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ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 ADS-00 /000W  
-----0D66F6 091033Z /38

O 091030Z JAN 98  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9030  
INFO DEPTTREAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 000129

DECAPTIONED

EXDIS

STATE FOR A/S ROTH  
TREASURY FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY SUMMERS AND DAS ZELIKOW

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/09/16

TAGS: EFIN, ID

SUBJECT: SOEHARTO-CLINTON PHONE CALL

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AMB. J. STAPLETON ROY; REASON  
1.5(D)

2. (C) MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND TRADE TUNKY ARIWIBOWO  
TELEPHONED ME JANUARY 9 TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON PRESIDENT  
CLINTON'S TELEPHONE CALL TO PRESIDENT SOEHARTO THIS  
MORNING (JAKARTA TIME). TUNKY SAID SOEHARTO HAD CALLED  
HIM IN TO BRIEF HIM ON HIS LONG TALK WITH PRESIDENT  
CLINTON. TUNKY FELT SOEHARTO HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE

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DISCUSSION. HE CALLED THE PHONE CALL VERY TIMELY. HE

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NOTED THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH ECONOMIC COLLEAGUES ON JANUARY 8, THEY HAD AGREED SUCH A CALL SHOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE CAMDESSUS ARRIVED. THIS HAD NOW HAPPENED. SOEHARTO HAD NOW HEARD DIRECTLY FROM PRESIDENT CLINTON HOW THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET FELT ABOUT THE SITUATION HERE. HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON HAD PRESENTED THE CASE WELL. THIS WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR THE MESSAGE THAT CAMDESSUS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BRING.

3. (C) TUNKY SAID HE WOULD BE MEETING SHORTLY WITH OTHER MINISTERS TO DISCUSS FOLLOW-UP TO THE SOEHARTO-CLINTON PHONE CALL AND TO PREPARE FOR THE VISITS NEXT WEEK. TUNKY NOTED THAT PRESIDENT SOEHARTO HAD ALSO TASKED HIM THIS MORNING TO COORDINATE IMF-RELATED ISSUES, INCLUDING STRUCTURAL AND ECONOMIC REFORM. THE PRESIDENT HAD SAID HE WOULD LOOK TO TUNKY FOR HOW TO IMPLEMENT SUCH MEASURES. THIS WAS IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER DUTIES.

4. (C) TUNKY NOTED THAT JANUARY 8 HAD BEEN A BAD DAY, WITH PANIC BUYING OF RICE AND OIL. HE SAID THAT PRESIDENT SOEHARTO HAD SUMMONED HIM AND OTHER MINISTERS THIS MORNING (JANUARY 9) TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. FOLLOWING THIS THEY (THE MINISTERS) HAD HELD A TV AND PRESS INTERVIEW ON NATIONAL TELEVISION AIMED AT CALMING THE SITUATION. THEY WOULD REPEAT THIS PERFORMANCE THIS EVENING, ASSURING LISTENERS THAT FOOD STUFFS WERE IN PLENTIFUL SUPPLY. (NOTE: IN FACT JAKARTA WAS CALMER JANUARY 9, WITH FEWER ALARMIST RUMORS. BANK INTERVENTION ALSO KEPT THE RUPIAH FROM CONTINUING ITS DOWNWARD SLIDE, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY.) ROY

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TO: SAC, NEW YORK  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible body text]

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