

UA 165/01

Possible**INDONESIA Hubertus Wresman, aged 26**

Hubertus Wresman was taken from his home in Jayapura District, Papua Province (formerly known as Irian Jaya) by five armed, masked men in the early hours of 25 June. An eyewitness claimed that at least one of the men was a member of the Special Forces Command (Kopassus) of the Indonesian Armed Forces (*Tentara Nasional Indonesia*, TNI). There has been no news of Hubertus Wresman since, and Amnesty International is seriously concerned for his safety.

The armed men ordered Hubertus Wresman and his family to lie on the ground. They kicked him at least twice on the side of the head, and bound his eyes and mouth with tape. They then took him away in a white speedboat, which is believed to belong to a local government official. According to local sources, the boat had been used by Kopassus officers over recent weeks to patrol the local coastline.

Hubertus Wresman lives in Takar Village, Pantai Timur Sub-district. The men who took him from his house were reportedly searching the village for three local pro-independence activists. The three had already fled, but the men reportedly found the wife of one of the activists and put a gun in her mouth in an attempt to force her to reveal where her husband was hiding.

It is not known why Hubertus Wresman was taken, since he is said to be an ordinary fisherman and is not involved with any pro-independence group.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Tension remains high in Papua after moves by the Indonesian authorities over recent months to clamp down on any expression of pro-independence sentiment in the province. Those with pro-independence views, or who are believed to support independence, are at risk of unlawful killing, "disappearance" and arbitrary detention.

Towards the end of June, Indonesian navy and military troops reportedly launched operations in several coastal Sub-districts of Jayapura District, in an apparent attempt to find independence supporters, including members of the armed pro-independence group, the National Liberation Army (*Tentara Pembebasan Nasional*, TPN).

Local people are reported to have fled their homes in fear of the troops and local TPN members have reportedly stated that they will fight back. There are concerns that these tensions may lead to further human rights abuses on both sides.

Kopassus is an elite military unit which has been responsible for grave human rights violations in the past, including in Papua, Aceh and East Timor.

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

- urging the authorities to establish and make public the whereabouts of Hubertus Wresman and provide guarantees for his safety;
- urging the authorities to ensure that, if he is found to be in military custody, he is released immediately and unconditionally;

- calling on the authorities to order a full, immediate and impartial investigation into the abduction of Hubertus Wresman, and into reports that he was tortured or ill-treated, and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION VIII/ TRIKORA  
(covers Papua/Irian Jaya)  
Maj. Gen. Mahidin Simbolon  
Pangdam VIII/Trikora  
Jl. Polimak Atas Jayapura  
Irian Jaya  
Indonesia  
**Fax: 62 967 31642**  
**Salutation: Dear Major General**

Coordinating Minister for Politics and Security  
Lt. Gen. Agum Gumelar  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No.15  
Jakarta Pusat 10110  
Indonesia  
**Fax: + 62 345 1064/345 0918/344 1751**  
**Salutation: Dear Lt. General**

**COPIES TO:**

MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
Marsilam Simanjuntak  
Menteri Kehakiman  
Jl. H.R. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7  
Kuningan  
Jakarta Selatan  
Indonesia  
**Fax: + 62 21 525 3095/ 310 4149/ 522 5036**

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 14 August 2001.