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**World Briefing: Asia**

**INDONESIA: JOURNALIST LEAVES ACEH REBELS**

Jane Perlez (NYT)

An American freelance journalist, William Nessen, left the separatist rebel group he had been traveling with in the northern province of Aceh and turned himself over to the Indonesian military. Mr. Nessen, 46, had said in telephone interviews from the jungle that he feared for his life if he were to be taken into custody by the Indonesian Army. The American Embassy said United States officials were present when Mr. Nessen was escorted out by the Indonesian commander in Aceh, Bambang Dharmono. Indonesian military officials have said they want to question Mr. Nessen. The Asia representative of the Committee to Protect Journalists, Lin Neumann, who went to Jakarta to talk to the military about Mr. Nessen, said: "We're happy he's safe and glad the Indonesians have kept their word so far that he would not be harmed. The next step is to allow him to leave the country as soon as possible."

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