

Suharto undergoes therapy

by UPI

JAKARTA -- Doctors treating former Indonesian President Suharto said Monday the ailing 86-year-old was undergoing intensive medical therapy as his condition improved. The former strongman remained weak but has continued to improve since being admitted Friday to Jakarta's Pertamina Hospital after suffering from anemia and low blood pressure resulting from heart, lung and kidney problems, the Antara news agency reported. "(Suharto) will continue to undergo intensive medical therapy with tight monitoring and blood transfusions," Dr. Mardjo Soebiandono, head of the medical team treating him, told a news conference. He said Suharto's consciousness had improved and his systolic blood pressure was stable, the report said. Another doctor said Suharto underwent hemodialysis to remove accumulation of liquid in his body. Suharto has been hospitalized several times in the past including in May 2006 for internal bleeding. The treatment included surgically removing a portion of his large intestine. Suharto was president of Indonesia from 1965 until 1998, when he resigned amid growing anti-government protests. He was accused of embezzling hundreds of millions of dollars but the case was dropped in 2000 due to his poor health, Antara said.

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