

CDS

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HEADER

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P R 141241Z MAY 98

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FM

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

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INFO RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CONTROLS

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SERIAL: (U)

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

BODY

(b)(3):10 USC 424

COUNTRY: (U) INDONESIA (ID).

//IPSP: (U)

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SUBJECT: (U) SITUATION IN JAKARTA -

- MORNING 14 MAY 98 (U).

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

- FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT

- CLASSIFIED -- ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 980514.

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REQS: (U)

- SOURCES: A. (U) OPEN SOURCES, VARIOUS MEDIA DAILIES.

- B. (U) [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424

SUMMARY: (U) FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY, INDONESIAN POLICE OFFICERS STAYED AWAY FROM THEIR TRAFFIC POSTS WHILE THE MILITARY MAINTAINS A STRONG PRESENCE THROUGHOUT JAKARTA. SITUATION REMAINS TENSE AT TRISAKTI AND ATMA JAYA UNIVERSITIES. LOOTING AND DAMAGE DIRECTED AGAINST ETHNIC CHINESE SHOPOWNERS BY NON-STUDENT LOOTERS.

TEXT: 1. (U) FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY, INDONESIAN POLICE HAVE STAYED AWAY FROM MANY OF THEIR ASSIGNED TRAFFIC POSTS. MORNING COMMUTERS IN JAKARTA FOUND THAT TRAFFIC POLICE WERE NOT AT THEIR USUAL STATIONS AND HAD DESERTED THE MAIN BOULEVARDS OF JALAN [REDACTED] (b)(3):10 USC 424

(ROAD) SUDIRMAN AND JALAN THAMRIN [REDACTED] THESE TWO ROADS ARE

THE MAJOR THROUGHFARES INTO JAKARTA PROPER FROM THE SOUTH. USUALLY POLICE ARE STATIONED ON EVERY CORNER OF THESE TWO MAJOR

ARTERIES BUT NONE WERE SIGHTED FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS).

2. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE A, MOTORISTS WHO TURNED UP AT THE JAKARTA POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO RENEW THEIR DRIVER'S LICENSES WERE

SENT AWAY BY OFFICERS STATING THAT BUSINESS HAD BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. SOURCE A FURTHER STATES THAT THE REASON FOR

THE ABSENCE OF POLICE FROM THEIR REGULAR POSTS WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY

KNOWN, BUT RESIDENTS SPECULATED ABOUT A POSSIBLE STRIKE OR FEARS OF

RETRIBUTION FOR THE STUDENT DEATHS ON 980512. MILITARY TROOPS FROM

KODAM JAYA AND KOSTRAD WERE SIGHTED THROUGHOUT THE DAY MOVING

AROUND IN TROOP TRANSPORT TRUCKS.

3. (U) THE FATAL SHOOTING OF SIX (6) TRISAKTI STUDENTS IN WEST JAKARTA ON TUESDAY TRIGGERED SPORADIC VIOLENT RIOTING, LOOTING AND

LOUD RALLIES IN THE CITY WHICH PARALYZED MOST OF THE TRAFFIC IN JAKARTA ON 980513. THE RIOT IN FRONT OF TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY ON 980513 CLAIMED THE LIFE OF ONE STUDENT WHO WAS CRUSHED BY A TRUCK.

SOURCE A REPORTS THAT OVER TEN (10) STUDENTS WERE INJURED BY POLICE

AND TROOPS USING BATONS AND RUBBER BULLETS. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED

THAT MANY MOTORCYCLES AND VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED AND SET AFIRE.

4. (U) DOZENS OF PRIVATE BANKS, INCLUDING BRANCHES OF BANK CENTRAL ASIA AND LIPPOBANK, SHOPS, HOUSES, GASOLINE STATIONS, DISCOTHEQUES AND ONE (1) POLICE POST WERE BADLY DAMAGED AND SET AFIRE. SOURCE A REPORTED THAT THE AREA AROUND TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY

LOOKED LIKE A WAR ZONE WHEN MILITARY HELICOPTERS ARRIVED AND TROOPS

FROM KOPASSUS FAST-ROPED DOWN TO SUPPORT THE TROOPS ALREADY DEPLOYED. JAKARTA POLICE SPOKESMAN, LTCOL E. ((ARITONANG)) TOLD SOURCE A ON 980513 THAT 72 PEOPLE WERE BEING QUESTIONED AND STATED

THAT NO FATALITIES HAD OCCURRED [REDACTED] EXCEPT FOR THE STUDENT

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RUNOVER BY THE DRIVERLESS TRUCK). LTCOL ARITONANG STATED THAT "WE'RE NOT DEALING WITH STUDENTS ANYMORE BUT LOOTERS."

5. (U) LATE ON 980513, FLAMES AND BLACK SMOKE FROM BURNING VEHICLES AND BUILDINGS COULD STILL BE SEEN IN THE AREAS OF GROGOL, CENGKARENG, TUBAGUS ANGKE AND ANGKE JELAMBAR IN WEST JAKARTA, AND

ON JALAN (ROAD) BANDENGAN UTARA IN NORTH JAKARTA. MAJOR STREETS WERE DESERTED AND LITTERED WITH BRICKS AND STONES. IN MANY PARTS TEXT: 1. (U) FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY, INDONESIAN POLICE OF THE CITY, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WERE STRANDED BECAUSE OF A LACK OF

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION RESULTING FROM THE CLOSURE OF STREETS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. SOME AIRLINES HAD TO DELAY FLIGHTS YESTERDAY

AS TRAVELERS COULD NOT REACH THE AIRPORT, WHICH LIES TO THE WEST OF

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THE CITY, DUE TO THE ROAD CLOSURES. [REDACTED] SOURCE A REPORTED THAT ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES RAN AS SCHEDULED YESTERDAY AND MOST

WERE FULLY BOOKED, ESPECIALLY THOSE LEAVING FOR SINGAPORE, HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIA).

6. (C) AS OF TODAY (980514), THE MORNING HAS STARTED UP AGAIN WITH REPORTS FROM TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY THAT LOOTERS HAD SET ABLAZE

THE HERO'S FOOD STORE NEAR THE CAMPUS. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED REPORTS THAT STORES IN CHINATOWN HAVE BEEN SET ABLAZE AS WELL AS

SHOPS IN PASAR BARU. THESE AREAS ARE LOCATED NORTHEAST AND NORTHWEST OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS FROM AN

AMERICAN EX-PAT STATE THAT RESIDENTIAL HOUSES IN THE ELITE SUBDIVISION OF PONDIAH INDAH MAY HAVE BEEN BROKEN INTO AND SOME LOOTED. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REPORTS OF INJURIES OR DEATHS AT

THE TIME OF THIS REPORT.

7. (C) CONFIRMED REPORTS BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL HAVE STATED THAT THE MASSES OF PEOPLE ARE NOT STUDENTS BUT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE OUT

AND ABOUT WATCHING THE SITUATION IN THE STREETS. THESE MASSES THEN

PROCEED TO LOOT AND RIOT AFTER BEING RILED UP BY THE CROWD. REPORTS STATE THAT THE STUDENTS ARE STILL ENCAMPED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE CAMPUSES AND THAT THE LOOTING AND RIOTING THAT HAS INCREASED TODAY IS THE RESULT OF THE MASSES RUNNING "AMUCK". WIDESPREAD LOOTING, SETTING OF FIRES, AND RIOTING HAVE NOW INCREASED THROUGHOUT JAKARTA. FROM THE EMBASSY ROOF, (b)(1),1.4 (c) SEE

LARGE BILLOWS OF SMOKE TO THE WEST, NORTH, AND EAST OF US.

8. (C) (b)(1),1.4 (c) TRAVELED FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE US EMBASSY. THE TRIP NORMALLY TAKES 20 - 45 MINUTES DEPENDING ON TRAFFIC. THIS TRIP TOOK OVER TWO (2) HOURS. (b)(1),1.4 (c) DID NOT SEE A SINGLE POLICE OR MILITARY PERSON UNTIL HE PASSED THE UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA CAMPUS NEAR THE US EMBASSY. TWO (2) PLATOONS OF TROOPS, ONE (1) MILITARY POLICE AND ONE (1) MOBILE BRIGADE, WITH RIOT GEAR WERE DEPLOYED BUT SITTING ON THE GROUND. PASSERSBY AND STUDENTS TOOK NO NOTICE. THE CROWDS WERE MODERATE, SIMPLY WALKING TO AND

FRO ON THE ROADS. SOME SIGNS OF DESTRUCTION WERE SCATTERED ON THE (b)(3):10 USC 424

ROAD INCLUDING SMALL TREES, TRAFFIC SIGNS, AND TIRES (b)(1),1.4 (c) DID NOT SENSE ANY REAL DANGER DURING THE TRIP.

COMMENTS: (b)(1),1.4 (c) 1. (C) THE SITUATION IS SERIOUS IN TEXT: 1. (U) FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE DAY, INDONESIAN POLICE SEVERAL SECTORS OF JAKARTA. WHAT STARTED OUT AS STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS HAS SPREAD INTO LOOTING AND WANTON DESTRUCTION. SO

FAR, MEDIA REPORTS ON THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE POSSIBLY KILLED AND INJURED VARYS AND ARE UNCONFIRMED. IN THE EVENING OF 980513, ONE AMERICAN-CHINESE HOTEL MANAGER WAS FORCED OUT OF HIS CAR AND BEATEN

BY LOOTERS. HIS CAR WAS DAMAGED AND SET ABLAZE. HIS INDONESIAN DRIVER WAS ALSO BEATEN BY THE MASSES.

2. (C) RSO REPORTED THAT ALL POLICE FULLY DEPLOYED. RSO FURTHER STATED THAT THERE ARE NO MORE RESERVES LEFT TO SUPPORT THE DEPLOYED

TROOPS. IF A SITUATION OCCURS AT THE EMBASSY, RSO STATED THAT THE POLICE COULD NOT BE COUNTED ON AS BACK UP.

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

PLEASE REFER ANY QUESTIONS/COMMENTS TO

DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

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