

Box 66

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

JONES HOWARD P-2E-62-2

3-1-67 16-6 rgram to Secretary of
State from Amembassy, Djakarta
Subject: Five KBKI Leaders
Ousted for Supporting Sukarno

2 pages

p. 1, 1 sentence, words
deleted

p. 2, 2 sentences deleted

DOS REVIEWED 01-APR-2008

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| NO. | | | |
| TO : | Secretary of State | | |
| INFO : | KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA, SINGAPORE, MEDAN, SURABAJA | | |
| FROM : | Amembassy DJAKARTA | | |
| SUBJECT : | Five KBKI Leaders Ousted for Supporting Sukarno | | |
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The most significant and welcome piece of news to flow from Indonesia's trade union movement since the celebrated demise of the once powerful communist labor federation, SOBSI, was a recent announcement by a leader of the Democratic Workers' Federation of Indonesia (KBKI) that the executive committee of the union had ousted five prominent leaders* for working with groups identified as pro-Sukarno forces.

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The executive's decision resulted from some discontent within the organization about the pro-Sukarno activities of its ousted chairman A. M. Datuk, who, for years, has had a close connection with the crypto-communist Partai Indonesia (PARTINDO), and a threat of dissolution from the military if it didn't take action to put its house in order, the New Order that is. One of the new leaders of KBKI, Drs. J. Pulamahony (see Enclosure 1 for listing of new officers), told the reporting officer that KBKI has been under the watchful eye of the military for many months and that its leaders were called in about two weeks ago to explain a recent pro-Sukarno statement signed by the five ousted leaders. The union was told to make amends if it wanted to continue as a trade union. This threat, according to Pulamahony, was the straw that broke the camel's back.

*A. M. Datuk, Chairman; Drs. J. I. Soedarwo, Secretary General; A. Samadi, Assistant Secretary General; Drs. H. A. Sudjendro, Assistant Secretary General; and Bujung Tamin, Chairman of the Department of Industry.

GROUP 3 - Downgrade each 12 yrs; not automatically declassified.

Enclosure: all in m.
List of New KBKI Officers



FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Pulamahony reported that he got in touch with leaders in the outer islands to indicate that he was going to write to Datuk requesting a meeting of the executive to discuss the matter. He was overwhelmed, he said, with the support he received. The meeting was held last week and a new KBKI emerged. Its first order of business was a declaration of support for the New Order.

Comment: It is too early to predict what this means in political terms. Unquestionably, the new leaders will align themselves with the New Order and do what they can to convince the military that they are sincere in their pledge of support for the New Order. Just how sincere they really are remains to be seen. It is likewise too early to predict who will eventually emerge in control of the membership and the union's assets. Datuk, who is the money man in KBKI, refuses to turn over the building that houses the union and will not allow the new officers to use it. Moves are currently underway, with military support, to remove Datuk and his supporters. This should pose no serious problem, especially with military backing. The question, however, which is unanswered at this time, is just how strong Datuk is with the membership. The new leaders plan to

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