

## CHALLENGER: Indonesia

*He who is not with me is against me.*

- Luke 11:23

Indonesia is poorly understood in the US. As the largest population of Muslims in the world, a venue for Islamists bombings, and a country bitterly opposed to US foreign policy on the Middle East, Indonesia is seen as an “enemy” in the often two-dimensional US view of the world.

Independence from Dutch colonialism in 1945 brought fierce debate among the nationalists on whether Indonesia would be an Islamic State. Secularists under **Sukarno** won; highly-inclusive secularism was seen as the only way the Republic of some 17,000 islands and a multitude of languages and ethnicities could survive. To this day, any factor – religion, ethnicity, race, class, regionalism – that threatens Indonesian unity is seen as a risk of the far-flung archipelago spinning apart from the Javanese core. But Sukarno had stiff opposition in 1945 from Islamists who declared **Negara Islam Indonesia (NII - Islamic State of Indonesia)** in East Java. Decades of fighting were won by the Jakarta secularists, but NII survived as the underground **Darul Islam (DI; Dar al Islam -abode of Islam)**. All Islamic dissidents to this day – such as the **Islamic Defenders Front (FPI)** – owe allegiance in some form to NII and DI.

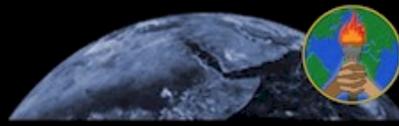
As a key member of the **Non-Aligned Movement** (like **India**) and the **Organization of the Islamic Conference** (like **Malaysia**), Indonesia is a diplomatic gift. It offers an intelligent, influential bridge into the Islamic world. It could be a key ally in balancing the **Arab** face of Islam, an Asian balance to **China**, and the best chance of a partner in Islam-West dialogue.

For a detailed survey of Indonesia’s complexity, see these OSS Special Reports:

- *The Diversity of Islamic Militancy in Southeast Asia*, OSS.NET, February 2006 (52 pp.)
- *Islamic Schools in South East Asia*, OSS.NET, December 2003 (33 pp.)

Near-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term
<p><b>Respect for Sovereignty</b></p> <p>When the US in 2005 announced it would send gunboats to fix the problem of piracy in the <b>Malacca Strait</b>, Indonesia went diplomatically ballistic. The issue was not whether this was a good idea, but rather that neither Indonesia nor <b>Malaysia</b>, who own the Strait, had been consulted. Quickly upon this came the offer to fix terrorism by sending books and curriculum to Indonesia’s Islamic schools. Javanese diplomacy is older than most Western nations so insults such as these are probably not new, but they are not easily forgotten.</p>	<p><b>A Best Path to Conciliation</b></p> <p>Some US Christians devoutly hope for the clash of arms on the plains of <b>Megiddo</b>, rebuilding The Temple, tribulation and unspeakable horror – “dogs living with cats” to use <i>Ghostbusters</i> exegesis. This powerful electorate injects into US policy a sense that wars and horror can not be prevented, and are verily part of God’s Plan. On this path, the US will continue to be suspicious of Indonesia and others who oppose its God-given foreign policy. But if the US wishes to forestall the Apocalypse a few years it would work to erase insults of the past and form strong ties with Indonesia.</p>	<p><b>The Asian Power-house</b></p> <p>If the “Islamic Question” can be put to one side, the US will find Indonesia well poised to be one of the power-houses of modern Asia. With a middle-class already larger than the total population of <b>Australia</b>, Indonesia offers trade and joint-venture prospects smaller yet perhaps ultimately more stable than <b>China</b>, and a strategic ally potentially as stable as <b>Japan</b>. Arms acquisition aside, Indonesia is able to face the world without the US, but the US may not be able to face the world much longer without Indonesia.</p>

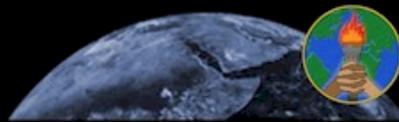
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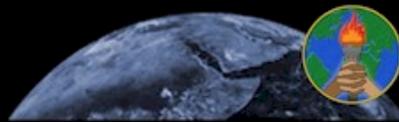
Hazard Level

Change Codes
↓ Deteriorated
• Steady
↑ Improved
↗ Alert

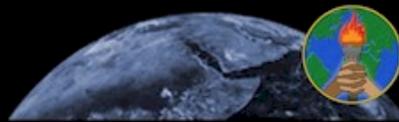
week-ended	See daily <a href="#">list of news items</a>
<b>2007 Jul 01</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good insights into the gulf between mainstream conservative Indonesian Islamic values and "<i>Islamism</i>" -- <a href="#">Indonesian Islam's softer hard line</a>. Indonesia says it needs at least [US\$110B] in new investment to significantly reduce high <i>poverty</i> and <i>unemployment</i> rates.</li> </ul>
<b>2007 Jun 24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interrogation following recent <b>JI</b> arrests reveal that, as suspected by the best analysts, there has been a <u>policy rift</u> in <b>JI</b> for some time -- <a href="#">Indonesian militant opposed JW Marriott bomb-report</a>. And the best analysis recognizes that Indonesia's own Islamist tradition runs deeper than <b>JI</b>, to the <b>Darul Islam</b> <u>Islamist-nationalist</u> movement; "<i>a lesser-known cadre of leaders should be expected to emerge out of the more traditional Darul Islam wings ...</i>" -- <a href="#">Indonesia Neutralizes JI as Immediate Threat [Analysis]</a>.  <b>India</b> and Indonesia approach "a wide-ranging review of bilateral relations between <u>Asia's two largest pluralistic democracies</u>." -- <a href="#">Indonesia for more cooperation with India</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>2007 Jun 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over two days, Indonesia announced the arrest of <b>JI's</b> regional leader <b>Zarkasih</b> and deputy leader <b>Dujana</b> -- <a href="#">Indonesia Arrests Leading Terror Suspect</a> and <a href="#">Indonesia Raids Net Terror Leaders</a>. Indonesia is continuing to insist on the inclusion of articles on <b>human rights</b> and <b>democratic values</b> in the <b>ASEAN Charter</b> being drafted -- <a href="#">Indonesia holds ground on ASEAN Charter</a>.  <a href="#">Indonesia hosts Holocaust-affirming conference</a> -- "<i>Although I am a good friend of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, I have to say he is wrong,</i>" <b>Gus Dur</b> [Indonesia's first elected president] told the conference.</li> </ul>
<b>2007 Jun 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Australia's Defence chief</b> shows remarkable solidarity with an Indonesian colleague, saying allegations against him for a <i>massacre</i> in <b>East Timor</b> are baseless - - <a href="#">Jakarta Governor innocent of Balibo deaths, ADF chief says</a>. Indonesian <i>troop</i> contribution to <b>UN missions</b> throughout the world in 2008 will rise to 2,000. Members of the <b>Anti-Apostate Movement Alliance</b> [angered by often aggressive evangelism] have attacked a church in <b>West Java</b> -- <a href="#">Muslim hardliners attacked a church in Indonesia</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>2007 Jun 03</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members of the <b>Anti-Apostate Movement Alliance</b> -- angered by often aggressive <b>Christian evangelism</b> -- have attacked a <b>church</b> in <b>West Java</b> -- <a href="#">Muslim hardliners attacked a church in Indonesia</a>. Controversial <b>Muslim</b> cleric <b>Abu Bakar Bashir</b> says he may run for <b>president</b> in 2009 -- "<i>The law we have was inherited from the Dutch (Indonesia's former colonial power) and is not suited to Muslims.</i>" A minor <b>diplomatic incident</b> was triggered when two <b>New South Wales</b> [state] police accosted <b>Governor of Jakarta Sutiyoso</b> while he was visiting <b>Sydney</b> and "rudely delivered the invitation" to an <b>inquest</b> into the <u>1975</u> killing of five Australian journalists in <b>East Timor</b>. A proposed <b>Malaysia - Indonesia - Saudi \$7B pipeline</b> across the <b>Malay peninsular</b> will reduce <b>tanker traffic</b> in the <b>Malacca Strait</b> by about <u>20%</u>. [Comment: This will</li> </ul>



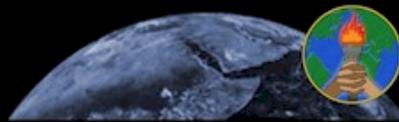
	<p>steal the march on a long-proposed <b>Thai - Chinese canal</b> across the <i>Kra Isthmus</i>.] Indonesia's President <b>Yudhoyono</b> says the "<i>Golden Age of Islam</i>" can be reclaimed if <i>Muslim nations</i> "play a commensurate role in the shaping of the <i>world economic order</i>" -- <i>Muslim states have the muscle to have a say in world economic order</i>.</p>
2007 May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under pressure to punish previous <i>corruption</i>, President <b>Yudhoyono</b> has now issued the <i>presidential decree</i> necessary to take action against former president <b>Suharto</b>.</li> </ul>
2007 May 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia has been re-elected to serve on <b>UN Human Rights Council</b>. 41% of Indonesians say that they trust the country's <i>religious leaders</i>; whereas 22% trust the <i>president</i> and the Indonesian <i>military</i>.</li> </ul>
2007 May 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Countering critics, Indonesia's nuclear agency notes that three <i>nuclear reactors</i> have already operated in Indonesia for several years without accident, even during the <i>Yogyakarta earthquake</i>. Indonesia has inaugurated the first integrated <i>bird flu centre</i> -- "<i>The centre is a pilot project located in Banten province in West Java, the worst-affected region. If it is successful, additional centres would be opened in other regions ...</i>"</li> </ul>
2007 May 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts say that Indonesia's <b>Ji</b> is still a credible threat; "<i>even members who have been out of contact for years are likely to respond to calls to action from their Ji leaders.</i>" -- <i>Ji network still an active security threat: analyst</i>. 41 <i>Christians</i> have been arrested for <i>blasphemy</i> against Islam in <i>East Java</i> -- as often-strident Christian <i>evangelists</i> push into Indonesia, Indonesia pushes back.</li> </ul>
2007 Apr 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President <b>Yudhoyono</b> has reshuffled his <i>cabinet</i> but has been forced to balance allegations of corruption and incompetence against political reality -- "<i>Yudhoyono will need to balance a string of competing demands from parties crucial to his political survival, analysts said.</i>" A <i>bomb</i> blast in <i>Ambon</i> coincided with a key anniversary for <i>pro-independence rebels</i>. Indonesia has drafted a resolution for the upcoming <b>International Parliamentary Union</b> meeting that calls on the <b>US</b> to quit <b>Iraq</b>.</li> </ul>
2007 Apr 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ At the <i>5th Indonesia-United States Security Dialogue</i>, the <b>US</b> has confirmed Indonesia is not unimportant to the US; also there may be some genuine respect for Indonesia's way of doing things -- "<i>For us it is an amazing thing that Indonesia has been able to overcome various difficult situations.</i>" <i>"Pirate attacks in Southeast Asian sea lanes [e.g. Malacca Strait] fell to their lowest level in five years ... due to increased patrols and other anti-piracy measures ..."</i></li> </ul>
2007 Apr 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesian <b>police</b> set the stage for an imminent announcement on the case of an activist, <b>Munir</b>, whom many think was murdered by poison by state security (<b>BIN</b>). Indonesian authorities say that <b>Ji</b> has sets up new operations unit -- "<i>the wing, called the Sariyah or military company, has held training exercises to teach its operatives bomb making and firearm assembly skills ...</i>" The Indonesian <b>navy</b> has foiled an attempt to smuggle <i>timber</i> out of Papua; [approx \$440,000] in illegal tropical logs would be worth many times that in made-up product. Indonesia is the world's biggest producer of <i>ecstasy</i>, followed by <b>Germany</b>, the <b>Netherlands</b> and <b>India</b>.</li> </ul>
2007 Apr 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambitions towards <i>nuclear power</i> are problematic in highly <i>volcanic</i> Indonesia -- "<i>a nuclear plant on that site could become a genocide for the people of Java</i>" say some experts; "<i>But the reactor will withstand earthquakes</i>" say others. The editor of the newly commenced (and closed) <i>Playboy Indonesia</i> has been cleared of <i>indecentcy</i> charges, but the <i>Front Pembela Islam (FPI - Islamic Defenders Front)</i> is not likely to accept this degree of "pluralism" readily. Influential <i>clerics</i> from several Muslim countries have gathered, some secretly, in</li> </ul>



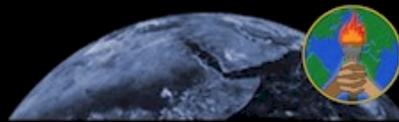
	<p>Indonesia to discuss resolution of <i>Sunni-Shi'ite</i> conflict in <b>Iraq</b>. Indonesia suggests a <i>joint Muslim peacekeeping force</i> for <b>Iraq</b> to replace the present <i>foreign</i> forces "after a period of national reconciliation".</p> <p>The Indonesian equivalent of the House <i>Foreign Affairs Committee</i> is insisting President <b>Yudhoyono</b> and the <b>UN ambassador</b> explain why Indonesia voted with the <i>consensus</i> on <b>Iran</b>.</p>
<p><b>2007 Apr 01</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The fundamental importance of Indonesia's role for <i>stability</i> in the world puts any dim memories of political and economic instability well into the background -- <i>Why Indonesia matters</i>. The Indonesian government has had to vigorously defend at home its decision to join the unanimous <b>Security Council</b> vote on <b>Iran</b>. Indonesian police have found over 25kg of <i>explosives</i> and <i>jihadist literature</i> has been found in <b>Surabaya</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2007 Mar 26</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indonesia threatened to <i>abstain</i> from the <b>Security Council</b> vote on <b>Iran</b>. [The "final" resolution was amended to satisfy misgivings of <b>South Africa, Indonesia, Qatar</b> and was passed unanimously.]</li> </ul>
<p><b>2007 Mar 19</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following another fatal domestic <i>airline crash</i>, the air transport chief has been replaced – enigmatically, the <i>Transport Ministry Inspector General</i> and <i>Head of Air Transport</i> have swapped jobs.</li> </ul> <p>As a <i>counter-terrorism</i> measure, Indonesia is to tighten <i>surveillance</i> of its estimated 16 million internet users.</p> <p>The <b>Air Force</b> will install <i>radars</i> in remote <b>West Papua</b> --"the radar will be installed to monitor and anticipate air violation of foreign airplanes as well as sea crimes." An outbreak of <i>tribal warfare</i> in <b>West Papua</b> involving spears and arrows has killed nine.</p> <p>Indonesia may ban <i>sand</i> and granite exports to <b>Singapore</b>; a serious move -- sand is a strategic resource for construction; an Indonesian president once called Singapore that "unfriendly little red dot".</p>
<p><b>2007 Mar 12</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indonesia has ignored goading by the <i>West</i> on how to run <i>counter-terrorism</i> but is now seen to have done the best job anywhere. Indonesia says "the country's commitment to <i>democracy</i> and <i>human rights</i> made Indonesia appear slow and reluctant to deal with terrorism" but also cautions there is no room for complacency, that militants are agile and in southeast Asia they have found "smarter ways to cross borders". <i>New strategies keep terrorists a step ahead - Indonesia</i></li> </ul> <p>Indonesia's Defense minister says forces deployed on the outskirts of the archipelago are still minimal -- "the country's <i>territorial waters</i> were in dire need of adequate vessels as striking, patrolling and supporting forces to maintain them".</p>
<p><b>2007 Mar 05</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A <i>bomb</i> blast at the port of <b>Ambon</b> in <b>Maluku</b> in Indonesia's far east is the first reversion to violence in many months.</li> </ul> <p>Indonesia has deployed 1,000 troops to the <b>East Timor</b> border -- "the deployment was to anticipate possible penetration of East Timor <i>rebels</i> led by Maj. Alfredo <b>Reinado</b>"</p> <p>Indonesia's legislature is backing measures for "<i>de-radicalization</i>" – <i>de-radicalization is urgently needed to improve the people's awareness of terrorism and ensure an understanding of religion and their teachings.</i>"</p>
<p><b>2007 Feb 26</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A persistent minority of <i>Islamist</i> clerics continue to pressure Indonesia's president to follow <i>Islamic law</i> in the constitutionally-secular country -- "We warn the president as a Muslim he has the obligation to govern this country and its people using Islamic laws." In cooperation with countries like <b>Kuwait, Jordan</b> and <b>Saudi Arabia</b>, Indonesia is seeking to re-<i>educate</i> Islamic populations in the true meaning of (non-violent) <i>jihad</i>.</li> </ul> <p>Partly to ensure territorial claim, Indonesia hopes to complete naming over <u>6,000 un-</u></p>



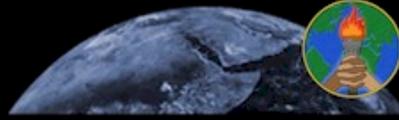
	<p><i>named islands</i> in 2007 -- the team will also verify which of the 1unnamed islands are truly islands for purposes of the <b>Law of the Sea</b>.          Indonesia confirmed, with few other specifics, that the country's first <b>nuclear power</b> plant will be built at <i>Mt. Muria</i> in <b>Central Java</b>. "</p>
2007 Feb 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Indonesia <b>HIV</b> prevalence is still low, but has reached high levels among specific populations like injecting <b>drug users</b> and <b>sex workers</b>, and in <b>Papua</b>.            The Indonesian <b>military</b> is already scheduled to remove itself from all <b>business</b> activity, which has been a major means of <b>funding</b> itself, but observers say this is not happening at the expected pace and it is now an urgent necessity. For the second time in 12 months <b>BRIMOB</b> (<i>Fast Reaction Police</i>) and <b>military</b> personnel have been involved in a fatal clash with each other, now in a town in <b>Papua</b>.            General <b>Pace</b> confirms that the <b>US</b> regards Jakarta as a <b>key regional ally</b>.</li> </ul>
2007 Feb 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inauguration of a former <b>rebel leader</b> as <b>Governor of Aceh</b> is a symbolic conclusion of a 29 year conflict.  <b>Cell phones</b> have been seized from jailed <b>Bali bombers</b> -- a Bali bomber on death row had delivered teachings to militants in <b>Sulawesi</b> via a smuggled mobile phone. A summary of the <b>ICG</b> (<i>International Crisis Group</i>) opinion on the possible consequences of Poso (<b>Sulawesi</b>) arrests -- <a href="#">Indonesia's jihadist revival</a>            The respectable Indonesian <b>school</b> implicated in an attempted smear of presidential candidate Barack <b>Obama</b> is peeved -- "<i>I feel this school has become a victim of irresponsible American politics.</i>" Indonesia urges <b>Israel</b> to end provocative <b>excavation</b> near the <b>Al-Aqsa Mosque</b>.</li> </ul>
2007 Feb 05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observers warn that the firefight and killing and capture of <b>militants</b> in <b>Poso</b> (<b>Sulawesi</b>) may become a <i>cause célèbre</i> for Islamic militants -- "<i>Communal fights like Poso attract a wide range of activists to defend fellow Muslims, not just hardcore militants.</i>" Further arrests were made of the leader and number two in a group behind 14 cases of violence in Central Sulawesi, including the <b>beheadings</b> of three Christian girls in 2005.</li> </ul>
2007 Jan 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After seven years in the making, the Indonesian <b>military</b> has revised its doctrine to bar the military from participation in <b>politics</b>. [TNI's role in Indonesian politics had origins in the crucial part it played in the war of independence against the <b>Dutch</b>.]            Indonesian special forces raided a location in <b>Poso</b> (<b>Sulawesi</b>) killing 14 Islamic militants in a firefight and arresting 25 others. --"<i>I don't want to speculate whether they were members of <b>Jemaah Islamiyah</b>. But they are part of a dangerous, armed group...</i>" The action was quickly seen as "anti-Muslim" and Abu Bakar Bashir threatened <b>holy war</b> against Indonesian police -- "<i>There is an attempt in Poso to eliminate the Muslims so the unbelievers will control the town</i>". <i>International Crisis Group</i> updated its analysis of the <b>Sulawesi</b> conflicts as a complex mix of tension arising from <b>transmigrasi</b> , <b>Muslim-Christian</b> jealousies, and <b>Ji jihadism</b> -- <a href="#">Jihadism in Indonesia: Poso on the Edge</a></li> </ul>
2007 Jan 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia has <b>abstained</b> from a <b>UN Security Council</b> vote on <b>Myanmar</b>. [China, <b>Russia</b>, <b>South Africa</b> voted against; <b>Qatar</b>, <b>Congo</b> also abstained.]</li> </ul>
2007 Jan 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflict reignites in <b>Sulawesi</b> -- Indonesian police kill militants in raid and an <b>angry mob</b> beats to death a police officer during the funeral for those killed.</li> </ul>
2007 Jan 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesian <b>police</b> have accused the <b>Kingmi Church</b> of being the religious arm of the <b>OPM</b> (<i>Free Papua Movement</i>). [There is an undeniable <b>Christian</b> subtext to the Free Papua movement.]</li> </ul>
2007 Jan 01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The quiet early <b>release</b> of the only suspect in the <b>poisoning</b> -- possible by the security agency <b>BIN</b> -- of an activist has annoyed some.</li> </ul>
2006 Dec 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former leader of the <b>Aceh</b> autonomy movement (<b>GAM</b>) and now Aceh governor-elect, <b>Irwandi Yusuf</b>, has been asked by the <b>EU</b>-led monitoring mission to disband</li> </ul>



	<p>GAM within six months to conform with the <i>peace accord</i>. Indonesia's strict rules on <i>political parties</i>, which generally forbids <i>local</i> [rather than national] parties, have now been modified to accommodate local <i>Aceh</i> parties. Indonesian police are guarding <i>churches</i> throughout the Christmas period -- "18,000 officers have been deployed at churches in Jakarta and tens of thousands more will be on duty elsewhere in the sprawling nation." Actions by groups such as <i>Forum Masyarakat Anti Komunis</i> against a store selling Marxist books are shades of the unfortunate 1960s 'reds under the beds' witch-hunts that saw pogroms of <i>Communist</i> sympathizers. Indonesia says the "markets are boiling with <i>dirty money</i>" -- "We've seen many indications of <b>money laundering</b> recently through financial institutions and the capital market." Indonesia's <i>anti-corruption law</i>, which presently covers state employees, will be expanded to cover capital markets. Gen. <b>Wiranto</b>, former head of the armed forces, has formed HANURA, the <i>People's Conscience Party</i>. <b>Abu Bakar Ba'asyir</b> has been exonerated of a charge he already served 26 months for -- "conspiracy" in the 2002 Bali bombings. <b>Australia</b> grudgingly admits there was probably not enough evidence for the conviction.</p>
2006 Dec 18	<p>↑ In a significant show of reconciliation President <b>Gusmao</b> of <b>East Timor</b> has met General <b>Wiranto</b> and other former Indonesian enemies. Indonesia has commissioned a new <i>radar</i> system "The radars, located on [Batam Island], are designed to detect aircraft at a distance of up to 330 kilometers (about 206 miles)".</p>
2006 Dec 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Amnesty Intl.</b> welcomes decriminalization of <i>insulting the President or the Vice-President</i> as a significant step towards <i>freedom of expression</i>. As foreshadowed several months ago, the <i>Regional Intelligence Community Agency (Kominda)</i> – a feared arm of <b>Suharto</b> autocracy - - will be reactivated to coordinate the work of the local intelligence offices in battling <i>terrorism</i>. Indonesia again says it will diversify the source of its <i>weaponry</i> to prevent the possibility of <i>embargo</i> from any one country. [I.e. the <b>US</b>.] With <b>Russian</b> financing, Indonesia continues to buy substantial armaments and expects to operate a <i>Sukhoi</i> squadron by 2008. Indonesia and <b>South Korea</b> have agreed on a joint <i>nuclear</i> program -- "We explore possibilities of joint production in weapons and military equipment."</li> </ul>
2006 Dec 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Nov 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two more groups of Indonesian <i>peacekeepers</i> are to join an advance team already in <b>Lebanon</b>, bringing the total commitment to around 820. Indonesia says it is ready to use its good offices as a <i>Muslim</i> nation to assist with the <b>Iraq</b> issue and to provide troops under a <b>UN</b> flag if necessary. Indonesia and <b>Russia</b> will sign a military cooperation accord to cover military cooperation for 2006-2010 and the war on <i>terrorism</i>. The President has again issued encouragement for a <i>local defense industry</i> -- the defense minister believes in future Indonesian companies will produce sophisticated arms and war machines like <i>submarines</i>. There have been peaceful but impolite <i>protests</i> against President <b>Bush</b>'s visit to in Bogor in west Java.</li> </ul>
2006 Nov 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is outrage in some <b>Australian</b> quarters that Indonesia has allegedly released 60 involved in various <i>bombing</i> attacks for lack of evidence or early in the terms of imprisonment. Eight years after <i>Reformasi</i>, there is still a two-tier justice system – there is inexplicable inaction against the elites -- <b>Suharto</b>, Suharto's son, <b>TNI</b> in <b>East Timor</b>, <b>BIN</b>'s implication in murder of an outspoken critic . Indonesia's city residents are told to stay home during the visit by President <b>Bush</b> [a veiled reference to protest] -- with Javanese politeness, locals are told "It is dangerous. Suspicious movement can lead to being shot in the leg ... " The new <i>Australia-Indonesia Agreement on the Framework for Security Cooperation</i> allows the possibility of Australian <i>uranium</i> sales to Indonesia.</li> </ul>



2006 Nov 13	<p>↑ A new <b>Indonesia-Australia security pact</b> largely consolidates existing agreements but adds, for Indonesia's benefit, a pledge not to encourage <i>separatist movements</i>. An Indonesian court convicts seven Papuans for killing two <b>US</b> school teachers in remote <b>Papua</b> province four years ago.</p>
2006 Nov 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Islamists</b> protested against the upcoming visit by President <b>Bush</b> - "He has ordered US troops to colonize <b>Iraq</b> and <b>Afghanistan</b>." Charges have been brought a year after the <i>beheading</i> of three school-girls in <b>Sulawesi</b>. Police revealed previous arrests of 15 members of <b>Tanah Runtuh</b> and <b>Kompak Kamaya</b> groups, and are now seeking 29 others for involvement in <b>Poso</b> terrorism. Three <b>Malaysians</b> suspected of being couriers for fugitive Noordin <b>Top</b> have been arrested in <b>East Java</b>. A diplomatic announcement claimed the "<b>China-Indonesia strategic partnership</b>" is the best it has been since Indonesia's <i>communist</i> fears of the 1960s.</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia's decision to buy six <i>submarines</i> from <b>Russia</b> was a "political decision not to depend largely on western countries in arms procurement". There is heated debate over a plan to spend \$6M on <i>UAVs</i> from <b>Israel</b> through a cut-out in the <b>Philippines</b>. <b>Indonesia</b> announces it will use its UN [temporary] <b>Security Council</b> seat to push for "Mideast peace". Some prospective candidates for the upcoming election in devout <b>Aceh</b> province have been barred for failing a <i>Koran recital</i> test.</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia will spend \$7M on arming its 4 <b>Sukhoi</b> jetfighters and upgrading their avionics.</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia has passed laws against <i>female genital mutilation</i>, differentiating itself from a barbaric practice common in <b>Arab</b> countries.</li> </ul>
2006 Oct 02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Riots in <b>Sulawesi</b> followed <i>execution</i> of three Christians found guilty of religiously-motivated killings in 2000. In vice-Premier meetings, <b>China</b> and <b>Indonesia</b> have confirmed that both regard their dialogue relationship as strategic.</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to report]</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesia is confident of being elected to a UN <b>Security Council</b> seat — analysts remarked that Indonesia's relative success in <i>anti-terrorism</i> is that has been "scrupulous" in abiding by the rule of law.</li> </ul>
2006 Sep 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indonesian authorities believe that key <b>Ji</b> bomb-maker Noordin Top is running out of friends, money, and apprentices.</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two men were charged with <i>cyber-terrorism</i> offences for assisting terrorist activities with computer services.</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The head of Indonesia's <b>Human Rights Commission</b> said the <b>US</b> "\$6 million blank check" for modernizing the military has some dangers and could go to better causes.</li> </ul>
2006 Aug 14	<p>↓ A 20 year sentence in the US for a Singaporean exposed illegal export of <b>US arms</b> to Indonesia and <b>Syria</b> — yet unknown inscrutable machinations are behind the 11th-hour postponement of <i>execution</i> of three Christians convicted for killings in Sulawesi — the <b>Islam Defenders' Front</b> and <b>MMI's</b> Jihad Bombing Fighters say they have already sent small numbers of jihadis to <b>Lebanon</b> and thousands more have expressed readiness.</p>
2006 Aug 07	<p>↓ The <b>Majelis Mujahidin</b> has called for jihadis to deploy to Lebanon — another group said "hundreds" of jihadis are about to be sent against Jewish targets — authorities and some analysts said the claims are likely to be symbolic and</p>



		extravagant.
2006 Jul 31	↓	Indonesia is likely to retire the remainder of its <b>IMF</b> debt this year; it continued to forge solid ties with neighbors in measures against <i>money laundering</i> and other <i>trans-border crime</i> . Comments hostile to <b>Israel</b> in Lebanon continued.
2006 Jul 24	•	[nothing significant to report]
2006 Jul 17	↓	<i>Asia Times Online</i> indicated [probably incorrectly] that President <b>Yudhoyono</b> and Vice President <b>Kalla</b> are on a collision course; the state news agency quoted Islamist references to "the terrorist state of <b>Israel</b> ".
2006 Jul 10	•	[nothing significant to report]
2006 Jul 03	•	Indonesia – the world’s largest Islamic nation – continues to march to its own tune. It condemns <b>Israel</b> ’s actions in Palestine, refuses any attempt by the <b>US</b> to guide anti-terrorism policy, but remains a key moderate-Islamic ally.
Commencement of Service		

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