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CONTROLS

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

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) INDONESIA (ID).

//IPSP: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 PRESIDENT'S ADVISER FEARS

- MISSING ACTIVISTS SLAIN (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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DOI: (U) 980723.

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

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SOURCES: A. (U) OPEN SOURCE, "THE OBSERVER", JAKARTA, INDONESIA, DATED 980723. NATIONALIST IN SLANT, THE NEWSPAPER HAS A CENTRIST EDITORIAL TONE AND IS AIMED AT FOREIGN READERSHIP IN JAKARTA.

- B. (U) OPEN SOURCE, "JAKARTA POST", JAKARTA, INDONESIA, DATED 980723. AN INDEPENDENT, THIS NEWSPAPER IS SUSTAINED BY A CONSORTIUM OF MANY OTHER NEWS PUBLICATIONS, EACH

WITH BASICALLY DIFFERENT IDEOLOGIES.

SUMMARY: (U) SUPREME ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPA) CHAIRMAN A.A. ((BARAMULI)) STATED TO SOURCE A THAT HE FEARS THE TWELVE (12) MISSING ACTIVISTS, KIDNAPPED BY MEMBERS OF KOPASSUS SPECIAL FORCES, ARE DEAD. IN SOURCE B, MILITARY DISCLAIMS KNOWLEDGE OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE MISSING ACTIVISTS.

TEXT: 1. (U) ON 980723, TWO SEPARATE NEWS REPORTS DISCUSSED THE INDONESIAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TWELVE (12) ACTIVISTS. SOURCE A ADDRESSED THE SUPREME ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPA) CHAIRMAN A.A. ((BARAMULI)) WHO STATED THAT HE FEARED THAT THE TWELVE (12) MISSING ACTIVISTS WERE DEAD. BARAMULI STATED THAT "I THINK ALL THE (SURVIVING) ACTIVISTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED, SO THERE'S ONLY A SLIM CHANCE THE OTHERS ARE STILL ALIVE." "IF THE ACTIVISTS KIDNAPPED BY THE MILITARY WERE STILL ALIVE, I THINK THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY NOW, BECAUSE MOST

PEOPLE ALREADY KNOW THE CULPITS ARE KOPASSUS OFFICIALS." BARAMULI THEN URGED THE MILITARY POLICE TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN THEIR SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE. "THERE MUST BE AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE MASTERMINDS OF THE ABDUCTIONS. THIS IS A CRIMINAL CASE; THEREFORE THE POLICE TEAM MUST FIND THE CULPRITS." THE TRAIL OF THE CULPRITS MUST BE PUBLIC AND TRANSPARENT, UNLIKE THE "DUBIOUS" TRIAL OF POLICE ACCUSED OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE MAY 12 SLAYINGS OF FOUR (4) STUDENTS AT WEST JAKARTA'S TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY, SAID BARAMULI.

2. (U) SOURCE A STATED THAT MILITARY ANALYSTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS SAY THE POLICE ON TRIAL FOR THE (TRISAKTI) KILLINGS ARE SCAPEGOATS AND THE ENTIRE TRAIL IS AN UTTER SHAM, ENGINEERED TO PROTECT WHOEVER ORDERED THE ACTION. ACCORDING TO SOURCE A, ANALYSTS SAY THE MASTERMIND OF THE KILLINGS IS PROBABLY THE SAME

PERSON WHO ORDERED THE ABDUCTION AND TORTURE OF THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVISTS. SOURCE A STATED THAT PUBLIC SUSPICION HAS

FALLEN FIRST ON A FORMER KOPASSUS CHIEF, LTG ((PRABOWO)) SUBIANTO, WHO IS THE SON-IN-LAW OF FORMER PRESIDENT ((SOEHARTO)). PRABOWO HAS PUBLICLY STATED THAT HE WILL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT SOME OF HIS MEN REALLY DID CONDUCT THE KIDNAPPINGS, ACCORDING TO SOURCE B.

3. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE B, THE MILITARY DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF 12 POLITICAL ACTIVISTS STILL MISSING, BUT SAID THE NUMBER OF ITS MEN SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT IN ABDUCTIONS AND TORTURE OF ACTIVISTS HAD INCREASED BY ONE TO ELEVEN (11). HEAD OF THE ARMED FORCES FACT-FINDING TEAM MG ((SYAMSU)) DJALAL SAID THE TEAM HAD QUESTIONED COL ((CHAIRAWAN)), COMMANDER OF KOPASSUS GROUP IV ON INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS IN THE

INVOLVEMENT OF THE MISSING ACTIVISTS. SOURCE B REPORTED THAT ONE INVESTIGATOR, COL ((SUDIRMAN)) PANIGORO SAID THAT CHAIRAWAN WAS NOT AMONG THE ELEVEN SUSPECTS.

4. (U) SOURCE B STATED THAT "THE LATEST SUSPECT IS THE COMMANDER OF THE 'LAMPUNG TEAM' AND HE IS ALSO FROM KOPASSUS," SUDIRMAN TOLD REPORTERS AFTER ACCOMPANYING SYAMSU IN MEETING RELATIVES OF MISSING ACTIVISTS AT THE NATIONAL MILITARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN CENTRAL JAKARTA. [REDACTED] NOTE: SUDIRMAN WAS REFERRING TO THE TEAM WHO ABDUCTED ACTIVIST ANDI ARIEF IN LAMPUNG

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ON 980328. ANDI WAS HANDED OVER BY HIS ABDUCTORS TO THE POLICE ON 980417 AND RELEASED LAST WEEK). WHEN PRESSED FOR THE SUSPECT'S RANK, SUDIRMAN ONLY SAID "IT COULD BE A LIEUTENANT COLONEL OR A MAJOR." SUDIRMAN SAID THE RANKS OF THE OTHER 10 SUSPECTS WERE LOWER THAN THE 11TH SUSPECT. HE ALSO SAID THEIR DOSSIERS WOULD BE COMPLETED ON 980725. HE DID NOT SAY WHEN THE MILITARY TRIBUNAL WOULD BEGIN. SYAMSU STATED THAT THE SUSPECTS COULD BE CHARGED UNDER SEVERAL ARTICLES OF THE CRIMINAL CODE AND

THE MILITARY CRIMINAL CODE WHICH INCLUDES CRUELTY, PARTICIPATION IN A CRIMINAL ACT, AN ACT BEYOND THE AUTHORITY GIVEN THEM, OR DISOBEYING AN INSTRUCTION.

5. (U) SYAMSU STATED THAT MEMBERS OF THE JAKARTA MILITARY COMMAND, THE ARMED FORCES INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, THE NATIONAL POLICE AND THE NATIONAL MILITARY POLICE MIGHT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED

IN THE "PROCESS" OF THE ABDUCTIONS. SYAMSU REVEALED THAT THE FACT-FINDING TEAM HAD VISITED KOPASSUS HEADQUARTERS IN CIJANTUNG,

EAST JAKARTA WHICH HAD ALLEGEDLY BEEN USED AS THE DETENTION SITE

FOR ACTIVISTS. THE FACT-FINDING TEAM WENT HOPING TO FIND EVIDENCE OF, OR THE MISSING ACTIVISTS BUT THEIR SEARCH PROVED FUTILE. SYAMSU STATED THAT "BASED ON THE INFORMATION WE HAVE GATHERED, THERE ARE SOME ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE BEEN RELEASED, BUT WE

ARE STILL CHECKING ON THEIR WHEREABOUTS AND WE WILL KEEP PURSUING THIS."

COMMENT: 1. (C) MG SYAMSU AND THE FACT-FINDING TEAM ARE BEING

CLOSELY WATCHED BY THE CITIZENS OF INDONESIA AND THE WORLD. THE RESULTS OF THEIR INVESTIGATION COULD GO AS HIGH AS THE COMMANDER

OF KOPASSUS OR EVEN GEN (RET) ((FEISAL)) TANJUNG. FEISAL TANJUNG'S NAME HAS RECENTLY SURFACED IN CONNECTION WITH THE MISSING ACTIVISTS. AS PANGAB DURING THE FIRST FEW DISAPPEARANCES, THE MEDIA IS REPORTING THAT HE KNEW AND APPROVED OF THE KIDNAPPINGS. FEISAL HAS DENIED ALL MEDIA CHARGES AGAINST HIM AND STATES THAT HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE METHODS EMPLOYED BY THE KIDNAPPERS.

2. (U)

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PLEASE REFER ANY QUESTIONS/COMMENTS TO

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