

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 21/35/96

17 June 1996

Further information on EXTRA 90/96 (ASA 21/34/96, 11 June 1996) - Fear of torture

EAST TIMOR East Timorese detained after riots in Baucau including:

Martinho (or Marselho) da Lopes

Martinho Oliveira

At least 150 East Timorese are now believed to have been arrested following disturbances in Baucau on 10 June 1996 which are said to have been sparked by East Timorese anger about an insult to the Virgin Mary. The detainees are believed to be held at the police station in Baucau. To Amnesty International's knowledge the authorities have not yet provided the names of those detained or details of the charges against them.

In addition two youths, Martinho (or Marselho) da Lopes and Martinho Oliveira, who were injured when the security forces opened fire on the demonstrators, are believed to have been taken to the military hospital in Dili. Reports vary about the seriousness of their injuries but at least one of the men, and possibly both, are still thought to be held at the hospital.

Based on previous patterns of human rights violations in East Timor, Amnesty International remains concerned for the safety of those in detention in Baucau and for Martinho da Lopes and Martinho Oliveira. In particular, the organization is concerned that the detainees may be tortured during interrogation. It is also concerned about the apparent use of excessive force by the security forces.

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

- urging the Indonesian authorities to provide details of the names of all those detained following the disturbances in Baucau on 10 June 1996;
- calling for the immediate and unconditional release of any detainee who is not to be promptly charged with a recognisable criminal offence under existing laws;
- requesting that the authorities provide guarantees that the detainees, including Martinho (or Marselho) da Lopes and Martinho Oliveira, will not be subjected to ill-treatment or torture while in detention;
- calling on the Indonesian authorities to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation into the actions taken by the security forces to control the disturbances in Baucau, in order to establish if, as appears to be the case, excessive force was used.

APPEALS TO:

CHIEF OF POLICE FOR EAST TIMOR

Lt. Col. S Y Wenas

Kapolda Timor Timur

Dili

East Timor

Indonesia

Telegrams: Kapolda Timor Timur, Dili, East Timor

Salutation: Dear Lt. Col. Wenas

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA

(covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and

East Timor)

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Maj Gen H A Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar
Bali, Indonesia

Telegrams: Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Major General Rivai

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs
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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 20 July 1996.