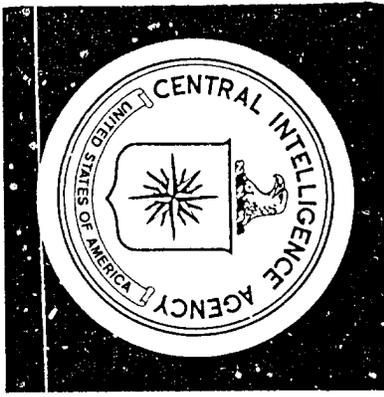


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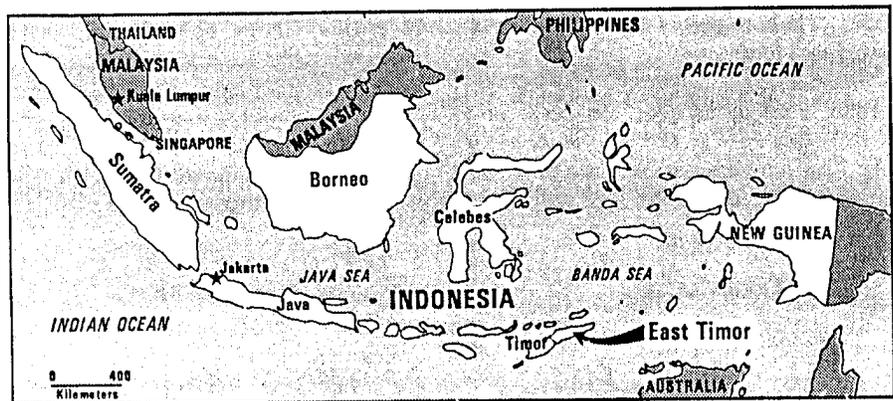
ASIA

Indonesia: UN Resolution on East Timor

The UN General Assembly will soon adopt an anti-Indonesia resolution on the question of East Timor. Indonesia maintains that East Timor is an integral part of Indonesia and hence does not warrant UN consideration. While lobbying for support, Indonesia realizes that this politically embarrassing issue will be debated in the UN annually for the next several years. In the meantime, Indonesia has stepped up military efforts to eradicate the small resistance movement throughout East Timor. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The resolution was drafted by a representative of the Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor (Fretilin) and supported largely by radical Third World and Communist nations. While it does not condemn Indonesia, it rejects the Indonesian claim to East Timor, reaffirms the rights of the East Timorese to self-determination and independence, requests that the UN monitor the situation, and calls for the inclusion of the question on the agenda of the 33rd General Assembly session.

The Indonesians have used a defensive strategy, refuting Fretilin claims of popular support and allegations of



Indonesian atrocities and actively seeking support from those countries that might reciprocate for Indonesian support on other issues. Indonesia has not, however, been able to garner sufficient votes to prevent the resolution from being adopted.

Indonesia finds the issue highly embarrassing, but so long as neither the debate nor the vote threatens relations with countries supporting the resolution or abstaining on it for ideological reasons--China, the USSR, and Vietnam--Indonesia will continue its low-key approach.

At the same time, Indonesia is

increasing its efforts to destroy the insurgents in East Timor by offering a general amnesty to those surrendering by the end of this year. [REDACTED]

The Indonesians hope to reduce their own forces in the province before the presidential election in March, but the resistance movement and the UN debate are likely to continue to be liabilities for the Suharto government. [REDACTED]