Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 9, 10765, 2007 SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2007-A-10765 © European Geosciences Union 2007



Extreme run-up from the 17 July 2006 Java tsunami

H. Fritz (1), W. Kongko (2), A. Moore (3), B. McAdoo (4), J. Goff (5), C. Harbitz (6), B. Uslu (7), N. Kaligeris (8), V. Titov (9), Costas Synolakis (7,8)

(1) School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Savannah, GA 31407, USA, (fritz@gatech.edu)

(2) Coastal Dynamic Research Center, Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology, Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia, (widjo@webmail.bppt.go.id)

(3) Department of Geology, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242, USA, (amoore5@kent.edu)

(4) Department of Geology and Geography, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY 12604, USA, (brmcadoo@vassar.edu)

(5) National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, PO Box 8602, Christchurch, New Zealand, (j.goff@niwa.co.nz)

(6) Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, 0806 Oslo, Norway, (carl.bonnevie.harbitz@ngi.no)

(7) Tsunami Research Center, Viterbi School of Engineering, USC-2531, Los Angeles, California, USA, (costas@usc.edu)

(8) Department of Environmental Engineering, Technical University of Crete, Chanea 73100, Greece

(9) Pacific Marine and Environmental Laboratory, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Seattle, WA, USA, (vasily.titov@noaa.gov)

The 17 July 2006 magnitude 7.7 earthquake off the south coast of western Java, Indonesia generated a tsunami that affected over 300 km of coastline killing more than 600 people, with locally focused run-ups exceeding 20 m. This slow earthquake was hardly felt on Java, and the high wave-energy coast masked any preceding ocean withdrawal, making this tsunami difficult for witnesses to detect before impact. An International Tsunami Survey Team was deployed and their investigations covered more than 600 km of coastline. Measured tsunami heights and run-up distributions were uniform over large areas, however there was a pronounced peak on the south coast of Nusa Kambangan, where the tsunami impact carved a sharp trimline in a forest at elevations up to 21 m and 1 km inland. Local flow depth exceeded 8 m along the elevated coastal plain between the beach and the hill slope. We infer that the focused tsunami and runup heights on the island suggest a possible local submarine slump or mass movement.