

*Week ending 1-15-68*

DOS REVIEWED 31-Mar-2008: DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE IN FULL

3. MORE PRODDING FOR POLITICAL REFORM.

TWO MEETINGS HELD IN WEST JAVA OVER WEEKEND, SPONSORED RESPECTIVELY BY WEST JAVA COMMANDER DHARSONO AND MODERNIST CIVILIAN POLITICAL LEADERS, ATTEMPTED TO THROW MORE WEIGHT BEHIND FALTERING CAMPAIGN FOR POLITICAL REFORM IN PREPARATION FOR MPRS SESSION IN MARCH.

A. FIRST MEETING, HELD IN BANDUNG UNDER DHARSONO'S LEADERSHIP WITH PARTICIPATION OF REGIONAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS, PRODUCED DECLARATION WHICH DEMANDED ABANDONMENT OF PRESENT POLITICAL SYSTEM IN FAVOR TWO-PARTY SYSTEM, RESTRUCTURING OF PARLIAMENT, REVIEW OF TIGHT-MONEY POLICY, NEW ACTION RE RICE SHORTAGE, ELIMINATION OF SUPERFLUOUS EXECUTIVE BODIES, BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN REGIONAL AND CENTRAL AUTHORITY, AND TRAIL OF SUKARNO.

B. SECOND MEETING WAS CONFERENCE OF 90 YOUTH LEADERS ADDRESSED BY PROMINENT CIVILIAN AND MILITARY LEADERS INCLUDING GENERAL DHARSONO AND FONMIN ADAM MALIK, WHO DELIVERED PRINCIPAL

ADDRESS. STUDENTS, WHO APPARENTLY BEING ENLISTED IN SUPPORT OF NEW INDEPENDENT POLITICAL MOVEMENT AND ITS REFORM PROGRAM, WERE CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT ON RICE, CORRUPTION, APPEARANCE OF POLICY "DRIFT" AND OTHER ISSUES BUT SEEM TO HAVE NO CONSTRUCTIVE ALTERNATIVES.

C. COMMENT: BOTH MEETINGS PRIMARILY DESIGNED TO ELICIT ACTION FROM SUHARTO, BUT ISSUES ARE CLOUDED BY MOSLEM-NON-MOSLEM DISPUTES, FRICTION BETWEEN REGIONAL MILITARY COMMANDERS AND SUHARTO'S PERSONAL MILITARY STAFF, AND OTHER ISSUES. SUHARTO'S REACTIONS THEREFORE UNCLEAR.

