

STATINTL

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(Talk by Andrei Baturin: "The Machinations of Reactionary Forces in Indonesia")

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(Text) Recently tension has been noticeable in the internal political situation in Indonesia. That is a result of the machinations of reactionary groups in the country which, acting with the wide support of foreign circles, are trying to overthrow the present government of Indonesia.

At the end of November a small group of officers in Indonesia made an attempt to carry out a Coup D'Etat. The plot was headed by Col. Lubis, the same Lubis who in 1955 had caused a political crisis in the country by his refusal to obey government orders. Col. Lubis, who occupied a responsible post of Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Army, was removed from his duties. But neither he nor his followers gave up their plans to overthrow the republican regime in Indonesia and to establish a military dictatorship there.

The small group of adventurers was planning to organize disorders in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, to seize the premises of state offices, and to arrest members of the government. The Indonesian paper "Harian Rakjat" said: "Lubis and his friends attempted to open the way to Facism and the rule of a military junta."

But the plotters miscalculated. Their plot was disclosed. Some of its organizers were arrested and some escaped to inaccessible parts of the country. But the reactionaries did not stop their undermining activities. After having failed in the capital, they attempted to compensate for it in the provinces, especially in the northern and central parts of Sumatra. In those areas power was seized by the rebellious officers headed by Col. Simbolon, known for his close contacts with foreign circles. He said that he refused to obey the present government and demanded that power in the country should be placed in the hands of right-wing groups.

The Indonesian government took measures to liquidate the mutiny. Thus it introduced a state of seige in the island of sumatra and abolished all leave in the army. By decree of President Sukarno, Col. Simbolon was removed from his post. Army units loyal to the government took firm measures against the leaders of the mutiny. Col. Simbolon capitulated to the detachments of the Indonesian army when heavy tanks surrounded the headquarters of the rebels.

The actions of the reactionary circles caused just indignation among the Indonesian people, who demand that an end be put to the undermining activities in the country. A number of Indonesian newspapers point out that the threads of the plot against the freedom and independence of Indonesia lead far outside the country, to the capitals of certain western

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states. Thus the Indonesian newspaper "Bintang Timur" draws public attention to the fact that a short time before the armed action of the reactionary groups Indonesia had been visited by Allen Dulles, the head of American Intelligence Service.

"Everybody who knows who Allen Dulles is," the paper says, "will refuse to believe that his visit was no more than a tour for entertainment." The paper points out that during his visit, Allen Dulles, in the presence of a representative of the American Embassy, had talks with the leaders of some right-wing political groups of Indonesia. "That only confirms the opinion," 'Bintang Timur' continues, "that foreign interests are involved in the attempts to cause the overthrow of the government."

The Indonesian press points out that the undermining activities on the territory of the republic are financed by large foreign monopolies. "Sin Po" says that the reactionaries receive aid and money from America, which in its words "coordinates the activities of anti-patriotic and anti-national circles."

It is not difficult to understand why the imperialist circles support and encourage the machinations of Indonesian reactionaries attempting to overthrow the present government of the country. These circles do not like the independent policy of Indonesia. As is known, the government of Sastroamidjojo speaks out firmly against colonialism, for the development of friendly cooperation with all states regardless of their state systems; it strives for the preservation of general peace and security. It condemned the aggression of Britain, France, and Israel against the freedom-loving Egyptian people.

Despite the pressure on the part of the United States, the Republic of Indonesia firmly refused to join the military bloc of Southeastern Asia--SEATO--saying that its participation in that military group would have been counter to the national interests of the country. Indonesia supports the development of friendly relations with the Soviet Union and People's China, which was clearly manifested by the recent visit of President Sukarno to Moscow and Peking.

In the field of internal policy, the government of Sastroamidjojo is carrying out a course aimed at the liquidation of the remnants of colonialism in the country. With that aim it passed a decision on the nationalization of some key branches of the Indonesian economy where until recently the Dutch and other western monopolies had been full masters. Measures were carried out to limit the profits of foreign companies working on the territory of the country.

Among other things the government established a high tax for large enterprises, mainly held by foreign capital. It also annulled the so-called Indonesian debts to Holland to the sum of one billion dollars, which had been unjustly forced upon the Indonesian people.

These "debts" represented the money spent by the Dutch colonizers while fighting against Indonesia which was defending its national independence.

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Clearly such a policy of the Indonesian government goes against the plans of the western states concerning Indonesia. These states would like to again deprive Indonesia of her independence and to place a colonial yoke on the Indonesian people in order to rule the country as in the past and to exploit its natural wealth uncontrolled. For such aims they support the anti-government activities of the adventurous elements of Indonesia, hoping to see their own proteges in power.

"The anti-military, independent policy of Indonesia, based on the struggle against colonialism and imperialism, has long caused discontent in some western states," says "Bintang Timur." "These countries look with hostility on the establishment by Indonesia of friendly relations with the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic. Since the government showed firmness in carrying out its anti-colonial policy attempts continue without interruption to cause the fall of the government, which would clearly be in the interests of the western countries."

The intensification of anti-government activities of the reactionary forces in Indonesia was certainly caused by the fact that the question of western Irian had been placed on the agenda of the 11th Session of the U. N. General Assembly. The Dutch colonizers who had seized that Indonesian territory by force are stubborn in their refusal to return it to Indonesia. In that they are supported by Washington which, as the Indonesian press points out, "would like to turn western Irian into a military base of Sernu, into a playground of American monopolies.

Apparently the colonizers had been hoping with the help of their creatures to cause an acute political crisis in Indonesia and thus to weaken her position during the discussion of the question of western Irian at the General Assembly. In that connection "Harian Rakjat" justly says that the undermining activities of reaction in Indonesia answer the interests of American and Dutch imperialists who are attempting to split the forces of Indonesian people.

All sincere patriots of the young Indonesian Republic severely condemn the machinations of reactionary and imperialist circles of the West directed against Indonesia. They are fully determined to defend their freedom and independence of their motherland.