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R.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PTOB, ID, PO, PT, AS

SUBJECT: Propaganda Campaign re Portuguese Timor
Continues; As Do Official Denials of GOI
Plans for Military Takeover

REF: A. Jakarta 2285
B. Jakarta 2390
C. Surabaya 0149

SUMMARY: Official GOI news service Antara February 26
issued second installment in current series of articles
on alleged communist takeover moves in Portuguese Timor.
New installment states Governor and most Portuguese
military officers in colony are communists, and describes
alleged "hate Indonesia" campaign underway in colony
designed to discredit Indonesia with local people and
in region as a whole by spreading rumors of planned

ORIGINATION BY: <i>PRU 4</i>	EXPIRES DATE: 2/27/75	APPROVED BY: <i>[Signature]</i>
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Indonesian aggression against Portuguese Timor. Leading daily Kompas apparently resisting giving play to this obvious GOI-authored propaganda. Simultaneously regional military commander for Java and Lesser Sumatra denied to press that GOI building up forces in Timor, but confirmed he plans travel to area in immediate future. These reports illustrate mixed signals now emanating from GOI on Timor question. ~~INDONESIA-PORTUGUESE TIMOR~~ END SUMMARY.

1. Second instalment of new series on Portuguese Timor issued by official news service Antara February 16. Article describes intensification of alleged "hate Indonesia" campaign in Portuguese Timor and increased agitation to "totally impose communism" in colony. Hate campaign said to include spreading of "false image that Indonesia about to stage aggression" in attempt to "disgrace good image of Indonesia in region." Article predicts formation of new political front composed of communist armed forces figures and PRATELIN Party members, and says GOP in Lisbon fully supports this development as does PT Governor Lemos Pires, who article alleges is Communist Party member.

2. Article repeats many of claims in previous installment (ref A) concerning leftist terror campaign against AFORNI (pro-Indonesia party) supporters. One additional example is given, case of Feliciano, a chief of Atsabe

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district who allegedly under detention and "torture" in Dili since January. Report states that 14,000-member Batimau-Atsabe tribe are APODETI supporters with long ties with Indonesia, and that king of tribe was pressured by Armed Forces when he tried to assist Feliciano. Article cites as source of report interviews by "roving Antara correspondent" in Atambua with "political refugees" from PT who refused to be identified for "security reasons."

3. Antara report front-paged February 27 by every Jakarta paper except leading independent Kompas (which had not carried first report at all and carried highly abbreviated version of this one on last page). Kompas reluctance to feature report, coupled with statement to PolComms by Antara staffer professing ignorance as to actual source of reports and some embarrassment over their lurid character, provide further indications of propagandistic nature of articles, which clearly being written and distributed by GDI, probably from Jakarta.

4. Simultaneously, February 27 press also carries denial by Lt. Gen. Widodo, territorial commander for Java and Nusantara, including Timor, that Indonesian military forces in Timor being augmented. Widodo acknowledged, however, that special military team now surveying situation in Indonesian Timor, and that he

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would travel to Timor himself shortly.

5. COMMENT: Juxtaposition of Antara reports and official denials by Widodo and others (ref B) illustrate mixed nature of signals currently emanating from Jakarta re GDI intentions vis-a-vis Portuguese Timor, as well as embarrassment of GDI over widespread reports of planned Indonesian takeover. ~~SECRET~~


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