

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 21/15/97

18 March 1997

Further information (3) on EXTRA 20/97 (ASA 21/05/97, 13 February) and follow-ups ASA 21/05/97, 13 February, and ASA 21/06/97, 14 February) - Fear of torture / Medical concern

EAST TIMORNames unknown

All but four of those arrested in relation to disturbances in February in the Viqueque district of East Timor have now been released. Many are reported to have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment while in detention. The four still held are believed to be detained in the police headquarters in the town of Viqueque. Their identities are not known and it is unclear if they have access to legal representatives, medical professionals or to members of their families. Amnesty International remains concerned that the four may be at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

No further information has been received on the fate of those who were reported to have been shot by the military during the unrest, including Luis who was arrested on 10 February after being shot and wounded. It is not known if he is among the four still being held in police custody.

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

- urging the authorities to provide information on the identity of the four people still being held in relation to the disturbances in the Viqueque region and to give details of the exact charges against them;
- 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 a medical examination;
- urging the authorities to conduct an immediate, thorough and independent investigation into allegations that many of those detained have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment and asking them to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

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

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ali Alatas SH
Menteri Luar Negeri
Jalan Medan Teman Pejambon No 6
Jakarta Indonesia
Fax: + 6221 21360 517/380 5511/345 7782/724 5354
Salutation: Dear Minister Ali Alatas

COPIES TO:

National Commission on Human Rights

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Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusia (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 April 1997.