

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/29/98

This is a limited action. Please restrict appeals to 10 per section

EXTRA 25/98

Fear of torture and ill-treatment

30 March 1998

EAST TIMOR Justo Bernadino (alias Larimau), resistance leader

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Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the safety of Justo Bernadino who has recently been arrested by military but whose whereabouts are not known. It is feared he is at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

Justo Bernadino is the commander of the East Timorese National Liberation Army, *Falintil*, in Los Palos. He is believed to have been taken into military custody on 29 March 1998 in the village of Bauro, in Los Palos in East Timor, during intensive Indonesian military operations in the area.

It is likely that Justo Bernadino was initially taken into military custody at the District Military Command (Kodim) in the town of Baucau but then transferred to military custody in Dili, the capital of East Timor.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

East Timorese taken into both military and police custody face the risk of being tortured and ill-treated, particularly in the early stages of detention during which they are interrogated. Those at particular risk are individuals suspected of involvement with the East Timorese armed resistance.

Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedures, which provides for detainees to have a right to independent legal counsel at all stages of an investigation, are frequently ignored by the military and the police. Detainees are routinely denied access to legal counsel and to their families, thereby increasing the risk of ill-treatment and torture.

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

- urging the authorities to clarify the whereabouts of Justo Bernadino and the charges under which he is being held;
- urging the authorities to allow him on-going and regular access to human rights lawyers and to his family;
- urging the authorities to ensure that he is not at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

#### APPEALS TO:

##### COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES (ABRI)

General Wiranto  
Panglima ABRI  
Markas Besar ABRI  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13  
Jakarta Timur  
Indonesia

Telegrams: General Wiranto, Jakarta, Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 36 1471 (Armed Forces HQ) / + 62 21 37 8144

Salutation: Dear General Wiranto

#### COPIES TO:

**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Ali Alatas S.H.

Menteri Luar Negeri

Jl. Medan Taman Pejambon No.6

Jakarta

Indonesia

**Faxes: + 62 21360 517 / 380 5511 / 345 7782 / 360 541 / 724 5354**

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 27 April 1998.