



Background: The Dutch began to colonize Indonesia in the early 17th century; the islands were occupied by Japan from 1942 to 1945. Indonesia declared its independence after Japan's surrender, but it required four years of intermittent negotiations, recurring hostilities, and UN mediation before the Netherlands agreed to relinquish its colony. Indonesia is the world's largest archipelagic state and home to the world's largest Muslim population. Current issues include: alleviating poverty, preventing terrorism, consolidating democracy after four decades of authoritarianism, implementing financial reforms, stemming corruption, and holding the military and police accountable for human rights violations. Indonesia was the nation worst hit by the December 2004 tsunami, which particularly affected Aceh province causing over 100,000 deaths and over \$4 billion in damage. An additional earthquake in March 2005 created heavy destruction on the island of Nias. Reconstruction in these areas may take up to a decade. In 2005, Indonesia reached a historic peace agreement with armed separatists in Aceh, but it continues to face a low intensity, separatist guerilla movement in Papua New Guinea.

Geography: Location: Southeastern Asia, archipelago between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. Area: total: 1,919,440 sq km. Area - comparative: slightly less than three times the size of Texas. Land boundaries: total: 2,830 km. Border countries: East Timor 228 km, Malaysia 1,782 km, Papua New Guinea 820 km. Coastline: 54,716 km. Climate: tropical; hot, humid; more moderate in highlands. Natural resources: petroleum, tin, natural gas, nickel, timber, bauxite, copper, fertile soils, coal, gold, silver. Natural hazards: occasional floods, severe droughts, tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, forest fires. Environment - current issues: deforestation; water pollution from industrial wastes, sewage; air pollution in urban areas; smoke and haze from forest fires. Geography - note: archipelago of 17,508 islands (6,000 inhabited); straddles equator; strategic location astride or along major sea lanes from Indian Ocean to Pacific Ocean. (CIA World Factbook 2006)

Military Notes:

1997 Carr, Pers, Armd, 4x4. Glover-Webb Tactica. At least 14 Tactica vehicles were delivered from the UK in 1997 (see UK for vehicle details).

2006 Carr, Pers, Armd, 6x6. PT Pindad APS-1.



Above: The new PT Pindad APS-1 with 12.7mm turret.
(Photo: PT Pindad)

Remarks: An independent venture by PT Pindad of Indonesia, the APS-1 is based on the French VAB 4x4 of which Indonesia has approximately 50. The APS-1 has a 6x6 configuration, which the Indonesian Army would have preferred and claims to have a unit cost half of the 500,000 euros paid for the latest set of VABs. Armor for the APS-1 ranges from .31 to .39 inch (8 to 10 mm) along with armored glass 1.2-1.6 inch (30 to 40mm) thick. The APS-1 has computerized controls and instruments as well as radios and remote CCTV to allow the driver to see to the rear of the vehicle. The amount of air-conditioning has also been increased to three times the volume available on the original VAB carriers.

APS-1 Data: Weight Empty, 22,491 lbs (10,200 kg). Weight Loaded, 26,460 lbs (12,000 kg). Drive, 6x6. Armor, .31-.39 in (8-10 mm). NBC Protection, central air. *Armament:* (1) 12.7mm HMG. *Capacity:* Fuel, diesel. Crew/Passengers, 2/10. Cargo Vol/Weight, 3,969 lbs (1800 kg). *Engine:* Type, Diesel. HP at Rev/Min, 260-300 hp (192-222 kW). Model, WD 615. No. of Cyls, 6. Cooling, liquid. *Transmission:* Type, manual. Speeds Fwd/Rev, 6/1. *Suspension System:* Type, Torsion bar. Wheels Steerable, 1st & 2nd pair. No of wheels, 6. *General Data:* Elec Voltage, 24V. *Night Vision Devices:* As fitted by user. *Performance:* Speed/Land, 75 mph (120 km/h). Range (est), 310 mi (500 km). *Usage:* 18 vehicles have been completed and will enter service with the Indonesian Army (TNI) with a further 82 vehicles scheduled over the next few years. *Manufacturer:* PT Pindad, Indonesia.