

**The original documents are located in Box 2, folder “Indonesia - President Suharto” of the National Security Adviser’s Presidential Correspondence with Foreign Leaders Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1975

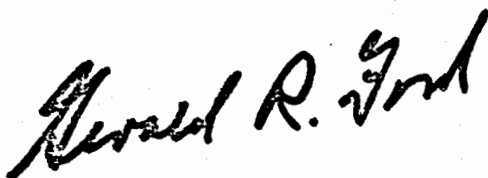
Dear Mr. President:

I deeply appreciated your invitation of last September for a visit to Indonesia. It was regretfully not possible for me to accept at the time.

I definitely look forward to visiting your great country, however, and to the opportunity to understand your culture and your people better. I want to see with my own eyes the outstanding progress that you have made in Indonesia. But I ask your indulgence because my schedule will not permit me to make the trip in the near future.

Since our two countries share many common interests, and since we face a number of challenges that we could very usefully discuss, would it be possible for you to visit the United States at a time convenient to you? I would hope that we could meet here some time this year to exchange views on matters of common concern and on the general world situation.

Sincerely,



His Excellency  
General Suharto  
President of the  
Republic of Indonesia  
Jakarta



CLASSIFICATION

NSC REFERRAL TO STATE SECRETARIAT

Date: Feb 28 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

GEORGE SPRINGSTEEN  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NSC LOG# 7500971

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: Pres Suharto  
FROM: Pres Ford  
DATE: Feb 27 1975  
SUBJECT: Invitation

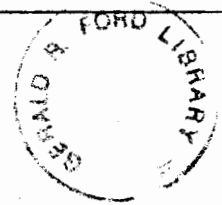
ACTION REQUESTED:

         DRAFT REPLY FOR:          PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE  
                  WHITE HOUSE STAFF SIGNATURE  
                  OTHER  
         DIRECT REPLY          FURNISH INFO COPY  
         XXX DISPATCH  
         RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS  
         TRANSLATION  
         APPROPRIATE HANDLING  
         INFORMATION  
         FOR ADDITIONAL PROCESSING AS INDICATED:         

DUE DATE:

URGENT           
ROUTINE         

COMMENTS:         



*Charlette D'Agostino*  
for JEANNE W. DAVIS  
Staff Secretary

CLASSIFICATION

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ACTION

February 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*

SUBJECT:

Proposed Letter from You to  
Indonesian President Suharto  
Inviting Him for a State Visit

At Tab A is a draft letter from you to President Suharto inviting him to make the state visit here, which you have already approved in principle for some time this year.

Our Ambassador has already extended the invitation on your behalf. However, I recommend that we also extend the invitation in a personal letter since this personal touch would help improve our relations with Indonesia as well as the spirit of the visit.

As to the timing of the visit, it would seem best to do it just before or after President Suharto's visit to Canada this summer. We will be discussing this orally with the Indonesians and do not need to make any mention of it in the letter.

The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Paul Theis' office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/93, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY *hls*, NARA, DATE *3/5/04*~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

CONFIDENTIAL/NODIS  
Attachments

February 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

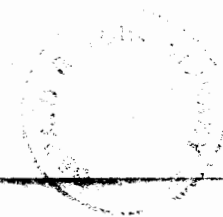
Mr. George S. Springsteen  
Executive Secretary  
Department of State

SUBJECT: Telegram to Jakarta  
on Suharto Visit

Will you please dispatch the attached telegram this evening.

  
Jeanne W. Davis  
Staff Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL/NODIS  
Attachments



CONFIDENTIAL/NODIS

MESSAGE FOR: AMEMBASSY, JAKARTA  
FROM: STATE  
SUBJECT: U. S. VISIT FOR PRESIDENT SUHARTO  
REF: JAKARTA 2386  
*IMMEDIATE*

1. Please deliver to Minister Sudharmono the following letter from President Ford for President Suharto:

Begin Quote: Dear Mr. President:

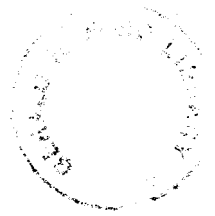
I deeply appreciated your invitation of last September for a visit to Indonesia. It was regrettably not possible for me to accept at the time.

I definitely look forward to visiting your great country, however, and to the opportunity to understand your culture and your people better. I want to see with my own eyes the outstanding progress that you have made in Indonesia. But I ask your indulgence because my schedule will not permit me to make the trip in the near future.

Since our two countries share many common interests, and since we face a number of challenges that we could very usefully discuss, would it be possible for you to visit the United States at a time convenient to you? I would hope that we could meet here some time

CONFIDENTIAL/NODIS

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5  
NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES  
BY hlg, NARA, DATE 2/5/04



this year to exchange views on matters of common concern and on the general world situation. Sincerely, Gerald R. Ford End Text.

2. Please advise Minister Sudharmono we will review the President's schedule to see what arrangements might be most convenient for a meeting between the two Presidents. In the meantime, we would welcome such advance information as the Indonesians may have on President Suharto's travel plans in June and July.
3. FYI. We appreciate your having taken the initiative to raise President Ford's invitation with President Suharto before you received this letter.
4. We will try to see whether arrangements outside Washington can be made, but the President's schedule is very heavy and we do not see how a meeting outside Washington would save very much time for Suharto. We had in mind asking President Suharto to stop in Washington on June 30 and July 1 or on July 7 and 8/ for a full state visit. We could cut this schedule down further and reduce the Washington time to such basics as an office call and a working lunch or dinner. But one reason to have a Washington meeting would be the opportunity for ceremonial occasions such as a state dinner that would, we should think, have a favorable impact in Indonesia.
5. In determining our position, we would appreciate your estimate of the Indonesian reaction if it proves infeasible to have a meeting



outside Washington, as well as your evaluation of the purpose behind President Suharto's suggestion for such a meeting.

6. You may draw as you wish on paragraph 4 above during your conversation with Sudharmono if you think it would increase the likelihood that Suharto would want to come to Washington, especially if you believe that Suharto proposed another site because he did not understand the nature of our invitation. End FYI.





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D  
rem

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDSACTION

February 15, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: W. R. SMYSER *WRS/jok*

SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from the President  
to Indonesian President Suharto  
Inviting Him to Visit the U. S.

At Tab I is a draft memorandum from you to the President attaching a draft letter from the President to President Suharto inviting him to make a state visit to the U. S. The President has already approved in principle a state visit for Suharto sometime this year.

Given our current problems with Indonesia, I recommend that the President extend the invitation by personal letter, rather than verbally through Ambassador Newsom. This more personal touch would be useful in light of our severe cut in economic aid to Indonesia this year and Indonesian doubts about our willingness to persist in Indochina. Our major objective during his visit here will be to bolster his confidence in our intentions towards Indonesia, and toward Southeast Asia generally.

As to the timing of the visit, President Suharto plans a trip for next summer to Western Europe and then to Canada. I recommend that we instruct Ambassador Newsom to propose to Suharto verbally, when he delivers the President's letter, that Suharto make his visit to the U. S. just before or after his visit to Canada, which is now tentatively scheduled for July 2-6. I believe his timing should be suggested verbally, in order not to give Suharto the feeling that we are pressing this particular time on him.

The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Paul Theis' office.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft memorandum to the President at Tab I.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS*W 3/5/04**Tab I fwded  
2-27-75*

MEMORANDUM

971

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GDS

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian  
President Suharto Inviting Him for a  
State Visit

At Tab A is a draft letter from you to President Suharto inviting him to make the state visit here, which you have already approved in principle for some time this year.

Given our current problems with Indonesia, I recommend that you extend the invitation in a personal letter, rather than verbally through our Ambassador in Jakarta. This more personal touch would be useful in light of our severe cut in economic aid to Indonesia this year and Indonesian doubts about our willingness to persist in Indochina. Our major objective during his visit here will be to bolster his confidence in our intentions towards Indonesia, and toward Southeast Asia generally.

As to the timing of the visit, President Suharto plans a trip for next summer to Western Europe and then to Canada. I recommend that we instruct our Ambassador in Jakarta to propose to Suharto verbally, when he delivers your letter, that Suharto make his visit to the U. S. just before or after his visit to Canada, which is now tentatively scheduled for July 2-6. I believe his timing should be suggested verbally, in order not to give Suharto the feeling that we are pressing this particular time on him.

The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Paul Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GDS

ldh 3/5/04

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposal verbally that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDSACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian President Suharto Inviting Him for a State Visit

*You will recall your earlier decision in principle to invite President Suharto of Indonesia to make a state visit to the U.S. this year.*

At Tab A is a draft letter from you to President Suharto ~~inviting him to make the state visit here, which you have already approved in principle for some time this year.~~ *which formally tenders that invitation at a time to be decided later.*

Given our current problems with Indonesia, I recommend that you extend the invitation in a personal letter, rather than verbally through our Ambassador in Jakarta. This more personal touch would be useful in light of our severe cut in economic aid to Indonesia this year and Indonesian doubts about our willingness to persist in Indochina. Our major objective during his visit here will be to bolster his confidence in our intentions towards Indonesia, *and toward Southeast Asia generally.*

*as would be customary.*

As to the timing of the visit, President Suharto plans a trip for next summer to Western Europe and then to Canada. I recommend that we instruct our Ambassador in Jakarta to propose to Suharto verbally, when he delivers your letter, that Suharto make his visit to the U. S. just before or after his visit to Canada, which is now tentatively scheduled for July 2-6. I believe his timing should be suggested verbally, in order not to give Suharto the <sup>impression</sup> ~~feeling~~ that we are pressing this particular time on him.

*cut*

The ~~draft letter of invitation~~ has been coordinated with ~~Mr.~~ Paul Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

da 3/5/04



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposal <sup>19</sup>verbally that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ACTION (971)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian  
President Suharto Inviting Him for a  
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The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~

Ch 3/5/04



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDSACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian President Suharto Inviting Him for a State Visit

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The text has been coordinated with Paul Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

Va 3/13/04

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposing that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_



NSC/S 2/28<sup>14</sup>

Send letter to  
SIS for dispatch,  
copied to Amson  
& CF.  
Cable

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

ACTION

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** THE PRESIDENT  
**FROM:** HENRY A. KISSINGER  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian  
President Suharto Inviting Him for a  
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The text has been coordinated with Paul Theris' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

led 3/5/04



REWRITE 971  
2/18/75

CONFIDENTIAL GDS

ACTION

**MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT**

**FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER**

**SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian President Suharto Inviting Him for a State Visit**

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CONFIDENTIAL GDS

W 3/5/04



17  
REWRITE 971  
2/18/75

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

ACTION

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**FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER**

**SUBJECT: Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian President Suharto Inviting Him for a State Visit**

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The text has been coordinated with Paul Thais' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

Wa 3/5/04



REWRITE 971  
2/18/75

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

ACTION

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GDS

Gh 3/5/04

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS

W 3/5/04  
McF:wgh:15 Feb 75 (tab I retyped)



CONFIDENTIAL

2

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposing that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~

LM 3/5/04  
McF:wgh:15 Feb 75 (tab I retyped)





~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposing that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS



ACTION (971)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** THE PRESIDENT

**FROM:** HENRY A. KISSINGER

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Letter from You to Indonesian President Suharto Inviting Him for a State Visit

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The draft letter of invitation has been coordinated with Mr. Theis' office.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~

hkt 3/5/04  
McF:wgh:15 Feb 75 (tab I retyped)



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the draft letter to President Suharto at Tab A.

That you approve Ambassador Newsom's proposing that President Suharto make the visit here just before or after his Canadian visit.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NBR			INITIAL ACTION	
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR					
2	15	2	15	13	7500971				

SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ FROM: *Smoyer* KISSINGER, H \_\_\_\_\_ S/S \_\_\_\_\_ REFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCLED AS APPROPRIATE  
 KISSINGER X \_\_\_\_\_ COLBY, W \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT  
 SCOWCROFT \_\_\_\_\_ SCHLESINGER, J \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ LOU NO FORN NODIS  
 DAVIS \_\_\_\_\_ ST EX SEC \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_ EYES ONLY EXDIS  
 TS \_\_\_\_\_ CODEWORD \_\_\_\_\_ SENSITIVE \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: *Proposed ltr from Pres to Indonesian Pres Suharto inviting him to visit U.S.*

DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION			REC CY FOR	ACTION REQUIRED
	ACTION	INFO		
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT				MEMO FOR HAK ( )
STAFF SECRETARY				MEMO FOR PRES ( )
FAR EAST <i>Smoyer</i>			<u>X</u>	REPLY FOR ( )
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				APPROPRIATE ACTION ( )
MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA				MEMO _____ TO _____ ( )
EUROPE / CANADA				RECOMMENDATIONS ( )
LATIN AMERICA				JOINT MEMO ( )
UNITED NATIONS				REFER TO _____ FOR: ( )
ECONOMIC				ANY ACTION NECESSARY? ( )
SCIENTIFIC				CONCURRENCE ( )
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				DUE DATE: _____
NSC PLANNING				COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)
CONGRESSIONAL				
OCEANS POLICY				
INTELLIGENCE <i>Amor</i>			<u>X</u>	

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

DATE	FROM	TO	S	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	CY TO
2/15	<i>Smoyer</i>	HAK	X	<i>Pres to sign ltr to Suharto (2/18)</i>	
2/27		NSC/B		<i>Pres sig ltr to Suharto</i>	
2/28	NSC/S			<i>Dispatch letter to SIS</i>	

NSC/S INSTR

DISPATCH ✓ *via ss* *Lead 2/28/75 CD*

CY RQMTS: SEE ABOVE PLUS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_ & DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DISPOSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CROSS REF W/ \_\_\_\_\_

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: CP FOLDER: \_\_\_\_\_

MICROFILM & FILE RQMTS:	
M/F'D _____	BY _____
CRT <i>WAB</i>	SA SF
OPEN <i>CP</i>	HP NS
CLOSE <i>CP</i>	WH EP
	PA DY

1975

(NBC-74-21)  
533-147