCELLATION OF THE LEMHANAS-SPONSORED NATIONAL RECONCILIATION
CONFERENCE.

TEXT: 1. (U) SOURCE A CARRIED COVERAGE OF NATIONAL RESILIENCE
INSTITUTE (LEMHANAS) GOVERNOR LTG AGUM ((GUMELAR))'S COMMENTS ON
981217 DURING A DIALOG ORGANIZED BY THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF ALL
INDONESIAN UNIVERSITIES. LTG GUMELAR WARNED THAT NEXT YEAR'S
GENERAL ELECTION COULD BECOME "A BLOODBATH" IF POLITICIANS CANNOT
STOP SQUABBLING AMONG THEMSELVES. HE CHARGED THAT THE NATIONAL

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POLITICAL SITUATION HAS PROGRESSIVELY WORSENEED SINCE THE MAY 21
RESIGNATION OF FORMER PRESIDENT SUHARTO.

2. (U) LTG GUMELAR SAID "FRICTION" AMONG VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES HAS "ALREADY FLARED UP INTO SITUATIONS WHICH ENDANGER THE NATION," ADDING THAT THIS FRICTION HAS BEEN EXACERBATED BY THE LONG-RUNNING ECONOMIC CRISIS. APPEALING TO NATIONAL UNITY, HE SAID, "THE GENERAL ELECTION IS THE ONLY GATE THROUGH WHICH WE CAN ENTER THE NEW **INDONESIA** AND ESCAPE FROM LONGSTANDING UNCERTAINTY; THEREFORE, ALL PEOPLE SHOULD MAKE IT A SUCCESS," CONCLUDING THAT "THE GENERAL ELECTION SHOULD NOT BECOME AN ARENA FOR KILLING EACH OTHER."

3. (U) LTG GUMELAR, WHOSE RECENT PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL RECONCILLIATION DIALOG WAS REJECTED BY PRESIDENT HABIBIE, SAID LEMHANAS HAS MADE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE SOCIO-POLITICAL SITUATION FOLLOWING SUHARTO'S **RESIGNATION**. HE SAID LEMHANAS CONCLUDES THERE IS A NEED FOR ALL DIVERGENT ELEMENTS OF THE NATION TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT SITUATION WHICH IS VERY CRITICAL. "I HAVE TRIED TO ORGANIZE A DIALOG AMONG THE POLITICAL LEADERS, BUT THERE IS NO POSITIVE RESPONSE." SAID GUMELAR.

4. (c) (b)(1), 1.4 (c)

LTG GUMELAR IS "VERY ANGRY" AND PERSONALLY DISAPPOINTED AT PRESIDENT HABIBIE'S DECISION TO CANCEL THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE PLANNED TO BE HELD THIS MONTH AT LEMHANAS. IT WAS EVEN EXPECTED THE CONFERENCE WOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTAIVES OF THE REBEL GROUP, THE FREE PAPUA ORGANIZATION (OPM), WITH WHOM ABRI FORCES HAVE BEEN FIGHTING IN IRIAN JAYA FOR OVER 20 YEARS. HABIBIE REPORTEDLY INTERCEDED TO CANCEL THE PLANNED LEMHANAS CONFERENCE AT THE BEHEST OF HIS ADVISORS, SAYING THERE ARE NO CLEAR LEADERS OF VARIOUS INTEREST GROUPS THAT CAN REALLY SPEAK FOR THEIR CONSTITUENCIES.

ADMIN

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