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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Indonesia

DATE DISTR. 30 Apr. 1951

SUBJECT Conditions in Bantam

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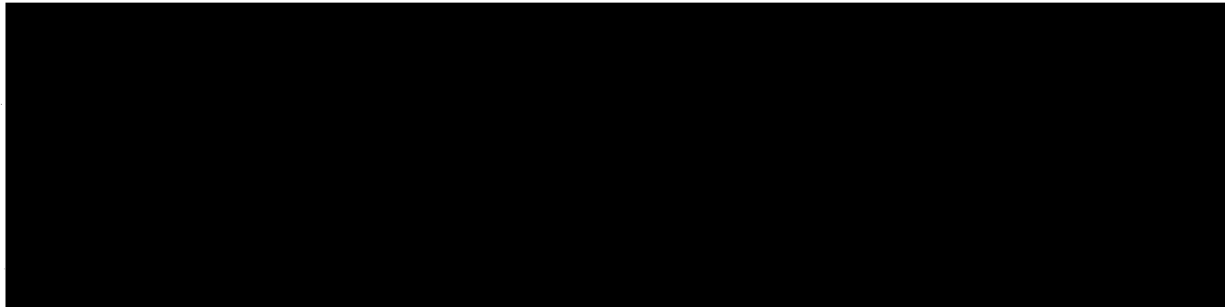
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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

APR 30 1951



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1. The four most influential political parties in Bantam are the Masjumi, the Persatuan Indonesia Raya (PIR), the Partai Sarekat Islam Indonesia (PSII), and the Partai Komunis Indonesia (PKI). Remnants of the Benteng Merah Korps (Red Buffalo Corps), active during the Revolution, are still found in the area. It has become a left-wing irregular band.
2. An estimated 1,000 guerrilla troops are scattered around Tjomas, Mt. Karang, and Mt. Pulasari. Most of them are discontented, demobilized soldiers and army deserters, many of whom have been able to keep their weapons. A number of guerrilla elements seem to be followers of Kiyai Achmed Chatib, who is still confined in Jogjakarta by the Government.
3. Left-wing sentiment is strong in Raja and in the coastal areas along the Indian Ocean. Poor economic conditions and the activity of Communist organizers, sent from Serang to form Communist cells, probably account for the Communist strength here.
4. During the past few months about 2,500 tons of rubber have been stolen each month from Chinese and European-owned estates in Lobak in southern Bantam. Estate tamperers and lawless elements have both engaged in this practice. The stolen rubber is transported to Djakarta under permits issued by corrupt local officials. Much of the rubber is remilled by the Java Rubber Works of YO Eng Sek and by Sien & Co.

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No Change in Class.

Declassified

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