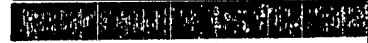
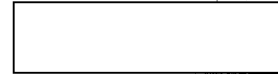


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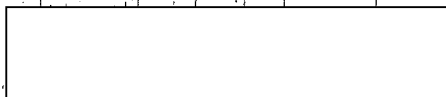
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DATE: SEP 2005

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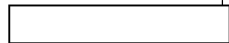


# STAFF NOTES:

## Military Developments



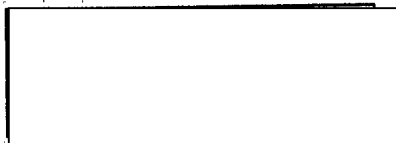
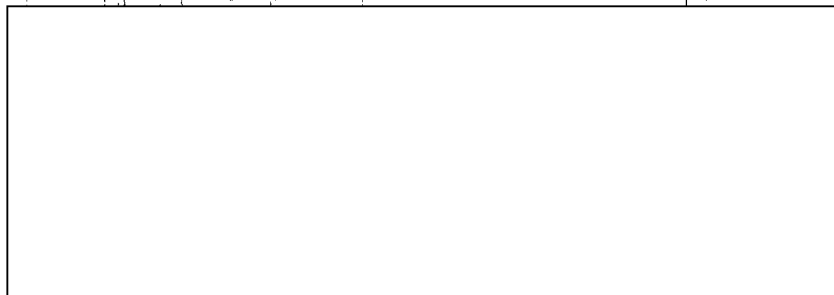
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16 September 1975

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INDONESIA: Sending Special Forces Into Timor

The pace of Indonesia's military build-up, begun nearly a month ago for possible military action against Portuguese Timor, has slowed down almost to a standstill. President Suharto apparently is reluctant to intervene alone, but mounting pressures from the military could yet force him into a full scale invasion.

[redacted] the Indonesian military command instead will increase the number of special forces troops that it is sending across the border. Although special forces units have been carrying out reconnaissance missions in Timor since last year, Jakarta will now send units into the Portuguese half of the island specifically to engage in guerrilla warfare and to create as much confusion as possible. The operation of special forces units in Portuguese Timor apparently is part of Jakarta's overall plan to lure

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*Staff Notes: Military Developments* are prepared for the internal use of CIA and reflect the immediate views of analysts in the Office of Strategic Research. Observations and queries may be directed to the analyst named following each item.

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Fretilin troops across the border into Indonesian territory. Indonesia hopes to provoke incidents that would give its military units an excuse to take military action.

Early in September a combined force of some 200 special forces troops and Indonesian-trained native guerrilla troops crossed the border. The unit reportedly overran Fatu Besi, some 25 miles inside the border, and now is pushing north towards Alfu.

The some 7,000 airborne and infantry troops that had been alerted nearly two weeks ago remain on alert status on Java. One company of infantry troops on nearby Bali has, however, been alerted for movement to a position on Timor close to the border with Portuguese Timor. The air force continues to move supplies to airfields and support facilities closer to Portuguese Timor. Several ships of the naval task force assembled off the coast of Timor--possibly including six destroyer escorts and six merchant marine ships--now are patrolling the northern and southern coasts of the island. [redacted]

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