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INDONESIAN POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

(SELECTED TRANSLATIONS)

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FOREWORD

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INDONESIAN POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

[Following are translations of articles on the above subjects, selected from Merdeka (Freedom), Djakarta. Source information accompanies each article.]

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PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE TO PUBLISHERS OF NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

[Following is the translation of an article in Merdeka (Freedom), Djakarta, 13 October 1960, pages 1 and 2.]

In the scheme of reforming the press and other means of publication, the Decree has ordered the publishers of newspapers and magazines to support and defend the political manifesto and the government program. The newspapers and magazines are moreover obliged to become defenders of free and active political performance and are not allowed to become instruments of the cold war between blocs of foreign countries. Constructive criticism has to be carried out so that the situation and the execution of the government program will be in accordance with the political manifesto. Publishers who do not conform to the established directives cannot escape the possibility of withdrawal of their permit to publish or the permit to manufacture paper. Instructions to the publishers of newspapers and magazines were issued yesterday in a letter, sent to all publishers, signed by the President of the Commanders in Chief, Ir. Djuanda. The complete articles of this Decree are as follows:

I. Introduction

1. Newspapers and magazines are means of publication which can be used to influence public opinion. Therefore these newspapers and magazines can be used to make the masses a moving force to complete the Indonesian revolution, striving for a just and prosperous society.

2. In the political manifesto as already adopted by the State, it is clearly and emphatically stated who is the enemy of the Indonesian revolution. We hope that no enemies of the Indonesian revolution will profit by using this revolution, and that consequently the way of the revolution can be an energetic one, necessary for the reconstruction of the means of publication with a refining effect, and carried out very carefully, so that publishing permits can be given to newspapers and periodicals.

3. We hope from the bottom of our hearts that present and future regulations will not hinder the publishers in publishing their newspapers and magazines.

II. Directives for all publishers of newspapers and magazines

1. This directive originates in the political manifesto which already has been accepted by State and government.

2. Newspapers and magazines are obliged to become supporters and defenders of the political manifesto as already adopted by the State and the government.

3. Newspapers and magazines are obliged to become the distributors of the political manifesto as already adopted by the State to fight, among other things:

- a. Imperialism and colonialism
- b. Liberalism
- c. Federalism and Separatism

4. Newspapers and magazines are obliged to become the defenders and the executing channels of a free and active policy and certainly will not become the defenders or means in the cold war between the blocs of foreign countries.

5. Newspapers and magazines are obliged to foster the confidence of the Indonesian people in the basic character of the program and in the guidance of the Indonesian revolution.

6. Newspapers and magazines are obliged to construct an institution which can take care of the discipline and the general safety and foster political tranquility.

7. Newspapers and magazines have to reinforce the consciousness and individuality of Indonesia, among other things by avoiding publishing stories, drawings, photographs, and illustrations of sensational or destructive character.

8. Whenever newspapers and magazines describe facts which imply criticism, for example criticism of the situation and criticism of the execution of government policy, we hope that this will be performed in a constructive way and definitely in a way as prescribed by the political manifesto which already has been adopted by the State.

III. Instructions which must be remembered

Publishers of newspapers and magazines which do not follow the complete or partial regulations included in the above directive will not escape the possibility of withdrawal of the permit to publish or the permit to manufacture paper.

In addition, the authorities are entitled to impose action, make laws or take other effective actions, as for instance, an order to cease publication which cannot be escaped, and which are of a more definite character than the possibility first mentioned.

DIRECTIVE ON PUBLISHING PERMITS

[Following is the translation of an article in Merdeka (Freedom), Djakarta, 13 October 1960, page 2.]

Coincidental with the announced directives for the publication of newspapers and magazines, his excellency the President of the Commanders in Chief (President of the Chiefs of Staff), yesterday issued Decree No 10, concerning permits to publish newspapers and magazines, as well as the explanation thereof. Decree No 10 which was broadcast yesterday by the secretary of the Staff of the Highest War Authority, in its complete text is as follows:

Paragraph 1.

Without effect on the terms of Decree No 3 and 5, 1960, it is forbidden to publish newspapers and magazines without first obtaining a permit from the Authority for the State of National Emergency, in this case issued by the Head of the Section Security and Defense of the Staff of the Authority for the State of National Emergency.

Paragraph 2.

He who violates the terms of Paragraph 1 of this Decree will be sentenced according to Paragraph 48 of the Government Regulation for the Substitution of Law, No 23, 1959 (Government paper No 139, 1959) that is, imprisonment for the period of one year or a fine of up to 30,000 rupiahs.

Paragraph 3.

The criminal laws as shown in Paragraph 2 of this Decree as well as those of Paragraph 58 of the Decree of the Government to Substitute Law No 23, 1959, (Government Paper No 139, 1959) are included in the effective law.

Paragraph 4.

Newspapers and magazines which are published without a permit as required in Paragraph 1 of this Regulation, after the effective date of this Decree, will be seized and destroyed.

Paragraph 5.

This Regulation is valid for the territories which are in a state of civic emergency, in a state of military emergency, or in a state of war.

Paragraph 6.

This Regulation becomes effective on 1 November 1960.

In order to inform everybody, the ordinances of this Regulation will be published in the Government Paper of the Republic of Indonesia.

As decided in Djakarta on
1 November 1960.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT OF
THE COMMANDERS IN CHIEF OF THE
MILITARY FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC
OF INDONESIA, THE HIGHEST WAR
AUTHORITY

signed

Djuanda

Proclaimed in Djakarta 12 October 1960,

SECRETARY OF STATE

signed

SANTOSO

CEMENT PRODUCTION IN INDONESIA

[Following is a translation of an article in Merdeka (Freedom), Djakarta, 11 October 1960, page 2.]

The Gresik cement factory, which within a short time will no longer be "foreign", steadily increases quality and production, according to contractors in Indonesia. It will participate with a stand in the Indonesian Industrial Exposition in New-Kebajoran next Sunday night, to get acquainted with the industries which use cement to a great extent. This cement factory is one of the industries owned by the state. The cost of the building of this factory amounted to almost 512 million rupiah, which was part of a 14 million dollar loan by the Export and Import Bank. This factory started production in July 1957 and has been in production for more than three years. The standard production amounts to 250,000 tons, or 5 million sacks of 50 kilograms each yearly. However, in the period up to the third year, that is 1960, the factory already produced 283,000 tons, which is 13% over its production capacity.

The director of the Gresik cement industry, Sarimin Rokso-dihardjo, says: "We already have to enlarge our factory". The expansion will be completed about September next year. According to Sarimin, the factory, once completed, will be able to increase its production by 50 percent.

Sarimin explained that the need for cement in Indonesia last year amounted up to 600,000 tons. Of this total, 65% can be covered by the cement industry of the country, that is by Gresik and Padang.

Hotel Indonesia and the bridges which will be built for the Asian games in the capital, says Sarimin, will all be completed with cement from Gresik.

The price per sack of cement will be 108 rupiah at the warehouse, according to the information given by Usindo, which became distributor of this cement in the large cities of Indonesia. Sarimin states that the raw material, limestone, which is found in that county and which already has been bought and used to now by the Gresik cement factory, will be used up in 25 to 30 years if it is extracted in the same proportion as at present by the cement factory. But the soil layers containing this limestone, not yet explored by the factory, are vast.

Of the progressive industries of this year, the Gresik cement factory will build a stand in front of the "Wood Palace", in one row with the stand of Usindo. It is especially this Gresik-cement stand, possessing a robot, which will draw special attention once discovered by the children. This robot can talk, answer questions, and will be able to observe the people surrounding him, but it cannot move. It is only three years old, just like the Gresik cement factory.

PRODUCTION OF MEDICINES

[Following is the translation of an article in Merdeka (Freedom), Djakarta, 11 October 1960, page 2.]

By Decree No 57959 of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, dated 8 July 1960, the Indonesian Combination for the Chemical Industry Ltd., the Bandoeng Quinine Factory Ltd., the Iodide Enterprise Watoedakon Ltd., founded the Pharmaceutical Industry and State Health Organization, Bhinneka Karya, under the management of Lieutenant Colonel Sarimin. The business sphere will be BK [Barang Kimik -- Chemical Products] and leaves [sic] of the cinchona tree. [Note quinine is not extracted from the leaf of a cinchona tree, but from the bark.] The total output of this state industry includes about 90 kinds of medicine, in tablet, ampulla, or powder form. Among these are products whose production has been stopped for several months due to difficulties in obtaining their raw materials from abroad, as e.g., "folia sennae", but which now again will be manufactured, such as: Potassium iodide, Emitine, liver pills, Neohepatoplex, etc. [Note: Folia sennae are leaves of the senalis plant, grown in Egypt. The extract of these leaves is used as a laxative.] It is clear that the production in the year 1960 must be raised compared to that of previous years, especially the important output of pills. For example, the previous production of sulphur and quinine drugs, in 1958, had an average monthly rate of 7 million pills, in the year 1960 this average will reach 12 million monthly. Euginine, which reached an average of two to three million each month, in the year 1958, will reach six million in 1960. The average monthly production of potassium iodide in the year 1958 amounted to 400,000 pellets, at the beginning of the year 1960 this was 120,000, but in August of this year it will rise to one million. The total tablet production of all medicines this year has been set at 800 million. It is possible that this goal can not be achieved; however, in the month of August the total of 503 million was already reached. The situation in 1960 will be better than in 1959, in which difficulties have been experienced with basic materials which had to be bought in foreign markets at extremely high prices.

Production of Quinine

With regard to this production, it is with delight that we notice the demand of the Government that the planters of quinine bark deliver their product as instructed by the Government. The need for quinine bark for 1961 is about 4,500 tons -- necessary raw material for the production of all kinds of medicine. Up to September 1960, 140 tons of quinine powder has already been manufactured, compared to a total output of 142 tons of quinine powder in 1959.