

The overall exemption is b3.

~~Top Secret~~  
No Foreign Dissem



# National Intelligence Bulletin

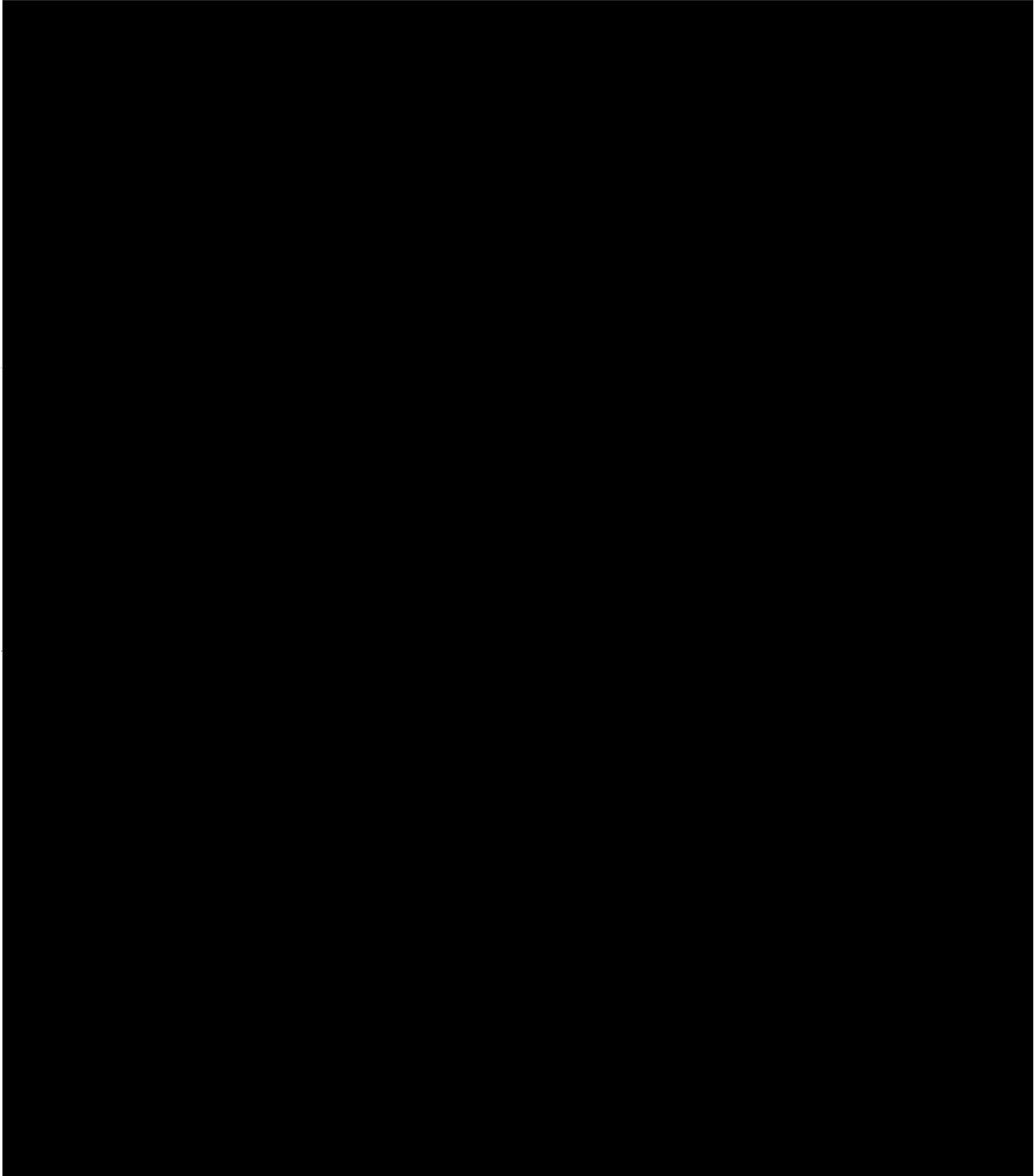
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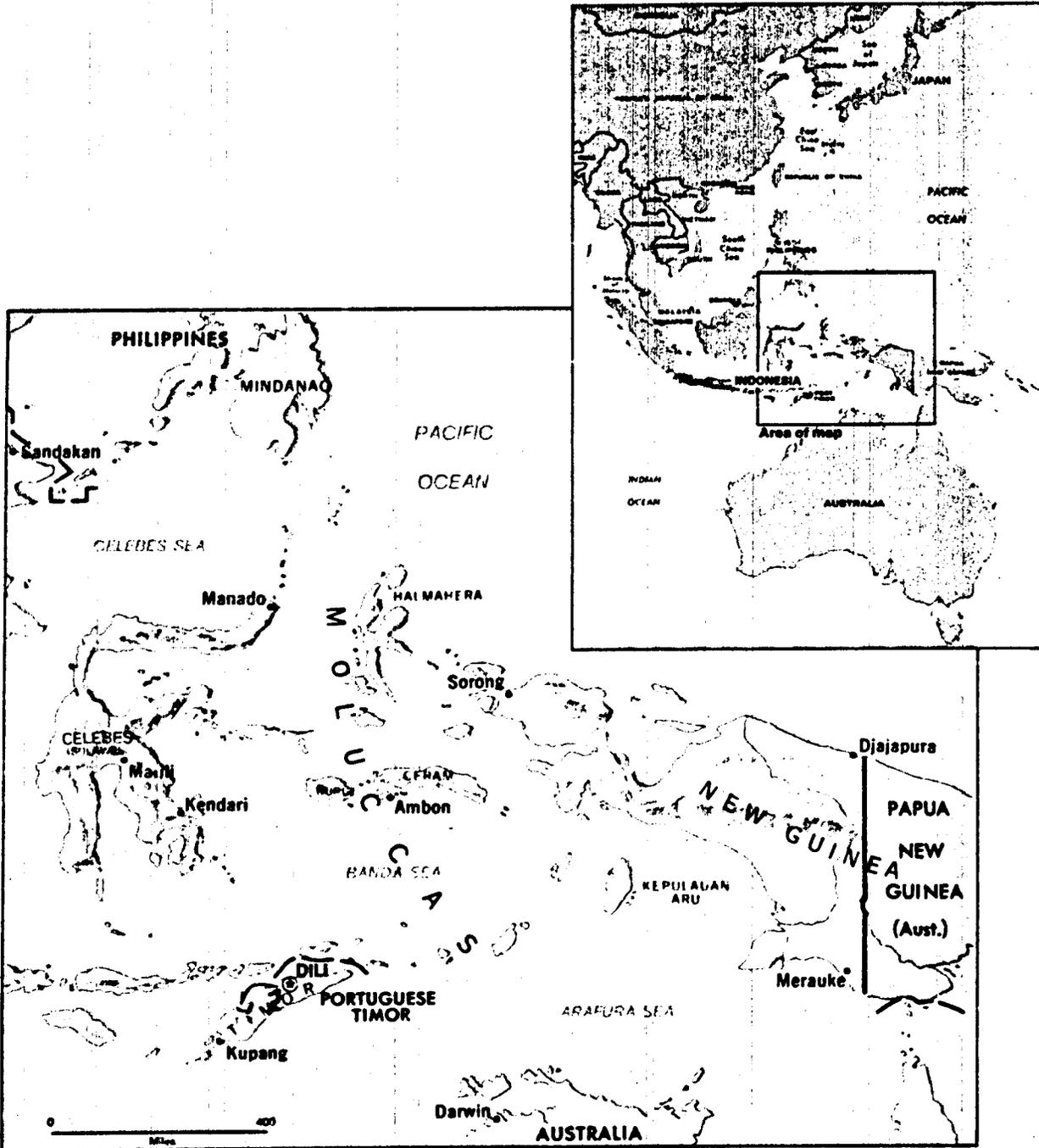
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# National Intelligence Bulletin

September 26, 1974



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INDONESIA-PORTUGAL

The Indonesian government is trying to persuade Portugal that Portuguese Timor should be integrated into Indonesia. Lisbon has announced that a plebiscite will be held next year on the future status of the colony, but Indonesian officials hope to bring about a direct transfer of sovereignty.

Jakarta fears that a plebiscite probably would go against its wishes, resulting either in continued Portuguese rule or in independence for the colony. In addition to believing that Timor should logically be part of Indonesia, the Suharto government fears that a small independent state in the eastern part of the Indonesian archipelago could become an entry point for Chinese Communist subversion in Indonesia.

According to an Indonesian press report, Indonesia's foreign minister met with his Portuguese counterpart at the UN this week, and the two agreed to consult closely on the Timor issue. One of President Suharto's top aides reportedly plans to go to Lisbon next month to try to gain President Spinoza's acquiescence to Jakarta's wishes.

Portuguese officials have paid little attention to Timor while they have been preoccupied with the status of their African colonies. Lisbon appears likely to insist, at least initially, that the plebiscite be held, but it is possible that the Portuguese might agree to a different approach under pressure from rival factions within Portugal or from the Indonesians. President Spinoza strongly advocated self-determination for all Portuguese colonies until internal politics forced alternative solutions in Portuguese Guinea and Mozambique.

Against the possibility that Portugal will go through with the plebiscite, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] but it seems doubtful that this group could win at the polls. There is no indication that the Suharto government is actively considering the use of force to acquire Timor. [REDACTED]