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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
17 October 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Indonesian Situation
(Report #33 -- As of 4:00 P.M. EDT)

1. The army's demand for a purge of air force members involved in the coup attempt has been partially met with yesterday's announcement that leftist air force commander Marshal Dani would "temporarily" give up his duties and depart on an overseas mission. The US Embassy in Djakarta believes Dani is being sent to Communist China. The officer named as acting air force commander, however, is reportedly unacceptable to the army leadership as a permanent replacement for Dani.

2. President Sukarno today addressed the Anti-Foreign Bases Conference now being held in Djakarta. Despite speculation that he would make a major statement on the internal situation, Sukarno limited himself to standard attacks on the imperialistic "Old Established Forces." In an apparent attempt to dramatize the conference, Radio Djakarta announced yesterday that the Indonesian air force has been flying reconnaissance missions over "enemy territory" in order "to observe imperialist activities and the possibility of an attack against Indonesia."

3. According to Djakarta press reports yesterday, the army has obtained Sukarno's agreement to continue a "state of war" in the Djakarta area. The army will undoubtedly use Sukarno's acquiescence in this matter to make further sweeps against the Communists.

State Dept. review completed

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4. On 15 October, 26 journalists and officials of Antara, the left-leaning Indonesian national news agency, were arrested on suspicion of involvement in the 30 September coup attempt. Antara's operation was initially suspended following the coup attempt but resumed under army supervision.

5. The US Consulates in Surabaya and Medan have reported rising anti-PKI activity in those two cities. Yesterday Moslem mobs in Surabaya roamed the city tearing down PKI signs and attacking PKI members. [redacted] casualties were heavy. In Medan, Moslem and other anti-Communist groups burned the north Sumatra PKI headquarters on 15 October. An attempt by PKI members to defend the building reportedly resulted in heavy casualties.

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