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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6244
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

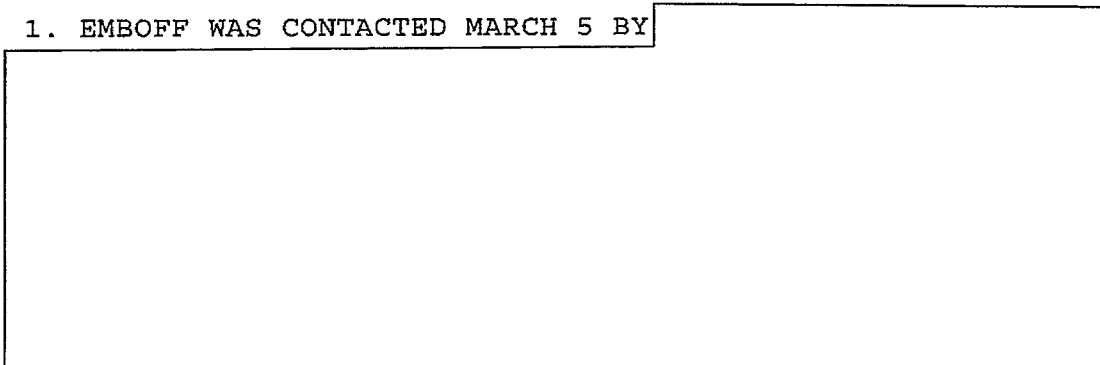
C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1442

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PO, ID, PT
SUBJ: PORTUGUESE TIMOR

REF: LISBON 1222

SUMMARY: "MINISTER OF STATE OF DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR" HAS REQUESTED MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO SEEK USG GOOD OFFICES IN EFFECTING INDONESIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM PORTUGUESE TIMOR. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF WAS CONTACTED MARCH 5 BY



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT H MILLER
DATE/CASE ID: 14 JAN 2004 200301871

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[REDACTED]

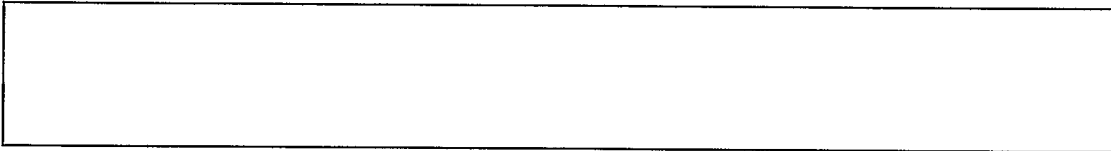
2. [REDACTED] STATED THAT INDONESIA IS FORCING PORTUGUESE TIMOR INTO INTEGRATION WITH INDONESIA AGAINST ITS WILL. HE ADMITTED THAT MANY PORTUGUESE TIMOR RESIDENTS, INCLUDING HIMSELF, HAD ORIGINALLY ADVOCATED INTEGRATION AS A MEANS OF COUNTERING THE MARXIST-LED FRETILIN. INDONESIA BEHAVIOUR IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR SINCE THE INVASION, HOWEVER, HAS SOURED HIM AND OTHER NON-COMMUNIST TIMOR LEADERS ON INTEGRATION. HE CLAIMS TO POSSESS DOCUMENTARY AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF NUMEROUS ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY INDONESIA TROOPS SINCE THE INVASION, INCLUDING THE MURDER OF FIVE AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISTS. INDONESIA MILITARY AUTHORITIES, [REDACTED] STATED, HAD FORCED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO SIGN A FORMAL REQUEST FOR INTEGRATION INTO INDONESIA AND TO DEMAND AN UNREASONABLE QUID PRO QUO FOR THE RELEASE OF PORTUGUESE PRISONERS STILL BEING HELD IN TIMOR. GOVERNMENT MEMBERS WERE UNABLE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE INDONESIAIS, HOWEVER, FOR FEAR OF INCURRING REPRISALS AGAINST THEIR FAMILIES, MANY OF WHOM LIVED IN INDONESIA. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK, [REDACTED] SAID, HE HAD BEEN CHARGED BY HIS COLLEAGUES TO FLEE HIS INDONESIA ESCORT AND TELL THE REAL STORY ABOUT CONDITIONS IN TIMOR.

3. [REDACTED] WANTS TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS THE TIMOR QUESTION WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. HE WILL REQUEST THAT THE UNITED STATES USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO PERSUADE INDONESIA TO WITHDRAW ITS FORCES. THE RESIDENTS OF TIMOR WOULD BE WILLING, HE SAID, TO ACCEPT A PROTECTORATE ARRANGEMENT WITH INDONESIA, BUT WILL OPPOSE INTEGRATION BY FORCE IF NECESSARY. IF THE UNITED STATES IS UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO CONVINCE INDONESIA TO WITHDRAW, TIMOR'S POLITICAL MOVEMENTS SEEK AID WHEREVER THEY CAN FIND IT. [REDACTED] CLAIMED THAT THE PRC HAD ALREADY OFFERED SUPPORT AGAINST THE INDONESIAIS.

4. [REDACTED] ALSO CLAIMED THAT GOP WANTS HIM TO WRITE
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AND PROVIDE THEM WITH A FULL REPORT ON INDONESIAN
ACTIVITIES IN TIMOR. TO DATE HE HAS REFUSED TO DO SO,
FEARING THAT THE PORTUGUESE WILL USE HIS INFORMATION
TO AID FRETILIN.



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6. EMBOFF SUBSEQUENTLY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO
[REDACTED] (REFTEL), WHO CON-
FIRMED MANY OF [REDACTED] CLAIMS. [REDACTED] SAID HE HAD
NOT YET CONTACTED [REDACTED] FOR FEAR OF JEOPARDIZING
HIS MISSION.

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7. COMMENT: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HIS DOCUMENT-
ATION SEEMS GENUINE, HOWEVER, AND THE FACT THAT HIS
STORY JIBES WITH [REDACTED] LENDS SOME CREDENCE TO HIS
CLAIMS. EMBOFF EXPLAINED USG POLICY OF NONINVOLVEMENT
IN TIMOR, BUT AGREED TO REPORT CONVERSATION WITH [REDACTED]
AND INFORM HIM IF DEPARTMENT EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
MEETING.
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