



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Michigan
211 W. Fort Street

Suite 2001
Detroit, Michigan 48226

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CONTACT: Gina Balaya, USAO - (313) 226-9758
Greg Palmore, ICE - (313) 226-0726

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INDONESIAN BUSINESSMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ARMS TRAFFICKING

An Indonesian businessman entered a plea of guilty earlier today to charges of conspiracy to violate the Arms Export Control Act and money laundering, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced.

U.S. Attorney Murphy was joined in the announcement by Brian M. Moskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and James G. Randas, Resident Agent in Charge of the Columbus, Ohio office of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service of the U.S. Department of Defense.

Pleading guilty before U.S. District Court Judge John Feikens was HADIANTO DJOKO DJULIARSO, age 41, of Jakarta, Indonesia.

The plea arose from an attempt by DJULIARSO to purchase defense articles, including radar and guidance parts for military aircraft, and smuggle those items out of the United States. As part of the same scheme DJULIARSO and other members of the conspiracy also took steps to purchase and illegally export more than \$1,000,000.00 worth of machine guns, sniper rifles and other weapons, and also made inquiries into purchasing Sidewinder missiles and a large quantity of strafing ammunition.

The underlying scheme was uncovered by federal agents working in Michigan and Hawaii, who arrested the targets before any of the defense articles were allowed to leave the country. Agents of the Department of Homeland Security and agents of the Department of Defense also confiscated over \$600,000.00 in funds which DJULIARSO and others had transferred to the United States to pay for the first shipment of defense equipment.

Under the plea agreement, DJULIARSO faces up to 87 months in prison. DJULIARSO also agrees to the forfeiture of \$600,480.04 that was seized during the underlying investigation. A sentencing date for Mr. DJULIARSO will be set by the Court.

U.S. Attorney Murphy reported that all four of the defendants charged by his office in this case have been convicted.

Earlier this month, co-defendant IGNATIUS FERDINANDUS SOEHARLI, age 49, of Indonesia entered a plea of guilty to violate the Arms Export Control Act. Under the terms of his plea agreement, SOEHARLI faces up to 57 months imprisonment. A sentencing date for Mr. SOEHARLI will be set by the Court.

In December of 2006, co-defendant IBRAHIM BIN AMRAN, age 46, of Singapore, entered a plea to charges of conspiracy to violate the Arms Export Control Act and money laundering. BIN AMRAN faces up to 87 months imprisonment. A sentencing date for Mr. BIN AMRAN will be set by the Court.

In October of 2006, co-defendant DAVID BEECROFT, age 44, of the United Kingdom was also convicted by plea of conspiracy to violate the Arms Export Control Act. In December of 2006, DAVID BEECROFT was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment. Upon his release from prison, BEECROFT was immediately deported from the United States.

The Arms Export Control Act and other provisions of U.S. law impose controls on the export of defense articles, munitions and military equipment.

“This office will continue to vigorously prosecute violations of our country’s laws that safeguard the export of military equipment and armaments,” U.S. Attorney Murphy said. “The agencies in this case deserve the highest commendation for their swift and steady response to this matter, which has resulted in the arrest and conviction of four defendants and the seizure of more than \$600,000 in funds.”

This case reveals the importance of keeping sensitive US military components out of the wrong hands," said Brian Moskowitz, special agent in charge of the ICE Office of Investigations in Detroit. "The joint work of ICE and DCIS halted the illegal proliferation of arms and strategic technology."

The case was investigated by special agents of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Department of Defense, Criminal Investigative Service. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Judge.