[Fwd: [kdpnet-en] JKTP: Letter - Indonesia: Bizarre, absurd and deceitful]

Sun, 13 Dec 1998 23:53:31 +0700

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> JAKARTA POST
> December 10, 1998
>
> Letter to the Editor
> Indonesia: Bizarre, absurd and deceitful
>
> I have been observing the situation in Indonesia and think it is bizarre,
> absurd and deceitful. Just look at the following:
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> 1. Some 12 student activists were kidnapped by Group IV of the Army's
> special force (Kopassus). It is clear who the kidnappers were, but until
> now, they have not been arrested. Another 14 had mysteriously disappeared
> and the culprits are known.
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> 2. The May 12 Trisakti incident. Four students were killed and many others
> injured by bullets. It is clear the shooters were members of the Armed
> Forces (ABRI) but to date, they have not been caught.
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> 3. On May 13 and May 14, huge riots broke out in Jakarta and Surakarta.
> Thousands died, hundreds of shops and houses -- mostly Chinese owned -- were
> destroyed and torched as well as hundreds of motor vehicles. About 150
> Chinese women were raped. A joint fact-finding team has submitted its report
> but no follow up steps have been taken by the government or ABRI leaders.
>
> 4. The National Commission on Human Rights has reported its investigation on
> ABRI operations in Aceh and Irian Jaya. Thousands were killed and hundreds
> of women were raped. No steps have been taken by the government or ABRI
> leaders.
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> 5. More than 150 people allegedly practicing black magic in the Banyuwangi
> area were killed in mysterious ways. Who was behind the killings? The
> government or ABRI leaders have never clarified the matter.
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> 6. Bullets again. On Nov. 13, the Semanggi tragedy took place. Students and
> other community members who demonstrated against the Special Session of the
> People's Consultative Assembly were shot at indiscriminately by ABRI units.
> Fifteen died and hundreds were injured. So far, the culprits have not been
> found.
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> 7. On Nov. 22, riots erupted in Ketapang, Jakarta. Twelve churches and
> schools were vandalized and burned down. Thirteen people died. It is not
> clear who was behind the riots.

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> *8. Eighteen community figures, among whom were retired generals Kemal Idris*
> *and Ali Sadikin, Sri Edi Swasono, Sri Bintang Pamungkas, Sukmawati*
> *Soekarnoputriand Permadi have been interrogated by the police and charged*
> *with conspiracy.*
>
> *Probably they will shortly be brought to court, only because they dared to*
> *issue a joint communique that is seen as contrary to or against the*
> *government. It is actually only a statement of a different opinion. Or*
> *perhaps they were amid the demonstrating students and are viewed as*
> *instigating the students.*
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> *The situation is really bizarre, absurd and deceitful.*
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> *-name of author withheld upon request-*

- **Next message:** Peter Grimes: "(no subject)"
- **Previous message:** Susan Manning: "Fw: PVH closes unionized plant in Guatemala"