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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

(7)

PAGE 01 JAKART 11017 220208Z
ACTION EA-12

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JAKART 11017 220208Z

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INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
H-01 10-15 NSC-01 NSAE-00 HA-00 L-03 PM-09
PA-01 OES-09 ACDA-12 ICSE-00 SF-02 SPRS-02 /DSG W

HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE OF THE RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS, PARTICIPATED IN THE RECENT INQUIRY (REF A), BUT NOTE THAT HE IS NOT LISTED (REF B) AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE (THE OTHER INDONESIAN PARTICIPANT WHO IS LISTED, RASHID SALEH OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, IS NOT PROMINENT AND HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM).

P 220151Z JUL 82
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4104
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
ZEN AMCONSUL MEDAN VIA POUCH
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
ZEN AMCONSUL SURABAYA VIA POUCH
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
UMISSION USUN NEW YORK

IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY BUYUNG CHOSE THIS TIME TO GIVE AN INTERVIEW ON THE COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS, BUT THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS PLAY (REUTERS, REF D) SUGGESTS THAT SIMILAR STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN ISSUED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELSEWHERE. WE NOTE ALSO THAT THE GROUP HAS BEEN VARIOUSLY CHARACTERIZED AS REPRESENTING "LAWASIA," "THE LAW ASSOCIATION OF ASIA" OR A THAI GROUP OF JURISTS. AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, BUYUNG'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH LAWASIA ARE COMPLICATED, BUT THAT CONSIDERATION SEEMS EXTRANEOUS TO THE PRESENT CASE.
MONJO

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R

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EO 12065: N/A
TAGS: PORC, SHUH, PARM, SREF, LA, CB, VH, UR, ID
SUBJECT: INDONESIA - WIDE PUBLICITY ACCORDED TO REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL LEGAL GROUP'S FINDINGS CONCERNING USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA

REFS: A) JAKARTA 8185, B) BANGKOK 31711, C) BANGKOK 30120
D) STATE 200149

[Handwritten signature]

1. (U) THE JAKARTA VERNACULAR AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PRESS HAS ACCORDED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO A RECENT INTERVIEW BY THE GOVERNMENT NEWS SERVICE "ANTARA" WITH PROMINENT HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST ADNAN BUYUNG NASUTION, WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE LAWASIA COMMITTEE WHICH EARLY LAST MONTH INVESTIGATED EVIDENCE CONCERNING CBW USE IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA. (REF B).

2. (U) BUYUNG REPORTEDLY SAID THAT WHILE VISITING REFUGEE CAMPS, THE COMMITTEE FOUND "STRONG INDICATIONS THAT THE PEOPLE HAD BEEN EXPOSED TO THE EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL WARFARE." HE ADDED THAT "THESE PEOPLE HAD NO HOPE OF CURE AND WOULD EVENTUALLY DIE..." HE ALSO SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS USED BY THE SRV WERE LEFT BEHIND BY THE AMERICANS "LEFT BEHIND BY THE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM." BUYUNG CONCLUDED THAT IF IT WERE TRUE THAT THE SRV USED CHEMICAL WEAPONS "THIS WAS A CRIME UNDER EXISTING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS." HE ADDED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD ASKED THEIR ORGANIZING COMMITTEE IN THAILAND TO COLLECT DATA FOR FURTHER STUDY (REUTERS REPORTED BUYUNG SAID THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION WOULD BE PUBLISHED LATER THIS MONTH; WE DO NOT FIND THIS STATEMENT IN THE INTERVIEW, WHICH WAS REUTERS' SOURCE).

What

3. (U) THERE HAS BEEN SOME SYMPATHETIC EDITORIAL REACTION.
4. (U) THE PRESS COVERAGE GENERATED AN ANGRY REACTION FROM THE SRV AMBASSADOR, WHO, FOLLOWING THE APPARENTLY STANDARD LINE, DENOUNCED CHARGES OF CBW USE AS "A SLANDEROUS CAMPAIGN OF THE U.S. WITH THE COMPLICITY OF CHINA," ALLEGED THAT UN EXPERTS HAD FAILED TO FIND EVIDENCE FOLLOWING A STUDY LAST YEAR, AND REGRETTED THAT AN INDONESIAN LAWYER HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE RECENT INQUIRY, WHICH WAS "STRONGLY CONDEMNED" BY THE SRV LAWYERS ASSOCIATION.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by RAW DATE 11/3/88
 RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE () DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____

TS authority to:
() CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

5. (LOU) COMMENT: WE ARE AWARE THAT BUYUNG, WHO

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