EXTERNAL AI Index: ASA 21/85/96

18 December 1996

Further information on UA 262/96 (ASA 21/75/96, 13 November 1996) and follow-up (ASA 21/81/96, 28 November 1996) - Fear of torture / Health concern / Legal concern / Torture

EAST TIMORAzito Freitas
Evaristo Ximenes
Aniceto Ximenes
Armindo do Rosario
Manuel
Quintino Imanuel de Cristo

and new names: Augusto

Marcelino Cosme

Amnesty International has learned from the East Timor Human Rights Centre the names of three more East Timorese men arrested since October 1996 in connection with the killing of Sergeant Major Juliao Fraga, an East Timorese military commander in the Indonesian Armed Forces. This brings to nine the number of such detainees known to Amnesty International. The organization is seriously concerned for the safety of all nine men, particularly in view of earlier reports that two had been tortured (see previous update).

Augusto, Marcelino and Cosme were believed to have been arrested on 18 November by the military. It is not known where they are being held or whether they have been charged and whether they have granted access to independent legal advice.

The other six are believed to be still in detention and there is no further information about whether they are facing charges or whether they have been given access to legal representatives.

All nine are from the village of Buibau in the Baucau District.

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

- expressing concern at reports that some of the nine, including Armindo do Rosario, Manuel and Azito Freitas have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment (see previous update), and seeking assurances that they and the other detainees are now being treated humanely and in accordance with international standards;
- urging an impartial inquiry into the allegations of torture and ill-treatment with a view to bringing those responsible to justice;
- calling on the authorities to provide the nine prisoners with access to legal counsel of their own choice and access to their families;
- calling on the authorities to clarify the whereabouts and charges against the nine men and to release them if they are being held solely for their non-violent peaceful activities;

APPEALS TO:

MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA (covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)

Maj Gen Rivai Pangdam IX/Udayana Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana Denpasar Bali, Indonesia

Telegrams: Pangdam IX, Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Major General Rivai

CHIEF OF POLICE FOR EAST TIMOR

Colonel Yusuf Mucharam Kapolda Timor Timur Dili, East Timor Indonesia

Telegrams: Kapolda Timor Timur, Dili, East Timor.

Salutation: Dear Lt Colonel Mucharam

COPIES TO:

National Commission for Human Rights

Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusia (Komnas HAM) Alex Refialy SH Jalan Dr Antonio de Carvelho Dili East Timor (Indonesia)

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 3 February 1997.