

DOS REVIEWED 01-Apr-2008: DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE IN FULL

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Suharto Named Full President of Indonesia - Departs For Japan

1. On March 27, the Indonesian Consultative Congress named General Suharto President of the Republic for a five-year term, completing the transition from Sukarno which began in March 1966 with the awarding of special powers to Suharto and was continued in March 1967 with Sukarno's removal and Suharto's designation as Acting President. As a fitting sequel to his winning of the full Presidential mandate, Suharto departed the next morning for Tokyo and his first visit abroad as an Indonesian leader. The Tokyo visit will be followed by a stopover in Cambodia.



2. Other major actions by the Congress included setting July 5, 1971 as the date for national elections (the first since 1955), and a call for Suharto to form a new Cabinet by July of this year. Human rights and state policy formulations are still under debate. Congress' actions seem to have been salutary. There was broad consensus over the election of Suharto to a definite term as President, although differences over other issues. The Government drew back from its early heavy-handed pressures to win approval of its program without amendment (a policy which had evoked demonstrations of protest from youth action commands), and the final Congress decisions represent compromises which have satisfactorily reasserted the independence of the Congress and the limitations on the Executive without crippling government authority.

Indonesia Accepts UN Observer for West Irian Ascertainment

3. Indonesia notified U Thant this week that it agrees to receive  
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Ortiz -2D-60-168-3 Bolivian permanent representative to the  
UN, is to be the Secretary General's representative and  
an announcement to this effect is anticipated shortly.



No Objection To Declassification in Full 2010/08/30 : HIA-R JONES HOWARD P  
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