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

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CONTROLS

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COUNTRY: (U) INDONESIA (ID).

(b)(3):10 USC 424

- SUBJECT: (b)(3):10 USC 424

SITUATION REPORT - THREE

21 MAY 1998 (U).

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT

FINALY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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DOJ: (U) 980521.

(b)(3):10 USC 424

SUMMARY: (b)(1), 1.4 (c)

MONITORED THE STUDENTS REACTIONS

TO PRESIDENT (SOEHARTO'S) RESIGNATION. SITUATION AT THE MPR

WAS ONE OF CELEBRATION AND CALLS FOR THE NEW PRESIDENT

(HABIBE) TO STEP DOWN.

TEXT: 1. (C) THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE OBSERVATIONS OF THE

STUDENTS AT THE DPR/MPR COMPLEX ON 980521 AFTER LEARNING OF

PRESIDENT SOEHARTO'S RESIGNATION.

A. ENTRY POINTS ON JALAN GELORA AND JALAN GERBANG PEMUDA MANNED

BY KOSTRAD AND KORPS MARINIR; APPROXIMATELY ONE PLATOON OF

INFANTRY AT ENTRY POINT ON GELORA AND TWO PLATOONS OF KOSTRAD/ONE

PLATOON OF MARINES AT GERBANG PEMUDA. ENTRY WAS CONTROLLED BY

STUDENTS CHECKING FOR STUDENT/PRESS/SPECIAL STATUS IDENTIFICATION

CARDS (b)(3):10 USC 424) BOTH ABRI AND THE STUDENTS WERE CHECKING IDS

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IN ORDER TO PREVENT TROUBLEMAKERS FROM ENTERING THE GROUNDS, ADMITTANCE WAS GIVEN ONLY TO THOSE PERSONNEL UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 1500 HOURS WHEN THE GENERAL PUBLIC WAS ADMITTED. MILITARY PERSONNEL INSIDE THE GROUNDS WERE POSTED ALONG THE PERIMETER FENCES WITH 5-6 SOLDIERS POSTED EVERY 200-300 METERS.

B. THROUGHOUT THE EARLY MORNING HOURS, CROWD SIZES RANGED BETWEEN 3,000 TO 5,000. IN THE LATE MORNING, NUMBERS BEGAN RISING; APPROXIMATELY 7,000 BY 1230 HOURS, 10-12,000 BY 1400 HOURS AND APPROXIMATELY 15,000 BY 1500 HOURS. WHEN THE MOBILE TEAM LEFT AT 1600 HOURS, CROWD WAS ESTIMATED AT AROUND 12,000.

C. SPEAKERS WERE PRIMARILY FROM STUDENT GROUPS WITH SOME FACULTY MEMBERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES SPEAKING AT TIMES. TOPICS RAISED BY SPEAKERS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

1. SUHARTO MUST STEP DOWN COMPLETELY AND NOT BE ALLOWED TO PULL STRINGS FROM BEHIND THE SCENES AKA THE "SINGAPORE SCENARIO".
2. HABIBIE MUST STEP DOWN ALSO.
3. HARMOKO IS UNACCEPTABLE AS A PRESIDENT.
4. SUHARTO'S PERSONAL WEALTH - AND THAT OF HIS FAMILY AND CRONIES MUST BE INVESTIGATED AND RETURNED TO THE PEOPLE.
5. ABRI MUST SUPPORT THE PEOPLE; SOMEONE IN ABRI MUST ANSWER FOR THE SHOOTINGS.


D. GENERAL CONSENSUS OF STUDENTS IS THAT THEY WILL NOT MOVE FROM THE GROUNDS UNTIL HABIBIE STEPS DOWN AND A SPECIAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT IS CONVENED. WHILE THEY AGREE THAT HABIBIE MUST GO, MOST SEEM WILLING TO ALLOW HIM TO STAY FOR A "SHORT TIME"

NOTE: SEVERAL STUDENTS TOLD 1-2 WEEKS OR UNTIL THE MPR IS CONVENED AND A NEW PRESIDENT SELECTED. ASKED ABOUT THE ACCEPTABILITY OF ABRI BEING INVOLVED IN THE NEW PROCESS, THE GENERAL REPLY WAS THAT TRI SUTRIASNO WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE; SOME SAID THAT INTERIM INVOLVEMENT BY GEN WIRANTO WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE BUT ONLY FOR A SHORT WHILE. WITH REGARD TO WIRANTO, SEVERAL OTHERS SAID THAT ABRI INVOLVEMENT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE UNTIL "SOMEONE ANSWERED FOR THE SHOOTINGS".

E. THE QUESTIONS MOST GENERALLY ASKED TO WERE WHETHER SECSTATE'S COMMENT THIS MORNING WAS COINCIDENTAL OR HAD THE US TRULY BEEN BEHIND SUHARTO'S DECISION TO STEP DOWN; WHETHER THE US NAVY SHIPS (IN INDONESIAN WATERS) HAD CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR WAR
WITH INDONESIA; AND WHAT LEADER WAS FAVORED BY THE US GOVERNMENT. SEVERAL STUDENTS TOLD "THEY KNEW" THAT ONE OF THE GENERAL OFFICERS IN ABRI INTENTIONALLY ORCHESTRATED THE REPRESSION OF THE STUDENTS (TO INCLUDE THE SHOOTINGS) AND ALSO STATED THAT THERE WERE RUMORS THAT GENERAL PRABOWO HAD A SECRET UNIT WHICH WAS BEHIND THE SHOOTINGS.

2. (U) THERE WAS STRONG LOGISTICAL SUPPORT BEHIND THE RALLY; THROUGHOUT THE DAY WATER AND SNACKS WERE DISTRIBUTED BY ROVING TRUCKS AND AT LUNCH TIME, BOX LUNCHES AND BAGS OF COOKED RICE WERE DISTRIBUTED TO ANYONE WHO WANTED ONE. INQUIRIES REVEALED THAT THE LOG SUPPORT WAS FUNDED BY SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS TO INCLUDE KOPERASI WARUNG TEGAL (ORGANIZATION OF WURUNG OR ROADSIDE FOOD OWNERS); YAYASAN SUARA IBU PEDULI; COLLEGE ALUMNI GROUPS (TO INCLUDE ITB); AND THE RED CROSS.

3. (C) WERE OUT AT THE MPR TODAY AND QUESTIONED MANY STUDENTS ABOUT SOEHARTO'S RESIGNATION AND HABIBIE'S ASCENSION. ALL STUDENTS QUESTIONED STATED THAT THEY WILL NOT LEAVE THE MPR GROUNDS UNTIL HABIBIE IS GONE. MANY OF THE STUDENT'S SPEECHES TODAY CONGRATULATED THE STUDENT'S PERSEVERANCE BUT MOST STATED THAT THEY STILL HAD MORE ISSUES TO CORRECT. ISSUES SUCH AS INVESTIGATIONS OF SOEHARTO'S WEALTH, HIS FAMILIES WEALTH, AND THAT OF HIS CROMOONIES WERE VOICED BY MANY. OTHER STUDENT SPEECHES CALLED FOR ABRI TO FINALLY BACK THE PEOPLE AND NOT THE FIRST FAMILY OR ELITE. THE STUDENTS ONLY NUMBERED 3,000 TO 5,000 DURING THE MORNING HOURS BUT GREW TO AN ESTIMATED 15,000 BY AFTERNOON. CONSTRUCTION OF CANVAS TENTS COMMENCED DURING THE AFTERNOON AND WHEN QUESTIONED, STUDENTS RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT BANDS WOULD PROVIDE ENTERTAINMENT TO THE STUDENTS REMAINING OVERNIGHT.

COMMENTS: [b](3):10 USC 424 (U) [b](3):10 USC 424, [b](3):50 USC 403-1(i)
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