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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Siam/Indonesia

SUBJECT Siamese Government Reaction to the Indonesian Problem

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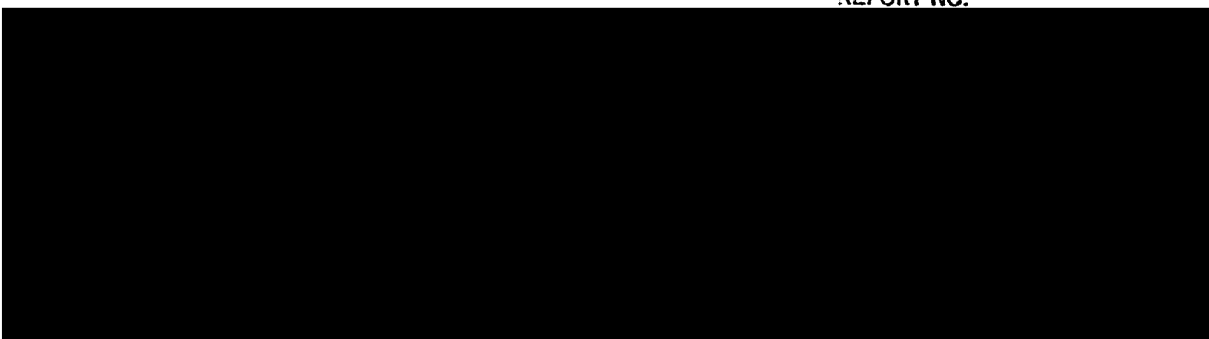
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1. One of the reasons which influenced the Siamese government's decision not to back the Indonesian Republic more strongly is the fear that an independent United States of Indonesia may inspire Moslem elements in southern Siam to a separatist movement.
2. The Pibul government has ordered the Indonesian News Service to cease publication. Isak Mahdi, Indonesian representative in Bangkok, has been informed that such propaganda publications are against the law since no permit has been granted for them.*
3. Some weeks ago, Mahdi was assured by Nai Liang Chayakan and others that he could go ahead with his publications. For this reason, he had not taken formal steps to register the news service. The Criminal Investigation Division will now procrastinate about issuing a permit to him, or perhaps refuse altogether to allow further publication.

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* Comment. Publicly-circulated printed material in Siam must be registered with the Criminal Investigation Division, citing owner, publisher, printer, etc.

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