PUBLIC AI Index: ASA 21/09/99

EXTRA 19/99 11 February 1999

INDONESIAAnwar Yusuf - possible "disappearance"

Anwar Yusuf, a 23-year-old volunteer with a human rights organization, has reportedly "disappeared". Amnesty International is seriously concerned for his safety. His "disappearance" is believed to be connected with the killings that took place on 3 February 1999 when members of the Indonesian security forces opened fire on people returning from a meeting in Matang Ulim village in East Aceh (see EXTRA 17/99 - ASA 21/07/99, 9 February 1999).

Anwar Yusuf, who had been working with Forum Peduli Hak Asasi Manusia (Forum for the care of human rights) since September 1998, was apparently taken from his home in East Aceh by a man who identified himself as a member of Koramil Idi Rayeuk (Idi Rayeuk Sub-district Military Command). The man had no arrest warrant. According to Anwar Yusuf's mother, he was told that he would be taken to Koramil at Idi Rayeau for questioning in connection with the incident on 3 February. When Anwar Yusuf did not return the next day his mother went to Koramil to ask where he was. She was told that they had no information but that she should check with the East Aceh regional police command (Polres). Polres did not give her any information either.

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

- urging the authorities to immediately establish and make public the whereabouts of Anwar Yusuf and to provide quarantees for his safety;
- expressing concern that Anwar Yusuf may have been detained because of his legitimate activities with a human rights organization and urging that, if this is the case, he should be released immediately;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that arrests and detentions are carried out in accordance with domestic law and international standards, and that anyone found to have contravened these procedures is brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

Military Commander Region I/Bukit Barisan

(covers North & West Sumatra and Aceh)
Major General Ismet Juhairi Chaniago
Pangdam I/Bukit Barisan
Markas Besar KODAM I
Medan, Sumatra Utara, Indonesia

Telegrams: Major General Chaniago, Sumatra Utara, Indonesia

Salutation:Dear Major General

COPIES TO:

Minister of Defence And Security Gen. Wiranto Menteri Pertahanan dan Keamanan Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No. 13-14 Jakarta 10110, Indonesia

Faxes:+ 62 21 381 4535

President Jusuf Habibie
President RI
Istana Negara
Jl. Veteran, Jakarta Pusat

Indonesia

Faxes:+ 62 21 526 8726 / 380 5511 / 345 7782

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 25 March 1999.