

PUBLIC

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UA 152/02

Possible "disappearance"/

22 May 2002

Fear of t

INDONESIA Si Bai (m) aged 20
Hasbi (m) aged 22
M Ali (m) aged 23

The three men named above were taken from police detention in Aceh province by masked men, believed to be from the Police Mobile Brigade (Brimob) and the military in mid-May. They have not been seen since and are at risk of torture, ill-treatment and other human rights violations,

Si Bai and Hasbi, both farmers from Pulo Ie village, in Kluet Utara Sub-district, South Aceh District, were detained with three others on 12 May and taken to the Kotafajar Police Sektor (Polsek) in Kluet Utara. The following day, M Ali a farmer from Pulo Ie village, was also detained and taken to Polsek Kotajafar.

Two of the detainees were released on 12 May and another on 13 May. Si Bai, Hasbi and M Ali were all expected to be released soon after. However, before the release could take place, they were taken away by members of Brimob and Gagen military unit who arrived at the Polsek in two vehicles. It is not known where they are being held and there are serious concerns for their safety.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Grave human rights violations, including unlawful killings, "disappearances", torture and arbitrary arrests, are continuing in Aceh during military and police operations against the armed opposition group, Free Aceh Movement, *Gerakan Aceh Merdeka* (GAM). Local human rights groups reported that around 1,500 people were killed during military operations in 2001, many of them civilians. GAM has also been responsible for human rights abuses.

Anyone detained by the police or military in Aceh is at grave risk of torture, ill-treatment or other human rights violations. Human rights defenders have been the victims of extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detention and torture. Others have been accused of criminal offences which are believed to be primarily intended to intimidate them and discourage them from continuing their human rights work.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:

- urge the authorities to immediately clarify the whereabouts of Si Bai, Hasbi and M Ali and to provide guarantees that they will not be subjected to torture or ill-treatment;
- urge that the three men are given access to members of their families, to independent legal advisors and medical assistance should they need it;
- urge the authorities to immediately and unconditionally release the three men unless they are to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

Chief of Police - Aceh
Insp. Gen. Yusuf Mangga Barani
Markas Polres Darah Aceh
Jl. Cut Meutia
Banda Aceh,

Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam
Indonesia

**Telegrams: Insp. Gen. Yusuf Mangga Barani, Banda Aceh, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam,
Indonesia**

Faxes: + 62 651 22488

Salutation: Dear Inspector General

Commander of the Armed Forces (Panglima TNI),
Admiral Widodo Adisutjipto

Markas Besar TNI

Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13

Jakarta Pusat

Indonesia

Telegrams: Panglima TNI, Markas Besar TNI, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 520 1636

Salutation: Dear Admiral

COPIES TO:

Coordinating Minister for Politics and Security

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

Menteri Koordinator Bidang Politik dan Keamanan

Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No. 15

Jakarta Pusat 10110

Indonesia

**Faxes: + 62 21 344 1751 (If someone answers please ask for a fax line)/
+ 62 21 345 0918**

Salutation: Dear Minister

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 2 July 2002.