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REPORT NO.

INIORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Indonesia

DATE DISTR.

1 March 1949

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SUBJECT

Activities of an Malaka's Followers

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

- 1. A lieutenant in the Tentera Nasional Indonesia (TNI) Staff, on his arrival recently in Batavia from a trip through the interior of Java, reported that 10-13,000 followers of Tan Malaka are now in the guerrilla forces, chiefly those in East Java.
- 2. The lieutenant stated that Tan Malaka had divided Java into three sections:
 - East dava, under his own control.
 - b. Middle Java, under Sukarni; who is now operating somewhere in the Jogjakarta area.
 - West Java, under Chairul Saleh, who is operating in the Bandung
- 3. Some former Muso Communists have joined Tan Balaka and some have joined the TNI. These Communists feel that Muso deceived them. Tan Malaka has a leader in every province of West Java.
- 4. The situation is dangerous because the Communists can now influence the TNI through propaganda from within. When a political agreement is reached, there is the danger that the Tan Malaka group may refuse to cease fighting.
- 5. The political ignorance of the people works in favor of the TNI because there has been a natural tendency to follow prominent leaders, that is, Sukarno and Hatta. The TNI is setting up a special propaganda branch to tell the people why they are fighting and to combat Communist propaganda.
- 6. The main guerrilla problem is to consolidate their forces.

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Comment. This is presumably the same Sukarni who was involved in the attempted coup d'etat in 1946 along with Tan Malaka He was subsequently imprisoned by the Republic and released in August 1948.

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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