

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

Committee Meetings:

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

On Tuesday, June 29, William Reed Rising (chair) attended the AMCHAM Services Committee meeting. During the meeting, Services Committee Chair Peter Meyer raised the question of whether recent events by the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) would raise concerns among current or potential investors in Indonesia. Participants said there was concern about this among potential overseas investors and that media reports continue to damage the country's reputation. Long term, there is expected to be more pressure on company employees who may feel "caught between two worlds", which inevitably will have an impact on employers and investors.

Summary of Security-Related Issues throughout Indonesia

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

TERRORISM

- **11 June - Islamic People's Forum (FUI) Accuse Policy of Fabrication:** The FUI accused the police of planning to fabricate terrorism charges against Abu Bakar Bashir, claiming that the police would name Bashir a suspect and arrest him in connection with a paramilitary training camp in Aceh. Three members of Jamaah Anshoru Tauhid (JAT), a group led by Bashir, have already been named. Meanwhile, Head of the Army's Strategic Reserve Command (Kostrad), Lt. Gen. Burhanudin Amin, said over the weekend that Yogyakarta city and Sleman regency were potential targets for terrorists because of their high volume of tourists, and that this warrants special attention and vigilance.
- **14 June – Amir Abdillah Sentenced to 8 Years in Prison:** The South Jakarta District Court sentenced Amir Abdillah (34) to eight years imprisonment for his role in last year's hotel bombings in Jakarta and a failed conspiracy to assassinate President Yudhoyono. Amir served as a driver for terrorist Noordin M Top.
- **15 June – New Government Anti-Terrorism Agency Announced:** A new government agency expected to take a more comprehensive approach to eradicating terrorism will be officially established in July. Coordinating Political, Legal and Security Affairs Minister Djoko Suyanto said the agency aims at improving the function of the current counter-terror desk under the ministry and better coordination between related institutions. The minister did not elaborate on the role and authority of the agency.
- **23 June – Indonesia Conducts Anti-Terrorism Raids:** Units of the Indonesian anti-terror squad Densus 88 conducted a series of actions in Central Java that resulted in the arrest of 3 suspected terrorists and the shooting death of a fourth during the raid. Among those arrested was Abdullah Sonata, who is at the top of the "Most Wanted" terrorist list in Indonesia. The police units targeted two houses in the Klaten area, arresting Sogir and Agus Mahmudi, who are suspected of killing three police officers in Purworejo and Kebumen a few months ago. During the action the police shot dead Yuli Karseno, an army deserter, after a fire fight during which a police officer was shot. Police were reported to have found quantities of bomb making materials, two firearms, and a backpack bomb. The National Police later reported the suspected terrorists had planned to bomb the Royal Danish Embassy in Kuningan, South Jakarta, using a car bomb in retaliation for the 2005 publication in a Danish newspaper of a cartoon depicted the Prophet Mohammad. "Among the suspects arrested in Klaten was a bomb expert. He was a student of Dr. Azahari," according to National Police chief Gen. Bambang Hendarso Danuri. The bomb expert was the suspected terrorist who was shot dead during the raid. Police also seized seven hand-made bombs which were "ready for use". The terrorists allegedly also planned to bomb the National Police's 64th anniversary celebrations on 1 July.

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- **26 June – Muslim Group Proposes War Against “Christianization”:** A group calling itself the Bekasi Islamic Presidium and consisting of representatives of nine Islamic organizations was formed and is planning a roadshow to mosques in the industrial city of Bekasi, East Jakarta, to incite the faithful to war against the “Christianization” of the area. The group’s formation took place on the last day of the Bekasi Islamic Congress at Al Azhar Mosque, which was convened to discuss what they call the Christianization problem. The group also is proposing the formation of Islamic militant groups in each mosque, as well as proposing Shariah-based policies for implementation by the Bekasi administration. They claimed that a Christian organization was baptizing groups of people in Bekasi, where a number of religious conflicts have flared over the past few months. The Bekasi police denied allegations of mass baptisms, claiming instead that one group suspected of doing simply had guests for swimming and recreation.
- **FPI Wants to “Strike Fear” in Christians:** The head of the local chapter of the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) was quoted in the local media as saying he wanted to “strike fear” in Christians and will fight if Christians persist in proselytizing activities. The militant groups are not going to be armed, but organizers left open the possibility of arming them if necessary. The FPI is known for employing violence to achieve its ends, including smashing bars, attacking groups of transvestites. Two churches in Bekasi were forced to close earlier this year after they were attacked, and a statue of three women was torn down by Bekasi administration officials after threats from the FPI, which claimed the statue of the women wrapped by a sarong actually symbolized the Holy Trinity. The statue was created by a Balinese artist.
- **28 June - FPI Raids PDI-P Gathering in Banywangi:** Members of local FPI branch raided a meeting held by the PDI-P political party. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss health care issues. About 10 to 15 FPI members broke into the meeting and ordered that the attendees disperse. The FPI claimed that the meeting was a reunion for disbanded PKI (Indonesian Communist Party) members. At least three of the attendees were former PKI members. Some of the FPI members later claimed that elements of a local military intelligence organization had asked them to raid the meeting.
- **29 June - Moh. Jibriel Sentenced for 5 Years on Prison:** The South Jakarta District Court sentenced Mohammad Jibriel, the publisher of extremist literature and a militant blog, to five years in prison for his involvement in terrorism network. He was accused of providing assistance and facilities and concealing information about terrorist crimes. It was reported that he will file an appeal related to his sentence on the grounds of lack of evidence.
- **Densus 88 says Bashir’s Son Al-Qaeda’s Propaganda Man:** Indonesia’s counter-terrorism taskforce Densus 88 Brigadier General Tito Karnavian said hard-line Indonesian cleric Abu Bakar Bashir had a direct line to al-Qaeda at the time of the September 11, 2001, terror attacks in the US because his son was working in the organization’s propaganda department. The revelation was made as expectations mounted that Bashir could soon be arrested over a terror cell uncovered this year in Aceh province. Karnavian has revealed Bashir’s youngest son, Abdul Rohim, now aged in his early 30s, lived with September 11 mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammed and was an active member of al-Qaeda around the time of the US attacks. Rahim was known to have spent several years in Pakistan and Afghanistan in the late 1990s engaging in jihad-related activities. While Rohim’s role as a point man between al-Qaeda and Southeast Asian-based terror groups such as his father’s Jemaah Islamiah has been established, the revelation that he was working directly for Osama bin Laden’s group as a propagandist is new. It comes as police interrogate members of Bashir’s current organisation, Jemaah Anshorut Tawhid, over the preacher’s alleged involvement in the recent Aceh terror plot.
- The leader of the **Indonesian Council of Ulema (MUI)** said the organization has reminded leaders of the FPI not to intimidate people and use violence, but also said they have no authority to take action against the FPI and other groups. Separately, the hard-line **Indonesian Mujahidin Council (MMI)** has sent an open letter to President Yudhoyono in protest at his recent warning that terrorists were seeking to turn the country into an Islamic caliphate. Muhammad Thalib, a leader of the MMI,

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said Yudhoyono's statement linking an Islamic state to terrorist ideology is completely wrong. Thalib said under the country's flourishing democracy, the government should respect peaceful calls for the formation of an Islamic state. Yudoyono suggested that the 2003 Law on Terrorism be amended to allow the prosecution of clerics who criticized the government in their sermons or advocated the implementation of Sharia law.

Please see special report on the origins of the FPI and FBR at the end of this report.

DOMESTIC INCIDENTS

- **14 June - Shooting Incident in Puncak Jaya, Papua:** Unidentified gunmen shot dead a Brigade Mobile member when he was patrolling at Yambi Village, Mulia District, Puncak Jaya. The police haven't identified the perpetrators, however it was reported that the incident allegedly related to the shot-dead of Papua Liberation Organization (OPM) leader last May during a raid conducted by the police.
- **25 June – Surabaya Nightclub Blaze:** A fire spread rapidly in the Redboxx Café and Discotheque and claimed the lives of 11 victims early in the morning. Two of the victims were expatriates: a Japanese man and an Australian man. A man has been arrested in relation to the fire. It is believed that he had become angry as a song that he had requested was never played. A lack of firefighting equipment and highly flammable curtains were identified as contributing factors to the tragedy.

CIVIL UNREST, RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE

- **7 June – Hundreds Blockade Road in South Kalimantan:** Hundreds of people from nine villages in Tanahlaut blockaded a road en route to PT Arutmin mining area in Pandansari Village, Jorong District. They demanded the company pay compensation money for using their land for mining. The action caused the mining activities to be paralyzed.
- **7 June – Violent Demonstrations by Taxi Drivers in Bali:** Thousands of taxi drivers from the Bali Tourism Association Service demonstrated at Jl Sunset Road, Denpasar Bali to protest the Blue Bird taxi fleet in the province. During their action, the drivers raided taxis passing down the street, forced passengers out (some of whom were foreign tourists), and assaulted the taxi drivers and a journalist. Instigators are accusing the Blue Bird taxi company of exceeding the vehicle quota for private cab operators in Bali, and drivers not associated with Blue Bird claim they are losing business because of unfair practices. The drivers also stormed the local governor's office and demanded legislative action against Blue Bird. Three days later on 10 June hundreds of taxi drivers from the Bali Tourism Service Association blockaded Jl WR Supratman in Denpasar, Bali, demanding police release two colleagues who were being investigated related to the violent demonstration.
- **9 June - Hundreds of people demonstrated** at the Gowa Election Commission in South Sulawesi, demanding investigation of an alleged fake diploma of the new Gowa Regent. During the action, they stormed inside the Commission office and burned a motorbike. Several people were arrested.
- **10 June – Legislator's House Burned:** A house belonging to a legislative member in Cengar Village, Lubuk Jambi District, Kuantan Sengingi, was burned following a clash on Wednesday between the villagers and the police that killed one of the villagers. The alleged arson was triggered by the villagers' disappointment in the legislative representative member, who villagers claimed did not keep his promise regarding a land dispute.
- **10 June – 150 Students Held Hostage:** The people of Samosir held three busses carrying 150 students at Samosir seaport when they were traveling back to Medan, North Sumatra. The hostage incident took place after the Samosir Regency election was finished. The mob suspected that the students were illegal voters organized by one of the candidates. After negotiating with the police and receiving a statement from the alleged candidate to counter the allegation, the students were released.
- **13 June - Arson in Tolitoli, Central Sulawesi:** Unidentified people burned Sidoarjo and Tambun administration offices in Baolan District, Tolitoli. The incident was

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allegedly triggered by the cancellation of Village Chief elections on June 2nd. The police are still investigating the case.

- **14 June - Clashes in Bima and Ambon:** A clash occurred between demonstrators and the police in front of the Bima Election Commission in West Nusa Tenggara during a demonstration protesting the Regent Election result. The mob stoned the police and the police shot at the mob. Seven people were reported to have been injured. On the same day, a clash occurred between the people of Batu Merah Kampung and Batu Merah Dalam in front of Viktoria Building in Batu Merah District, Ambon, Maluku. The clash was triggered by a car incident earlier that day. The mob armed themselves with stones and sharp weapons. A public transportation vehicle and several houses were damaged.
- **16 June - Vandalism in Indramayu, West Java:** Unidentified men with motorbikes attacked and damaged a Golkar party campaign post in Balongan, Indramayu, West Java. They damaged the party's flags and billboard using knives. The motive for the attack remains unknown and police are still investigating the case.
- **19 June - Arson in Makassar, South Sulawesi:** Hundreds of Engineering Faculty students attacked and burned two classes of the Art and Design Faculty and Language and Literature Faculty of the Makassar Public University in South Sulawesi. The attack was allegedly related to the death of one of an engineering student who was being assaulted by Art Faculty students.
- **21 June - Violent Demonstration in Ternate, North Maluku:** Hundreds of people demonstrated in front of Tidore Kepulauan Legislative Council in Ternate, North Maluku. They demanded the government release Sofifi to be an independent city and not a part of Tidore Kepulauan anymore. During the demonstration they damaged public facilities in the vicinity.
- **24 June - Clash in Tana Toraja, South Sulawesi:** A clash occurred between the demonstrators and the police when the people were demonstrating in front of Tana Toraja Regent's official house in South Sulawesi. They protested against the Regent due to an indication of nepotism as one of the next Regent candidates is related to him. The mob threw bricks and Molotov cocktail bombs. One person was reported to have died of a stab wound.
- **25 June - Rioting in Soppeng, South Sulawesi:** Hundreds of people attacked and burned the Soppeng Election Commission Office and Lalabata and Marioriwawo district offices in Soppeng, South Sulawesi. The incident was triggered by disappointment over the Regency election results.
- **30 June – Makassar Students Set Fire to Classroom Equipment:** Striking students in the South Sulawesi capital of Makassar set fire to computers and chairs at their campus. Hundreds of students at the Handayani Institute of Computer and Information Management carried out this action in protest to management's failure to find a new campus.

VIOLENT CRIME

- **7 June - Kidnapped Child Found Dead in Jakarta:** A nine-year-old child who was taken from outside his home in Kembangan, West Jakarta, and held for a Rp35 million ransom was found dead. Jakarta police reported that a kidnapping ring was behind the kidnapping and murder and they have arrested two suspects, one of whom was a neighbor of the victim's parents, and are looking for two others.
- **10 June – Kidnapping and Murder in Pamulang, Tangerang:** A 27-year-old man who was kidnapped was found dead on Friday, 25 June. On 14 June his father received a text message from the kidnapper asking for a Rp300 million ransom. On 16 June the same message was sent again with a threat that the victim might be killed if the ransom wasn't paid. This threat made the victim's wife to report the case to the police. The victim was found dead by the side of the Jakarta-Cikampek toll road near Karawang, West Java, on 25 June with both his legs cut off.
- **Kidnappings on the Rise:** There were 67 reported instances of children being kidnapped from January to May 2010. Only 27 of these cases have been closed. Obtaining ransom and human trafficking are said to be the main motivations for kidnappers. Under current laws, the police can only start an investigation 24 hours

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after a child is reported missing. There has been an increasing trend in the kidnapping of children. In 2007 there were 37 cases, 72 in 2008 and 102 in 2008.

- **16 June - Japanese Couple Murdered in Ciputat, South Tangerang:** A Japanese husband and wife who were long-time residents of Indonesia were murdered in their home in Ciputat, Tangerang, allegedly by a gardener who had worked for them for only one month and whose employment had been terminated days before. The suspect went to the house on a day when he knew the security guard was off duty. After an argument, he stabbed them both to death. He was apprehended by neighbors and immediately confessed to the murders.
- **17 June - Robbery in West Jakarta:** Two men claiming to be policemen robbed a house belonging to a diamond seller couple in Palmerah, West Jakarta. They threatened the couple with guns, tied them up, took the diamonds and made off using a black Toyota Avanza. The police stated that the wife suspected the two men are related to their business rival. The total loss was estimated to be Rp2 billion.
- **17 June - Robbery in East Jakarta:** At around 2 a.m., a group of unidentified men robbed a Daihatsu showroom located in Jl Dewi Sartika, Cawang, East Jakarta. The robbers threatened a security guard and an office boy with knives, took five cars and then drove away. The police are still investigating the case.
- **22 June - Australian Women Robbed in Bali:** A man robbed a house belonging to a 48-year-old Australian woman in Sanur, Denpasar, Bali. The man entered the house and assaulted the woman by hitting her on the head and stabbing her in the arm. The police arrested the perpetrator about an hour after the victim was brought to the hospital with serious injuries. The total loss remains unknown.
- **22 June - Truck Robbery in Garut, West Java:** A man was driving a truck carrying seven tons of rice seed from Pameungpeuk to Garut, West Java. When he was passing down Cikajang, a Toyota Avanza halted the truck followed by several men getting out of the car and threatened the victim with a gun and a machete. The perpetrators took the truck and tied the victim up before abandoning him at a gulch in Ciamis. He was later found by the people living in the area.
- **28 June - Gold Store Robbery in Kediri, East Java:** A group of unidentified men robbed the Cap Singa gold store in Kediri, East Java. They came into the store, threatened the employees and customers with sharp weapons and guns and took away 1 kilogram of gold worth 150 million rupiah. The police are investigating the case.

Non-Violent Crime Incidents and Issues

- **9 June - Police Warn of Nails on South Jakarta Roads:** The Jakarta Traffic Police found a kilogram of nails scattered along Jl Gatot Subroto during a regular inspection of roads. The police report that the nails are scattered on up to 13 major roads in Jakarta designed to puncture the tires of vehicles passing along the road either by tire repairers or by thieves looking to rob motorists when they stop to change their tire. The affected areas include Permata Hijau Flyover, Jl Prof. Dr. Satrio, Jl Teuku Nyak Arif and the Jl Casablanca tunnels.
- **16 June - Malaysia Citizens Arrested for Credit Card Fraud:** Two Malaysia citizens were arrested after making several transactions around Ngurah Rai Airport in Denpasar, Bali using fake credit cards. The police stated that the two bought expensive articles for selling on later. Nineteen fake credit cards, four Malaysia and Singapore passports, and four cell phones were confiscated.
- **24 June - Surabaya Domestic Staff Crime Ring:** Surabaya Police reported that they had arrested three members of a syndicate of thieves who used fake identification to obtain jobs as domestic help in order to gain access to target houses. After working for a few days which allowed them to "case" the house they would clear it out of valuables. The arrests were made after complaints from 3 householders who lost tens of thousands of US dollars. The police are currently trying to track down the ring leader of the gang who is still at large.

Background of the FPI and FBR

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Islamic Defenders Front (FPI)

One of the groups formed as part of the Pamswakarsa was the Islamic Defenders' Front (FPI). The FPI was formed in August 1998 by Misbahul Alam, an NU-educated preacher and Habib Rizieq, an Islamic preacher of mixed Arab-Betawi descent. (The Habibs claim to be directly descended from the Prophet Mohammad).

The FPI was originally planned to be a nation-wide support unit for the Islamist United Development Party (PPP) led by Hamzah Haz and modeled along the lines of the Banser paramilitary wing of the NU. The FPI mostly recruited unemployed youth but also, according to one of its lawyers, attracted many *preman* and criminals seeking new *beking*. The FPI mostly recruited unemployed youth but also, according to one of its lawyers, attracted many *preman* and criminals seeking new *beking*.

The FPI's stated ideology centers on two themes. The first is the need for the "Jakarta Charter," a clause making Islamic law mandatory for Muslims, to be inserted into the national constitution. The second is the Quranic edict of "amar ma'ruf nahi munkar", or to lead people towards good and away from evil. This doctrine has provided rationale for the FPI's ongoing attacks on Jakarta nightspots.

The FPI has used its muscle to intimidate various groups whose activities they see as contrary to their cause and transgender groups and the entertainment industry have been on the receiving end of its "enforcement".

Betawi Brotherhood Forum (FBR)

The most prominent of the ethnic-based militia organizations in Jakarta is the Betawi Brotherhood Form (FBR). The FBR was founded on July 27, 2001, by Fadloli el-Muhir, a former senior official in an anti-Megawati faction of the PDI, (which later splintered into the PDI-P). Mr. el-Muhir has stated the group was formed to protect the identity and welfare of the Betawi, the ethnic group indigenous to Jakarta, whose identity was under threat from increasing urbanization and globalization.

The Cakung neighborhood illustrates the FBR's aspirations for the rest of the city. The FBR has a firm hold over the informal economy, levying taxes on market activities, parking, taxi drivers, motorcycle-taxis (*ojek*), and street vendors. The organization also runs some economic initiatives for members. On joining the FBR, local *ojek* drivers are provided with interest-free loans to assist them in buying their own motorbikes.

The FBR's organizational structure consists of a central governing board with separate departments for culture, economy, law and security. The security wing, most commonly seen in street protests and demonstrations, follows a hierarchical structure similar to those found in *pencak silat* martial arts associations, from where the members are often recruited.

The FBR has been involved in many land disputes in Jakarta, claiming it is protecting the rights of Betawi inhabitants. Often, these disputes involve companies and the problems have been allegedly resolved with payments to the organization.

*Submitted by WRR
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