

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 21/06/97

14 February 1997

Further information on EXTRA 20/97 (ASA 21/05/97, 13 February 1997) - Fear of torture / Medical concern

EAST TIMOR Tomas Caiwaresi (Tomas Caiware) (35), Fransisco Ximenes (28), Celestino Jerronimo, Armindo Soares (30), Gaspar Pinto (19), Agostinho Orloando (Agostinho Orlandor) (19), Evangelino Menezes (Evangel Menezes) (22), Fransisco Jesus (18), Armando (25), Paulo (28), Paulo Soares (27), Adelino (27), Agostinho da Silva (19), Gaspar (18), Acacio (20), Napoleon Amaral (27), Luis (27), Luis (20), Domingos Pinto (22), Eduardo Amaral (20), Alberto (16), Luis Pinto (16), Agostinho (19), Raimundo (23), Mau-Meta (15), Luis Gama (20), Paulo (20), Egas (20), Paulo Alves (28), Gaspar (18), Mateus (23), Moises (19), Luis (26), Fransisco Rangal (23)

109 people are now said to have been arrested in the Viqueque district of East Timor following disturbances between 7 and 11 February.

The East Timor deputy police chief, Colonel Atok Rismanto was quoted by *Agence France Presse* as saying that "a total of 109 people have been arrested and we are currently questioning them to select those who would become suspects in the case". A lower figure of 70 detainees was given by Col. Mahidin Simbolon, Chief of the East Timor Military Command in an interview with the *Jakarta Post*.

Amnesty International has the names of 33 of those arrested but is continuing to seek information about the identities and whereabouts of the other detainees. The organization is seriously concerned for the safety of all the detainees many of whom are believed to be held in military custody where there is a greater risk of torture and ill-treatment. This risk is much greater when the identity of those arrested and their place of detention is not known.

The unrest which led to the arrests is reported in the *Jakarta Post* as having been started when a group of pro-integration¹ youths attacked a group of church activists. Fighting is said to have continued for four days before the military intervened.

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

- urging the authorities to provide information on the identity, whereabouts and exact charges against all those being detained in relation to the disturbances in the Viqueque region;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that none of the detainees are subjected to torture or ill-treatment and that they are given immediate access to lawyers, family members and medical treatment if necessary;
- calling for the release of anyone who is not to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence.

¹Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975. Its occupation of the territory has never been recognized by the United Nations and there remain strong pro-independence sentiments among the East Timorese population. However, there are also some people who work in cooperation with the Indonesian security forces and who support integration with Indonesia.

APPEALS TO:

Commander Resort Military Command (KOREM)
164 Wiradharma (covers East Timor)
Col. Mahidin Simbolon
Markas KOREM 164/Wiradharma
Dili, East Timor (Indonesia)
Fax: + 62 390 21 624
Salutation: Dear Colonel Simbolon

Chief of Police for East Timor
Colonel Yusuf Muharram
Kapolda Timor Timor
Dili, East Timor (Indonesia)
Telegrams: Kapolda, Dili, East Timor
Salutation: Dear Colonel Muharram

COPIES TO:

National Commission on Human Rights
Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusai (Komnas HAM)
Alex Refialy SO
Jalan Dr Antonio de Carvelho
Dili, East Timor (Indonesia)

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 15 March 1997.