

Country Weekly Report of International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research

INDONESIA

Police made an important arrest this week, nabbing the courier of Mujahidin Indonesia Timur (MIT/Mujahidin of Eastern Indonesia) leader, Santoso. Imran alias Legenda had been on the police's wanted list for a long time. He is believed to be a member of the Santoso led terrorist group MIT. Imran was arrested at his home in Tabalu Village, Poso. Besides serving as a courier for Santoso and as Santoso's right hand man who is a police deserter Daeng Koro alias Abdul Salam alias Sabawas, Imran was responsible for hiding the other two terror suspects. He also facilitated a meeting between Santoso and his wife.¹ Police also killed another of Santoso's man, presently on Indonesia's most wanted list named Rony in Kediri, East Java. He had been evading arrest by moving from Poso to Bima where he had lived with his wife and children. He then moved to his home town, Kediri. Rony alias Joko alias Muas alias Mas Tato alias Fuad was responsible for the killing of at least 8 police officers in Bima and Poso. Having participated in Santoso's military training, police found a 9 mm calibre-fire arms, 9 ammunitions, and 4 bullet covers in Rony's possessions. The arrest was part of series of arrests conducted in previous week, nabbing in total 6 – and killed 1 terror suspects in Central and South Sulawesi.²

Three residents of Poso were allegedly murdered by MIT on 15 January 2015. Two were farmers aged approximately 50 years old. One of the farmers was beheaded. The third resident was a university student. All three were residents of the Tangkura Village of Poso Pesisir Selatan sub-district. Two residents of Sedoa Village, Utara sub-district have also gone missing since 9 December 2014 when they went to the jungle for hunting animals. Police believed that the murders were motivated by a series of arrests against MIT members. There had also been increasing incidents of murders against civilians in the past few months.

¹ "Police Detain Another Alleged Terror Suspect in Sulawesi", *The Jakarta Globe* (<http://thejakartaglobe.beritasatu.com/news/police-detain-another-alleged-terror-suspect-sulawesi/>, 12 January 2015), 18 January 2015; "Densus Tangkap Satu Tersangka Teroris Jaringan MIT", *Antara News* (<http://www.antarane.ws.com/berita/473576/densus-tangkap-satu-tersangka-teroris-jaringan-mit>, 12 January 2015), 18 January 2015.

² "Mas Toto Pernah Habisi Dua Personel Polisi Polres Poso", *Tribun News* (<http://www.tribunnews.com/nasional/2015/01/16/mas-toto-pernah-habisi-dua-personel-polisi-polres-poso>, 16 January 2015), 18 January 2015; "Ini Daftar Dosa Terduga Teroris yang Ditembak Mati di Kediri", *Kompas* (<http://regional.kompas.com/read/2015/01/16/19440641/Ini.Daftar.Dosa.Terduga.Teroris.yang.Ditembak.Mati.di.Kediri>, 16 January 2015), 18 January 2015; "Terduga Teroris Kediri Sempat Kos Dekat Kuburan", *Tempo* (<http://www.tempo.co/read/news/2015/01/18/078635616/Terduga-Teroris-Kediri-Sempat-Kos-Dekat-Kuburan>, 18 January 2015), 18 January 2015.

For instance, on 27 December 2014, three civilians in Poso were kidnapped, two were murdered and one managed to escape.³

The Indonesia government will form the National Cyber Agency (NCA) to defend the country from cyber-attacks. The 2013 report by the US-based Akamai Technologies put Indonesia as the world's largest sources of cyber-attacks, surpassing China. Government official said that the establishment of the NCA is imperative in order to make the country more resilient against future cyber threats. NCA personnel would comprise staff from various government agencies. Defence analyst Bantarto Bandoro believed that the establishment of NCA marks the departure of the way Indonesia handled national security issues from the era of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's administration. Countering the cyber threat was not the lists of priorities of Indonesia's former administration. Currently, it has not been clear how the NCA would collaborate with the Defense Ministry's Cyber Operations Center (COC) which connects with the cyber units in Indonesia's Armed Force (TNI). It is critically important to avoid overlapping functions, responsibilities, or even competition between NCA and COC.⁴

³ "Kapolda: Pembunuhan di Poso Dilatarbelakangi Penangkapan Teroris", *Antara News* (<http://www.antaraneews.com/berita/474502/kapolda-pembunuhan-di-poso-dilatarbelangi-penangkapan-teroris>, 16 January 2015), 18 January 2015; "Polisi Kejar Kelompok Misterius di Poso", *Metro TV News* (<http://news.metrotvnews.com/read/2015/01/16/346021/kelompok-santoso-membantai-warga-poso-tni-diminta-turun>, 18 January 2015), 19 January 2015.

⁴ Bantarto Bandoro, "Common Challenges for Indonesian in the Cyber Realm", *The Jakarta Globe* (<http://thejakartaglobe.beritasatu.com/opinion/common-challenges-indonesia-cyber-realm/>, 15 January 2015), 18 January 2015.