

D.A. *[initials]*
Mr Bundall
H.O.C. *[initials]*
22/1
22/1

THE SILIWANGI DIVISION

Over the weekend a friend in Bandung who knows a number of Siliwangi officers, and the sons or daughters of others, told me what he had heard from them recently.

TIMOR

2. He said that the two battalions of 'green berets' in the Siliwangi Division, numbering about 2000 (also known as the 'inti' or 'Kujang' troops), who are considered the Division's best and rivals to the RPKAD, were sent off to Timor over the weekend of 5-7 December, (by train to Madiun and then plane to Kupang). They were still there and their wives and children in Bandung had been confined to the barracks so that they would not talk to people in general about the departure of their husbands or fathers. The Colonel commanding the 'Kujang' troops was back for two days last week but has now returned to Timor. While back in Bandung he had said that Fretilin was now confined to the mountains and that the whole operation would be over in three months (it was not clear whether this was three months from 7 December or three months from now).

Nothing new.
DA.

(washall see)

Denied by my associates
Has not been in Timor.
Heart attacks in his office
DA.

3. Some officers in Bandung were saying that Brigadier General Subiandono, the West Kalimantan Army Commander whose sudden death was reported a few weeks ago, died on the battle-front in Timor, and not as the result of an unnamed illness as the press reports implied.

DISCONTENT

4. He said that Siliwangi officers whom he knew were more frequently complaining of corruption, and the poor deal that Siliwangi officers were getting compared with Diponegoro or Brawijaya members, than they did a year or two ago. But, he said, it seemed to be all talk, in a general air of political apathy, and there were no signs of any 'movements' appearing.

5. He said that he knew people in close contact with General Ibrahim Adjie, (one of the co-signatories of Nasution's petition). As far as he knew General Ibrahim had no military position or particularly strong contact with senior serving officers. But friends had told him that General Ibrahim was very critical of the present government and at times literally broke down and cried about the state of the nation. I should add that my contact brought up the name of General Ibrahim himself: I did not raise the petition or the Generals claimed to have signed it.

R. H. Gozney
20/1/76