

ANNEX D

THE ROLE OF INDONESIAN DEFENSE FORCES ON DISASTER RELIEF OPERATION IN ACEH, NORTH SUMATERA AND NIAS

1. Introduction

The tragic natural disaster where an about 9.2 richter scale earthquake hit the province of Aceh and North Sumatera, triggering a huge tsunami in several countries (India, Srilanka, Maldives, Thailand and Malaysia) along the Indian coast, just gravely mourned on 26 December 2004 and around 8.2 richter scale hit Nias area on 26 March 2005.

This bad situation has brought together the governments of the affected countries and international communities as a whole to give immediate humanitarian aids to help. Huge prompt and immediate response and assistances emerged for disaster relief. Notably the military contingent from friendly countries like Singapore, Australia, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, Japan, United States, China, India, Pakistan, Turkey, United Kingdom, Russia, German, Canada, Egypt, UEA, Saudi Arabia, etc. Many countries offered assistance financially and personally to overcome the impact of the tsunami in Indonesia. Huge contribution of solidarity and brotherhood were shown from people around the globe from various segments such as governments, UN, other International and regional organizations (125 International & domestic NGOs), private sector and business community, non-governmental organizations and individuals.

It is really a great thing to see how people was bound so sincerely by sense of humanity and put aside differences in terms of religious beliefs, cultures and political values. This sentiment had boosted the will among people and states for partnership and cooperation to deal with the disaster.

Like the recent tsunami that hit other countries, even though humanitarian aids could be mobilized quite well, more efforts were still needed to ensure that aids reach the affected community quickly and effectively. This necessity was also supported by the fact that in most cases, humanitarian aids distribution was facilitated by badly damaged infrastructures such as bridges and roads to reach the survivors that usually lived in scattered and isolated camps throughout the region. In this regard, the longer aids reach to the needy, the longer suffering and pain the people should bear.

2. The Indonesian Armed Forces Action

A. Immediate Response by The Indonesian Defense Forces (IDFs)

The Military Area Command (Kodam), The Military Resort Command (Korem) and The Military District Command (Kodim) had played great role in assisting the victim of tsunami, just after the tragic natural disaster happened, they had done such things as : searching victims, evacuating dead bodies (> 100.000 dead bodies), burying

bodies, setting up command post to assist the distribution of food, distributing medicine, clothes, and other things, helping to relocate the displaced people and setting up field hospital and deployed military medical staff to conduct medical services.

IDFs together with foreign military, worked for medical services in Banda Aceh, Meulaboh and Nias Island. Engineering task force had been sent also to rehabilitate the destroyed infrastructure. This task force was equipped with bulldozer and dump truck. Engineering battalion was also sent to the devastated area.

Immediately after the tsunami, The Indonesia Air Force prepared its C-130 and some others aircraft including helicopter to transport any support to isolated area, to evacuate victims and distribute food and other things. On the other hand The Indonesian Navy on the first step sent LST completed with medical team onboard and brought foods, medicine and miscellaneous. Next, the Navy had operated about its ships to support the humanitarian operation.

B. Humanitarian Assistance Operation

Based on National Security Law No. 3/2002, IDFs has a task to conduct Military Operation Other Than war. One of the implementation of Military Operation Other Than War in accordance to that law is to conduct the operation for natural disaster relief, so that The Chief of Indonesian Armed Forces had decided to focus the strength of IDFs personnel on giving assistance to the people of Aceh and the affected community. The Chief of Armed Forces had ordered the Chief of Army, Navy and Air Force to deploy their personnel and equipments to the destroyed area. The Chief of Military Area in Aceh gave instruction to his personnel to concentrate on the military operation for humanitarian aid operation. Therefore, two third of military personnel in Aceh have been ordered to conduct humanitarian operation instead of military operation against the separatist movement. Whilst, The Chief of Military Area in North Sumatera handed over the military personnel in North Sumatera to overcome Nias immediately.

The Operation for disaster relief that had been done :

- 1) Re-open the road which closed by the debris/ rubbles, approximately 500.000 tons
- 2) Evacuated the injured people
- 3) Provided assistance to health service for the injuries people and evacuated them
- 4) Establish field hospital for health service
- 5) Established and Secured the evacuation area and distributed logistical supply
- 6) Provided assistance for victims who would like to travel outside disrupted area with air and sea transport

- 7) Cleaned the city mainly all the public facilities, offices, streets, and Mosque (which is very important, because it is directly related to the spirit of the Acehnese)
- 8) Guided the foreign military troops to conduct humanitarian aids
- 9) Rebuilding roads and bridges
- 10) Established a beach head along with Singapore, Australia and United States
- 11) Rebuild the airstrip in some area e.g. in Meulaboh.
- 12) Helping the local government to regain their capability (70% of the activities of the local government were paralyzed during the first week after the tsunami)
- 13) Defining the Terms of Reference/Role of Engagement of the Peace Flying Modes (time line of the emergency response period)
- 14) Hydro-oceanic survey on the center of earthquake, and coastal area
- 15) Daily information of the nature of the disaster to the public during the emergency period
- 16) Established National and Provincial Collection Point

To make the job easier, IDFs had constructed some posts, 3 command posts in Jakarta, and 6 command field posts in Aceh, Medan, and Nias.

- 3 command posts in Jakarta were as follows :

- 1) Humanitarian transportation in Air Force Base, **Halim** Perdana Kusuma. The task of this command post is to transport the humanitarian aid from Jakarta to Medan and Aceh using aircrafts from Indonesian Air force and foreign military aircrafts.
- 2) Humanitarian transportation in Naval Base Tanjung Priok. The task of this command post to transport the humanitarian aid by using Navy ships.
- 3) Information center in IDFs Headquarters. The task of this post is to provide information to the people who want to seek for information about their families or relatives.

6 field command posts were located in :

- 1) Iskandar Muda Airport
- 2) Meulaboh
- 3) Pidie
- 4) Bireun
- 5) Medan
- 6) Nias

The task of this post command is to list and data the victims and to coordinate the humanitarian operation in the field and conduct the coordination and direct deploy of foreign military personnel.

3. Foreign Military Assistance

There were 31 nations had sent their humanitarian aids, troops, ships, **aircrafts**, helicopters and volunteers to Aceh and 7 countries participated on Nias disaster relief operation. The numbers of foreign troops which have been received more than 5.000 personnel. Their valuable work for humanitarian relief aids had been greatly applauded. Their presence was essential during the phase of emergency relief that extremely needs quick and effective aids such as providing helicopters to distribute aids to remote and isolated **areas**, other air, sea and land transportation, field and ship hospitals to treat the injured, cleaning water equipment, provide foods, medicines, drinking water, temporary shelters, etc. It should be acknowledge that foreign military missions had been accomplished successfully. This was because of good cooperation and coordination between **IDFs** and foreign military personnel.

To assist foreign military units, **IDFs** had the responsibility to deploy and control their daily activities. The Department of Defense and **IDFs** were also request daily report from the Defense Attache. Delivering aid to certain area had been escorted by TNI personnel to ensure the security.

4. Conclusion

- A. The disaster in Aceh, North Sumatera and Nias Island had put people all over the world bound so sincerely by sense of humanity and put aside the differences in terms of religious beliefs, cultures and political values.
- B. **IDFs** together with the contingent of the friendly countries had played great role and contribution in Aceh disaster relief particularly soon after the tsunami as well as in Nias Earthquake.
- C. Foreign military humanitarian aids also played significant contribution particularly in distributing humanitarian aids using aircraft, providing medical services to the victims and recovering infrastructures.

5. Suggestions

- A. Learned from such kind of disaster, ARF needs to develop a regional cooperation for disaster relief with a view to enhancing mutual confidence, contributing to regional security and reinforcing the sense of good neighborliness among ARF participants. Issues of disaster relief cooperation should contribute to enhance contacts, including military to military.
- B. More over, ARF needs to work on the development of national and international disaster related capabilities, to capitalize on existing arrangements and resources, and to enhance coordination between the ARF and disaster-related regional and international institutions.

Role of the Armed Forces in disaster relief

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[Introduction]

Japan is full of the nature and of the variety of the seasons, therefore it has often experienced relatively a lot of natural disasters. So Japan Self Defense Forces is dispatched to dozens of natural disaster relief operations every year. JSDF has been dispatched to large scale disaster relief operations such as, those of the earthquakes of Hanshin-Awaji and of Niigata-ken-Chuuetu, and copes with natural disasters caused by Typhoon or something like this every year. And it engaged in also some international disaster relief operations including that of Indian Ocean tsunami disaster from 1998.

[Significance of utilization of the armed forces in disaster relief activities]

It is considered practical to utilize the armed forces for disaster relief activities for the following reasons;

- i) The armed forces is self-concluded, that is to say, it can do kinds of activities necessary in **the** disaster area such as medical service, water supply, transport, communications, without depending on the existing infrastructures in that **area**.
- ii) It has the promptness and mobility, and has the **equipment** such as transport aircraft, **helicopters**, supply ships and others useful for these kinds of **activities**.
- iii) It can do relatively large scale and well organized activities.

Of course, the fire brigades or the units of the Coast Guard should be primarily dispatched to disaster relief activities because prefectural governors or other officials such as the Director-General of the Japan Coast Guard are responsible for the disaster relief operations. The **JSDF** is fundamentally dispatched for disaster relief activities on the basis of the request by prefectural **governors**.

In order to render SDF dispatches more effective, discretionary dispatches by the order of SDF unit commanders or other officials are definitively authorized under the certain occasions in recent years. So the opportunities of the JSDF operations in disaster relief activities have been increased

For example, SDF can discretionally dispatch the reconnaissance aircraft for gathering local information and transmitting the pictures to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet Office when the earthquake occurs, of which intensity is stronger than lower 5 level on Japanese intensity scale by the Japan Metrological Agency.

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Today a lot of countries dispatch their armed forces to the international Military Operations Others Than War (**MOOTW**) such as **PKO**, international disaster relief operations. **So**, it is very often that some of the armed forces of various nations worked in the same or next to area in a **foreign** region such as the disaster relief operations of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster this year.

The armed forces has common rules, cultures or mind even if it belongs to various nations. Therefore in international cooperative operations such as disaster relief activities, the armed forces is very effective not only for its capability as mentioned before but also for these abstract factors.

[JSDF response to disaster relief activities]

Here I'd like to introduce some responses to domestic disasters. Based on the lessons learned from the **Hanshin-Awaji** Earthquake, responses of the Self Defense Forces are mainly under normal circumstance as follows;

- i) ***Designate the units that are to take immediately initial measures to ensure prompt disaster relief dispatches;*** The GSDF designates approximately 2,700 persons, **410 vehicles**, and 30 helicopters as units that can be immediately dispatched for disaster relief activities. The MSDF designates the ships that can conduct emergency operations and has established a standby system for emergency operations by aircraft. Also the ASDF has established a standby system for emergency aircraft operations.
- ii) ***Cooperation with the local government and other related agencies;*** we make SDF disaster prevention plans consistent with those of the others, and formulate the response manuals for each type of disasters. The SDF actively participates in disaster relief exercises conducted by local government and send the liaison officers to some local governments also under **normal** circumstance. Also, in view of the importance of cooperation with local governments in human resources, in order to provide the knowledge **and** experience of SDF personnel, retired SDF personnel who have particular expertise in relevant fields, including disaster **prevention**, are recruited to local governments upon requests from them.

It is especially important to share the information and enhance the information and communication systems in this kind of activities.

Next I mention a little about readiness for international disaster relief operations. Some points of major operational policy are;

- Area of activities is mainly within developing countries in the Asian and Oceanic region.

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- Advanced party shall depart within 48 hours after the order, main body shall begin to depart within 5 days.
- Deployed units shall arrive in the disaster area within approximately 2 weeks, and period of activities is fundamentally about 3 weeks after the arrival of the main body.

The scale of the **deployed** units shall be determined in every case on the basis of the coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The scale of the GSDF Units (that is the main body of the dispatched units) is **determined** mainly by the capacity of air and sea transportation. And in the maximum scale, it consists of 13 medical officers, 3 of transport helicopters, 2 of utility helicopters and others necessary.

[JSDF Disaster Relief Operations for Indian Ocean tsunami disaster]

Here I'd like to brief on JSDF disaster relief operations for Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.

Following the Thai government's request for **aid**, the Japanese government ordered the JSDF to send JMSDF ships to the stricken area. Two of destroyers DDG Kirishima and DD Takanami and supply ship AOE Hamana sailed to the coast of Phuket, Thailand, to search and rescue **victims**. Previously, the three ships had been off coast of Malaysia refueling foreign military ships involved in Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in Afghanistan.

Coordinating closely with the Royal Thai Navy Third Fleet, the three JMSDF ships with nearly 600 crew members began relief activities, including picking up debris floating on the water, on 29 December last year. Before completing operations in Thailand on 1 January 2005, the ships had received 57 bodies.

The Units had been very **smoothly** dispatched in this area in virtue of the close and prompt cooperation with the Thai government including Thai armed forces, the Japanese embassy in Thailand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japan Defense Agency.

Next I mention the activities in Indonesia, following the Indonesian government's request for aid on 4 January 2005, an advanced team, of mainly Joint Staff Office members of Japan Defense Agency, arrived at the Royal Thai Naval Air Base in Utapao, Thailand. In Utapao, the team assessed the conditions and the humanitarian needs of affected areas and established the Joint Coordination Center (JCC). The JCC coordinated closely with the Combined Coordination Center, which facilitated coordination among all the multinational militaries and non-governmental organizations that participated in relief operations.

On 10 January, the JASDF Airlift Unit began airlifting relief goods between Utapao and Banda Ache, Indonesia. JSDF established the JCC in Banda Ache,

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and it coordinated efforts **there**, including the later withdrawal of JSDF troops.

A JSDF Emergency Medical Team of nearly 20 members arrived in Banda Aceh aboard a JASDF transport aircraft, and this team began vaccination and medical treatments at the airport.

JGSDF Medical and Terminal Airlift Units with three CH-47 helicopters and two UH-60 helicopters provided the main body of JSDF relief operations. They arrived off coast of Sumatra, **Indonesia**, aboard JMSDF three ships, the destroyer DDH Kurama, the dock landing ship LST Kunisaki and the replenishment ship AOE Tokiwa and civilian airplanes.

While in Indonesia, JGSDF medical personnel treated 6,013 patients, vaccination 2277 people, and provided epidemic control covering 133,800 square meters.

There are a lot of lessons learned in these operations. In the international disaster **relief activities**, the JSDF operations can not be self-concluded. It is indispensable that we coordinate multilaterally and simultaneously with **the** armed forces of the other nations, the organizations of the UN, the other **related** governmental **organizations** such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and non-governmental organizations should be **continued**.

Considering only about the cooperation between the armed forces (SDF) and the civilian organizations, complicated coordination and cooperation are necessary, such as the change of the content of activities, and the shift of the **responsibility** for the activities **depending** on the phase of the activities.

No need to say, lots of substantial lessons learned about the operations themselves are **gained**, such as the importance of the information sharing, securing the communication systems and **interoperability**, and so on.

So here, I would like to announce all of you about the **Tokyo** Defense Forum late in June held by the Japan Defense Agency, where the details about disaster relief operations of the armed forces will be discussed for the purpose of the information and lessons learned sharing mainly from activities experienced in Indian Ocean tsunami disaster and future challenges.

ROLE OF THE ARMY ON DISSATER RELIEF

By Lieutenant-Colonel: Saichay KOMMASITH

I. Overall of disaster:

- Disaster is a mass destruction to the living of the community, which bring! a great of losses, injuries and property or environmental damages.
- Disaster divided into 2 main types:
 - + Natural disaster: comprises of earthquake, volcanos, Tsunamis, landslides, tropical cyclones, flood, epidemic and drought and etc.
 - + Manmade disaster: Industrial accident, plane crashes, building collapses, firebush, air pollution, environmental degredation, war/turmoil and etc.

As we understand that disaster destruction brings a great loss to human's life and property. For Example: "Linda" windstorm blew to Vietnam in 1997, which caused damage more than 200 houses; flooding of Yang Si River of China in 1998, which affected over 230 million people and over 4.000 people died; terrorist attact on September 11th, 2001 in New York also brought a great loss; One remarkable event of natural disaster that was remained in mind for long as the dead in sea wave in December 26th, 2004 which called "Tsunami" at the sea in the Northern of Sumatra Island of Indonesia, this incident was affected and covered 11 countries and more than 290.000 people died, many injured, thousand people disappeared and damaged of great number of property.

In Laos, the natural disaster which usually occurs as flood, drought and firebush; but mostly flood is due to the location of the country, particularly in the tropical area, some areas are plain and low land, especially in the central and Southern of the country; In rainy season, Mekong River often overflows from the bank together with the amount of rain fall, that causes of unable to flow into the Mekong River, so that flood are in some areas.

II. Role of the army in disaster relief:

Each disaster incident, the government's suffering country are always given hand to the victims by international organizations and other communities. Besides, the rescue units who are responsible directly to the incident, the army is one force that play important role in contributing into disaster relief, due to its complete structural organization, sufficient men power and high modern technical equipments to be able on rescuing emergency as the "Tsunami" disaster broke out in December of 2004, armies had contributed men power and technical equipment in the rescuing work and victims' damage.

III. Role of the Lao People's Army in disaster relief:

The Lao People's Army as well as a part of preparatory work in fighting, protecting to the independence and prosperous people, it also pays important role in contributing and militating into disaster damage, such as researching and rescuing people in the case of flood, promptly moving victims out to the save places from the flooding areas, providing foods and drinking water, medecines, building temporary shelters, restoring damaged houses, schools, roads, telecommunication system, using transport vehicles, setting communication system in order to facilitate the victims.

Disaster controlling in the Lao P.D.R. has established a central operation called "The National Disaster Management office" which is located in the Ministry of labour and Social welfare. (see the detail in Annex 1).

IV. Operation procedure in disaster relief.

The Lao People's Army set up the operation periods during disaster relief as follow:

Period 1: (Before disaster occurs) determine preparation plan, propaganda awareness, educate and consult people, train and guide in practical work.

Period 2: (During disaster) appoint duty, guide, supervise, assign work and monitor the disaster relief operation to be solved on time.

Period 3: (After disaster) quickly rebuild and repair overall structures to the normal condition.

V. Helping procedures and military supports.

1- Organize well training course and have adiquate experts.

2- Quickly coordinate and work with the National Disaster Office in estimating the overall damages and

In the terms of survey should be certain accurated on the dangerous levels and losses by air, land and river.

3- Inspect the disaster areas and find out theconvinient and accessible roads going to those areas.

4- Assign and recruit in full ability force into rescuing assistace.

5- Prepare emergent communication equipment for connecting to the local focal points.

6- Prepare to control, preserve and transport on helping supplies along the roads, using military helicopters, airplans and all means of transportation to check, monitor, evocuate victims and materials to the safe areas.

7- Provide medical services to civilian factor in case of emergency.

VI. Conclusion.

All the above - mentioned, disaster relief is a duty and obligation for all people. In Lao P D R, the Lao People's Army is a force in supporting and contributing disaster relief. Lao people's Army pays closely attention to the disaster management in order to protect people from disasters.