

**OVERSEAS SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL - AMCHAM SECURITY COMMITTEE  
REPORT ON EVENTS IN AUGUST 2010**

**Committee Meetings**

There was no OSAC-AMCHAM Security Committee meeting in August.

**Other Developments**

OSAC welcomed Mr. Jim Schnaible, the new US Embassy Regional Security Officer, who arrived in Jakarta in early August to replace Jeff Lischke, who has assumed a new assignment in Kenya. Bill Rising, chair of OSAC/AMCHAM Security Committee, met Jim Schnaible shortly after his arrival and discussed security concerns in the country and how the committee can support the US Embassy and US company interests here.

The Muslim fasting month of Ramadan began on 11 August and will end with the celebration of Idul Fitri beginning 9 September and ending 13 September.

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**Summary of Security-Related Issues throughout Indonesia**

The following information was compiled from information submitted by AGI, Hill & Associates, and media sources. We are greatly appreciative of their contributions.

**TERRORISM**

- **3 August – Three sentenced for harboring July 2009 bombing terrorists:** The South Jakarta District Court sentenced two students and a graduate of the Ciputat Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University (UIN) to four and a half years each for harbouring terrorist involved in the July 2009 hotels attack.
- **7 August – Terrorist Raids in West Java:** The Indonesian National Police anti-terror unit, Detachment 88, raided a house in Sukaluyu Village, Cibiru District, Bandung, West Java. They arrested two men who are allegedly involved in terrorist activities and confiscated high explosive material found in the house. Following the anti-terror raid in Cibiru, West Java, on the same day the counter-terrorist police Detachment 88 raided a house in Dangdeur, Subang, West Java. Two men, identified as Ghofur and Kurina Widodo were arrested and a number of weapons and a quantity of explosive material were recovered. It was reported that the police also conducted a raid on a bomb factory in Cileunyi, arresting a man known as Kiki. The men detained in Cibiru were alleged to be preparing a Mitsubishi sedan as a car bomb. The West Java Police Chief Sutarman confirmed that five people in total had been arrested in the raids.
- **9 August – Alleged JI leader Abu Bakar Ba'asyir arrested:** Abu Bakar Baasyir, believed to be the spiritual leader of the al-Qaida-linked terror network Jemaah Islamiyah, was arrested for the third time for allegedly helping set up a new cell that was plotting Mumbai-style attacks targeting foreigners at luxury hotels and Western embassies in the capital. Ba'asyir was arrested when he was on the way to Central Java after preaching in Tasikmalaya. He refused to sign his investigation dossier, which apparently stated he was a terrorist. *The Jakarta Post* reported that Ba'asyir claims he had no knowledge of accusations that he supported a paramilitary camp in Aceh, Mahendratta said, adding that it was not clear which terrorist activities Ba'asyir was allegedly involved in. Furthermore, the terrorism law does not stipulate that paramilitary activities are illegal, Mahendratta said. If found guilty, he could face a maximum penalty of death. **Islamic hardliners launch campaign to free Ba'asyir (*The Jakarta Post*):** Islamic hard-liners have launched a full-scale campaign in cyberspace seeking the release of Indonesia's best-known radical cleric. They are on Facebook, have set up their own websites, and hacked into the homepages of private companies. "It's all a lie!" wrote

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Facebook user Asy'Hari Siregar, who in the past would have been among hundreds rallying in Jakarta's streets, now largely quiet as the predominantly Muslim country observes dawn-to-dusk fasts for the holy month of Ramadan. Others chimed in that he was a victim of a U.S. conspiracy.

- **10 August – Interpol to investigate alleged involvement of French Citizen in terrorism:** In comments to the media the Coordinating Minister for Defence and Security Affairs, Djoko Suyanto, stated that Indonesian authorities would work closely with Interpol to investigate the potential connection of an unnamed French national to terror suspects detained in West Java early this week. The Indonesian National Police are following evidence which indicates a Mitsubishi Galant sedan seized in the raids and believed to be in preparation for a car bomb attack, was supplied by a French national. The Minister acknowledged that there was so far no indication of any other trans-national involvement in the case.
- **18 August – Bomb Terror in Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara:** Unidentified men driving an Avanza car threw an unidentified object into flower pots in the front yard of the East Nusa Tenggara Bank (Bank NTT) in Jl WJ Lalamentik, Kupang. A bank security guard who saw the incident, concerned the object may be a bomb called the police who later dispatched officers from the Gegana bomb squad. The bomb squad conducted a controlled detonation of the item, which was about the size and shape of a milk can. The incident caused anxiety among the bank employees. Police are still investigating the case.

**CIVIL UNREST AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE**

- **31 July – Clash in Rempoa and Pondok Indah:** A clash occurred in Rempoa, Tangerang, between the Betawi Brotherhood Forum (FBR) and other Betawi mass organizations such as Kembang Latar and Pemuda Pancasila. The clash was triggered by the dismantling of FBR flags in the neighborhood. The clash then spread to Jl Arteri Pondok Indah, South Jakarta, involving another Betawi mass organization, Forkabi. Three locals were reported to have been injured, several vehicles were burned, and several houses and a clinic were damaged. Thirty two FBR members were arrested. **Police say FBR, FPI committed 107 violence acts (The Jakarta Post):** The mass organizations Betawi Brotherhood Forum (FBR) the Islam Defenders Front (FPI) and Barisan Muda Betawi conducted 107 violence acts between 2007-2010, the National Police chief said on 30 August. "From the aforementioned figure, we have completed investigations of 36 cases and have sent their dossiers to the prosecutor offices," Gen. Bambang Hendarso Danuri said Monday during a meeting with the House of Representatives, as quoted by [tempointeraktif.com](http://tempointeraktif.com). The government has the chance to freeze these mass organizations, Bambang said. However, implementation is rather difficult as the 1985 Law on Mass Organization does not stipulate sanctions, he added.
- **4 August – Demonstration in Pati, Central Java:** Thousands of people from the Pati Peasants Union held a demonstration at the Pati Legislative Council, Jl Dr. Wahidin, Central Java. They protested the regional regulation draft regarding the function shift of plantation area in Sukolilo District to be mining – industrial area. The action caused traffic congestion in the vicinity.
- **President calls for an end to local poll violence:** President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (SBY), said in early August the country needed increased security to deal with a spate of recent riots in regional elections that have tarnished the image of democracy. "If we cannot stop these acts of violence," he said,

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"it would be a setback for democracy. We don't want the people to become victims," he said. SBY told local media most riots were provoked by "certain parties," that had their own interests in election results and that the riots should be investigated. "The candidates and their campaign teams might be involved in the riots," he said. *Antara*, the national news agency quoted Coordinating Security Minister Djoko Suyanto as saying the riots were "impulsive reactions" by the candidates campaign teams and their supporters, who were disappointed with the election results. Indonesia is due to have 244 local elections this year. Mr. Suyanto said at least eight of 123 regions had been rocked by riots.

- **4 August – Civilian Shot Dead in Papua:** A male civilian named Atril Wahid was shot dead at his kiosk in Jl Uyunerı, Mulia District, Puncak Jaya, Papua. After shooting Atril, the perpetrators shot a motorcycle passing down the street but failed to harm the driver. The police suspect that the perpetrators were OPM members under leadership of Madrid. It is still unclear as to the motives behind the shooting however the police are investigating the case.
- **9 August – Police Chief Attacked in Aceh:** Madat Police Chief, Hasyem Ibrahim, was attacked at a bridge in Paya Bayam Village, Aceh Timur. He was coming to the village after receiving a report regarding display of GAM flags in one of the houses. Moments after getting out of his car, a man who was identified as Rusli Basyah came and attacked him with a sword. Rusli slashed the Chief's fingers and arm before getting shot by the police. He died after being treated at a hospital. The police confiscated the sword and several GAM flags found in the village.
- **7 August –Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) plans raids during Ramadan:** As with past years, the hard line Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) plans to deploy 5,000 of its members to conduct raids on entertainment establishments in the capital ahead of the Muslim fasting month. The chairman of FPI's Jakarta branch, said that his organization would target entertainment venues operating during the religious month. Under a 2004 bylaw, entertainment centers such as karaoke establishments can only operate from 8:30 pm 1:30 am, and nightclubs, discotheques and massage places should be closed during Ramadan. Religious groups, including some Muslim groups, as well as activists have criticized Jakarta Governor Fauzi Bowo over reports that he plans to work with the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) to ensure security during the fasting month of Ramadan. Fauzi reportedly met with FPI leaders at his office on 3 August to discuss possible cooperation. Meanwhile, the Jakarta police have said that they do not know about the planned cooperation or the role of the FPI in securing the city during Ramadan, adding that they would clarify the matter with the governor in their next meeting.
- **8 August – Islamic Defender Front (FPI) attacks church (*The Jakarta Post*):** Hundreds of people from the Islam Defender Front (FPI) attacked members of the HKBP church in Pondok Indah Timur at Mustika Jaya district, Bekasi, West Java. "We hadn't started our church service when in all of a sudden FPI masses occupied the church service location by forcing their way through police barricade," Hendrik Siagian, a guide of HKBP church members, said as quoted by [tempointeraktif.com](http://tempointeraktif.com). Hundreds of police officers had actually been on a stand-by to help secure the church service, but they turned out to be unable to stop the FPI masses from entering the church service area. Dozens of church followers were wounded. "Most of the victims were housewives," he said. Several minutes after the attack the FPI masses dispersed themselves. FPI had earlier forcefully stopped a church service and drove away the church goers on the grounds that the church was established

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without any permit. Members of HKBP church in have urged the police to take action against an attack on Sunday morning by members of the Islam Defenders Front (FPI) and the Islamic Community Forum (FUI). The HKBP members said they would continue to hold their weekly prayer groups despite the ongoing violence.

- **14 August – Vandalism in Morowali, Central Sulawesi:** Hundreds of people attacked the office of PT Bintang Delapan Mineral in Bahadopi Village, Bungku Selatan District, Morowali, Central Sulawesi. The mobs accused the mining company of causing environment damage which caused floods in the district. The mobs damaged the administration office and employee dorms, and they burned the security post and company's facilities. The total loss was estimated to be 7 billion rupiah.
- **21 August – Church Burning in Asahan, North Sumatra:** A Huria Kristen Batak Protestan (HKBP) church in Asahan was burned by a group of people, allegedly from several Islamic Mass Organizations. According to a witness, the incident was prompted by a motorbike race during Tarawih prayer conducted by non Muslims. The angry mob also damaged two houses, a kiosk, and a motorbike.

**VIOLENT CRIME**

- **4 August – Dutch Tourist Found Dead in Bali:** A 60-year-old Dutch tourist was found dead in his hotel room in Kuta Beach Club Hotel, Badung, Bali. The body was first found by the front office staff, hanging with his arms and feet tied up. The police have not yet declared the cause of the death. An autopsy is being performed at Sanglah Hospital. However, there is speculation that the Dutchman was murdered, but suicide has not been ruled out.
- **4 August – Kidnappers of Korean Citizen Arrested:** The Bogor police arrested the kidnappers of a Korean citizen in Bogor about two weeks ago. The seven kidnapers were arrested last Friday at Fashion Hotel in Jl Gunung Sahari, Central Jakarta. The police have revealed that the kidnappers were targeting people of apparent Chinese extraction by pretending to be policemen and then accusing the victim of drugs possession before taking them away.
- **4 August – Policeman killed in Medan bank robbery (*The Jakarta Post*):** A group of at least 16 men robbed a CIMB Niaga bank in Medan. The midday heist lasted for about 10 minutes, and left one police officer dead and two bank security guards wounded. According to North Sumatra Police, the men left with Rp 400 million (\$44,600) in cash. **Police Arrested Bank CIMB Niaga Robbers:** On 23 August police arrested two men allegedly involved in the Bank CIMB Niaga robbery in Medan. The two were arrested in Serdang Bedagai, North Sumatra. A source at the North Sumatra police stated that the suspects are connected to the Aceh based terrorist network which often conducts robberies throughout Aceh. On the same day at the same region, the police also arrested a 29 year old Acehnese man who allegedly acted as weapons supplier for the Medan robbery. The man was also a fugitive in relation to other robberies in Marelan and Langsa. The police confiscated two military assault rifles, an SS1 and an AK-47.
- **9 August – Questions raised about source of robbery weapons (*The Jakarta Post*):** A Democrat Party lawmaker said she suspected the bank robbers obtained their guns from insiders in the military or police. "The National Police investigation revealed the guns used by CIMB Niaga robbers were guns normally used by the military or the police," Paula Sinjal from the House Commission I, which oversees defense, information, foreign and political

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affairs, told state news agency *Antara*. There also are questions about whether weapons are being smuggled into the country from the Philippines.

- **10 August – Long Jail Sentences Sought for Alleged Murderers of Japanese Tourist in Bali (*Jakarta Globe*):** Prosecutors sought 20-year and 13-year prison sentences for two defendants charged with killing Japanese national Hiromi Shimada on Christmas Day last year. According to the indictment, on Dec. 25, 2009, defendants Mawardi and Abdurrahman met Shimada at a cafe in the resort area of Kuta, where they had drinks. Shimada invited the two men to her rented house nearby. The 41-year-old Shimada went to take a bath but did not lock the bathroom door. Abdurrahman entered the bathroom and allegedly demanded to have sex with her. Shimada rejected his advances, but the two men allegedly dragged her kicking and screaming out of the bathroom, prosecutors allege. They added the two men then gagged and tied up Shimada before taking turns raping her. Abdurrahman later stole her watch and necklace, as well as credit cards. He also took a small amount of cash and another necklace from her bag.
- **13 August – Robbers steal Rp210m from van in Cirebon (*The Jakarta Post*):** An armed robbery took place in Cirebon, West Java, in front of the Indonesian Christian Church (GKI) on Jalan Pengampon around 11:30 a.m. after a man on a motorbike fired shots at a white Suzuki Carry minivan driving down the street. "There were two shots which instantly shattered the car windshield. The perpetrator opened the car door and took a bag before he fled," an eyewitness named Pendik told news portal Detik.com. The stolen bag contained Rp 210 million, Detik.com reported. It is unknown at this time if the victims knew the thief.
- **19 August – Woman shot as robber fails to steal motorbike (*The Jakarta Post*):** A suspected robber opened fire that wounded a 17-year-old girl on Jl Kemang Timur Raya in South Jakarta after he failed to steal a motorcycle. "The bullet hit the girl's right knee and she has been admitted to the JMC hospital," Mampang Prapatan police station chief Comr. Risto Samudra said. The victim is identified as Ayu Aprilia. Risto said the suspected robber opened fire as angry people would capture him. The suspect fled along with his companion, who had been waiting for him on a motorcycle. According to witnesses, the suspect, aged about 20 years old, is a male with brown skin and very short haircut.
- **19 August – Gold Robbery in Klaten, Central Java:** Four men driving motorbikes robbed the Bokor Mas gold store in Jl Raya Jurang Rejo, Karanganom, Klaten, Central Java. Two of the men entered the store and shot the owner before stealing an undisclosed quantity of gold jewelry, whilst the two other were waiting on their motorbikes. The owner suffered a gun shot wound and has been hospitalized. The total loss remains unknown and the police are still investigating the case.
- **20 August – Robbery in North Jakarta:** Six men driving motorbikes robbed a PT Telkom official in Jl Kampung Bandan, North Jakarta. The official, travelling in a Telkom vehicle at the time, had just finished collecting money from several branch offices and was on the way to the PT Telkom office in Tanjung Priok. Suddenly three motorbikes came along and threatened the driver with guns and sickles. The robbers broke the car window and stole Rp700 million in cash. The police are still investigating the case.
- **21 August – Journalist Murdered in Tual, North Maluku:** A journalist from Sun TV was murdered while reporting on a clash in Tual, North Maluku. The clash, involving Banda Eli and Tigitan villages, occurred following Banda Eli residents

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to protesting motorbike races held during Tarawih prayer by youths from Tigitan. During the clash, the journalist who was recording the incident with his handycam was suddenly stabbed, hit, and slashed by a group of people, allegedly Tigitan locals. The handycam is reported to be missing and the police are still investigating the case.

- **23 August – Armed Robbery in Bali:** At around 11am local time, two men riding a motorcycle robbed a woman as she was coming out of the BRI bank branch, on Jl Pulau Moyo, Denpasar, Bali. The woman had just withdrawn Rp75 million from the bank, which made her the target for the operation. The robbers from the motorcycle snatched the victim's bag and she attempted to resist but relented when the robber pulled out a machete. She lost her cell phone, important documents and Rp500 thousand in cash. However, the Rp75 million was safe since it was kept inside her car.

**NON-VIOLENT CRIME AND HEALTH**

- **Rabies death toll in Bali reaches 78 deaths after two years:** A rabies epidemic is impacting Bali, with 78 deaths recorded in the past two years, including that of a 40-year-old woman in late July, and many other deaths likely unreported. The Indonesian government says more than 30,000 dog bites were reported in just the first half of this year to which it responded by culling 200,000 dogs, instead of conducting mass vaccinations as recommended by the World Health Organization. Hospitals across Bali have faced periodic shortages of free post-exposure vaccines which are available at pharmacies. Most cases have occurred in Badung regency which includes many of the islands key tourist destinations.
- **Six more die from traditional alcoholic beverages:** On 4 August six more people died after drinking traditional alcoholic beverages in Blitar, East Java. Dozens of people have been killed in a series of incidents involving traditional alcoholic drinks in Central and West Java and in Jakarta in recent months.
- **Mosquito-borne Chikungunya cases reach 700 in Central Java:** The Kulon Progo regency government in Yogyakarta recorded 700 cases of mosquito-borne chikungunya, officials said on 4 August, adding malaria and dengue fever are also endemic.
- **WHO says hospital waste disposal practices could increase illness disease:** A senior adviser for environmental health at the WHO said on 4 August Indonesian hospitals' questionable waste management methods could give rise to epidemics of infectious diseases and the widespread contamination of rivers. Only around 10% to 15% of hospital waste is infectious, while the 85% to 90% that is not goes straight to the municipal dump, he said. But if hospitals fail to maintain standards for the disposal of the 10% of bio hazardous waste, it could contaminate the other 90%. Hospitals are required to have waste treatment plants to obtain an environmental impact analysis document and an operating license.
- **23 August – ATM Theft in Padang, West Sumatra:** A group of robbers broke into an ATM machine belonging to Bank Mandiri at the West Sumatra Telkom Office in Padang, West Sumatra. The thieves attacked the ATM when the two assigned security guards left the machine unattended to have their *sahur* meal. The thieves cut the electrical power to the ATM and disabled the CCTV camera. The total loss was estimated to be 150 million rupiah.

**FLOODS, EARTHQUAKES, AND TSUNAMIS**

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- **3 August – Earthquake in Ternate, North Maluku:** At 2008 (WIT) an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale occurred 135 kilometer west-northwest of Ternate, North Maluku. The earthquake caused public panic however there were no casualties reported.
- **3 August – Floods in Palopo, South Sulawesi:** Floods occurred in four sub-district in Wara Timur District, Palopo City, South Sulawesi due to overflowing of the Ammasangan River. Hundreds of houses were inundated and thousands of people were evacuated.
- **5 August – Earthquake in Papua New Guinea:** At 0501 (WIT) an earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale occurred 549 kilometer northeast of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. There were no casualties reported.
- **5 August – Floods in Pinrang and Gorontalo:** Floods occurred in three districts in Pinrang Regency, South Sulawesi due to overflowing of the Saddang River. Thousands of houses were inundated and two villages in Duampanua District were isolated. On the same day, floods also occurred in six districts in Gorontalo City, Gorontalo, due to heavy rain. Thousands of houses were inundated forcing the residents to flee from their homes.
- **14 August – Floods in Ciamis and Merangin:** At around 0300 (WIT), floods occurred in three districts in Banjar City, Ciamis, West Java, due to heavy rain that caused Ciseel River to overflow. At least 600 houses were inundated, 50 of which were damaged. On the same day, floods also occurred in five villages in Tabir Hulu District, Merangin, Jambi, due to heavy rain that caused the Batang Tabir River to overflow. Hundreds of houses and public facilities were inundated causing its residents to flee their homes.
- **17 August – Floods in South Jakarta:** Floods occurred in Gandaria, Cilandak District, South Jakarta, due to heavy rain that caused Pesanggrahan River to overflow. Hundreds of houses were inundated and 1,500 people were evacuated. The floods also occurred in Bintaro, Tanah Kusir, and Cirendeui areas, all in southern part of Jakarta. At least 558 houses in Civil Servants housing complex Bintaro were inundated and hundreds of people fled from their homes.
- **18 August – Landslide in Bandung, West Java:** At about 2200 (WIT) a landslide occurred in Mukapayung Village, Bandung, due to heavy rain. About 30 houses and two mosques were damaged and 150 people evacuated.
- **21 August – Earthquake in Yogyakarta:** An earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale occurred 15 kilometer southeast of Bantul, Yogyakarta. The earthquake damaged a hospital and caused public panic.
- **23 August – Landslide in Ende, East Nusa Tenggara:** A landslide occurred in Rewarangga Selatan, Ende Timur District, Ende, due to heavy rain. At least 24 houses were damaged forcing residents to flee from their homes.
- **26 August – Floods in East Jakarta:** Floods occurred in Jatinegara District, East Jakarta, due to the overflow of Ciliwung River. Hundreds of houses in Kampung Pulo, Kampung Melayu, and Bidara Cina areas were inundated.
- **26 August – Whirlwind in Riau:** At about 0800 (WIT), a whirlwind occurred in Sorek Dua Village, Pangkalan Kuran District, Palelawan, Riau. About 42 houses were reported to have damaged and around 20 were people injured.
- **29 August – Red Alert issued for Gunung Sinabung Volcano , North Sumatra:** Indonesian authorities issued a red alert following the eruption late Saturday night of the Gunung Sinabung volcano in North Sumatra. The volcano, which had been inactive for 400 years, began spewing ash and acrid smoke at

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around 2300 hours on 27 August and so far more than 12,000 local inhabitants have been evacuated from the area. The ash and smoke was reported to have shot 5,000 feet into the air and Medan is reported to be blanketed by ash clouds but not enough yet to cause the cancellation of flights. At least two inhabitants are reported to have died following the eruption.

- **29 August – Floods in Tangerang:** Floods occurred in Cirendeu Permai housing complex, Tangerang, Banten, due to overflowing of Pesanggrahan River. About 100 houses were inundated and hundreds of people fled from their homes.

#### **INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION**

- **2 August – Strike at Newmont’s Batu Hijau Mine:** A strike of 2-3,000 employees of PT Newmont Nusa Tenggara just after midnight and according to union representatives is planned to continue for eight days. The Union has demanded the company pay allegedly outstanding overtime payments to workers totaling Rp126 billion. The strike began following calculations by the provincial manpower supervisory agency (PPK) that there had been errors in calculation of base working hours, overtime and rest days resulting in under payment to workers. The union claims that negotiations to date have hit an impasse due to Newmont’s insistence to refer the matter to national level authorities. The Public Relations Manager of PT NNT, Kasan Mulyono, confirmed the strike would not to disrupt operations.
- **24 August – Explosions in Jakarta:** A series of up to eight explosions occurred under the footpath along Jl Cikini Raya, Central Jakarta between Hotel Menteng and the Pertamina fuel station. The explosions damaged pavement, caused panic among Hotel Menteng customers, and forced the temporary closure of the fuel station. No injuries were reported. Although it was initially suggested that the explosions were caused by a gas line, Perusahaan Gas Negara has denied this and are working with police to determine the cause. The latest theory is a build up of methane gas from decomposing refuse in the enclosed sewer. Another explosion also occurred at an industrial gas depot in Jl Midi Koja, North Jakarta. It was reported that a cylinder of unidentified gas exploded, killing at least two people and injuring eight others. Five houses were also damaged.

#### **DRUGS AND NARCO-TERRORISM**

- **Jakarta court sentences American citizen to death on drug charges:** A Jakarta court sentenced an American citizen to death on narcotics charges in early August. The Central Jakarta District Court handed down a death penalty for 35-year old Frank Amado arrested in October last year with over 5 kg of methamphetamine in Central Jakarta. Judge Dehel Sandan said there was no evidence or condition that could soften the penalty on Amado, who judges said was part of an organized drug network. He was caught with an Iranian national aged 40 on October 19, 2009 at Apartment Park Royal. Authorities said 5.66 kg of methamphetamine was seized.
- **31 August – Police Raid Ecstasy Factory in Riau:** Police raided a house in Jl Citasari, Tangerang Selatan, Pekanbaru, Riau, which was being used as an ecstasy factory. Thousands of ecstasy pills and 5 kilograms of precursor chemicals worth Rp3 billion were confiscated. The police arrested a suspect who later confessed that he had been in the ecstasy business for 6 months.

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The police claimed that the pills were distributed throughout Riau, West Sumatra, and North Sumatra by smuggling them in electronic goods.

- **5 August – Drug Dealer Arrested in Kalideres, Jakarta:** Metro Jaya Police announced the arrest of Sandi Wijaya (41) for attempting to distribute crystal methamphetamine weighing 2.5 kg. The suspect was arrested in Wijaya Taman Surya 5 Block 001 No. 3, Pegadungan, Kalideres Subdistrict on Tuesday. At the scene, police seized 2.5 kg of crystal methamphetamine, and two seal press tools and a box for storing product. The suspect is believed to be connected related to an international network and is currently being detained at the Metro Jaya Police Headquarters.
- **19 August – Malaysia to Hang Indonesians:** Two Indonesian men identified as Amri Ibrahim and Musliandry Alamsyah (from Aceh), were sentenced to death by the Malaysian Supreme Court. The two are to be hanged for possession and drugs distribution in Selangor, Malaysia. The Malaysian police arrested them at the Gold Couré Hotel in Klang, Selangor in January 2007. On 18 August, the Aceh Commission for Missing People and Assault Victims (Kontras) received a letter from the two pleading the commission to ask the Indonesian government to help them in reducing the punishment. Currently they are being detained at Pokok Seba Jail in Kedah.
- **30 August – Shabu Shabu Factory Raid in West Jakarta:** Police raided a house in the Duri Kosambi housing complex in West Jakarta that was being used as a shabu shabu (crystal methamphetamine) factory. In the raid, the police arrested a 28-year-old man who was working at the factory and confiscated shabu shabu precursor materials and equipment. According to the police, the factory could produce 2 kilograms of shabu shabu per day, worth Rp1 billion.

**OTHER NEWS**

- **6 August – Blackout at Soekarno Hatta Airport:** Between 0340 to 0800 hours, Soekarno Hatta Airport in Jakarta lost electrical power due to problems with the airports electrical distribution system. The power cut caused 63 flights to be delayed, disruption at ticketing and check in points due to manual operation, and disruption of airport facilities. PLN staff worked closely with airport technical staff to return power to normal and at around 0900 hours, normal operations were restored.
- **6 August – Car Explodes in Pluit while distributing firecrackers:** Police confirmed that a Daihatsu Zebra pick-up car which exploded in front of JDC (Pluit Business Center), North Jakarta, was loaded with firecrackers for distribution to merchants in the area. Eight burns victims were taken to Hospital. The Police are still investigating the initial cause of the fire.
- **18 August – Express Air Skids of Runway in Makassar:** At around 9am, a Dornier aircraft operated by Express Air skidded off the runway in wet weather at Sultan Hasanuddin Airport, Makassar. No passengers were injured but flight operations on that runway were disrupted for some time.
- **29 August – Radar Malfunction at Soekarno Hatta Airport, Jakarta:** From 0904 to 0931 hours, the radar system at the Soekarno Hatta Airport suffered a major malfunction, rendering it temporarily inoperable. Nine flights were forced to circle Jakarta for up to 30 minutes and at least another 15 flights were disrupted or delayed as a result of the malfunction. The cause of the malfunction remains unknown.