

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/050/2001

UA 281/01

Fear for

INDONESIAMukhtar (m), aged 35
Azhari (m), aged 17
Muhammad Rizal (m), aged 19
Bukhari (m), aged 30
Zuki Mulyana (m), aged 24
Mahfud (m), aged 21
M. Nur (m), aged 17
Lukman (m), aged 42
Four others (names unknown)

The 12 men named above, among them two teenagers, were reportedly detained by soldiers on 5 November in Aceh. Their whereabouts are now unknown, and they are at risk of torture or "disappearance".

The 12 were detained during a series of raids on homes in Mon Geudong village, Banda Sakti Sub-district, North Aceh, by soldiers from the North Aceh District Military Command (Kodim 0103) in the early morning of 5 November. One was reportedly accused of dealing in drugs and another of being a member of the armed opposition group, the Free Aceh Movement (GAM), which is fighting for independence from Indonesia. However, there is no detailed information on why they were detained.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Serious human rights violations, including unlawful killings, "disappearances", torture and arbitrary arrests, are continuing in Aceh during military and police operations against GAM. New military operations began in May 2001, and hundreds of extra troops have been sent to the province. Local human rights groups have reported that 544 people, many of them civilians, have been killed since the beginning of the military operations. Anyone detained by the police or military in Aceh is at grave risk of torture or other human rights violations.

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

- urging the authorities to immediately reveal where the 12 men are and why they were detained;
- urging the authorities to provide guarantees that the men will not be subjected to torture, ill-treatment or other human rights violations, and will be given immediate access to lawyers of their own choice, their families and medical attention;
- urging them to ensure that the 12 men are released immediately and unconditionally unless they are to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

Commander, KODAM I / BUKIT BARISAN (covers North & West Sumatra and Aceh)
Major General I Gede Purnawa
Pangdam I/Bukit Barisan
Markas Besar KODAM I
Medan
Sumatra Utara
Indonesia

Fax:+ 62 61 8451626 (w)

Salutation:Dear Major General I Gede Purnawa

Commander of the Armed Forces

Admiral Widodo Adisutjipto

Panglima TNI

Markas Besar TNI

Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13

Jakarta Pusat

Indonesia

Fax:+ 62 21 35 6404

Salutation: Dear Admiral Widodo Adisutjipto

COPIES TO:

President

Megawati Sukarnoputri

President RI

Istana Merdeka

Jakarta 10110

Indonesia

Fax: + 62 21 345 2685 (via State Secretariat)

+ 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 18 December 2001.