

UA 169/98

"Disappearance"

5 June 1998

INDONESIA **Yani Avri (Rian)****Soni****Herman Hendrawan**

There is serious concern for the safety of three political activists who are believed to have "disappeared".

Two of the three, Yani Avri - also known as Rian - and Soni have been missing for more than one year although their family has, until recently, requested that there should be no publicity about their cases. Yan Avri and Soni were arrested on 28 May 1997 by members of North Jakarta District Military Command (KODIM Jakarta Utara), held for one night and released, but then rearrested outside KODIM. There had been no news of their whereabouts until April 1998 when Pius Lustrilanang, who "disappeared" from 4 February to 3 April 1998, testified that Yani Avri and Soni had been held in a cell adjacent to his. In his testimony Pius Lustrilanang stated that he was held in military custody and that he was subjected to torture, including being beaten, kicked, submerged under water and subjected to electric shocks.

Yani Avri and Soni are both activists in the break away faction of the Indonesian Democratic Party (*Partai Demokrasi Indonesia - PDI*) which supports Megawati Sukarnoputri, who was ousted from the leadership of the party in a government-backed congress in 1997.

A third person, Herman Hendrawan, remains missing after attending a press conference at the offices of the Indonesian Legal Aid Institute in Jakarta on 12 March 1998. Two others, Rahardjo Waluyo Djati and Faizal Reza, who went missing at the same time have subsequently returned to their homes. According to Pius Lustrilarang, the two had been detained in the same detention centre as him on the day of their arrest. However, there has been no news of Herman Hendrawan since 12 March raising fears for his safety. Herman Hendrawan is a member of the pro-democracy group, *Komite Nasional Penyelamat Dekokrasi - KNPD*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In the build up to the political crisis which led to the resignation of former President Suharto on 22 May 1998, hundreds of political activists were arrested. At least 18 individuals went missing after they were subjected to kidnap-style arrests. At least three of those who went missing in 1998 are still "disappeared" and both the military and police authorities have denied any involvement in their arrest and detention.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:

- calling for the authorities to clarify the whereabouts of Yan Avri, Soni and Herman Hendrawan and the precise reason for their arrest and continued detention;
- urging the authorities to ensure that they are not at risk of torture and ill-treatment and, if they are detained, that they be granted immediate access to independent human rights lawyers, their families and to medical professionals
- urging that if they are detained on account of their peaceful political activities they be immediately and unconditionally released.

APPEALS TO:

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Commander of the Armed Forces (ABRI)

General Wiranto

Panglima ABRI

Markas Besar ABRI

Jl Medan merdeka Barat No 13

Jakarta Timur

Indonesia

Fax: + 6221 36 1471 (Armed Forces HQ); + 6221 37 8144/ + 6221 35 6404

Salutation: Dear General

COPIES TO:

Minister of Justice

Prof. Dr. Muladi SH

Menteri Kehakiman

Jl H R Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7

Kuningan

Jakarta Selatan

Indonesia

Fax: + 6221 525 3095

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 July 1998.