

RESILIENCE WORKSHOP GROUP EXERCISE

January 16th, 2008

SCENARIO

There is a growing crisis in Indonesia. Last week, a devastating earthquake in the city of Jakarta has left the capital in ruins, destroying much of the nation's infrastructure and resulting in a death toll of well over 10,000. The national government is effectively paralyzed with little to no security much less rule of law. Essential Services (potable water, electricity, sewage, etc.) are also out of order. Militant Islamic extremists critical of the failed government are establishing strongholds throughout the crippled nation, and pose a serious threat to international security given the global reach of their movement.

The humanitarian and international security implications of this crisis have fueled tremendous international pressure on the U.N. and the United States to take immediate action. President Obama is determined to act, but unsure of the level of response appropriate under the given circumstances. He is specifically sensitive to the potential second and third-order effects of U.S. actions in Indonesia. Current options range from a full-scale, long-term stabilization and reconstruction mission, to a smaller, short-term humanitarian relief package.

In a recent National Security Council meeting, the President openly stated, "Deciding how to respond first requires a full understanding of Indonesia's resilience. Knowing their full capacity to recover from both natural disaster and internal conflict will help me in my decision making, help to shape our strategy, and also determine our operational requirements."

Realizing the complexity and interdisciplinary nature of the problem, National Security Advisor and retired Marine Corps Commandant and NATO commander, General Jim Jones, has gathered a group of experts at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University to develop an action plan in identifying indicators of resilience. You are asked by the President as resilience experts what to do. To respond to the President's request, he needs answers to the following questions:

1. What factors or indicators do we need to consider in measuring Indonesia's resilience?
2. How do these factors relate to strategic objectives, mainly, the desired end state of a stable Indonesia?
3. What data, information, or intelligence requirements will you need to quantify or qualify these factors?

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

*Additional observers and guests are welcome to join these groups in their discussions.

Group #1:

Pat Longstaff
Astier Almedom
Arjen Boin
Mark Lichtenstein
Susan Merrill
Cynthia Irmer
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Group #2:

Lance Gunderson
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BACKGROUND (CIA World Factbook)

Population: 237,512,352

History: Former Dutch Colony

Location: South East Asia; Archipelago between Pacific and Indian Oceans

Natural Resources: petroleum, tin, natural gas, nickel, timber, bauxite, copper, fertile soils, coal, gold, silver

Religions: Muslim 86.1% (largest in world), Protestant 5.7%, Roman Catholic 3%, Hindu 1.8%, other or unspecified 3.4%

Climate: tropical; hot, humid; more moderate in highlands

Terrain: Mix of coastal lowlands, rugged interior mountains

Natural Hazards: floods, droughts, tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, forest fires

Environmental Issues: deforestation; water pollution from industrial wastes, sewage; air pollution in urban areas; smoke and haze from forest fire

Governance: Republic

Current issues include: alleviating poverty, preventing terrorism, consolidating democracy after four decades of authoritarianism, implementing financial sector reforms, stemming corruption, holding the military and police accountable for human rights violations, and controlling avian influenza.