

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/20/00

EXTRA 29/00

Possible "disappearances" / Fear of torture

or ill-tr

INDONESIA
Usman Jalil, 40
Darman, 35
Abdullah bin Haji Syamuan, 40
Ibrahim Ismail, 45
Abdurrahman, 35
Sulaiman Yusuf, 22
Ishak bin Haji Karim, 35
+ one other.

Usman bin Abdullah, 65, farmer
Sulaiman Sabi, 40, farmer

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of the men named above who are at risk of being tortured or ill-treated after they were reportedly arrested by the *Tentara Nasional Indonesia* (TNI), Indonesian National Army in Aceh on 1 and 2 April 2000.

Usman Jalil, Darman, Abdullah bin Haji Syamuan, Ibrahim Ismail, Abdurrahman, Sulaiman Yusuf, Ishak bin Haji Karim and one other were reportedly arrested on 1 April during a sweeping operation to round up members of the armed opposition group, the *Gerakan Aceh Merdeka* (GAM) Free Aceh Movement. All are from Menasah Asan village, Simpang Ulim Sub-district, East Aceh, except for one unnamed man. They are reportedly being held at a military post in Alue Ie Itam, Julok Sub-district, East Aceh.

Usman bin Abdullah and Sulaiman Sabi, from Deah Temanah village, Trienggadeng Sub-district, Pidie District, were arrested in the evening of 2 April as they reportedly drove past some military personnel on their motorbike in Jurang Berangkat. Their arrest came after two other motorcyclists had apparently just passed by, but had refused to stop when ordered to do so by the military. The two farmers are reportedly being held either at the Trienggadeng Koramil or at the Pidie District Military Command (Kodim). The TNI have confiscated their motorbike.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The human rights situation in Aceh continues to deteriorate with unconfirmed reports that over 200 people have been killed there this year during military and police counter-insurgency operations against GAM. Dozens have also been arrested during "sweeping operations" by the security forces to round up GAM members.

In recent weeks, human rights defenders and humanitarian workers have faced increased harassment, intimidation and arrests by the security forces.

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

- expressing concern at the reported arrest by the TNI in Aceh of Usman Jalil, Darman, Abdullah bin Haji Syamuan, Ibrahim Ismail, Abdurrahman, Sulaiman Yusuf, Ishak bin Haji Karim and one other, and Usman bin Abdullah and Sulaiman Sabi on 1 and 2 April 2000;
- urging the authorities to establish and make public their whereabouts;

- asking that, if they have been arrested, they be released immediately unless they are to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence;
- urging the authorities to guarantee their safety and ensure that they are given immediate access to their families, lawyers and any medical treatment they may need;
- calling on the authorities to issue immediate instructions to the security forces to halt all arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture and ill-treatment, "disappearances" and unlawful killings.

APPEALS TO (please note that fax numbers to Indonesia are difficult to get through to):

Major General Affandi
Military Commandar for Aceh
Pangdam I/Bukit Barisan
Markas Besar KODAM I
Medan
Sumatra Utara
Indonesia

Telegrams: Major General Affandi, Medan, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Commander

Minister of Defence and Security
Dr Juwono Sudarsono
Menteri Pertahanan dan Keamanan
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No. 13-14
Jakarta Pusat 10110
Indonesia

Telegrams: Menteri Pertahanan dan Keamanan, Jakarta, Indonesia
Faxes: + 62 21 381 4535 / 384 5178
Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Mr Hasballah M. Saad
State Minister for Human Rights Affairs
Jl Kuningan Timur M 2/5
Jakarta 12950
Indonesia
Faxes: + 62 21 525 0075 / 525 0139

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 1 May 2000.