

**OVERSEAS SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL JAKARTA COUNTRY COUNCIL
AMCHAM SECURITY COMMITTEE, REPORT ON EVENTS IN MARCH 2011**
Edited by William Reed Rising, Chair

Summary of Security-Related Issues throughout Indonesia

The following selected information was compiled from local media sources and submissions by AGI, Hill & Associates. We are deeply grateful to the contributors. This report contains information on a broad spectrum of security concerns and incidents which have occurred in Indonesia during the reporting period. Readers are advised that while there are security risks that companies and individuals need to be aware of, avoid or address, Indonesia is a country of over 230 million people living on 17,500 islands that stretch over 4,800 kms. The vast majority of foreign companies that operate in Indonesia, and expatriates who reside in or visit the country, do so without incident providing sensible security precautions are taken.

TERRORISM & TRANSNATIONAL TERRORISM INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

2 March – MOU Signed by Polri and FBI: The Indonesian National Police (Polri) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding to work together in the prevention and investigation of transnational crime; primarily terrorism.

2 March – Concerns Regarding Alliances Between Terrorists: Security analysts warned of growing alliances between hard-line Muslim groups and fundamentalists with close ties to terrorist cells. Sidney Jones, of the International Crisis Group, said fundamentalist groups like Jamaah Ansharut Tauhid (JAT), led by cleric Abu Bakar Bashir, and Mujahidin Kompak usually did not see eye to eye with groups like the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) and the Islamic People's Forum (FUI). There previously was a division between the jihadists and the moralist thugs, who have a more local agenda, Jones said. The stated goal of JAT, which has links to convicted terrorists, is to implement Sharia law, while Mujahidin Kompak was linked to sectarian violence in Ambon in Maluku and Poso in Central Sulawesi. But there now appears to be a merging of extremist agendas against Muslim sects deemed deviant, such as the Ahmadiyah, and so-called Christianization.

8 March – Teenage Terrorist on Trial: A 17-year-old student, Arga Wiratama, went on trial at the Klaten District Court to face terrorism charges. Wiratama and six other teenagers were arrested by anti-terrorist police officers several weeks before for allegedly planning to plant bombs at eight places of worship and police stations in Central Java.

11 March – Convicted Funders of Terror Sentenced: Two men who helped fund the so-called Al Qaeda in Aceh training were sentenced to 4½ years in prison for their part in the terror group. The South Jakarta District Court previously found Dr. Syarif Usman guilty of providing Rp20 million and a video camera. In the same court Abdul Haris was found guilty of raising at least Rp350 million for the Aceh Terror Group.

15 March – Two Suspects Indicted for Deadly Robberies: Prosecutors at the Tanjung Karang District Court in Lampung indicted Abdul Haris Munandar and Heri Kuswanto for supplying the assault rifles believed to have been used in last year's deadly robbery at a CIMB Niaga bank branch and subsequent attack on a police post in North Sumatra. They have been charged with assisting in terrorist activity and the illegal distribution of firearms.

Trial of Abu Bakar Bashir

- On 14 March, in the ongoing trial against him, Abu Bakar Bashir was permitted by the judge to leave the court room after his defense counsel staged a walkout just minutes into proceedings. Bashir said that he was not willing to attend the hearing without any counsel beside him. They objected to the testimony of witnesses via videolink. One witness testified that Bashir had instructed him to collect funds to finance paramilitary training in Aceh.
- On 21 March Bashir again refused to attend his court hearing at the South Jakarta District Court today. Bashir repeated that he regarded attendance as Haram (forbidden in Islam). Bashir faces the death penalty if convicted and is charged with three counts of funding terrorist activities, two counts of illegal firearm possession, one charge of inciting people to commit acts of terrorism and one charge of using violence with intent to inflict casualties. The trial continued in his absence.

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Bomb Attacks, Detections and Threats

- 15 March: Three package bombs hidden in books were sent to prominent figures in Indonesia. The first package bomb was addressed to Ulil Abshar Abdalla and exploded at Utan Kayu in Central Jakarta, injuring five people. A second bomb was addressed to Gen. Gories Mere, head of the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), and a third bomb was addressed to Japto S. Soerjosoemarno, the current head of Pemuda Pancasila, a nationalist youth movement. These last two bombs were successfully defused by the Indonesian Police's Gegana Bomb Squad Team.
- 15 March: A hand grenade was found about 200 yards from Sunan Pongpes Pandanaran, Ngaglik, Sleman, Central Java. Fauzan (35), a construction worker, was the person who found the grenade when he was digging for the foundation of shophouses in the area at a depth of 1.5 meters. The following day, a family reported the discovery to the police who immediately took control of the grenade. The type is a fragmentation grenade, made in the United Kingdom in 1955. Yogyakarta Gegana Detachment 8 Commander, Kompol Maryono said, "Although rusty it is still active and dangerous because its structure is still intact. If it exploded the blast would produce fragments that would be ejected at high speed." After successfully removing the grenade it was defused.
- On 16 March the Chief of the National Terror Agency Ansyad Mbai said the dangerous militant group Jemaah Islamiyah was behind the bombs. Mbai did not elaborate on why the authorities believed that JI was behind the bombs. The National Intelligence Agency (BIN) is investigating the links between the three package bombs and Defense Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said the elite anti terror unit of the Indonesian military Det 81, that is a branch of Indonesian Special Forces (Kopassus), was ready to assist the National Police in investigating the attacks if requested. Under Indonesian law the police are the lead agency in terror related crime but the military can become involved if requested by the police.
- On 16 and 17 March Plaza Senayan Mall received a separate bomb threat hoax messages. The National Police bomb squad, Gegana carried out a two sweeps for explosives. Police have been unable to trace the identity of the sender of the message.
- On March 18, police received a report of two suspicious packages at a residential address in Jalan Kencana Permai VII, Pondok Indah, that later found to contain compact discs and text books.
- On March 18, at Terminal IID at Soekarno – Hatta Airport an unattended package was discovered by security personnel, leading to concerns it may contain an explosive device. After repeated announcements calling for the owner to come forward, an international traveler ticketed on a Singapore Airlines flight came forward to claim the item, which contained shoes for his wife.
- On 18 March at around 0930 a street sweeper employed by the Kota Wisata housing development in Cibubur, Bogor discovered a suspicious package on the side of Jl. Raya Boulevard in the Monaco area of the estate. The package was an instant noodle box wrapped in a plastic bag and was considered suspicious as it had written on the cardboard box "*Isi: Bom Allahu Akbar*" ("Contains a Bomb: God is Great!"). The device was immediately reported to the local police, who called in the Bomb Squad. Following an initial examination, Bomb Squad officers removed the device for disposal. However at around 1330 the device exploded. Bomb Squad officers were wearing protective clothing and no casualties were reported. The explosive has been confirmed as some form of "low explosive", possibly black powder.
- On March 18 another suspicious package was reported in Jl Raya Condet, Kramat Jati. The package was delivered to the house addressed to a sibling of the householder, but the sibling was contacted and knew nothing about the delivery or the sender. The Bomb Squad responded by conducting a controlled detonation as a precautionary measure, and a post examination revealed that the suspected device contained only shoes and chocolate.

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- On 18 March a telephonic bomb threat was sent against Wisma BCA in Bumi Serpong Damai, Tangerang. The threat was received by the building operator, saying that within 20 minutes the bomb would explode. A Gegana team swept the office and found nothing. They later declared the area was clear.
- On 19 March at 2130 two SMS bomb threats was sent to the head of Palembang Sinar Mas Insurance stating that the insurance office will be blown up by a bomb. A Gegana team swept the office located in Jl Kolonel Hj. Berlian, South Sumatra, and found nothing. The police are tracing the number of the sender of the threat.
- On 20 March a package that was suspected to contain a bomb was found at a kiosk in Jl Raya KKO Marinir, Cilandak, South Jakarta. The package, which was reported to have wires and clock and a detonator, was later dealt with by a controlled explosion by a Gegana team.
- On March 20-21 several bomb threats involving alleged bomb package occurred. The threats occurred in Pasar Minggu in South Jakarta, Semarang in Central Java, Makassar in South Sulawesi, Bandung in West Java, Yogyakarta, and Bali. However, after being dealt with by controlled explosions by Gegana teams, it was declared that the packages did not contain bombs.
- On 21 March the building management of the Energy Building, headquarters of Oil Company Medco, said a suspicious package had been received at the 27th Floor office of one of its tenants P T Svopak. The package was removed by the bomb squad.
- On 21 March the Bali bomb squad removed two bags that were found at a handicraft shop in front of the Kerobokan Jail in Kuta. A shop employee found the bags when he arrived at the shop at 0630 and informed the shop owner who called the police. The bomb squad took away the bags, which did not contain explosive material.
- On 21 March the head of Bali Police Public Relation Commissioner Gede Sugianyar commented on an SMS that was circulating among Bali residents over the last couple of days. The SMS claimed to be sent by Bali Police and said the bombing syndicate is entering Bali from Unung Terminal and that people should be aware of a silver Avanza driven by a man named Edi Junianto who is claimed to be carrying two cases of explosive devices. Sugianyar denied that the SMS was a hoax and had nothing to do with the police and told the people to remain calm and ignore such misleading SMS messages. It was later reported the police stopped an Avanza in Jl Diponegoro in Denpasar. After police secured the road, Gegana checked to find that the car was only carrying electricity installation tools.
- On 22 March National Police Headquarters spokesman Boy Rafli Amar announced they had identified the couriers of the four package bombs sent to addresses in Jakarta. He added that developments in the police investigation of the case were positive but refused to provide further information as it might hinder progress in the case.
- On 23 March the Director Operation and Technical of PT Angkasa Pura II, Salahudin Rafi, stated that 12 airports under his management, including Soekarno Hatta in Jakarta, are tightening security following the rash of bomb incidents. The new procedures are to reassure passengers entering the terminal and aircraft, and will include tightening security checks for all passengers and their baggage.
- On 28 March, a Garuda flight en route from Jakarta to Medan was forced to return to the gate moments before it took off when a passenger claimed to be carrying a bomb when a flight attendant approached him to have his oversized bag moved to the baggage hold. In response to the threat, the aircraft was returned and the aircraft evacuated. The suspect passenger, who was traveling in a party with five other people, was detained and questioned by Airport Security and Police. The bag in question was examined by police and was found to be free from explosives, but did contain millions of rupiah in cash.
- On 28 March the Police Bomb Squad exploded a package found on the roof of a house in Jl Pangeran Antasari, Air Putih district, Samarinda, East Kalimantan. The suspicious packaged was discovered when one of the residents in the street received two text messages saying that there was a bomb planted on the roof of one of the neighboring houses.

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Panicked, the resident reported the threat to the police. The bomb squad quickly came and swept the suspect location and found a package containing metal on the roof. The squad conducted a controlled detonation as a precautionary measure. The aircraft was also searched and nothing dangerous found. The flight, along with most of its intended passengers was finally able to depart three hours late at around 1730. The suspect and his five compatriots were released and flew on to Medan that evening.

- On 29 March the National Police Chief of Detectives, Comr. General Ito Sumardi said the National Police will seek assistance from foreign countries in an effort to solve the recent spate of package bombs. He claimed that there were a number of technical difficulties hampering the police investigation that would require foreign help. He said the modus operandi used by the terrorists was getting more and more sophisticated and that they were using a new technology that the Indonesian National Police are “unable to decipher”.
- On 31 March at 1100 a bomb threat was made by telephone against the Santo Yakobus School in Jl Pegangsaan Dua, North Jakarta. The threat was received by the school operator, saying that a bomb was planted in the school and ready to explode. About 2.100 students were evacuated and the Police bomb squad was called in to sweep the area. Police searched and then declared that the area was clear.
- Lastly in Jakarta, Gegana exploded a suspicious package in the DHL office in Pancoran, South Jakarta. It was reported that the receiver became suspicious after opening the package which was filled with wires. The device dealt with by controlled explosions, but the police have yet to confirm whether it was a real bomb or not.

19 March – Prosecutors in Terror Cases to get Enhanced Security: The Attorney General's Office announced that prosecutors dealing with terrorist cases are to receive enhanced protection following the spate of parcel bombs in Jakarta. To date there have been no cases of prosecutors receiving suspicious packages but the measure is seen as precautionary. The Attorney General's office refused to disclose what the special security measures for prosecutors were.

30 March – Senior JI Terrorist Arrested in Pakistan: Details were released of the arrest in Pakistan of Umar Patek a senior JI terrorist. Patek was a senior planner of the deadly 2002 Bali bombings was believed to have fled to the Southern Philippines with Dulmatin and Zulkarnaen, another JI terrorist, after the Bali bombings.

- Dulmatin later returned to Indonesia and was killed by Indonesian counter-terror officers from Densus 88 as they carried out a series of raids and arrests in connection with the Aceh group.
- Patek reportedly had a \$1 million reward on his head issued by the U.S. Government. The fact that Dulmatin was able to travel from the Southern Philippines to Indonesia to head up the operation and now Patek's ability to travel to Pakistan will renew fears of the international dimension to Southeast Asia terrorism and the apparent ease with which such high profile fugitives can cross international borders.
- It is unclear at this stage whether Patek remained involved in JI Indonesian operations during his time in the Philippines, but the Pakistan al Qaeda link is likely to draw comparisons with Hambali, another JI terrorist who was arrested in Thailand but was taken to the United States and is currently in Guantanamo Detention Center.
- Whether the Indonesian authorities will be able to get access to Patek or not is unclear at this time, but they will be keen to interrogate him in order to ascertain the links between Indonesian terrorist groups and al Qaeda at the international level and also to try to identify the current location of Zulkarnaen and other terrorists.
- Police will also be keen to try to identify current JI plans for terrorist attacks in Indonesia and the form that these attacks might take. The new modus operandi of the package bombings is a case in point as the terrorist are clearly prepared to change their tactics to try to keep one step ahead of the security authorities.

REGIONAL TERRORISM AND ORGANIZED CRIME INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

28 February – Separatists Arrested in Papua: Nabire police arrested two men believed to be involved in the Papua Liberation Movement (OPM). The arrest took place when the Nabire airport

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security became suspicious of one of passengers arriving from Enarotali. They chased the suspect and found out that he had with him 30 revolver bullets and Rp80 million in cash. During the investigation at the Nabire Police Office, a man named John Yogi who was the Nabire OPM leader came and claimed to be the owner of the ammunition and cash. They were detained.

CIVIL UNREST AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

Ahmadiya Incidents and Developments

- On March 3, the Bogor government followed governments in Samarinda, East Kalimantan, and East Java and banned the Ahmadiyah sect. The ban was based on the Mayor's verdict no 300.45-122/2011, which stated all preaching and spreading of teaching that is considered to have deviated from Islam is prohibited. Ahmadiyah member must not display their organization boards at any mosques, learning centers and other building as well as wearing the sect attributes that identified them as the member.
- On 9 March hundreds of FPI members demonstrated at the Yogyakarta Governor Office, demanding Sri Sultan Hamengkubuwono X ban Ahmadiyah. The demonstrators said they would withdraw their support of Yogyakarta's sultanate if the governor ignored their demand. Police were deployed at the governor's office and Ahmadiyah school to anticipate the demonstration.
- On 9 March the mayor of Depok issued a ban forbidding the Ahmadiyah sect from practicing their religion in public. The mayor said the ban was made to uphold security and order in society and to put a stop to the teaching of errant ways and his administration would appoint a special team to enforce the ruling and monitor the activities of the sect. The Jakarta Governor Fauzi Bowo later announced his administration would not follow suit.
- On 11 March a mob of about 50 to 70 people attacked and vandalized four homes belonging to members of the Ahmadiyah sect in Ciaruteun Village, Bogor. The attacked took place after Friday prayers when there were reports that a group of seven Ahmadis, including two women, were conducting noon prayers at the home of an Ahmadiyah elder. The local community then began throwing rocks at the house. It was reported that 160 police officers were called to restore order but no arrests were made. Bogor police Chief Dadang Rahardjo refused to call the incident an attack, insisting it was only a case of stone throwing. However an Ahmadiyah activist Fuirdaus Mubarik said he had received a report that the local mosque had issued a call for residents to "damage the Ahmadis". The Ciaruteun Ahmadis have been obliged to pray in homes for some time after their local mosque was destroyed in an attack.

3 March – Arson in Papua: The Yahukimo Regent Office in Papua was burned by local people who were allegedly unsatisfied with the Regent Election result. It was reported that one of the employees was injured by arrow during the incident.

13 March – Facebook Comments Lead to Bali Village War: Over 100 Balinese villagers were involved in a fight over comments made by residents of one village against another village in Bali on the social networking site Facebook. Four buildings, a car and several motor cycles were destroyed as villagers clashed with sharp weapons.

24 March – Aceh Shariah Police Attacked: A squad of Aceh's "fashion police" was attacked by a group of young men when they were taking away in a vehicle a young lady who they considered to be wearing inappropriate clothing. The gang of youths surrounded the Shariah Police car and demanded they release the woman. After some violence against the unofficial police officers and damage to the car the woman was released and the gang made off with her on motorcycles. Sharia law has been in force in Aceh since 2002 and regulations forbid the sale and consumption of alcohol, gambling and illicit sexual relations. Muslim women are required to wear headscarves and not to wear tight fitting provocative clothes in public.

VIOLENT CRIME INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

1 March – Robbery in Bogor: Four men robbed a house in Jl Intan, Baranangsiang, Bogor. It was reported that they came inside the unlocked house and threatened the residents with guns, tied

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them up, and locked them in a bathroom. They then stole valuables including six cell phones, jewelry, and cash. The police were investigating.

1 March – Bank Robbery in Bandung, West Java: Two armed men robbed Bank Karyajatnika Sadaya (BPRKS) in Jl Watsu Kencana, Bandung, West Java. They came into the bank and threatened the people inside the bank. After breaking the ATM machine, they shot the bank security guard and an office boy. Both victims suffered from gunshot wounds to the head and were in critical condition. Police were investigating.

2 March – Papuan Journalist stabbed: A Papuan journalist was stabbed in the chest by two unidentified attackers whilst he was riding his motorcycle in front of the Jayapura Mayor's office. The journalist is currently in intensive care in hospital after surgery on his wounds

3 March - Five Armed Robbers Attack Land Agency Office in Bekasi: A gang of five armed robbers attacked the Land Agency Office in Bekasi and took away valuables from the building. The robbers were armed with pistols, sickles and axes tied up the security guards and seven workers before breaking into three safety deposit boxes.

3 March – Robbery in Bekasi: Two motorcyclists were robbed in Jl Inspeksi, Tambun Selatan, Bekasi. It was reported that the victims parked the motorbike and took shelter under a tree to avoid the rain when suddenly four men came and threatened them with machetes, demanded the victims hand over their motorbike keys. Feeling powerless under the threat they gave their keys which caused them to lose their vehicles and Rp20 million in cash inside their bag. The police are investigating.

5 March – Truck, Bank, and Gold Store Robberies: Two truck drivers were found with their hands tied up and plasters on their mouths in Jl Kaliurip near Cikampek Toll Road, West Java. The two were victims of a truck robbery and were abandoned there. It was reported that earlier that day, they were driving a truck carrying a rice supply to Soekarno Hatta Airport, Tangerang. Suddenly a Toyota Inova approached, six armed men got out, threatened them with guns and stole the truck.

4 March – Eleven Arrested for Attack on National Football Team Manager: National Police arrested 11 men in connection with an attack on Andi Darusallam Tabusalla in front of the National Sports Committee (KONI) headquarters in Senayan, Jakarta. The attack took place after Andi had attended a dialogue between Nurdin Halid, the Chairman of the National Football Association (PSSI), and KONI officials. It is reported that the 11 men arrested admitted that they had been paid between Rp300,000 and Rp700,000 per person for guarding Nurdin and it is alleged that they smashed up Tabusalla's car.

9 March – Indonesian Pirates Arrested in South Malaysia: Malaysian authorities arrested seven Indonesian pirates who attempted to rob a tanker that was anchored off the coast of Johor State in Southern Malaysia. It is alleged that the men armed with weapons including an ax and a bayonet boarded the vessel during darkness, but the Russian captain of the vessel sounded the alarm and Malaysian patrol boats rushed to the scene and arrested the pirates. There have been 10 similar attacks by pirates on vessels off the State of Johor this year and Malaysian authorities are investigating whether the same pirates were responsible for this series of attacks. Since the arrest Malaysian authorities have stepped up patrols in the area.

10 March – Shooting in Central Jakarta: At around 0400 a shooting took place in Taman Lawang, Menteng, Central Jakarta, an area known for as a place where transvestites offer companionship or sexual activities. It was reported that two men came with motorbikes and one of them had an argument with a transvestite following when he started shooting at eight transvestites standing around the area. The shooter left one of the motorbikes at the scene which was later confiscated by the police. One transvestite died and two others were injured and are currently hospitalized. The motive for the attack remains unknown and the police were investigating.

11 March – Home Invasion in Medan: A group of robbers broke into a house in Jl Abdullah Lubis, Medan, North Sumatra. They threatened the maid with guns, tied her up, and stole valuables

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worth tens of millions of rupiah. It was reported that the maid was assaulted, causing her to be treated in the hospital. The police were still investigating.

14 March – Acehese Norwegian National Assassinated: An Acehese who was a Norwegian national was assassinated while he sat with friends watching a football game on TV. The man had fled Aceh years ago and gained political asylum in Norway, eventually becoming a Norwegian citizen. He had returned to his home village of Dayah Keude Aron in North Aceh two days earlier. Reports indicate that he was shot twice in the back with a high powered weapon, possibly an AK-47. The police were investigating and some witnesses reported the shooter arrived in the village in a vehicle. The incident appears to be the result of a long-held grudge. No one else was reported injured in the incident.

26 March – Kidnapping in Jakarta: Six men posing as police officers kidnapped two college students from their house in Pluit, North Jakarta. It was reported that the six entered the house and accused the victims of being involved in a drug syndicate before taking them away. The suspects were later caught by the police when they attempted to collect a Rp20 million in ransom in two hours later. According to the police, the motive of the kidnap was pure extortion. It has since been revealed that three of the men were in fact police officers.

28 March – Robbery in Bengkulu: Seven men robbed a house belonging to a local entrepreneur in Sukaraja Village, Seluma, Bengkulu and stole Rp700 million in cash. The robbers shot the victim and took off using a car. The victim then reported the robbery to the police who chased the robbers to Logan Bungin Village in Talang Empat, where a gunfight took place. Police shot dead one of the robbers and injured two others, who later were arrested. Police were searching for the four remaining members of the gang who escaped.

29 March – Shooting in Medan, North Sumatra: A husband and wife were shot dead in front of their house in Jl Akasia No.50, Medan, North Sumatra. It was reported the couple were coming home after shopping when, before they could get their car into the garage, three men with two motorbikes came and started to shoot up the car repeatedly until the victims died inside the car. According to a witness the motorbikes made off in separate directions after the shooting. Police were investigating the case to identify the motive for the murder.

29 March – Robbery in North Jakarta: A 16-year-old student was found dead near her school in Jl Batu Mulia, Kembangan, West Jakarta. It was reported that the student had been robbed and stabbed to death while going home after school. The police advised that the girls' valuables, including a cell phone and jewelry, were missing and that they were investigating.

NON-VIOLENT CRIME INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

2 March – Counterfeit Currency Syndicate Arrested in Bekasi: Police arrested three men for involvement in a counterfeit currency syndicate. The arrest took place when a gold store owner in Cikarang, Bekasi, became suspicious of a Rp100,000 note used by a man. The owner called the police who came to arrest the suspect. During the investigation the police arrested two men working with the suspect. The three were being detained and the police confiscated Rp26 million in counterfeit currency.

5 March – ATM Stolen in West Java: A theft occurred at the Bank BNI Office, Jl Ahmad Yani, Karawang, West Java. Two men entered the building, cut off the cables connecting to an ATM machine and made off with it. The total loss was estimated to be 340 million rupiah. On 13 March Jakarta Police arrested a gang believed involved in the theft and in several other similar incidents in the Jakarta and Bogor areas over the past three years with estimated losses of Rp1.6 billion. Police captured five of six members of the group, the sixth having escaped. They were arrested in Bojong Gede, Bogor, West Java.

5 March – Gold Store Robbed in East Java: A theft occurred in a gold store located in Sekaran Matket, Lamongan, East Java. They broke the store wall to enter, damaged the safe deposit box, and stole 3.5 kg of gold and Rp10 million in cash. The total loss was estimated to be Rp450 million.

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7 March – Housewives Stealing Money from BRI Bank Account: Two women stole money from a BRI bank account belonging to their neighbor in Bogor, West Java. They carried out the theft by using a stolen bank account book, forging the victim's signature, and changing the picture on the victim's ID card. The two thieves went to the BRI Branch in Tajur, Bogor and withdrew Rp50 million from the account. They were arrested at a second BRI branch in Cisarua when the bank staff became suspicious regarding differences in the signature. It was reported that the victim had Rp150 million in her account. Both women were detained.

29 March – Arson in Kudus, Central Java: The Kudus police stated they arrested a man for setting fire to the Jati District Credit Bank in Tanjungkarang Village, Kudus, Central Java. The arson took place on 27 March and based on the investigation the cause of the incident was revenge. The suspect was a former employee of the bank who was dismissed a few months ago. He paid his friend, who is still at large, Rp3 to Rp10 million to set the fire.

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

1 March – Kuta Beach Polluted: It was reported that Kuta Beach water in Badung Regency, Bali, has turned brown in color. The Head of the Beach Security Squad (Satgas) Anak Agung Ngurah Tresna claimed that they have taken a water sample and found an anomaly in the salt content. However, he added they would further investigate along with the Fishery and Oceans Agency. So far the Satgas have detected 7 points along the beach that have been polluted.

Floods

- On 5 March flashfloods occurred in Panti District, Jember Regency, East Java, due to heavy rain. Dozens of houses were damaged, four people were reported to have been injured, and hundreds other were evacuated.
- On 5 March flashfloods occurred in Karanpuncung, Purwokerto, Central Java, due to overflow of Bener River. Hundreds of houses were inundated by water that reached 2 meters in height, causing its residents to flee from their homes. As of 9 March the Brebes Regional data stated the total loss of the flooding is Rp2 billion, while 2,220 houses were inundated 8,880 people were evacuated.
- On 10 March flash floods roared through the Tangse area of the Pidie district of Aceh with at least 13 villagers killed and 20 missing as more than 100 houses were inundated and wrecked. The floods occurred after several hours of heavy rain but there was no warning until the roaring of the waters caused villagers to flee to higher ground. Initial reports suggested the death toll could rise and one village is reported to be completely cut off. The flash floods were believed to have been caused by illegal logging, and at least nine villages have been substantially affected.
- On 12 March floods occurred in 15 villages in Teunom District, Aceh Jaya, due to heavy rain that overflowed Teunom River. The one meter floods cut off transportation routes around the districts and inundated hundreds of houses. Thousands of people were evacuated.
- On 28 March flash flooding occurred in Padamulya Village, Cihaurbeuti District, Ciamis, following heavy rains. Hundreds of houses were inundated, forcing the residents to flee their homes. Search and Rescue teams and locals were looking for people trapped in flooded houses.
- On 28 March floods occurred in 17 villages in 4 districts in Belu, East Nusa Tenggara, due to the overflow of four main rivers in the regency. Thousands of people were evacuated.
- As of 29 March, the Pandeglang Disaster Relief recorded that there are 2,230 houses in nine districts in Pandeglang, Banten that have been inundated, while the Lamongan Disaster Relief recorded that there are 2,655 houses in 5 districts in Lamongan, East Java, that have also been flooded.
- On 30 March flashfloods occurred in 12 villages in Pante Cermin District, West Aceh, NAD, due to heavy rain. Thousands of houses were inundated and residents were evacuated with the assistance from a Search and Rescue Team and the Red Cross.

11 March – 6.5 Magnitude Earthquake off Bali: At 0100 a powerful 6.5 Richter scale earthquake struck 160 miles north east of Bali at a depth of 315 miles. The earthquake was felt in Bali but

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there are no reports of any damage of injuries so far. No tsunami warning was issued due to the depth at which the earthquake occurred.

11 March – Mount Karangetang Erupts, Spews Lava and Gas: Mount Karangetang on Siau Island in Sulawesi erupted within hours of the massive 9.0 earthquake in Japan, sending hot gas clouds and lava down its slopes of the 1,784-meter volcano.

- On 18 March local Government authorities placed Mount Karangetang on the highest alert level and ordered the evacuation of all villages on its slopes. Clouds of hot gas rose 4,000 meters into the air and flows of hot lava rushed down the slopes for 1,500 meters. It is believed that some 600 villagers were successfully evacuated but that 40 villagers became trapped between two lava flows and their fate is currently unknown.

13 March – Whirlwind in Bogor, West Java: A whirlwind and heavy rain occurred in Bogor, West Java. The wind caused damage to hundreds of buildings, including houses, stores, and a mall. Five people were injured after being struck by falling trees and shattered glasses.

14 March – Landslide in Nagari Maek, Bukit Barisan, West Sumatra: Landslides occurred at 21 points following the continuous heavy rain in Nagari Maek, Bukit Barisan District, West Sumatra. There are seven points the authorities have been unable to reach. There were no casualties reported, but 11,000 people were isolated because the alternative route is only footpath and not suitable for vehicles.

16 March – Jakarta Hit by Extreme Weather: Jakarta was hit by extreme weather that saw hail storms, trees uprooted and extensive flooding in the Senayan and Thamrin areas. Heavy winds caused panels on the outside of Senayan City to be torn away and the ceiling of the Brewhouse Café on the ground floor also collapsed. Some buildings in the Senopati area had windows smashed by giant hailstones. Traffic in the Sudirman/Thamrin corridor was brought to a near standstill by the extreme weather and minor flooding.

19 March – Mount Merapi Lava Buries 23 Homes: A flood of lava ran down the slopes of Mount Merapi, burying 21 homes in Sleman, Central Java. Flood waters from the mountain entered Agromulyo village on Saturday night after afternoon rains. Dozens of motor cycles and livestock were buried in the flood.

- On 22 March it was reported that at least 350 houses in Selakan Village, Salam District, Magelang, were inundated by roof-height cold lava (lahar) from Merapi mountain after it flooded the regency over the weekend. All residents were evacuated. The Magelang Regional Secretariat stated that a total of 664 houses in the regency were damaged.
- On 22 March the Central Java Volcanic Technology Development and Research Agency announced that lahar floods threatened the ancient Prambanan Hindu Temple and the floods could affect the main road between Yogyakarta and Solo. Lahar floods have already reached the junction of the Gendol and Opak Rivers about five kilometers away from Prambanan which itself is situated on the banks of the Opak River. The Agency warned that there was a high risk of flooding as heavy rains forecast for March and April are expected to affect all rivers running down from Mount Merapi including the Putih, Woro, Gendol, Boyong and Opak.

29 March – Tornado in Bali: A tornado hit Kampung Baru Village, Singaraja, Bali and damaged dozens of houses. Several people were reported to have been injured and those whose houses were damaged have been evacuated.

INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

3 March – Juanda Airport Temporarily Closed: Between 1130 and 1430, Juanda Airport in Surabaya, East Java was closed due to repair damage on the runway. The closure caused considerable disruption to flights and a Wings Air aircraft en route from Bali to Surabaya was forced to return to base after it was unable to land at the airport.

5 March – Lion Air Emergency Landing: A Lion Air aircraft en route from Tjilik Riwut Airport in Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan to Juanda Airport in Surabaya turned back and headed back to

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Palangkaraya, where it circled the airport twice before landing. The 160 passengers on board were not told of the reason for the emergency landing until they disembarked, when they were told there was a cockpit warning light. After four hours of checking the aircraft departed again for Surabaya.

5 March – Batavia Air Burst its Tire: A Batavia Air en route Jakarta-Surabaya-Makassar, burst a tire when landing on Juanda Airport in Surabaya, East Java. The cause of the incident was unknown and four flights were disrupted due to the aircraft evacuation.

7 March – Charter Plane Forced to Land by Indonesian Air Force: A chartered Boeing 737 aircraft owned by Pakistan International Airlines was forced to land in Sulawesi after flying over Indonesian airspace without the appropriate permission. The 49 passengers were Pakistani Police officers and the crew of five were questioned by Indonesian authorities. The airport radar at Makassar detected the aircraft but the crew did not communicate with the control tower. Two Indonesian Air Force fighters were scrambled and forced the plane to land. It is believed the Pakistani police officers had been serving in Timor Leste as part of the peacekeeping force.

21 March – Ngurah Rai Airport to Check on Radiation Exposure: The head of the National Nuclear Technology Supervision, As Natio Lasman, announced that Ngurah Rai Airport in Denpasar, Bali, would implement the radiation exposure check on passengers arriving from Japan. Like Soekarno Hatta Airport, the checks are conducted using a gamma detector on individuals.

DRUG AND NARCO-TERRORISM INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

3 March – Danish Woman Arrested for Drug Smuggling: A Danish woman was arrested at Ngurah Rai airport in Denpasar, Bali after arriving from Thailand. She was about to enter a cab when airport security stopped her and took her to the hospital on suspicion of drug smuggling. It was discovered that the woman had 218 grams of hashish in her stomach. The police claimed that she had been the target of an anti-narcotics operation and arrested a French male as part of the operation.

7 March – Two Iranians Arrested for Drug Smuggling at Soekarno-Hatta Airport: Following on the success of Customs Officers at Bali Airport last week when a Danish female and Customs officers at Soekarno-Hatta Airport arrested two Iranians for smuggling crystal methamphetamine worth \$363,000 USD after they landed on a flight from Tehran the previous day. The men were believed to be drug mules and aroused the suspicions of customs officers, who conducted body searches and found the narcotics hidden in their underwear.

8 March – Narcotics Discovered in Bandung Prison: One kilo of marijuana was discovered during a raid by penitentiary officers at the Banceuy prison in Bandung. Banceuy prison is a special jail whose inmates have been involved in narcotics.

8 March – Nusakambangan Prison Chief Arrested for Narcotics Offences: The Cilacap head of the National narcotics Agency (BNN) arrested Marwan Adli, the head of the Nusakambangan prison, and two of his subordinate officers for their alleged involvement in narcotics trading inside the prison. A prison inmate Hartoni who was alleged to be involved in the trading was also arrested. Hartoni is alleged to have ordered up to 3 kilograms of methamphetamine each month from Jakarta that netted him a profit of close to half a million US dollars a month. It is alleged Marwan knew about the illicit trade but accepted bribes to turn a blind eye.

10 March – Indian Man Arrested for Narcotics Offences: The West Jakarta police raided a hotel in Palmerah and arrested an Indian man and confiscated 2.53 kg of crystal methamphetamine worth Rp4.5 billion. The suspect is allegedly involved in an international drugs ring. It was reported another man escaped after learning that his partner was arrested.

13 March – Attempted Drug Smuggling in Jakarta Prison: Police caught a visitor attempting to smuggle 2 grams of crystal methamphetamine for two convicts in the Jakarta Metropolitan Police prison. The suspect smuggled the narcotics by hiding it inside two toothpaste tubes, which were dismantled by the police after they became suspicious of the package. Police also arrested a man who had ordered him to deliver the narcotics. The two are being detained.

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18 March – Soeharto’s Great Granddaughter Arrested for Narcotics: Putri Aryanti Haryowibowo, the great-granddaughter of former President Soeharto, was arrested in a recent drug raid in Jakarta. She was arrested along with five others at a hotel in Pancoran in South Jakarta. She is the daughter of Ari Sigit, who is the son of Soeharto’s eldest son, Sigit Harjojudanto. Reports suggest that she was in possession of 0.8 of a gram of crystal methamphetamine and some ecstasy pills and that one of those arrested with her was a mid-level officer in the Jakarta Police Force. Following her arrest and interrogation the police arrested a drug dealer and from his interrogation they arrested three others. The police seized 30 grams of methamphetamine and 500 ecstasy pills.

18 March – Four Immigration Officials Arrested for Drug Use: Justice and Human Rights Minister Patrialis Akbar disclosed that at least 4 members of the Directorate of Immigration were discovered to be using narcotic substances. Patrialis ordered urine tests for all ministry employees after the warden of the Nusakambangan prison was alleged to have been involved in a major international drug syndicate.

20 March – Methamphetamine Arrests in Tangerang: Police arrested four suspects in Tangerang who they believe are part of an intentional drug ring dealing in methamphetamine. In this case the police seized 40 kilograms of methamphetamine worth \$1.6 million and it is believed that the drug ring was run by an inmate of Salemba jail.

22 March – Shabu-Shabu Home Factory Raided: Police raided a shabu-shabu home factory located in Megah Ruko B/9, Kalideres, West Jakarta, and arrested a suspect named Aseng who admitted that he had produced 4 kg of the drug worth Rp18 billion rupiah since it commenced operations in January. It was revealed the factory received its material from an inmate at a woman’s penitentiary in Tangerang and an Indonesian living in the Netherlands is acting as a financier.

25 March – Attempt to Smuggle Crystal Meth Foiled at Jakarta Airport: Customs officials at Jakarta’s Soekarno-Hatta Airport arrested a Kenyan woman for attempting to smuggle 1.4 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine allegedly worth Rp2 billion. The suspect arrived from Abidjan, Ivory Coast. When the police expanded the investigation it was revealed an Indonesian and a Nigerian also were involved as receivers of the drugs and were arrested.

POLICE RESPONSE INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

1 March – Detachment Anti Anarchy will be Formed: National Police Chief General Timur Pradopo announced that he is planning to form a new squad, Detachment Anti-Anarchy, as a response of bloody incidents in Temanggung, Central Java and Cikeusik, Banten. The formation of the new squad is considered a breakthrough after Detachment 88. Timur added that the squads would be established in every police region and will be implemented soon. The teams will be trained to deal with riot situations and will be authorized to shoot on sight as a last resort when dealing with situations involving anarchic behavior.

2 March – Regional Police Chiefs Rotation: The National Police spokesman Cmdr. Boy Rafli Amar announced the rotation of high-level officer posts. Former North Sumatra Police Chief Insp. Gen. Oegroseno was promoted to Chief of National Police Protection, replacing Comr. Gen. Fajar Prihantono, who take the post of National Police General Supervision Inspectorate Chief. The North Sumatra Police Chief post will be filled by Insp. Gen Wisnu Amat Sastro. Furthermore, the West Sumatra Police Chief and the East Java Police Chief will be filled by Brig. Gen. Wahyu Indra Pramugari and Insp. Gen. Badrudin Haiti, respectively.

2 March – Another Police Scandal in Papua: Four police officers are alleged to be among seven men who raped and tortured a 15-year-old girl in Papua. The Chief of the Biak police said the suspects had been arrested and faced five years imprisonment if convicted. This is the second incident of involvement by police officers in sex related crimes in Papua this week. The previous incident involved three police officers who repeatedly sexually assaulted a young female prisoner over a period of three months by forcing her to have oral sex with them. That incident resulted in the resignation of the commanding officer.

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24 March – Police General Jailed for Corruption: The former National Police Chief of Detectives, Cmdr. General Susno Dujadi, was sentenced to 3½ years in prison for corruption. The court also ordered him to repay Rp4 billion of stolen assets and fined him Rp200 million. In March 2010 Susno, who felt that he had been unfairly passed over for promotion, made allegations that two police generals were involved in corrupt practices in connection with a money laundering case involving a tax official named Gayus. His allegations led to a police internal investigation that named nine senior police officers who were alleged to have committed corrupt acts and to have huge amounts of money in various bank accounts. No action has yet been taken against these officers, but Susno himself was arrested some weeks later and charged with corruption.

MEDICAL INCIDENTS AND ISSUES

Avian Influenza Outbreaks

- On 2 March a family of four (two parents and two children) in Indramayu, West Java, were suspected to have been infected by bird flu after 44 of their chickens died. All the family members are currently being treated in the hospital.
- On the first two weeks of March a total of 13 people were hospitalized in Padang, West Sumatra, for having high fever and bird flu symptoms. Four people were released having been declared as not infected by H1N5 virus. The bird flu virus had spread to nine districts in the regency. The municipal government of Padang in declared an extra ordinary status for avian flu (H5N1).
- On 3 March the Head of Fishery and Farm Health Agency reported that around 600 chickens in Jaluko, Mestong, and Sungaibakar districts, Muaro Jambi Regency, died of H1N5 virus. The agency sprayed disinfectant in the affected areas and urged people to immediately get treatment should they have symptoms of the disease.
- On 6 March a 15-year-old teenager was rushed to hospital in Medan, North Sumatra, on suspicion of having bird flu. It was reported that the patient suffered from a high fever and the parents said that prior to the infection hundreds of chicken died in their neighborhood, Kuta Cepu Village, Simpang Kiri District.
- On 21 March the Local Disease Control Center of Bengkulu Province stated that 7 out of 10 regencies are on bird flu alert status as thousands of chickens suddenly died. The head of the Center, Emran Kuswadi added that even though the endemic is spreading no human infections have been reported. The 7 regencies are Kota Bengkulu, Seluma, Lebong, Bengkulu Tengah, Kepahiang, Kaur, and Rejang Lebong.
- On 23 March a 26-year-old woman died after having bird flu-like symptoms in Yogyakarta. The Pacarejo Village resident was treated in Sardjito Hospital for three days before she passed away. By month-end tests were still in progress to determine whether the H5N1 virus was the cause of her death.

MAJOR CONCERNS AND OTHER ISSUES:

22 March – Al Jazeera Claims Hardline Generals Planning to Topple SBY: The Al Jazeera news service has reported that senior retired generals have been secretly backing hard-line groups to incite religious violence as part of a plot to topple President SBY from office. Correspondent Stephanie Vassen claimed the generals are using the groups to remove SBY because they are of the view that he is too reformist and too weak. The report went on to claim the Islamic Defenders Front (FPI) now had powerful backing. Ms. Vassen quoted Islam Reform Movement (Garis) leader Chap Hemawan as saying the Ahmadiyah issue had only emerged because the generals that want to oust SBY are using it as an issue and it is said to be working. Retired Army General Tyasno Sudarto claimed to have told Al Jazeera of his support for the radical Muslim groups as they have a common goal of change. The Al Jazeera story cited a website that it claimed has detailed a proposed cabinet lineup for the so-called Islamic Government.