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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

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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

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RUEALGX/SAFE WASHDC

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**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 RECONCILIATION 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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