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The Role of *Hizbullah* in the Time of Indonesian Revolution in Bandung, 1945-1946

ABSTRACT: *Hizbullah*, its meaning is the army of Allah (God), established at the time of the Japanese occupation in Indonesia (1942-1945), and has been restructured after the proclamation of independence along with the spirit of revolution in Indonesia (1945-1950). *Hizbullah* was founded because the Muslims young people feel to have an obligation in assisting the nation-state and religious struggle to be free from the colonialism in Indonesia. This article attempts to explain the position and role of *Hizbullah* organization, which was established after the proclamation of Indonesian independence by the creativity of local Muslims young people. Increased establishment of semi-military organizations, including the *Hizbullah* organization in Bandung, is the reaction of the arrival of the Allied Forces in Indonesia. British Allied Forces, which accompanied by the Dutch NICA (Netherland-Indies Civil Administration), their arrival was greeted by Indonesian people with a sense of suspicion and awareness of independence. One of the incidents between British Allied Forces and Dutch NICA, after arriving in Bandung, against the people of Indonesia that involves the TKR (Indonesian People's Security Army) and *Hizbullah*, is the Fokkerweg battle in Bandung city. This battle lasted for 3 days and 3 nights. The battle was fierce, which is characterized by a combination between frontal attacks and diplomacy. This suggests that the position and the role of *Hizbullah*, in the context of Indonesia's independence struggle, is very important and has contributed greatly to the formation of TKR, which later became the TNI (Indonesian National Army).

KEY WORD: *Hizbullah*, revolution, Bandung city, the role and function, freedom and independence, organization and struggle, and Indonesian army.

RESUME: "Peranan *Hizbullah* pada Masa Revolusi Indonesia di Bandung, 1945-1946". *Hizbullah*, artinya tentara Allah, didirikan pada saat pendudukan Jepang di Indonesia (1942-1945) dan telah direstrukturisasi setelah proklamasi kemerdekaan bersama dengan semangat revolusi di Indonesia (1945-1950). *Hizbullah* didirikan karena orang-orang muda Islam merasa memiliki kewajiban untuk membantu perjuangan negara-bangsa dan agama agar bebas dari penjajahan di Indonesia. Artikel ini mencoba untuk menjelaskan posisi dan peran organisasi *Hizbullah*, yang didirikan setelah proklamasi kemerdekaan Indonesia oleh kreativitas anak-anak muda Muslim setempat. Meningkatnya pendirian organisasi semi-kemiliteran, termasuk organisasi *Hizbullah* di Bandung, merupakan reaksi dari kedatangan Tentara Sekutu di Indonesia. Tentara Sekutu Inggris, yang diboncengi oleh NICA (Pemerintahan Sipil Hindia-Belanda) Belanda, kedatangan mereka disambut oleh rakyat Indonesia dengan perasaan curiga dan kesadaran akan kemerdekaan. Salah satu insiden antara Tentara Sekutu Inggris dan NICA Belanda, setelah tiba di Bandung, melawan rakyat Indonesia yang melibatkan TKR (Tentara Keamanan Rakyat) dan *Hizbullah* adalah pertempuran Fokkerweg di Kota Bandung. Pertempuran ini berlangsung selama 3 hari dan 3 malam. Pertempuran berlangsung sengit, yang ditandai oleh kombinasi antara serangan frontal dan diplomasi. Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa kedudukan dan peran *Hizbullah*, dalam konteks perjuangan kemerdekaan Indonesia, adalah penting dan telah memberikan sumbangan besar bagi pembentukan TKR, yang kemudian berubah menjadi TNI (Tentara Nasional Indonesia).

KATA KUNCI: *Hizbullah*, revolusi, kota Bandung, peran dan fungsi, kebebasan dan kemerdekaan, organisasi dan perjuangan, serta tentara Indonesia.

INTRODUCTION

The news of the proclamation of Indonesia's independence had been spread through Jakarta region until several cities in West Java in a short time. The way of spreading the news was different from

town to town (Hatta, 1977). In Bandung, West Java, the text of proclamation was accepted at approximately 11:15 on Friday, 17th August 1945 by a *Merconist* (ship's radio operator) from *Domei* (Japanese News Agency) office in Bandung. He (*merconist*)

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accepted it from headquarter of *Domei* office in Jakarta. That text was soon delivered to the head of *Domei* Bandung, they were of A.Z. Palindih, Moehammad Adam, Danila, and Matulesy (Djajusman, 1986:14).

The radio broadcaster in Bandung under Sakti Alamsyah, Hasyim Rakhman, Sofyan Junaid, Sam Amir, Abdul Rajak, Nona Odas Sumadilaga, R.A. Darya, Sutarno Brotokusuma, and many more broadcasted the news of the independence of Indonesia that night on 17th August 1945, at 19:00-20:00 at Javanese time, through Indonesian language and also English language, and later closed by the song entitled *Indonesia Raya* (the Great Indonesia), later become the national anthem of the Republic of Indonesia. The other RRI (*Radio Republik Indonesia*)'s officer spread the news across Bandung and Cimahi in West Java.

On the same day, 17th August 1945, the news redactor from newspaper of *Tjahaja* in Bandung accepted telegram of the proclamation news from *Domei* office in Jakarta. Then, the proclamation text was written with big font on the board by Barry Rukman and placed in front of the *Tjahaja* office in order to be known by public soon (Jogaswara, 1995:47-48). In less time, people gathered in front of the board to know the news. *Siliwangi* publisher, then, printed the flyers with red tones and spread it to the people.

Young people, who had arrived from Jakarta, were also spread the news to Bandung people; therefore, the people of West Java, especially the people of Bandung, had already accepted the news through radio, flyers, or hear from somebody directly. In less time, the news was spread across Bandung, or even spread across *Priangan* (West Java) region (Ekadjati, 1980:79).

All Bandung people welcomed the news of proclamation happily. Each of them waved the red and white flag in front of their house and their store. The welcoming reception of independence in Bandung officially held on 29th August 1945 along with the KNIP (*Komite Nasional Indonesia Pusat* or Central of Indonesian National

Committee) meeting. The reception summit was held through marching which was followed by approximately 20,000 people (Ekadjati, 1980:80).

To show that the people support the proclamation and also support the Indonesian government, there was held a great meeting of Bandung people and its outskirts on 2nd September 1945 in Bandung square. That great meeting was visited by thousand people to show that the proclamation was accepted by the people. They looked happy and full of spirit, because the proclamation announced on 17th August 1945 can be described as an incarnation of the spirit of Indonesian people to lose the chain of imperialism in Indonesia.

The proclamation spread across the entire archipelago and the people really understood the meaning of independence, so the news spread quickly to all caste of people. The news was really a dream of everyone – having independence. The people of Indonesia were fully aware that every nation has to be independent.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HIZBULLAH AND OTHER ORGANIZATION IN BANDUNG

The idea of establishing an organization, called *Hizbullah* (the army of Allah or God in Islam), appeared for the first time on *Masyumi* (*Majelis Syuro Muslimin Indonesia* or Advisory Assembly for Indonesian Muslim)'s meeting on October 1943. The idea appeared from Wali al-Fallah, a leader of *Muhammadiyah* (followers of the Prophet Muhammad) organization (Benda, 1985:73). The idea was agreed by ten figures of Islam, such as K.H. (*Kyai Haji*) Mas Mansur, K.H. Adnan, Dr. H. Abdul Karim Amrullah, H. Mansur, H. Cholid, K.H. Abdul Majid, H. Yacob, K.H. Djunaedi, U. Mochtar, and H. Moh Sadri (Suryanegara, 1996:97).

The idea of the establishment of semi military organization, *Hizbullah*, was actually restated the SI (*Sarekat Islam* or Islamic League) demand to the Netherland to establish an *Indie Weerbaar* (Indonesian Defense) which aimed to resurrect the spirit of Islamic soldier (Suryanegara, 1995:260),

later the Japanese government agreed the idea on December 1944 by Khumakhici. In this case, the Japanese government legalized the *Hizbullah* to be established, because *Hizbullah* was planned to be supply power corps for the PETA (*Pembela Tanah Air* or Defender of Fatherland) soldier to help Japan (Benda, 1985:216).

After having Japanese agreement, the *Hizbullah* was officially established under *Masyumi's* political organization. In its base program, *Hizbullah* has military task and religious task. On military task, the organization should act as a supply power for PETA against Allied forces. Whereas on religious task, *Hizbullah* should keep Islam and also assure the Muslim society fulfills their duty (Dijk, 1993:63).

Along with the Japanese legalization, on January 1945 was established the office holder of *Hizbullah*. The member of the office came from elements of NU (*Nahdlatul Ulama* or Emerging of Islamic Scholars), *Muhammadiyah*, PSII (*Partai Syarekat Islam Indonesia* or Indonesian Islamic League Party), PERSIS (*Persatuan Islam* or Islamic Unity), and other organizations. Several figures such as K.H. Al-Wahab Hasbullah were elected as advisors of the organization (Benda, 1985:320).

After *Hizbullah* established on 18th February 1945, it has been absorbed 500 young Muslim come from all *Karesidenan* (Regencies) in Java and Madura. The member of *Hizbullah* consisted of young Muslim, especially the student of *Madrasah* (Islamic modern school) and *Pesantren* (Islamic Boarding School) at age 15-20 who physically health, single, and has parent's agreement. They were gathered to face their first practice in Cibarusa, near Bekasi; it is about 28 km from Bogor in West Java.

They trained on military skill which was led by a Japanese Captain named Yanagawa, who was helped by 20 *Chudanco* (Japanese military rank in Indonesian auxiliary units during Japanese occupation) people. About the religious and general knowledge, they got from *Kyais* or Islamic Scholars in Java (Dijk, 1993:63-65). Before the *Hizbullah* practice step two finished, Japan lost

the battle, and Indonesia proclaimed its independence; therefore, there were only 500 skilled members of *Hizbullah* across Java and Madura (Boland, 1985).

The positive sentiment of Indonesia's Muslim to the proclamation of independence was shown by holding *Kongres Umat Islam* (Islamic Society Congress) on 17th and 18th August 1945 in Yogyakarta. The congress made three decisions, as follow: (1) Strengthening the Muslim's preparation to do *Jihad fi Sabilillah* or holly war in the way of God; (2) Strengthening the defense of Indonesia through every effort obliged by Islam; (3) Finishing the hierarchy of *Masyumi* as the center of Muslim people of Indonesia, therefore, it can mobilize and lead the struggle of entire Indonesian Muslim (Jogaswara, 1995:50-51).

After proclamation of Indonesian independence, *Hizbullah*, as an Islamic youth organization, restructured its body along with the spirit of revolution. The purpose of the organization which was originally written formally to help Japanese soldier to win the war, then, directed to the effort of keeping the independence. As a semi-military youth organization, *Hizbullah* kept the purposes as *syari'at* (Islamic law) Islam tells (Jackson, 1985).

The membership of *Hizbullah*, after the proclamation was widen and the prerequisite to enroll to the organization, was not to strict and it was different to the time of Japanese occupation (1942-1945). All young people who have healthy body and strong faith would be accepted directly (Cahyadi, 1998:55).

The spirit of revolution mobilized several young people in Bandung to assembly the power of young people, especially Islamic young people. Although central *Hizbullah* had been established since 1944, but the establishment of local *Hizbullah* was often far from central *Hizbullah* involvement. After local *Hizbullah* was established, they combined themselves to the central power of *Hizbullah*. On September and October 1945 was the beginning of the physical revolution in Bandung. In line with the case, the fighter named Chaeruman and Husinsyah

initiatively made the organization of *Hizbullah* in Bandung (Cahyadi, 1998:56).

In the beginning of the revolution, there were two divisions of *Hizbullah* in West Java, the organization led by Zainal Bakhri and another led by Samsul Bakhri. In Bandung city, there were several groups of *Hizbullah*, but there were just two most significant *Hizbullah* organizations. The organization led by Aminuddin Hamzah located in Cicadas, and organization led by Husinsyah located western outskirts of Bandung. Beyond *santri* (student of Islamic boarding school), the members of Bandung city *Hizbullah* were also Islamic young people (Jogaswara, 1995:50).

Hizbullah organization was spread through Bandung city and its neighbor area such as Cimahi, Cililin, Ciwidey, Ciparay, and Majalaya. The power of Bandung's *Hizbullah*, especially the one led by Husinsyah, was consist of 400 people. In order to increase the struggling effort of *Hizbullah* organization in Bandung, on October 1945, Husinsyah arranged the *Hizbullah* organization regiment under the order of West Java Division of Commander led by Zainal Bakhri. In its consolidation with the division, the Bandung's *Hizbullah* later became Battalion 29 which was named as *Imam Bonjol* (the West Sumatera hero of Islamic leader and scholar)'s Battalion.

The practice area of *Hizbullah* Yon (*Batalyon* or Battalion) I *Imam Bonjol* was centered in South Bayongbong in Garut, West Java, through 3 month practice time for each unit. The practicing material delivered consists of physical practice, mental practice, and spiritual practice through giving the religious knowledge and patriotism.

The establishment of *Hizbullah* in Bandung was at the same time as the establishment of other organizations, such as the PPPI (*Persatuan Pemuda Pelajar Indonesia* or Indonesian Young Student Unity), led by Suprpto which has headquarter in Tamblong street, Bandung city. PPPI later changed its name to become PRI (*Pemuda Republik Indonesia* or the Youth of Indonesian Republic) which has headquarter in *Tjijoda* building (now, *Kota Tujuh* store in Asia-

Africa street in Bandung city). PRI had troops in entire Bandung city, such as Andir, Sukajadi, Pasirkaliki, Kaca-kacawetan, Kosambi, Kiaracandong, and Cicadas.

The API (*Angkatan Pemuda Indonesia* or Indonesian Youth Generation) branch of Bandung, established by Astrawinata, Maulana, Wasito, Heru Sutrisno, and the others. Its base was located in Lengkong Besar Street No.47 Bandung. The LASWI (*Laskar Wanita Indonesia* or Indonesian Women Paramilitary Troops) which was established as an initiative of Mrs. Arudji Kartawinata on 12th October 1945. The members of LASWI were 300 people, consisted of battle troop, red-cross member, spy member, and supply member. The other chiefs of LASWI were Ms. Isbandiah, Ms. Jaja, Ms. Herawati, Ms. Romani, Ms. Setiasih, Mrs. Atikah Natadigana, and the others.

The *Sabilillah* (struggle in line with Allah or God) through figures such as Isya Anshori, Ismail Napu, H. Jaenuddin, *Ajengan* (Islamic Scholar) Toha, A. Mokhtar, and *Kyai* (Islamic Scholar) Yusuf Tajiri. The BPRI (*Barisan Pemberontak Rakyat Indonesia* or Rebellion Front of Indonesian People) which was the branch of Surabaya's BPRI in East Java, almost all its members were the former of *Pasukan Pelopor* (Vanguard Troops) member at the time of Japanese occupation led by Duyeh Suharsa, and after the proclamation of Indonesia's independence, BPRI was led by Suryadi and Rivai.

The PBRI (*Pasukan Banteng Republik Indonesia* or Wild Bull Troops of Indonesian Republic) in Bandung which was led by Anwar Sutan Pamuncak and Ido Garmida. The war division was led by Rakhmat Sulaeman, Ben Alamsyah, Jojon, Tirtaatmaja, Toha, and Isak. Its base was around Banceuy area, but later moved to Bojonggaok (Babakan Ciparay) around Situ Aksan in Bandung city.

Meanwhile, the *Barisan Berani Mati* (Death Brave Front) led by Effendi. The PIM (*Pemuda Indonesia Maluku* or Indonesian Youth of Maluku) through its figures such as Pellaupessy, Andries, Leo Lopukisa, and G. Latumahena. The KRIS (*Kesatuan Rakyat Indonesia Sulawesi* or Indonesian People

Unit of Sulawesi) through its figure, Ema Bratakusuma.

The *Pasukan Istimewa* (Special Troops), established by young people from Tapanuli led by Pakpahan and Hutahuruk, had base in Ciuteul in Bandung city. The *Pasukan Garuda Putih* (White Eagle Troops) led by Sinaga. The PBM (*Pasukan Beruang Merah* or Red Bear Troops) led by Abdullah Saleh located in Cigereleng. The BMP (*Barisan Merah Putih* or Red White Front) led by Nukman Abdullah Rais located in Ciuteul.

The *Polisi Istimewa* (Special Police) led by M. Harsono and Danu Sutoyo located in Kebonjati. The *Angkatan Muda* (Youth Generation) PTT (*Perusahaan Teknik Telekomunikasi* or Agency of Technology and Telecommunication) and the *Angkatan Muda Kota Besar Bandung* (Youth Generation of Bandung Metropolis), its figures were Ir. Juanda and D. Suprayogi. The *Angkatan Pemuda Kereta Api* (Youth Generation of Train) led by A. Supian and Ahmad Tirto (Disdjarahdam, 1968:23; Ekadjati, 1980:96-97; Djajusman, 1986:21-22; and Jogaswara, 1995:50-53).

Those organizations above grew as manifestation of people's desire to be involved in keeping the nation of Indonesia. There was organization which had no ideology, there was organization which collected the local potency, and there was also organization which affiliated to political party.

TAKE OVER OF AUTHORITY AND WEAPON FROM JAPAN

The proclamation of Indonesia's independence, announced to entire archipelago by Soekarno and Mohamad Hatta on 17th August 1945, was a new historical page for Indonesian people life. That event was a manifestation for all Indonesian people to free themselves from the imperialism which was chained the Indonesian people for long time.

All young people enrolled in people organizations in Bandung, West Java had role in taking over the authority and weapon supply from Japan. Actually, after Japan surrendered to Allied Force, Japanese soldiers in Indonesia had lost their spirit.

They did not have spirit to halt every effort in proclaiming independence of Indonesia. Generally, they just defended themselves from any local attackers who wanted to take over the weapon supply. Nevertheless, the Allied Force side had ordered Japan to take responsibility for "inventories Indonesia" could be handed over completely (Djajusman, 1986:24).

In Bandung city and its neighbor, there were idea differences between the senior and the junior people in taking over the authority from Japan. The senior and local government figures, such as Otto Iskandardinata, Puradiredja, and Ukar Bratakusumah, hoped that the authority taken over will be through diplomacy; so, there will be no victims between two sides. The junior people, consists of young leader such as Sukanda Bratamanggala, who wanted to take over the authority from Japan quickly (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:38).

In the beginning, to take over the authority in Bandung, young people made a psychological movement through giving flag to the vehicle's passengers so that they can wave it in front of their properties. Government offices, such as the office of *Kabupaten* (Regency), *Kota Praja* (Municipality), and *Pekerjaan Umum* (Public Works) offices can be taken quickly. The activity was volunteered by the police members who led by inspector M. Harsono. In line with the situation in Jakarta, the police was the first government member who has weapon.

Students, with ex-PETA (*Pembela Tanah Air* or Defender of Fatherland) members, successfully sieged *Kolone Panzer* which was then given to the police. Two *Heiho* (indigenous militia during the Japanese period) former members, Sumarsono, and Batangtaris students successfully tricked Japan. They successfully entered to the weapon storehouse in Dayeuhkolot by pretending as an officer. Then the weapons were brought to Battalion of Sukanda Bratamanggala boardinghouse and made that battalion was having perfect weaponry (Ekadjati, 1980:88).

The taken over of the official instance's

power was taken over of the PTT *Pusat Pos Telegram dan Telepon* or Central of Post, Telegram, and Telephone) office on 27th September 1945 at 11:00 along with the announcement of KNI (*Komite Nasional Indonesia* or Indonesia National Committee) Bandung news about the restructuration of all offices and enterprises in Bandung, who was led by Sutoko and Nawawi Alief. That power's taken over needed less than an hour through bamboo pike weapon and machete.

The central PTT office led by Osada was changed by Indonesian named Suharsono and Diyar (Djajusman, 1986:26). Next day, on 28th September 1945, all young people of DKA (*Djawatan Kereta Api* or Railways Bureau) under the commander of Ir. Juanda attacked and seized the BBJKA (*Balai Besar Jawatan Kereta Api* or Headquarters of Railways Bureau) and took over the authority, then took over *Kantor Pertambangan* (Mining Office), *Kota Praja* (Municipality), *Karesidenan* (Regency), and military objects in north storehouse, RRI (*Radio Republik Indonesia*), and many more (Djajusman, 1986:26; and Adeng *et al.*, 1995:42).

The weapon factory seizure named ACW (*Artillerie Constructie Winkel*) in Kiaracandong (now PINDAD, *Persenjataan Industri Angkatan Darat* or Indonesian Army Industrial Weapons) happened on October 1945. In the earlier plan, the seizure would be done in peace, but when the Indonesian delegation who attended the negotiation was arrived without any result, all young people attack it. They attacked the factory together. On that day, the factory can be successfully seized from Japan without any counter attacks. It can be said that until 9th October 1945, all problems with Japan can be solved in peace.

Beside the weapon seizure, all Bandung fighters were also attacked the others military facilities. Such as the one which attacked Andir airport (now Husein Sastranegara airport) in Bandung on 16th October 1945. As the effect of the diplomacy failure, all young people include *Hizbullah* organization, attacked it and took over that strategic area. But, unfortunately, there were

six members of *Hizbullah* died on that battle.

The zenith of seizure was on October 1945 when all Bandung fighters attacked the Japanese troops' base - *Kampetai* (Japanese military police) building in *Heet Janweig* Street (now Sultan Agung Street) which became the symbol of Japanese authority in Bandung. *Hizbullah* troops led by Husinsyah, and *Kyais* (Islamic leaders and scholars) and *Santris* (students of Islamic boarding school) involved on that attack. They successfully took over the authority of Japan in Bandung (Cahyadi, 1998:63-64).

THE ARRIVAL OF ALLIED FORCE IN BANDUNG

In the end of World War II, on 24th August 1945, there was an agreement between Netherland and British; they meet in Chequers (United Kingdom). The agreement was so called as "Civil Affair Agreement" which consists of the British confession to Dutch authority in Indonesia. With this agreement, NICA (Netherlands Indies Civil Administration) had authority to take the civil affair in Indonesia by the supervision of Allied Force (Nasution, 1977:6).

NICA was established in Australia at the time of World War II (1939-1945), in order to re-accept the Indonesian government after the Ally's authority had finished. It was because the organization hated by Java and Sumatera people, in the end of the year of 1945, the name of NICA was changed into AMCAB (Allied Military Civil Affair Branch), especially for Java and Sumatera (Djajusman, 1986:41; and Nasution, 1996:69).

On 8th September 1945, seven officers of Allied Mission dropped by parachute in Kemayoran airport in Jakarta. This unit was led by Major A.Y. Greenhalgh who opened his Headquarter in Hotel *Des Indes* on that day. Their arrival was stated as the gate opener for Allied troops (Asmadi, 1985:117).

On 15th September 1945, a small Allied armada entered Tanjung Priuk harbor in Jakarta. That armada consisted of British explorer ship named Chumberland, Dutch explorer ship named Tromp, and other ships loaded by detachment of marines. On that military unit, there was Rear Admiral

W.R. Patterson, the vice commander of SEAC (South East Asian Command) who temporarily given task to become the commander of Allied troops for Indonesia, AFNEI (Allied Forces in the Netherlands East Indies), Lieutenant General Sir Phillip Christison (Poesponegoro & Notosusanto eds., 1984). He was accompanied by Dutch officers, such as General Van Stelaten, Colonel Abdul Kadir, and Dr. Ch. O. Van der Plas who became vice of Dr. H.J. Van Mook, head of NICA (Ekadjati, 1980:99; Djajusman, 1986:40-41; and Rosidi, 1985:61).

The Allied troops, which was delegated by British troops under the commander of Lieutenant General Sir Philip Christison - great commander of AFNEI which landed in Indonesia, consisted of three divisions, they are: (1) Indian Division 23, under the commander of General D.C. Hawthorn had responsible for West Java centered in Jakarta; (2) Indian Division 5, under the commander of General E.C. Mansergh responsible for East Java, centered in Surabaya; and (3) Indian Division 26, under the commander of General H.M. Chambers responsible for Sumatera, centered in Medan (Moedjanto, 1988:98).

Two weeks later, on 28th September 1945, night time, the Allied forces commander, Lieutenant General Sir Philip Christison, spoke by using SEAC radio in Singapore. The speech was about the task of Allied troops in Indonesia, the tasks were: (1) Guide and run the mobilization of war prisoners and internees under the license of RAPWI, or Rehabilitation Allied Prisoners of War Internees, from year 1945 to 1946 with a help from Indonesian government; (2) Disarm Japanese troops and bring them to Japan; and (3) Keep the stabilization of safe in order to secure those two purposes before (Asmadi, 1985:115; and Djajusman, 1986:41).

The reaction to the Allied forces arrival in Indonesia was marked by protest which rejected their arrival in Indonesia (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:55-56). Bandung people protest was through write slogans about the right to determine self-faith on walls and so on. The slogans were "Right of Self Determination"; "NICA (No Indonesian Cares About)";

"Better Hell than Colonized by the Dutch"; "Indonesia Never Again the Life Blood of Any Nation"; and many more (Asmadi, 1985:118). Seeing through this situation, General Sir Philip Christison worried about the stabilization to execute all Allied tasks. But finally, on 1st October 1945, Allied Forces admitted the "de facto" authority of Indonesian upon Sumatera and Java.

The Allied Forces behavior became suspicious and threatened the general stabilization, especially for West Java. Therefore, the Governor of West Java, Sutardjo Kartohadikusumo, with Mayor Datuk Djamin and Resident Ardiwinangun, held meeting with BKR (*Badan Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Body) leaders and organizations to discuss about the Allied Forces arrival which took place in Bogor and Bandung, and also delivered messages from central in Jakarta. This meeting held on 8th October 1945.

The meeting result was that the figures of West Java rejected the Allied Forces arrival to Bogor and Bandung, because the Allied task was not those three stated before, whereas opening gate for Dutch that wanted to re-take Indonesia as well as "de facto" and "de jure". But remembering, that was an order from central of Indonesia government, finally all West Java figures accepted that Allied Forces can come to Bandung with requirement, they cannot bring Dutch soldier to Bandung. If the requirement was not accepted, the stabilization and safe was not secured (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:57).

On 12th October 1945, around 09:00 a.m., Allied troops arrived under the commander of Brigadier General Mac Donald from Indian Division 23, by using train in Bandung train station (Ekadjati, 1980:100). They were located in several buildings located in northern Bandung (northern railroad) and on several hotels in southern Bandung, such as in Savoy Homan Hotel, Preanger Hotel, and Braga Hotel.

After occupying Bandung city, the AFNEI (Allied Forces in the Netherlands East Indies) commander, General Sir Philip Christison, failed to keep his word to not to bring Dutch troops to Bandung. It can

be known by the existence of soldiers who wore the Allied Force's uniform, but they are really Dutchman. To assure the situation, they were asked to involve in a conversation by using Dutch language by Indonesian soldiers, and they were fluent using Dutch language. But when they were asked in English, they were not too fluent and feel nervous (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:58; and Nasution, 1996:7).

Dutch soldiers wore Allied uniform, whenever they add the sum. Their behavior was inappropriate as they act like land lord in Indonesia. In the street, restaurant, train, even wherever they found, they act like they used to. Their conversation on train was talking about re-taking their position before Japanese coming, as Gabenor General, Assistant Resident, as Commissaries, as Administrator, and so on (Nasution, 1977:7).

The Allied Forces arrival did not make the situation in Bandung city stabled and secured, but instead made the situation even worse than before. Their arrival in Bandung was accepted by local curiosity. People and youth who enrolled in some organizations welcomed them with several incidents and battles.

Hate and revenge would not be forgotten easily. On each day, there will always fighting incident until battle between Indonesian and Dutch/ Allied Force. Dutch people became more arrogant that they had helped by English through *Gurkha* (Indian) and Japanese troops. They stole, kidnapped, and tortured the Indonesian people. Of course, those Dutch acts were not triggered by local fighters. Bandung people did not want their dignity insulted by the Dutch who died before dying when Japan attacked them in 1942 (Karmas, 1978:9).

The British act as well as the Dutch as "Land Lord" from days to days became more brutal. With fake reason, they said that they wanted to catch extremist who assumed as unrests who took Japanese weapons. The British troops became crazy with their operations. They killed people and stole their wealth. They also raped local woman they caught. Beside those all, they widened their influence by taking over building

belong to Indonesian, especially in northern Bandung (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:61).

As a result, the situation got the serious attention from central of Indonesia government. On 20th October 1945, President Soekarno said and will to send telegraph to United States of America President, Truman, as follow:

[...] want to tell you that the Dutch delegations, in their effort to rebuild the Dutch Colonial Government in Indonesia, arranged their soldiers who used American uniform, armed with tools, ammunitions, and American trucks to foul up and kill people, through: (1) Shooting innocent people; (2) Kidnap, rape, and murder their hostage; and (3) Stealing people's property.

It has been submitting protest to Allied Forces Headquarter unsuccessful. Asking to the lord to halt every disobedience to American neutrality and order to stop the Dutch using American name (cited in Nasution, 1996:72-73).

The USA (United States of America) response officially brought breeze to Indonesia, that America still assists the right to determine self-determination without foreign involvement. American people perhaps did not want to become like British who helped Dutch to restore their sovereignty in Indonesia. Then, USA asked British and Dutch to make disappear all "borrowed and rented" weapon that used in Indonesia (Nasution, 1977:73).

The situation in Bandung became worse; the patience limit of Indonesian fighters had been reached. Incidents kept happen in entire Bandung city, made the hate to Dutch and Allied Force could not be stopped. Fighting around Pasirkaliki, murdering in Babakan Ciamis, Sukajadi, Astana Anyar in Bandung city moved to everywhere and spy busting happened, kidnaping Dutch people, and someday all young people who gathered around Dennis Building made an action.

Firstly, they attacked Japanese soldiers who guide Dennis Building, they saw Dutch soldiers inside, so they attacked together inside. There was also fighting between young people of PBRI (*Pasukan Banteng Republik Indonesia* or Wild Bull Troops of Indonesian Republic), BPRI (*Barisan Pemberontak Rakyat Indonesia* or Rebellion

Front of Indonesian People), TKR (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Army), Battalion II of TKR, Battalion III of TKR, and other else againts the Allied Force and Dutch. Those rapid attacks made Dutch restless. Some youngers kept moving to the up floor and fighting Dutch soldiers there. Younger E. Karmas climbed to top Dennis building (Now Bank *Karya Pembangunan* building) in Braga Street, and then ripped the blue color of Dutch flag (Red-White-Blue), so the flag became just red and white. From then the flag waving on Dennis building rooftop became red and white flag (Karmas, 1978:9).

The hostility feeling to Dutch became deeper, whereas unbelief feeling to Allied Force became bigger. Bandung's youngers rejected all Dutch and Allied effort to trick local people by using compromise, because they were sure that all Dutch and Allied Force activities in Indonesia were just for their interest. That reason made young people and the citizens wanted to stooped Dutch and Allied Force desire by arm.

Because of the battle and there was no sign that the battle will soon stop, on November 1945, suddenly Brigadier General Mac Donald released an ultimatum to West Java Governor, Sutardjo Kartohadikusumo. The ultimatums were: (1) Northern area of railway is just for British, Dutch, and Japanese. All Indonesian stayed on that area should move; (2) People should hand over all melee weapons and guns to Allied Force; (3) RAFWI, or Rehabilitation Allied Prisoners of War Internees, places and Japanese places should not be reached by Indonesian people in 200 m radius; (4) All street obstacles and aisles should be removed, if not, the keeper will be shot; and (5) This ultimatum must be fulfilled in approximately 2 x 24 hours, until 29th November 1945 at 12:00 midnight. If the time limit is over, and there are still Indonesian people who roam around northern area of Bandung city, so they will be shot and caught, and armed people will be shot until die (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:65).

After the ultimatum had been released, battles became spread and uncontrolled,

because young people, whether who enrolled to TKR or other armed organizations, had blown their spirits. The British soldiers became stuck, so they needed to bring reinforcement to Bandung by air force, Maharata Battalion, to face. After hard and long battles happened, North Bandung can be occupied by the British and Dutch on 29th November 1945. Therefore, Bandung city was divided into two areas: North Bandung for the Allied Force; and South Bandung for the Republic of Indonesia. As border, there was railway between them from West to East (Disjarahmil TNI-AD, 1972:110).

Although on 29th November 1945 Bandung city was divided into two areas, but the reality tells that the people did not care about the ultimatum. That made the Allied Froce angry, so that battle was always happened around the border.

HIZBULLAH ROLE IN ESTABLISHING MILITARY POWER IN BANDUNG

Hizbullah is the soldier of Allah or God, which was established at the time of Japanese occupation and restructured itself after the proclamation of Indonesia's independence along with the spirit of revolution. *Hizbullah* was the only Muslim youth organization that has the biggest membership at that time. *Hizbullah* was not only active at the time of Japanese occupation (1942-1945), but also played important role at the time of revolution in Indonesia and the time of war of independence (1945-1950).

In the beginning of its establishment, *Hizbullah* was made because all young Muslim have similar duty to keep country, nation, and religion. After the proclamation of independence, *Hizbullah* can established its new branches; and because of there was a big number of Muslim youngers who enrolled to it, the small *Hizbullah* organization become bigger and bigger, so it become great guerilla organization (Dijk, 1993:65).

There were several *Hizbullah* organizations that existed in Bandung, but there were just two important *Hizbullah*, the first was the one which was led by

Aminuddin Hamzah located in Cicadas area (eastern area of Bandung city), and the second was the one which was led by Husinsyah located in western Bandung outskirts (Jogaswara, 1995:50).

Hizbullah organization that led by Husinsyah was successful, because its groups was spread in Bandung and its neighbor such as Cimahi, Ciwidey, Ciparay, and Majalaya. The success of branches establishment was that *Hizbullah* had good management like military management in general. In higher level/national level, there was a high commander. Below the higher commander, there was division level that consisted of three battalions, in each battalion there were four units, in each unit there were four sections, in each section there were four groups, and in each group there were eleven persons (Ghozali, 1990:178).

From the explanation above, it can be seen that the *Hizbullah* role to establish its power and add its member in Bandung was quite successful, because there were many branches of *Hizbullah* appeared, and it had local Muslim support. After 1946, Indonesia had been fulfilled by all its enemies, *Hizbullah* was united into Battalion 29, Regiment 8th, and all members became the soldiers. And some parts of it joined to Division of Siliwangi such as Battalion V of *Hizbullah* that moved to Brigade I Tirtayasa of Siliwangi Division I (Depag RI, 1987:336).

By the merging of *Hizbullah* to the official government organization, so *Hizbullah* had quite important role, because the establishment of TNI (Indonesia's National Army), including Siliwangi Division in West Java, could not be separated from *Hizbullah* as the strongest organization at that time. According to Zulfikar Ghozali, pertaining the *Hizbullah* and TNI is following here:

Hizbullah was the only Muslim youth organization established before independence and has the biggest member at that time. [...] The Republic of Indonesia government policy in order to unite all armed people, whether fighter organizations and any other organization, make *Hizbullah* donate significant role in the TNI establishment (Ghozali, 1990:177-179).

On the Fokkerweg Battle. Diplomacy and attack were the strategy run by the Allied Force in order to retake Indonesia to Dutch. Allied Force attacked when they strong, and retreat to negotiate when they weak. The strategy made the West Java's fighters losing hope. Because, by using diplomacy, Allied Force can restore their strength or even retake strategic positions belong to the fighters.

After Bandung was divided into two areas, the Allied Force often disobeys the "Demarcation Line". As a result, in Front of Eastern Bandung or Front of Western Bandung around the railway there was always a battle happen. On those battles, the Ally always outmatched. Therefore, the Allied Force side (British) became losing power and brings their reinforcement (Djajusman, 1986:70).

It was proved by the arrival of Allied Force troops to Bandung, whether by air or land (train or convoy). The dropping through air happened 12 times by 4 planes for 2 days, landed in Andir airport safe and secured, because on 1 km radius there was guarded by British soldiers. Whereas, the dropping through land (by train or convoy) consisted of a battalion of infantry, artillery, panzer, and air-force that act as a guard, they move from Jakarta to Bandung (Adeng *et al.*, 1995:68-69).

On 21st December 1945, there was coming a unit of *Sabilillah* (struggle in line with Allah or God) troops from Ciamis, West Java to meet *Hizbullah* Section I *Yon* (Battalion) Husinsyah to help them. At that time, Cibuntu fighters were gathering weapons from enemy by kidnapping and stealing, and they were also finishing their military practice led by three commanders: Iji (former of *Heiho*, indigenous militia during the Japanese period); Apin Suhanda (former of PETA, *Pembela Tanah Air* or Defender of Fatherland); and R. Khudari. At that time, Cibuntu troop just had 10 *karabens* (carbines) rifle with 400 bullets of 1/k. And before re-took Andir airport (now Husein Sastranegara airport in Bandung), they took over Japanese base at the Jenderal Sudirman Street in Bandung city.

After a week, they prepared attack in Cibuntu area, the fighters made big attack to Japanese base. The attack began with an open fire as a sign. At the first machine gun fire, so they called themselves *Onom* (ghost) troop distracted and flee. The battle was run until morning and Japan still hold their position, because they had reinforcement from Cimahi, the fighters retreated. To stop enemy's air attack, Sumarsono Battalion of TKR (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Army) troops in Situ Aksan; B. Hutagalung Battalion IV in Cijerah; Unit I of Husinsyah *Hizbullah* Battalion, Khaeruman and its Unit II R; Unit II of *Ajengan* (Islamic scholar) Usman Damiri, PBRI (*Pasukan Banteng Republik Indonesia* or Wild Bull Troops of Indonesian Republic), Pesindo (*Pemuda Sosialis Indonesia* or Indonesian Socialist Youth), and the others agreed to attack Andir airport (Loebis, 1982).

It was because *Hizbullah* troop that consisted of *santris* (students of Islamic boarding school), *ulamas* (Islamic scholars), and West Bandung people, therefore on 20th March 1946, based on mutual agreement, *Hizbullah* troops began to steal in some places to halt enemy's convoy from Cimahi to the airport, and the rest with the other troops was at the ready to attack at the planned time (Sukandi, 1997:4).

On 22nd March 1946, Cibuntu's fighters had an order from *Dan Yon* (*Komandan Batalion* or Battalion Commander) that the day all organizations were ready to halt and jam the Ally. The news about the British aid for Bandung convoy arrival through *Fokkerweg* (now Jalan Garuda) – the connection route from Bogor to Bandung had been received, so Sumarsono Battalion II since the morning had been ready to halt in *Fokkerweg* (Depdikbud RI, 1982).

All young fighters had been ready with their weapons and settled each position, such as: (1) Oman Sutisna's group, since in the morning, had intruded to northern area of Jenderal Sudirman Street through irrigation; (2) Tatang and Komar's group emplaced bushes in coconut plantation; (3) Dana's group and Sueb's group settled on the irrigation north of Jenderal Sudirman

Street between Cibuntu (Holis) and H. Alpi Aisle along with PBRI troops led by Mr. Maja; (4) Apin, Mursyid, and Irsyad's group from Unit III of Cijerah settled on H. Alpi Aisle and Cijerah Street along with API troops, Pesindo, and Mr. B Hutagalung's men; (5) Ili and Holis's group along with TKR troops led by Mr. Salkon Wigena and Mr. Husen settled on Wakap Aise and Cibuntu Street (Sukandi, 1997:4-5).

Around 09:00, the convoy arrived from the west (Cimahi) moved to Andir airport hard guided by *Gurkha* (Indian) soldiers, British, and Dutch. The approximately 350 motorcycles' noise sound had been heard by the young fighters, and soon prepared for welcoming the convoy arrival. British convoy was predicted loaded by 1,000 British soldiers with their military equipment and logistics (Djajusman, 1986:70).

After the first convoy entered *Fokker* Street, the attack was run, began with the southing of "*Allahu Akbar*" (God is Great), so the group led by Oman Sutisna began to shoot and followed by all squads. That sudden attack made Allied troops shattered. Some Allied vehicles were blown up and destroyed with its load. *Hizbullah* fighters did not give them chance to avoid or take cover, and they became bait for the Republican fighters. Then, Allied (British) soldiers, who had chance to avoid the attack, get covered behind the vehicles. Therefore, in the morning at *Fokker* Street, there was happened great battle, the arena was around Cijerah Street and *Fokkerweg* (Ekadjati *et al.*, 1985; Djajusman, 1986:71; and Sukandi, 1997:5).

At *Ashar* time (around 4:00 p.m.), after Allied convoy went back to Cimahi bringing died and injured soldiers, and half of them entered to Andir airport. They unleashed canon shot, mortar, and so on inside the airport, and had finished after the dusk. On that day, died fighters were Mulyono of TKR (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Army) member and Usman from Unit III of *Hizbullah*.

On the tomorrow morning, there had been arrived Allied tank's convoy from

Cimahi and Republican troop welcomed the convoy by firing since Cijerah Street, but enemy's steel tank still moved and crushed the Republican defense. After the convoy reached *Fokkerweg* curve, an enemy's tank blown and burnt stepped the land mine. They stepped back to Cimahi, but in H. Alpi Aisle appeared Republican troops brought hand-made grenades that were used to attack tank (Sukandi, 1997:56).

British reinforcement arrived from the Adir airport direction, they attacked Republican troops, but they could not move because they had counter attack from Republican. Finally, they entered a church located in *Fokkerweg* that became enemy's defense. They shot the Republican with machine gun. The Republican then retreated to the street, they were out of ammo. On that battle were died *Hizbullah* member named Nana Rohana, PBRI member named Maja, Salkon Wigena from TKR who injured and brought to Immanuel hospital (Sukandi, 1997:6).

In the middle of the battle, an Allied Muslim Indian captain, named Captain Mirza with his men, crossed to Republican bringing Power Wagon full of weapon and its ammunition and also logistic supply joined the Sumarsono Battalion II (Djajusman, 1986:72; and Sukandi, 1997:6). Pakistani soldiers in Bandung led by Ch. Hardin, as a connector officer of Battalion II, had successfully converted the members of Indian Division 23 of Mc. Donald Brigade to support Republican, so 150 Indian Muslim soldiers from Punjab area, with their weapons and ammunition and war engine, joined the Republican soldiers (Mani, 1985). They were led by Major Sultan Ahmad, Captain Mohamed Khan, and Lieutenant Nasyim Ahmad (Sukandi, 1997:7). By those converted Pakistani troops from Allied (British) Force, therefore the run out ammunition of the fighters was reinforced by Captain Mirza delivery to Republican troops.

The barricade troops who did halting had been retreated to the earlier position. The halting in *Fokker* Street had reached satisfaction result. The Republican troops had taken some enemy's supplies

successfully, including radio broadcaster (Djajusman, 1986:52).

Later tomorrow, on 24th March 1946, the Republican troops were ready to attack Andir airport by destroying enemy's defense in *Fokkerweg* before. And at midday, the Church can be occupied by the Republican after two of machine gunners were killed by Oyo Jayatmaja from *Hizbullah* with Salkon Wigena's men from TKR (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Army). The survived enemies run away, they entered the airport. Next, Republican troop moved crossing the railway, some of them were ready around the airport, and even some of fencing wire had been removed.

On that position, Republican troops had been ready to attack; they just waited order from commander. All Republican troops obeyed the commander; there was no one who dares to attack before the order comes. But, until early evening, the order had not been signaled, instead the order to retreat (Sukandi, 1997:7). That retreat order obeyed to the diplomacy interest which had been doing by the central government that became decision of RI (Republic of Indonesia) and Ally meeting, that all armed troops settled in Bandung on 24th March 1946 should leave Bandung until 11 km to south.

The commander of Division III, Colonel A.H. (Abdul Haris) Nasution officially released order, they were: (1) all labors and people should leave the city before 24:00; (2) all armies should burn down all existing building; (3) after sunset, the enemy's position in the north should be attacked by the fighters settled there and should burn down all existing building they can, and so for them who stay in south should intrude to north as a parting attack; and (4) the commander post is moved to Dayeuh Kolot in southern Bandung (Nasution, 1977:131; Djajusman, 1986:84; Adeng *et al.*, 1995:82; and Sukandi, 1997:8).

In obeying those orders above, so the fighters had begun the attack at 20:00, they burnt down the building and attacked enemy's position as retreating ceremony (Ricklefs, 1990). *Fokkerweg* battle was the biggest battle happened on 3 days and 3

nights. To commemorate the event, the Bandung city's government erects *Fokker* monument. On the *Fokker* commemorate monument in Garuda Street, there is a barrel of *Bren* (kind of light machine gun) that thrust the soil as a sign of the retreated fighters in order to obey the commander not because of they fear of enemy, the sign of soldier's discipline and obedience to the order (Sukandi, 1997:8).

CONCLUSION

Bandung people from all aspects welcome the proclamation of Indonesia's independence happily. Each of them waves the Red and White flag in front of their house and their store. Because that proclamation of Indonesia's independence, on 17th August 1945, was an incarnation of want and wish of all Indonesian people to end the colonization and imperialism that stays for long time in Indonesian people life.

After the declaration of independence, all young people made the struggling organizations to preserve the independence from the colonizers. Muslim youth, who want a place for Islamic struggling in supporting the Indonesian independence, made *Hizbullah* (Army of God) organization. The organization started by the idea of famous Muslim figures such as K.H. (*Kyai Haji*) Mas Mansur to the Japanese high commander in order to be allowed to establish Muslim volunteer corps in Java; whereas Bandung *Hizbullah* was established after the proclamation of independence by the creativity of local Muslim young people.

The increasing of organization establishment, especially local *Hizbullah*, was a reaction of the Allied Force arrival in Indonesia. The Allied Force arrival to Bandung was welcomed by curiosity and awareness. People and youth worked together in every organization, and TKR (*Tentara Keamanan Rakyat* or People's Security Army) welcomed the Allied Force and NICA (Netherlands Indies Civil Administration) arrival by making some incidents and battles such as *Fokkerweg* battle in Bandung city.

Fokkerweg battle happened when the

Allied troops brought their reinforcement supply to Bandung. The *Fokkerweg* Street was the strategic connector line for the Allied Force. The Allied convoy got an intercept from the Republican troops. The battle was 3 days and 3 nights. The struggle was by frontal attack and diplomacy. *Hizbullah* as the biggest people organization had given a big donation to the TKR, and then become the TNI (*Tentara Nasional Indonesia* or Indonesia National Army)'s establishment by volunteering the integration of *Hizbullah* and other struggling organizations to that official Indonesian army.

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