

Indonesian Commission Strongly Says Not To Let US Strip Indonesian Dignity



[AH29_241017 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

In response to the abruptly cancelled trip of Indonesian Military (TNI) chief Gen. Gatot Nurmantyo to the United States on Saturday (21 October), the Commissioner of the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights (Kommasham), Maneger Nasution, has said that the Indonesian government has got the mandate to guard the dignity of NKRI [the Unitary Republic of Indonesia].

[The chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, had invited Gen. Gatot Nurmantyo and his delegation to participate in the Chiefs of Defense Conference on Countering Violent Extremist Organizations (on 23-24 October). Although they had US visas and the invitation, but when they were already at Jakarta (Soekarno-Hatta) International Airport, they were told that the US Customs and Border Protection Agency had barred him and his delegation from boarding the US-bound flight (Emirates)].

According to Maneger Nasution, the incidence sparked public anger in Indonesia.

He also said that it was due to the dignity of NKRI that Kommasham insisted that the Indonesian government stand firm on the US "diplomatic scandal" although the American officials might have hurriedly convinced the Indonesian government of unintentional mistakes, while the US Ambassador to Indonesia had also apologized for the incidence.

"Admittedly, the Indonesian government has already protested strongly against such an incidence of abusing the dignity of the General, TNI, and NKRI," he was quoted as saying by hidayatullah.com on Tuesday (24 October).

According to him, the US government should have done more than just apologizing for the incidence through its Ambassador in Jakarta. He expected that the US government clarify the details and honestly explain why such a cruel incidence should take place.

"Indonesian people have the rights and are deserved to know the clarification of the so-called unintentional mistakes," he said, adding that it would be worth considering for President Jokowi to summon the US Ambassador to clarify such an embarrassing incidence.

Source: SKR/MAS, hidayatullah.com/berita/nasional/read/2017/10/24/126313/sikapi-as-komnas-ham-negara-punya-mandat-menjaga-kehormatan-nkri.html, "Insiden Panglima TNI Ditolak Masuk AS, Sikapi AS, Komnas HAM: Negara Punya Mandat Menjaga Kehormatan NKRI (In response to denying Indonesian Military chief to enter US, Indonesian Kommasham strongly says not to let US strip Indonesian dignity)", in Indonesian, 24 Oct 17.

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