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TAGS: PFOR, PT

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR
FOR HABIB WITH PRESIDENT'S PARTY FROM MILLER

1. BY NOW YOU WILL HAVE SEEN REGARDING A "DECISION" BY SUHARTO TO INITIATE A MAJOR MILITARY INTERVENTION IN TIMOR BETWEEN DECEMBER 6-B, AND TO FORESHADOW SUCH ACTION IN AN ANNOUNCEMENT DECEMBER 5 "TO DISSOCIATE INDONESIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION FROM PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT".

2. IT CONTINUES TO BE OUR JUDGMENT THAT THE INDONESIANS ARE UNLIKELY TO LAUNCH A MAJOR MILITARY INTERVENTION IN TIMOR PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE FROM JAKARTA. HOWEVER, THEY COULD MAKE THE PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH, IT SEEMS TO US, WOULD BE A SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, WE MUST LEAVE TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY ANY DECISION NOW AS TO WHETHER TO PAGE 02 STATE 286515 FOSEC 230217

EXTEND CLASSIFICATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE . . REVIEW AUTHORITY: DONALD A. JOHNSTON DATE/CASE ID: 5 JUN 2002 200104096 CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 25X1

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SEND AN URGENT MESSAGE TO THE INDONESIANS, PERHAPS TO BE DELIVERED AT NEWSOM'S DISCRETION, REQUESTING THE INDONESIANS TO MAKE NO ANNOUNCEMENT AND TO TAKE NO MILITARY ACTION UNTIL WELL AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE FROM JAKARTA. ROBINSON

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