

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/048/2002

UA 348/02

Fear of torture or ill-treatment/
Incommunicado detention/medical concern

29 November 2002

INDONESIA

Ronald Ramandey (m)

Amelia Kiri (f), his wife

Ronald Ramandey and his wife Amelia Kiri are being held in Manokwari Police Resort (Polres Manokwari) in Papua. Despite reports that both have serious injuries, they have not had access to medical treatment. They are detained incommunicado, and are at risk of torture and ill-treatment.

In November, police carried out operations against an armed opposition group in Wasior Sub-district, Manokwari District. During these operations, Ronald Ramandey and Amelia Kiri were shot and injured, and turned themselves in to police. They were initially detained in Tandia village, Wasior Sub-district, where they reportedly received some treatment for their injuries.

On 26 November, Ronald Ramandey and Amelia Kiri were moved to Polres Manokwari in Manokwari town, the capital of Manokwari District. Since their arrival they have been held incommunicado and have not had access to medical treatment or a lawyer.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In recent years, both peaceful and armed supporters of independence in Papua have been unlawfully killed, and subjected to "disappearance", torture and detention without charge.

During police operations in Wasior Sub-district, Manokwari District in the second half of 2001, it is estimated that over 140 people were detained, tortured or otherwise ill-treated. One person died in custody in Polres Manokwari as a result of torture, while at least seven other people are believed to have been extrajudicially executed. Twenty-seven people were sentenced to terms of imprisonment after unfair trials. The operations were in response to attacks on logging companies in which nine people, including five members of the police were killed, by unidentified armed groups.

Ceremonies to raise the Morning Star flag, a symbol of Papuan independence, have been forcibly broken up by the Indonesian security forces across Papua. Since July 1998, this has led to the extrajudicial execution of at least 37 people. Many others have been injured, detained without charge and tortured. Forty-two people are being held in Manokwari prison in connection with a flag raising ceremony and other pro-independence activities (see UA 344/02, ASA 21/047/2002, 28 November 2002).

Leaders of the civilian pro-independence movement have also been targeted, including the head of the Papuan Presidium Council (PDP), Theys Eluay, who was extrajudicially executed. Nine members of the Special Forces Command (Kopassus) have been named as suspects in the case. Theys Eluay was one of five civilian independence leaders put on trial for their peaceful political activities. Three others were acquitted in March 2002. Four other civilian pro-independence leaders are currently under town arrest in Wamena town, Jayawijaya District, after having been sentenced to four years= imprisonment in December 2000. They are considered prisoners of conscience.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Ronald Ramandey and Amelia Kiri, who are detained in Manokwari Police Resort in Papua;
- urging that they be given immediate access to medical assistance, lawyers of their choosing and their families;
- urging the authorities to provide guarantees of their safety, including a guarantee that they are not subjected to torture or other human rights violations;
- urging that they be released unconditionally unless they are to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

Insp. Gen. Budi Utomo
 Head of Regional Police Papua
 Jl. Sam Ratulangi No. 8
 Jayapura, Papua
 Indonesia

Fax: + 62 967 531717 (if someone answers ask for the fax Asaya mau kirim fax@)
Telegrams: Kapolda Papua, Jayapura, Papua, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Inspector General

Drs. Yohanes Prapto Wirhadi
 Kapolres Manokwari
 Jl. Bhayangkara No. 1
 Manokwari, Papua

Telegrams: Kapolres Manokwari, Manokwari, Papua, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Kapolres

COPIES TO:

President Megawati Sukarnoputri
 President RI
 Istana Merdeka
 Jakarta 10110
 Indonesia

Fax: + 62 21 345 2685/ 526 8726 /345 7782
Telegrams: President Megawati, Istana Merdeka, Jakarta, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear President

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 10 January 2003.