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PAGE 01 JAKART 10200 282043Z
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /031 W

R 250907Z JUN 80
PM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6963

CONFIDENTIAL JAKARTA 10200
EXDIS

EO 12065: XDS-4 6/25/00 (MASTERS, EDWARD E.) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, ID
SUBJECT: IMPRESSIONS AFTER JUNE 10 ATTACK
IN EAST TIMOR

REF: A) JAKARTA 9872, B) JAKARTA 9817

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: DIFFERING REPORTS OF LOCAL SECURITY
MEASURES IN THE DILI AREA ARE REACHING JAKARTA IN THE WAKE
OF THE JUNE 10 REBEL ATTACK ON THE LOCAL TV RELAY STATION.
A STAFF MEMBER HAS WRITTEN TO CRS JAKARTA THAT ROADS ARE
CLOSED NEAR DILI AND PEOPLE ARE REMAINING IN THEIR
HOUSES BECAUSE OF STEPS TO TIGHTEN SECURITY IN THE AREA.

WHO JUST RETURNED FROM DILI, SAID
EXPERIENCED NO OPERATIONAL
RESTRICTIONS, AND HE WAS FREE TO MOVE AROUND AS HE
PLEASED DURING HIS TEN-DAY STAY. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE
TO MONITOR THE SECURITY SITUATION IN EAST TIMOR AND REPORT
ANY EFFECT THAT INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES MAY HAVE

END SUMMARY

3. [ ] HAVE REPORTED
SLIGHTLY DIFFERING IMPRESSIONS OF THE SITUATION IN DILI

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DESCRIBED THE SECURITY SITUATION IN DILI AS VERY TIGHT. HE SAID THAT ROADS TO THE SOUTH WERE CLOSED, AND THE MAJOR ROAD TO THE EAST, TOWARD BACAU AND LOSPALOS, HAD JUST OPENED AGAIN, BUT ONLY DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. OUTSIDE OF DILI, HE SAID, A 6 PM CURfew WAS IN EFFECT. IN DILI, FEW PEOPLE WERE VENTURING OUT OF THE HOUSES AT NIGHT BECAUSE OF POLICE CHECKS FOR GOVERNMENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS, WHICH ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION HELD.

REPORTED THAT DILI WAS FILLED WITH RUMORS OF A LARGE MILITARY SWEEP IN THE FUTURE, DURING WHICH PRESUMABLY AREAS OF THE PROVINCE WOULD BE OFF LIMITS.

4. IN CONTRAST TO THE ABOVE REPORT, JUST RETURNED FROM A TEN-DAY VISIT TO THE PROVINCE AND TOLD EMBASSY THAT DURING THAT PERIOD HE EXPERIENCED NO RESTRICTION. HE SAID THAT THE SITUATION IN DILI WAS SOMEWHAT "TIGHTER" THAN HE HAD EXPERIENCED IN EARLIER VISITS BUT NOT AS TENSE AS RUMORS IN JAKARTA MIGHT SUGGEST. HAD HEARD NOTHING OF ROADS BEING CLOSED IN THE DILI VICINITY, ALTHOUGH CHECKPOINTS WERE SET UP AT NIGHTFALL ON THE EDGES OF THE TOWN. HE SAID THAT HE WAS FREE TO SHOP AT THE CHINESE SHOPS IN TOWN AND TO MOVE AROUND AT NIGHT JUST AS HE DID DURING EARLIER VISITS. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD HEARD OF A WAVE OF ARRESTS IN THE WAKE OF THE ATTACK BUT HE HAD ALSO HEARD THAT THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY RELEASES OF DETAINERS A FEW DAYS FOLLOWING.

SAID HE FELT RUMORS OF MILITARY SWEEPS AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS WERE LITTLE MORE THAN RUMORS AT THE PRESENT TIME.
6. THIS MESSAGE IS CAPTIONED EXDIS TO PROTECT OUR SOURCES

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