

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

**OSAC Jakarta Country Council/AmCham Indonesia Security Committee:**

**Chair:** Brian W. Millen  
**Vice-Chairs:** Brian Campbell Watters  
William Reed Rising

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

The following selected information was compiled from local media sources and submissions by AGI, Hill & Associates, and media reports. 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.

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**TERRORISM INCIDENTS AND ISSUES**

**2 September – Man Arrested for Texting a Bomb Threat:** Police arrested a man in Semarang, Central Java for texting a bomb threat against the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Cengkareng, Tangerang. It was reported that on August 29 the text was sent to an airport official stating that Terminal II D would explode. Police traced the text to Central Java and immediately arrested the perpetrator. After questioning, the police found that the text message was intended as a practical joke to test the police.

**Prosecutors Demand 12 Year Sentence for Abu Tholut:** Prosecutors at the West Jakarta District Court demanded that the court sentence Abu Tholut, a member of the Jamaah Anshorut Tauhid (JAT) jihadist movement, to 12 years imprisonment on charges of involvement in a paramilitary terrorist training camp in Aceh, northernmost Sumatra.

**25 September – Suicide Bombing in Kepunton Church, Solo, Central Java:** A suicide bombing occurred at Kepunton church, Solo, Central Java, killing the bomber and a teenage member of the congregation and injuring more than 20 others. It was reported that the bomb exploded at the completion of the morning service shortly before 1100 and the explosion damaged parts of the church and was heard a half-kilometer from the site. The bomb contained nuts and bolts as shrapnel and designed to inflict maximum damage to life and limb. While the attack is similar to the suicide bombing that occurred in a police compound mosque in Cirebon in April, no group claimed responsibility for the attack. Some analysts believe there may be some connection with the current inter-faith conflicts in Ambon, but there is no clear evidence regarding who might have been planned and initiated the attack and it may be another “lone wolf” attack, which are notoriously difficult to predict and solve.

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono stated the bomber was part of a network based in Cirebon (implying a connection with the April Cirebon bombing) and he called for a thorough investigation to elicit more information on this group including its funding and leadership. He did not indicate on what grounds he and by extension the security apparatus made the connection with Cirebon. A week later authorities said they had captured one of their four most-wanted militants in connection with two suicide-bomb attacks this year. The suspect, named Beni Asri, was arrested near to his parents' home in Solok, West Sumatra. It was reported that Asri is one of five suspects wanted in connection with the Cirebon suicide bombing in April.

Separately, Indonesian police have identified the man on the country's most wanted list in connection with a suicide attack five months ago: 31-year old Ahmad Yosepa Hayat was sitting in the Bethel Injil Church congregation in Central Java's Solo city when he stood up and detonated a bomb strapped to his body, wounding 27 people. National police spokesman Anton Bachrul Alam told a press conference the bomber was a member of Jemaah Ansharut Tauhid (JAT).

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**26 September – Improvised Bomb Found in Ambon:** An improvised explosive device was found in Jl. Raya Pattimura, Ambon, opposite the Maranatha Church, Maluku Governor's office and the office of daily worker agency of the Maluku Protestant Church. The bomb was assembled but the manufacturing technique was not correct and the device was non-functional.

**27 September – CIMB Robber Sentenced to 11 Years in Prison:** The Medan District Court in North Sumatra sentenced Fadli Sadama, alias Fernando, alias Buyung to 11 years in prison for his involvement in the robbery against a Bank CIMB Niaga branch in Medan and the attack against a police post in Hamparan Perak in August 2010.

**Indonesia-based Pakistani extremists helped Umar Patek:** Islamist extremists from Pakistan based in Indonesia reportedly helped one of the Bali bombers to meet former al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, according to terrorist reports. The alleged Bali bomber Umar Patek, who trained in Pakistan and Afghanistan in the 1990s, has longstanding links with terrorist organization al-Qaeda. Patek was captured in January in the same Pakistani town where US Special Forces killed bin Laden in May. Patek, who had tried to meet with bin Laden to plan terrorist attacks to coincide with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11 2001 attacks, was being aided by a group of Pakistanis based in Indonesia. The Head of Indonesia's Counter Terrorist Agency, Ansyaad Mbai, said the help given to Patek included helping him to travel to Pakistan, from where he was sent to plan a fresh wave of terrorist attacks in Indonesia. Mr. Patek was wanted for the 2002 Bali bombings as well as a string of other terrorist attacks in Indonesia going back to 1999. He is now in custody in Jakarta after his extradition from Pakistan last month. Authorities here are still wrestling with how to bring the 41-year old Mr. Patek to justice. Prosecutors say their chances of pursuing a terrorism case against him are limited as tough anti-terrorism laws introduced in 2003 cannot be introduced retroactively. Instead, Mr. Patek is likely to be charged with premeditated murder as well as possession of explosives.

#### **CIVIL UNREST AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE INCIDENTS AND ISSUES**

**31 August – Clash in Padang, West Sumatra:** A clash occurred between the police and the vendors supported by students at Padang Raya Market in Padang, West Sumatra. The clash was triggered by the market's relocation plan to be executed that day. Dozens of people including policemen, vendors, and students were injured, several even hospitalized. The police arrested four men who were suspects for being provocateurs.

**3 September – Clash in West Nusa Tenggara:** A clash also occurred between the police and the locals of Kedaru Village when they attacked the West Lombok Police Station in West Nusa Tenggara. One person was shot dead and two others were badly injured during the clash. The locals demanded the police release two of their friends who were detained after their alleged involvement in arson at the PT Indotan mining camp.

**4 September – Foreigners Attacked in Palu, Central Sulawesi:** At 2045 30 people attacked the residence of an American family. The husband, wife, and two children occupied a house in Kabonena Sub District, Palu, Central Sulawesi. The family has been living in the area for two weeks and the husband and wife were teaching English at a theology school in the neighboring district. The local group came to the residence to protest the Americans' presence and religious teaching in the area, in conflict to Islamic values. The mob damaged the family vehicle; however, the four family members were unharmed as the police quickly secured the scene.

**6 September – FPI Members Arrested for Vandalism:** Police arrested a member of FPI (Islamic Defenders front) who allegedly acted as a provocateur in vandalism against the Coto Pettarani restaurant in the second week of Ramadhan in Makassar, South Sulawesi. Police have arrested a total of 3 out of 5 members allegedly responsible for the Ramadhan raid and vandalism. Prior to the arrest, police had arrested the Makassar FPI Chief as a suspect of the attack to the Ahmadiyah Mosque in Mamajang District, Makassar last August.

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**Clashes in Ambon Spread:** Clashes in Ambon between residents of Mardika, Batu Merah were triggered by the death of Darwin Saiman on 11 September. Saiman crashed his motorcycle and sustained fatal injuries. His family and neighbors hold the residents in the area of the accident responsible. The clashes began with the burning of several houses in the area of the accident and the violence has escalated to the throwing of stones and some use of firearms. As a result many residents choose to evacuate. The police also fired repeatedly as a warning. The violence has resulted in the deaths of three persons and dozens of people have been injured by stray bullets and stones. On **21 September** the Ambon government officially stated there were 1,899 refugees from the riots in Ambon because they had lost their homes. It was reported that 268 houses were burned or damaged. The riot was reportedly triggered by a false text message suggesting a murder which led to a clash that killed 3 locals and injuring 89 people.

**Police investigate industrial riots in Batam:** Police are investigating the 20 September riots in Batam after an altercation between security guards, including military officers and workers. According to Singapore media, workers became agitated after one of their colleagues was beaten by the security officers. The company concerned has since removed the military officers while investigations are ongoing. About 1,000 workers at a Singapore-owned shipyard engineering firm had gone on a rampage on 24 September, setting fire to an office, equipment room and several vehicles after security officers attacked and beat up two company employees. According to media reports, 30 security guards fled in terror from the Nexus Engineering Indonesia shipyard in eastern Batam's Kabil industrial estate. It is reported the incident was triggered when two workers showed up for duty without their eye shields and name tags. They were then questioned and allegedly beaten up by security guards and a military officer inside the guard post. About 500 Batam police officers – a quarter of the force on the island – were called in to bring the situation under control. Employees were asked to leave the compound after police secured it, according to local police. It is reported the guards were quickly overpowered by the enraged workers. Over 1,000 workers stripped the military officer naked and threw his clothes onto the main roof of the main building. They then beat up the guards, prompting the other security personnel in the compound to flee. The crowd then began damaging the premises, burning several guard posts and two motorcycles belonging to the security officers. Five people overall were injured – the two workers who were assaulted in the guard post and the three security men who were beaten up by other workers. Nexus Engineering Indonesia is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Singapore-listed Beng Kuang Marine, which provides services such as infrastructure engineering to customers in the marine and offshore oil and gas industries.

**21 September – Taxi Demonstration in Makassar, South Sulawesi:** Hundreds of taxi drivers and students held a demonstration by blocking the entrance of Sultan Hasanuddin Airport in Makassar, South Sulawesi. They protested the termination of the contract between the airport and the taxi company as the provider of airport taxi transportation. The action caused heavy traffic en route to the airport and paralyzed traffic at the entrance but did not cause disruption of flight schedules.

**Clash in Cengkareng**

### **VIOLENT CRIME INCIDENTS AND ISSUES**

**28 August – Street Robbery in Tangerang:** At 1900 four men using two motorbikes robbed a salesman when he was on his motorbike at Jl M Toha, Tangerang. It was reported that two of the robbers on one motorbike cut him off and the two others on the second motorbike kicked the victim's motorbike to the ground. One of the robbers then grabbed the victim's bag while another pointed a gun at him. They took off with the victim's valuables including Rp11 million in cash, two mobile phones, and his motorcycle documents.

**30 August – Police Shot Dead in Aceh:** A policeman was shot dead at Langsa Baru, Langsa City in Aceh. It was reported that the victim was driving his motorcycle when the perpetrators crashed into him with their motorcycle. After dropping off his wife, the victim chased the perpetrators and a fight ensued. The police officer was assaulted by machetes and shot using his own gun after the one of the perpetrators snatched it from the victim's hand.

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**1 September – Carjacking on Cikampek Toll Road:** Police arrested three men for carjacking a lone driver and taking the victim's Suzuki APV near the Cikampek Toll Road rest area. The arrest took place after the Traffic Management Center received a report of a car theft from the victim at around 0400. The police quickly tracked down the stolen vehicle at Bojong Lio, Colodong, Depok and the perpetrators were taken into police custody.

**10 September – Attempted Robbery in Depok:** At 0300 seven men broke into an Alfamart mini market at Kopasus Pelita Estate I, Depok. One robber pointed a gun at the Alfamart staff while the others stole merchandise from the store. Outside of the mini market, a resident saw the robbery in-progress and called for assistance from neighbors. The robbers fled when the residents arrived at the scene.

**15 September – Street Robbery in Pasar Rebo, East Jakarta:** Two men using a motorbike robbed a teacher when she was heading to the bank in Pasar Rebo, Jakarta Timur. The robbers suddenly walked in to her as she exited her car. One of the robbers grabbed her bag, while another fired a gun into the air. They took the victim's valuables including Rp64 million in cash, two cell phones, credit cards and important documents.

**16 September – Arson in Poso, Central Sulawesi:** At around 2330 three men allegedly started a fire at a church located in Moengko village, Poso, Central Sulawesi. According to the Central Sulawesi Police Chief Brig. General Dewa Parsana the arson was the second time against this church, the first attempt occurring on September 12.

**20 September – Ferry Boat Torched After Crashed with Tug Boat:** A ferry from Marina Nusantara carrying 443 passengers caught fire after a collision with a coal tug boat in Barito Kabupaten waters, Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan. There were 118 people injured and 3 died.

**28 September – Robbery in Depok:** Four men broke into a house located in Kampung Kebon Duren, Cilodong, Depok. Two of the robbers entered the bedroom and awakened the victim, pointing a gun and a machete. The robbers ordered the victim to give them the car keys and the robbers fled with the victim's car.

**Pirates attack Japanese-operated Tanker in Malacca Strait:** Pirates attempted a dangerous attack on a Japanese operated chemical tanker in the Strait of Malacca. Panama-flagged "Ginga Falcon," a 13,292 gross ton vessel was anchored in port waters of Indonesia's Pulau Karimun Besar Island when three pirates attacked it shortly after midnight. The pirates quickly fled, according to a statement from anti-piracy watchdog ReCAAP. The vessel is operated by Tokyo Marine Co. of Japan. It had stopped in Karimun to deliver a cargo of chemicals. No one among its 23-member crew – all Bangladeshis – was injured and the ship continued its journey to Bangkok. The statement said another vessel, the Singapore-registered tugboat GM Shine, was attacked at night by pirates in the same vicinity around the same time. ReCAAP refers to the "Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia," the first regional intergovernmental cooperation, initiated by Japan, against piracy and armed robbery in Asia. The center said it believed two groups may be involved in the cases. One group is targeting ships at anchor and the other attacking ships underway.

#### **NON-VIOLENT CRIME INCIDENTS**

**12 September – ATM Robbery in Jatiwaringin, Bekasi:** In the early morning hours a gang of robbers stole an ATM owned by BNI at Kompleks Graha Kresna Pratama, Jatiwaringin Asri Estate, Bekasi. The robbers destroyed the CCTV camera in the ATM room before taking the entire ATM.

**French Woman Abducted and Held for Six Days in Bandung:** Police arrested a man who abducted the wife of a French national and kept her at a hotel in Bandung, West Java for six days, stealing her mobile phones and cash as well as injuring her.

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**ATM Heist in Bekasi:** Six men stole Rp339 million (circa \$37,000) from an ATM at the Graha Kresna Pratama sport center in Jati Waringin, Bekasi, tying up the guards.

**18 September – Men Arrested for Stealing Cable:** Police arrested 13 men for stealing one ton of undersea cable belonging to oil company CNOOC.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS AND ISSUES**

**30 August – Mount Tambora on Alert Level II:** Mount Tambora in Dopmu Regency, West Nusa Tenggara, was raised to status Alert Level II from Normal after scientists determined the level of volcanic activity was continuing to rise. The elevation of the Alert Level caused public panic in Pancasila Village, where the residents thought that the mount was about to erupt. The Vulcanology and Mitigation Agency recommended local inhabitants in the area to remain calm but alert.

**Drought Affecting West Java Rice Harvest:** Some 5,800 of 35,000 of rice fields in West Java cannot be harvested due to a nationwide drought over the past two months and the condition was exacerbated by inconsistent distribution of water from Citarum Reservoir.

**6 September – Earthquake in NAD:** At 0055 an earthquake measuring 6.7 on the Richter scale occurred 59 kilometers northeast of Singkilbaru, in Aceh. The tremor was felt in Medan, Siantar, Langkat, Deli Serdang, Sibolga, and Tana Karo, all located in North Sumatra. The Head of Sub-ulussam Disaster Relief Board, Fajli, stated the earthquake had caused damage to 178 buildings and other city infrastructures resulting in 5 million dollars of losses. Ten people were reported to have died. The death and damaged houses occurred in the immediate vicinity of the epicenter.

**7 September – Whirlwind in Medan, North Sumatra:** A whirlwind (tornado) occurred in Kampung Baru sub-district in Medan Maimun, Medan, following heavy rains. Dozens of houses were damaged and collapsed trees caused traffic jams in the area.

**7-13 September – Volcanic Eruption at Mount Lokon:** The Volcano Observation Post at Lokon, North Sulawesi stated the post recorded 12 earthquakes emanating from the crater of Tompaluan, Mount Lokon, between 0000 and 1800 on 7 September. On 13 September Mount Lokon erupted three times with bursts of dust that reached an altitude of 150 meters. The alert status remains at level 3. The danger zone remains at 2.5 kilometers from the Tompaluan crater.

**14 September – Flash Flood in Gorontalo:** Flash floods occurred at Bone, Gorontalo, North Sulawesi, due to continuous heavy rains and deforestation in the upstream areas. It was reported that two people died and 3,431 people were evacuated.

**14 September – Earthquake in Krui, West Lampung, South Sumatera:** At 2254 an earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter scale occurred in 132 Km Southwest of Krui, West Lampung, South Sumatera.

**22 September – Earthquake in West Nusa Tenggara:** At 0252 an earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale occurred 163 kilometers southeast of Sumbawa Besar, West Nusa Tenggara. The tremor caused public panic however there were no casualties reported.

**22 September – Earthquake in Bengkulu:** At 17.20 an earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale occurred caused by friction between the Indoaustralia and Eurasia plates. The tremor caused public panic but there were no injuries.

### **INDUSTRIAL AND TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS AND ISSUES**

**9 September – Susi Air Skids off Runway in Kupang:** At 1204 a Susi Air aircraft skidded off the runway shortly after landing at El Tari Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara. The cause of the incident

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was reportedly due to a broken right rear wheel. As a result, at least two flights schedules were disrupted.

**15 September – Thousands of PT Freeport employees Leave Tembagapura:** Thousands of PT Freeport employees came to Timika from their work location in Tembagapura to begin their labor strike against Freeport for one month (the strike has since been extended until the middle of November). Production activities in the underground mining area of PT Freeport Indonesia have stopped totally. Papua Police Chief, Inspector General of Police Bigman Lumban Tobing, was leading the effort to maintain order during the strike activities, as the Freeport mine is protected as a Vital National Asset of Indonesia. The police intended to preserve the rights of the workers to hold a lawful strike but were prepared to respond if the striking workers engage in violent or unlawful activities.

**22 September – Lights on the Runway Cut Off in Banjarmasin:** The runway lights in Syamsudin Noor Airport, Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan, suddenly cut off, disrupting flight operations at the airport. Four planes were diverted to Sepinggan Airport, Balikpapan. Later the same day the technical problems were solved and normal flight operations resumed. The cause of the malfunction was unknown.

**25 September – 3 killed in helicopter crash in Sumbawa:** An Air-Fast helicopter, chartered by PT Newmont Nusa Tenggara, flying above the mountains near Kemilas Ropang Village, Sumbawa, West Nusa Tenggara, fell about 750 meters and crashed. A Search and Rescue team composed of Army, Police, and community members found the wreckage. The rescue team found two burned bodies at the location, identified as the pilot and copilot. A third person in the aircraft was not found but was presumed dead.

**26 September – Fire in Wamena Airport, Jayawijaya, Papua:** The Wamena airport, Jayawijaya, Papua, caught fire. There was little disruption to flights and the situation was soon back to normal. The police are still investigating the cause of the fire. There were no injuries reported.

**27 September – Light Aircraft Crashes in Sumatra:** All 18 passengers aboard a plane that crashed on Indonesia's Sumatra Island were found dead after two days of hampered efforts to reach the jungle site. The turboprop plane owned by Nusantara Buana Air took off from Medan in North Sumatra heading for Aceh province. It sent a distress signal soon afterwards, crashing at 1,100 meters (3,600 feet) in the mountainous Bohorok area about 70 kilometers, (40 miles) northwest of Medan. The incident is the fourth fatal air crash in Indonesia in the past month.

**29 September – Thick Haze in Jambi and Banjarmasin:** Thick haze disrupted flights at Syamsuddin Noor Airport, Banjarmasin, with visibility less than 200 meters. At around 0800 flights resumed. A thick haze also disrupted flights in Jambi, Sumatra, with visibility less than 300 meters, but at 1230 the haze thinned.

#### **DRUG AND NARCO-TERRORISM INCIDENTS**

**Ugandan Drug Trafficker Dies in Bali:** A Ugandan drug trafficker, who died in Bali in early September, had more than 1 kg of crystal methamphetamine in her digestive track, surgeons said.

**Massive Drug Haul in Bogor Operated by Foreigners:** The Narcotics Agency discovered 15,000 ecstasy pills worth Rp3 billion (\$330,000) in a house in the Mediterania residence, Bogor, arresting three foreign drug traffickers. Narcotics officers raided four sites in Bogor and Jakarta, believed to be connected to a Taiwanese drug cartel supplying methamphetamine to the Asian drug market. Dozens of people were arrested and drugs were seized.

**British National Arrested for Smuggling in Jakarta Airport:** Customs and Excise officers at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport arrested a British national attempting to smuggle 6.5 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine worth Rp13 billion.

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**Two Malaysian Nationals Arrested for Drugs:** Jakarta Police discovered 91 grams of crystal methamphetamine and 140 grams of heroin, arresting five suspects including two Malaysian nationals.

**17 September – Australian Arrested in Bali for Drugs:** Police arrested an Australian tourist for illegal drug possession in Denpasar, Bali. Four days earlier the Denpasar district court imposed a four month jail terms on another Australian tourist, also for illegal drug possession.

**24 September – Police Uncover International Drug Ring Run from Central Java Jail:** Jakarta police uncovered an international drug trafficking ring whose operations were controlled by an inmate of a maximum security prison in Nusakambangan, Central Java. Police arrested four suspects involved in the international narcotics syndicate. Police confiscated 51,729 ecstasy pills and 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine. The group received methamphetamine from Iran and ecstasy from the Netherlands. The drug supply line went through Malaysia, smuggled to Medan, North Sumatra by sea, and then brought to Jakarta.

### **MEDICAL INCIDENTS**

**Outbreak of Chikungunya in North Jakarta:** The North Jakarta municipal government recorded 28 cases of mosquito-borne chikungunya this month. It is endemic in the sub district of Tanjung Priok. Symptoms of the disease appear as much as two weeks after a mosquito bite and usually present as a 40-degree fever for up to three days, followed by rashes and joint pain that can last up to several months.