

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	6/3/2013

Chronology of events

NST - 6/3/2013

INFOGRAPHIC: NST BY AHMAD SUHAIRY

MARCH 1:

First confrontation between Sulu terrorists and Malaysian security forces in Kampung Tanduo near Lahad Datu results in the death of two police commandos and 12 gunmen.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak gives full mandate to the police and armed forces to end the stand-off, saying that "there will be no more compromise".

MARCH 2:

Army units take up positions around Felda Sahabat to help end the stand-off. Terrorists are urged to surrender.

Six more policemen are killed in an ambush in Kampung Sri Jaya Simunul, Semporna, some 130km from Lahad Datu, while six terrorists are also killed.

MARCH 3:

Manila sends two envoys to help prevent more bloodshed.

An armed terrorist is beaten to death by villagers in Kampung Senallang Lama, Semporna, after he tried to take them hostage.

MARCH 4:

Seven army battalions are deployed to Sabah. Two villages - Tanjung Batu and Tanjung Labian - are declared "red zones", following reports of gunmen landing there. The number of terrorists killed stands at 19.

MARCH 5:

7.30AM: Najib says security forces have launched Ops Daulat to end the stand-off with terrorists in Kampung Tanduo to defend the country's dignity and sovereignty.

8.25AM: Jet fighters are seen over the area. Several explosions are heard.

9.15AM: Three jet fighters drop bombs on Kampung Tanduo before ground troops move in.

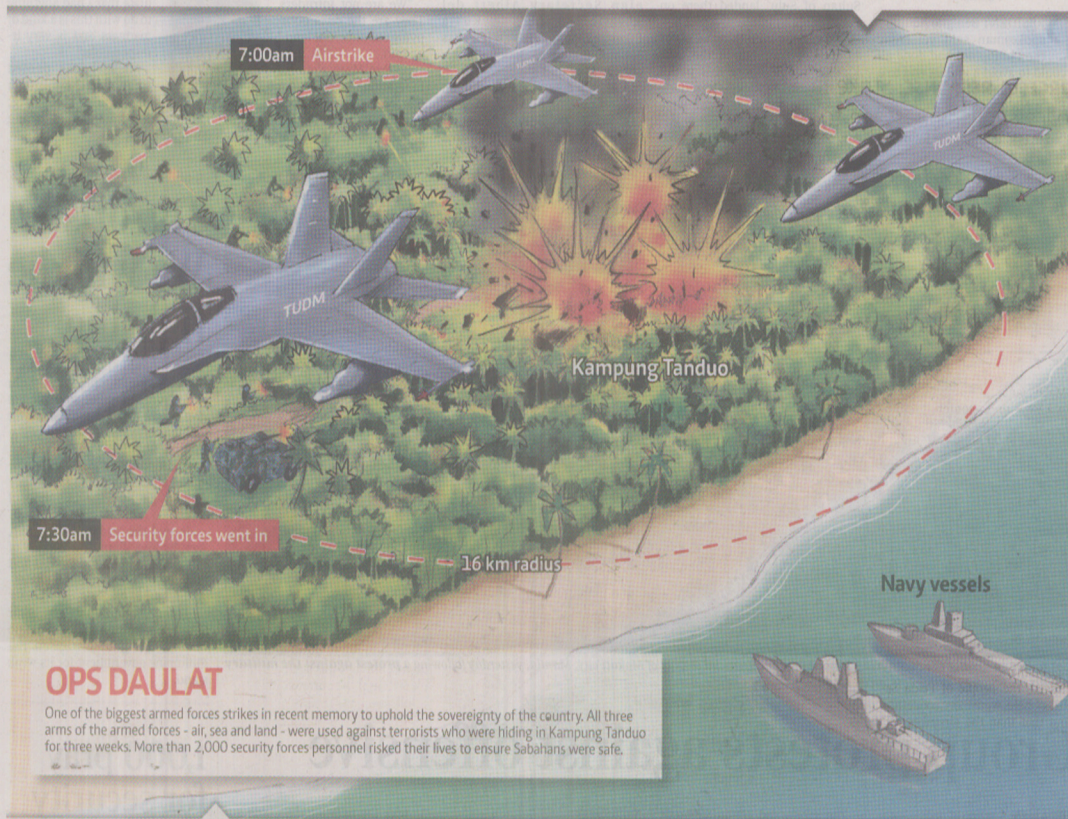
10.00AM: Six vessels, two each from

the Royal Malaysian Navy, marine police and Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency are seen leaving the marine police jetty.

11.10AM: Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Ismail Omar says the operation against the terrorists is ongoing.

3.40PM: Mopping up and search for terrorists in Kampung Tanduo start.

4.26PM: Security forces launch second attack on terrorists in Kampung Tanduo.



Military hardware and assets used in Ops Daulat



F18 Hornet

The assault against Sulu terrorist positions in Kampung Tanduo began at 7am with an air strike led by five BAE Systems Hawk 208 fighter jets, backed up by three Boeing F/A-18D Hornet fighter bombers, from the Royal Malaysian Air Force.

The Hawk 208, generally an advanced jet trainer, is also used as an interceptor and fighter jet.

The F/A-18D Hornet is one of the mainstays of the RMAF, along with the Russian-made MiG-29N Fulcrum and Sukhoi SU-30MKM Flanker.

Hawk 208



The air strike was followed by a barrage of 500 mortar rounds from 12 "tubes", followed by the firing of heavy machine guns.

The rounds used in the barrage were 81mm mortars. It is understood the Malaysian army uses the United Kingdom-made L16 81mm mortars.

Malaysian troops were likely using the United States-made M-60 as heavy machine guns.



A flotilla of vessels from the Royal Malaysian Navy, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency and marine police created a naval blockade. These included the naval ships KD Hang Jebat and KD Hang Tuah.

The Hang Tuah and Hang Jebat are frigates. While the Hang Tuah was commissioned in the 1970s, the Hang Jebat is one of four Lekiu-class guided missile frigates which are roughly 20 years younger.

KD Hang Tuah

KD Hang Jebat



Ground troops then entered the area aboard armoured personnel carriers. The troops comprised police VAT69 commandos and the army's Grup Gerak Khas commandos and paratroopers from 10 PARA.

The armoured personnel carrier, or APC for short, is an armoured vehicle used to transport troops safely. It is an effective shield against small arms fire, but can be penetrated by heavy weapons and armour-piercing rounds.

