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- Caritas Internationalis: III. Motion: East Timor - Motion presented by Caritas East Timor, Caritas Norway, CAFOD (Caritas England & Wales) and all the Caritas Member Organizations in the Asia Region
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Comments: -Belo's name was misspelled; that they
corrected But this is none of a
editorial on Kosovo than Time

Our Role in East Timor

IN THE LIGHT of what's going on in East Timor, the rationale behind our recent armed intervention in Kosovo seems hollow and selective. At the time we were saying that the rest of the world can't just sit by when people are slaughtering each other, and innocent people are being killed.

That's precisely what's been happening on an epic scale in East Timor, and yet until this week the fundamental American response was one of total non-involvement. These words do not constitute a call for another Kosovo. Too many innocent people were killed by our actions there, and the lives of too many others were distorted beyond redemption. It is also a call for constancy, on our part, in addressing international thuggery. To date, we fail badly.

Until recent weeks, many had never heard of East Timor, and many more would have had trouble locating it on the globe. As it happens, East Timor is located on one of the many islands that make up the nation of Indonesia. Its population of 800,000, the great majority of whom are Catholic, voted on Aug. 30—by a 4-1 majority—in favor of independence. To date the outcome of that vote has been frustrated by the violent tactics of a ragtag militia supported, at least tacitly, by the Indonesian government.

Things reached a crisis stage last week as thousands died. Dili, the capital, was plunged into anarchy, and Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, the Nobel Peace Prize-winner who has stood as a symbol of freedom, was forced into exile in Australia.

This week the Indonesian government finally recognized the need for an international presence to secure peace and to protect individual lives, inviting the United Nations to lead such an undertaking.

Until now the United States had backed off from any involvement in East Timor. One leading administration official dismissed the crisis there as simply a “mess” hardly worth our full-scale attention—or, indeed, our attention at all. Even now the promise of American participation in a UN peacekeeping force appears to be limited in scope—restricted, perhaps, to support operations such as the transportation of other troops.

Few if any would want a repeat of the bombing runs that took so many innocent lives in Kosovo. At the same time, many would hope that our country might take more of a leading role in rallying international support for the independent nation of East Timor—just as Indonesia's president made possible with his mandate for an election, and just as the overwhelming majority of the people voted.

Pope John Paul II has called for an end to the “intimidation and violence” that has racked East Timor. The Holy See supports creation of an international peacekeeping force. So does Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick of Newark, chairman of the U.S. bishops' international policy committee.

In short, it is no time for this country to turn its back on those who need our help. Doing that would be a source of everlasting shame.

Caro padre Cunha

Escrevo-te para dar informações sobre a dita Carmen. Também ela é filipina como Jess, agora feito canadense. É da Congregação Paul Chartres. Foi provincial da mesma por dois períodos. Depois esteve a trabalhar em Kalimantan do Sul. Quando descobriram que Timor era boa terra para sementeira da Palavra do Senhor, vieram todas cair aqui como pardais e tordos. Isto diz-se de quase todas as congregações femeninas, papais e não papais, existentes na Indonésia. De Kalimantan veio a Díli, contactou o Bispo para abrir um hospital em Hera, mas devido a dificuldades em encontrar terreno gratuito, tardaram em vir. O Bispo propôs-lhe o terreno, onde está agora o Centro do Clero. Depois nunca mais deram sinais de vida.. Quando tornaram a vir. O Bispo disse-lhes que já não havia lugar para elas em Díli e, se quisessem podiam ir para Suai. Para lá foram e se instalaram construindo um hospital com 50 camas, desde 1993.

Agora está em Díli a trabalhar no Secretariado de apoio ao Bispo, para atender aos vários pedidos de conferências, artigos e entrevistas, desde que recebeu o Nobel. Como ela veio para aqui, nem eu sei a cronologia. Pelos vistos, ele e o doutor conheceram-se (não no sentido bíblico) em Oslo, aquando do Nobel. Aí também surgiu um tal Sérgio de Paris. Eles - Sérgio, Jess e a religiosa fazem o trio sob a orquestra do doutor. Os dois têm visitado Díli já por mais de duas vezes, como consultor da Organização de apoio, reconhecido pelo Governo de que sou o Presidente (nominal). Pois quem faz o trabalho são os dois - o doutor e a madre. E as visitas internacionais, ora do Sérgio ora do Jess. Uma coisa é certa. O doutor nunca teve boas referências do Cohen, citando sempre o Sérgio como fonte.

Que esteja também na lista dos seus "perseguidos" é coisa que não me faz cócegas. Pois sempre acreditei que era uma mosca morta. Agora sei que há quem tenha receio de mim. Pobre dele!

Uma confidência. O actual e o último núncio perguntaram ao Basílio sobre a viabilidade do doutor vir a ser auxiliar do Belo. A pedido deste claro. De modo que o Basílio pergunta mas que diabo de fraqueza que o Carlos tem por este homem. Será de medo, por saber qualquer coisa do Bispo. Dispenso comentários. Lembras-te de que os conselheiros apoiaram a informação dos dirigentes do Seminário de Ritapiret para não o ordenar. Mas o Bispo fez ouvidos de mercador. Deixemos de julgar.

Bom termino desejando-te muitas felicidade. Rezem para que tudo corra pacificamente. As ONU deram mais um passo para garantir a paz no período pos consulta. Parece que os autonomistas vão boicotar, não se inscrevendo. O Hermínio já virou camisa. Saiu da FPDK, reclamando no entanto que é um dos fundadores da Apodeti. Por isso tem todo o direito de ser considerado no centexto político da integração.

E pronto. Um abraço amigo.

Díli, 19 de Julho de 1999

Subject: SMH: Stanley Roth pushes U.S. interest in E. Timor

Date: 27 Aug 1999 11:49:21

From: Joyo@aol.com

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

Subject: SMH: Stanley Roth pushes U.S. interest in E. Timor

Sydney Morning Herald
Saturday, August 28, 1999

THE ILLUSIONIST

One-man band beats the drum for Dili

Americans are showing an interest in East Timor. Herald Correspondent Gay Alcorn explains why.

The cynical view among the small but intense band of Indonesia watchers in Washington is that Stanley Roth, US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs, who visited Australia this week, is a master illusionist.

He is so committed to Indonesia and East Timor, they say, that he has managed create the illusion that the world's only superpower gives a damn about a tiny province with 800,000 people in a part of the world unknown to most Americans.

The US Secretary of State, Dr Madeleine Albright, is obsessed with Europe, and cares little for South-East Asia. President Bill Clinton, on his summer holiday, has said nothing so far in the lead-up to Monday's vote.

According to the East Timor Action Network in the US, none of the network news programs ran a single East Timor story from the day after Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 until 1991.

However US interest in East Timor is increasing, and Mr Roth is the one who's pushing it.

If Monday's vote is followed by violence, and the US retaliates either with economic sanctions or by pushing for a UN peacekeeping force, it will be largely the result of Mr Roth's work, aided by a group of noisy, persistent congressmen.

Ironically, Mr Roth's appointment in 1997 was opposed by East Timor activists in the US because they believed he was too close to Indonesian business figures and former President Soeharto's government. He had opposed moves to introduce sanctions against Indonesia in protest against human rights abuses in East Timor.

He has surprised the activists.

"For the first time in a long time," says one observer, "there is somebody at a senior level in the State Department who has a deep and abiding interest in Indonesia."

Reports in Australia of a dispute between the US and Australia over East Timor policy were "wildly exaggerated", according to one US official. "We talk. We're allies. That's what we do."

The US stresses that it is a UN mission in East Timor, not an American one, and that the US will abide by UN decisions. Nonetheless, there have been disagreements between the US and Australian approaches.

The US, particularly Mr Roth, has been more sceptical than Australia of Indonesia's ability to maintain order immediately before and after Monday's referendum.

Observers say that America is much more interested in Indonesia's stability in the region, rather than in the fate of the East Timorese.

One observer said: "Other countries, especially Australia, have to be aware of the fact that you can't put everything on hold until East Timor is resolved.

"[This] is essentially what [Foreign Minister] Downer told people here in Washington - that East Timor is the most important thing ...

"Well, we don't have the luxury of doing that."

Dr Theodore Friend, senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia, said: "The US has no interest in East Timor strategically as such. Its fundamental interest is in the stability in Indonesia as part of South-east Asia, and the broader concept of East Asia. And its secondary interest is one of values, the growth of democracy in Indonesia.

America's big stick is to hurt Indonesia economically, which was what Mr Roth meant when he said in Australia that Indonesia would "pay a price if this is not well managed". The US has enormous influence over the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which have pledged \$71 billion in a rescue package to Indonesia.

Mr Roth's stance has been helped by members of Congress who are committed to human rights and have taken a close interest in East Timor.

In June, the US Senate approved an amendment (expected to become law when Congress resumes next month) that effectively threatens to cut off loans and financial assistance to Indonesia unless it handles the ballot properly.

The concern in the US about East Timor is relatively new. President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger were in Indonesia the day before the invasion of East Timor in December 1975. Dr Kissinger said later: "The Indonesians told us that they were going to occupy the Portuguese colony of Timor. To us, that did not seem like a very significant event."

What changed was the 1997 economic crisis in Indonesia and the fall of President Soeharto - for years viewed as a stable force in the region. But would America want to commit troops to any peacekeeping force?

It is extremely tricky for the US. As Tom Plate wrote recently in the Los Angeles Times: "Washington knows that Beijing ... would surely go ballistic were Washington to engineer a Kosovo II: that is, intervene in the internal affairs of another sovereign state on humanitarian grounds, especially one in its own Asian backyard."

Arnold S. Kohen

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**FOR: Senhor Bispo Carlos F.X. Belo
Pe. Mauricio de Bastos e Pinho**

1999

After much additional research I am pleased to say I now am scheduled to arrive in Darwin on October 4, and will be waiting at the airport for D. Ximenes on the 5th. This is only to confirm that I am waiting to travel with D. Ximenes to Dili. Please confirm this arrangement with the group of Pe. Milicias. I will be in contact by phone in the morning.

Here I attach 2 important statements by the American Bishops that I should have sent earlier, as well as the latest editorial from The Washington Post – the 16th editorial on East Timor by that newspaper since February. All of this has finally had an impact on American policy, but we must keep pushing.

Cumprimentos.

From: Martin Rendon <mrendon@unicefusa.org>
To: humanitarian@igc.apc.org <humanitarian@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 4:58 PM
Subject: Fwd[2]:Re:here's a draft East Timor press release...

F.Y.I.

Forward Header

Subject: Fwd:Re:here's a draft East Timor press release...
Author: Martin Rendon
Date: 9/10/99 1:14 PM

Arnold:

Just between you and me: what I said in response to Deborah's release below. I wanted to give you a heads up on this. Don't let them know I already shared it with you, please.

Marty

Forward Header

Subject: Re:here's a draft East Timor press release...
Author: Martin Rendon
Date: 9/10/99 1:12 PM

Deborah and Bob:

Thanks for sharing this. Deborah, I spoke to Bob this morning and said that I think Tony definitely is on the right track with this. I urged him to run this initiative by Arnold Kohen so that Arnold can help with the details.

One hook on the intervention issue is to recall that the U.S. sent a force to Grenada in 1983 to "rescue" the endangered medical students. When you need a justification to intervene, you can find one! I'm NOT saying that the U.S. itself needs to send troops, but it certainly should pull out all the stops to make sure that the Australians and others get there fast. In addition to saving Timorese lives that are being lost every hour, the intervention force is needed to protect the foreigners trapped in the UN enclaves. I don't think the world can afford to wait for an Indonesian invitation for outside forces. It will never come.

With respect to this draft, I would strike the first sentence of the paragraph that begins "It mystifies me. . . ." I'd keep the rest of the paragraph, though, which still makes your point. I think the UN's main problem was that it did not adequately prepare for the kind of consequences that followed the vote.

9/10/99

Perhaps an armed presence should have been on the scene to supervise the election and its aftermath. It's O.K. to criticize the UN, but nothing should be done to apportion blame in any way that allows the Indonesians to get off the hook. They are the ones who are overseeing and collaborating in the targeted massacres of the potential leaders of a new Timor.

It also is unprecedented to have such a blatant targeting of the clergy. In almost every other conflict, the basic principle of sanctuary (Bishop Belo's house, etc.) and the fact that the clergy are off-limits in terms of violence have been respected in some fashion. Here, though, all bets are off. Even the most civilized of the norms of conflict are being disregarded. Tony may want to emphasize this. I think the U.S. Catholic Conference and others would appreciate him honing in on this.

Hope this is of some help. Do run this by Arnold.

Thanks,

Marty

Reply Separator

Subject: here's a draft East Timor press release...

Author: "DeYoung; Deborah" <Deborah.DeYoung@mail.house.gov>

Date: 9/10/99 11:54 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Deborah DeYoung,

September 10, 1999

202/225-1217

HALL: CLINTON IS DEAD WRONG ON EAST TIMOR

U.N. shouldn't wait for Indonesia's OK before sending peacekeepers

WASHINGTON - President Clinton has taken needed steps in response to the crisis in East Timor, but his unilateral recognition of Indonesia's sovereignty was a mistake that neither U.S. law nor international law supports, U.S. Rep. Tony Hall, D-Ohio, said today.

Hall's remarks came as he introduced a resolution of support for East Timor's people that reaffirms the United States does not recognize Indonesia's sovereignty over East Timor. The move was aimed to counter U.S. and U.N. excuses for inaction in the face of the on-going attacks on East Timor's people, Hall said.

"After Rwanda's genocide five years ago, both the United States and the United Nations said 'never again' would we stand by while such terror

reigned. Today in East Timor, both are dangerously close to forgetting that promise," Hall said. "I hope adoption of this resolution will encourage both to reconsider the path they are once again taking, and to reverse course before the death toll in East Timor starts to follow the grisly path of Rwanda's.

"President Clinton's move to suspend military aid to Indonesia and take other actions to pressure its leaders to do the right thing in East Timor are steps in the right direction - but his assertion that Indonesia enjoys sovereign rights over the people there is flat wrong. I urge him to correct his misstatement, and to take action in accordance with the many findings of the United Nations, the long-time policy of the United States, and last month's vote of East Timor's people. All declare Indonesia's self-serving claims of sovereignty to be bogus, as does the resolution I have introduced today.

"It mystifies me that the United Nations, after years of refusing to recognize Indonesia's illegal seizure of East Timor, and after encouraging its people to vote, is now -- in their hour of need -- backing away from all it has stood for. Neither the U.N.'s strongest supporters, nor the voters in last month's referendum would have imagined the United Nations considered its job done when the voting booths closed. Finishing the job in East Timor will be critical to the U.N.'s effectiveness on future missions, and its hard-won credibility should not be squandered by abandoning ship now in this tiny nation.

"But while it is clear that the United Nations stumbled, blame must be shared by its members, and particularly by the United States. Organizations at the edge of financial ruin, as the United Nations is, are not known for their bold and wise decisions. We cannot expect peak performance when the United States is responsible for nearly two-thirds of the U.N.'s financial instability.

"Our failure to pay our dues makes the issue of a U.N. peacekeeping force doubly difficult, as the United States is responsible for one-quarter the cost of any such force. Because the United Nations has borrowed heavily from peacekeeping accounts to ease the burden of the U.S. debt, it is wary of further extending itself.

"If other Security Council members block it, the United States cannot prevail in creating a peacekeeping force -- but we surely can't win if we don't try. Indonesia already has had ample opportunity to stop the killing in East Timor; now it is time for the international community to act.

"Finally, my thoughts and prayers are with Bishop Belo and the hundreds of thousands of people of East Timor he has devoted his life to protecting. I nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize, and believe his actions in recent days in the face of these atrocities - militias even

violated the sanctity of his home and church's sanctuary - underscore the Nobel Committee's wisdom in awarding the prize to him."

Deborah DeYoung
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Washington, DC 20515

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fax 226-1443

Received: from Draco.house.gov ([143.231.86.9]) by mail.unicefusa.org with SMTP (IMA Internet Exchange 3.11) id 000316CF; Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:53:55 -0400
Received: from hrmims03.house.gov (hrmims03.house.gov [143.231.32.159]) by Draco.house.gov (8.9.1b+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id LAA19902 for <mrendon@unicefusa.org>; Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:53:35 -0400 (EDT)
Received: by hrmims03.house.gov with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2539.1) id <RXAYL5MY>; Fri, 10 Sep 1999 11:54:57 -0400
Message-ID: <D9407929EA99D211B4760008C7A4A78801F5CAA5@hrm01.house.gov>
From: "DeYoung, Deborah" <Deborah.DeYoung@mail.house.gov>
To: UNICEF -- Marty Rendon <mrendon@unicefusa.org>, "Zachritz, Bob" <Bob.Zachritz@mail.house.gov>
Subject: here's a draft East Timor press release...
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From: Zachritz, Bob <Bob.Zachritz@mail.house.gov>
To: Arnold Kohen2 <humanitarian@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 6:10 PM
Subject: Hall Statement and White House Statement #2

HALL: CLINTON IS DEAD WRONG ON EAST TIMOR

U.N. shouldn't wait for Indonesia's OK before sending peacekeepers

WASHINGTON - President Clinton has taken needed steps in response to the crisis in East Timor, but his unilateral recognition of Indonesia's sovereignty was a mistake that neither U.S. law nor international law supports, U.S. Rep. Tony Hall, D-Ohio, said today.

"After Rwanda's genocide five years ago, both the United States and the United Nations said 'never again' would we stand by while such terror reigned. Today in East Timor, both are dangerously close to forgetting that promise," Hall said. "I urge the President and Secretary General Annan to reconsider the path they are once again taking and to reverse their current position before the death toll in East Timor starts to follow the grisly course Rwanda took.

"President Clinton's move to suspend military aid to Indonesia and take other actions to pressure its leaders to do the right thing in East Timor are steps in the right direction - but his assertion that Indonesia enjoys sovereign rights over the people there is flat wrong. I urge him to correct his misstatement, and to take action in accordance with the many findings of the United Nations, with the long-time policy of the United States -- which has voted repeatedly for U.N. resolutions condemning Indonesia for its action -- and with last month's vote of East Timor's people. All declare Indonesia's self-serving claims of sovereignty to be bogus.

"Neither the U.N.'s strongest supporters, nor the voters in last month's referendum imagined the United Nations considered its job done when the voting booths closed. Finishing the job in East Timor will be critical to the U.N.'s effectiveness in future missions, and its hard-won credibility should not be squandered by abandoning ship now in this tiny nation.

"But while it is clear that the United Nations stumbled, blame must be shared by its members, and particularly by the United States. Organizations at the edge of financial ruin, as the United Nations is, are

not known for their bold and wise decisions. We cannot expect peak performance when the United States is responsible for nearly two-thirds of the U.N.'s financial instability. Our failure to pay our dues makes the issue of a U.N. peacekeeping force doubly difficult, as the United States is responsible for one-quarter the cost of any such force. Because the United Nations has borrowed heavily from peacekeeping accounts to ease the burden of the U.S. debt, it is wary of further extending itself.

"If other Security Council members block it, the United States cannot prevail in creating a peacekeeping force — but we surely can't win if we don't try. Indonesia has a 24-year record of letting violence and starvation kill more than 200,000 of East Timor's people; it already has had ample opportunity to stop the recent violence. Now it is time for the international community to act.

"Finally, my thoughts and prayers are with Bishop Belo and the hundreds of thousands of people of East Timor he has devoted his life to protecting. I believe his actions in recent days in the face of these atrocities - militias even violated the sanctity of his home and church's sanctuary - underscore the Nobel Committee's wisdom in awarding him the Nobel Peace Prize."

Hall has been active on behalf of East Timor independence since 1980 — nominating Bishop Belo for the Nobel Peace Prize, introducing several bills, and regularly leading letter-writing campaigns to raise attention to the situation. His last letter, to President Clinton in August 1999, was co-signed by 99 other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Hall also has pressed for the United States to pay its U.N. dues, and last month forced a vote on the issue; the measure was narrowly defeated, 221-206.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii)

For Immediate Release

September 10, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Let me address the deteriorating situation in East Timor. I am alarmed by reports I have just received of attacks on the United Nations compound in Dili.

It is now clear that the Indonesian military is aiding and abetting the militia violence. This is simply unacceptable. The actions of the Indonesian military in East Timor stand in stark contrast to the commitments they have given to the international community.

The Indonesian government and military must reverse this course, to do everything possible to stop the violence, and allow an international force to make possible the restoration of security.

From: Zachritz, Bob <Bob.Zachritz@mail.house.gov>
To: Arnold Kohen2 <humanitarian@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 6:04 PM
Subject: Hall Statement and White House Statements

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
ON EAST TIMOR

South Lawn

5:26 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Good afternoon. Before I leave on my trip for New Zealand, I wanted to say a few words about the trip and a couple of other issues. These APEC summits started in 1993 when I first invited the leaders of the Asia Pacific region to meet in Seattle, Washington. They bring together the leaders of more than half the world's people and half its economic activity.

What we do there will help to decide whether the global economy continues to move in the direction of greater openness and integration, equity and growth in the next century. This year, one of my most important goals is to get a commitment on the part of all our Asian Pacific partners to rapid, wide-ranging market opening so that we can launch a new trade round at the WTO meeting in Seattle in December. We must stand together against protectionism and for a common future of prosperity.

During the global financial crisis over the last two years, the fact that the United States kept its markets open bolstered Asia and the world. It helped to keep the crisis from becoming even worse, and it certainly helped to turn it around. All of this was good for American workers, as you can see by the continued low unemployment rate in our country.

I will meet with Prime Minister Obuchi and President Kim in Auckland to have the opportunity to discuss not only economic issues, but also the difficult issues surrounding our relationships with North Korea. I will also meet with President Jiang and with the new Russian Prime Minister, Mr. Putin. We will be meeting following a difficult

period in Asia. There are encouraging signs of recovery from South Korea to Thailand to Japan.

There are also continuing difficulties, as all of you know, caused by everything from economic distress to neglect of human rights. Nowhere are those difficulties more pressing than in Indonesia. It is the fourth-largest country in the world and the largest Islamic country. It has been undergoing an important democratic transformation. It has the capacity to lift an entire region if it succeeds, and to swamp its neighbors in a sea of disorder if it fails.

Precisely because Indonesia's future is important, I am so deeply concerned by the failure of its military to bring a stop to gross abuses now going on in East Timor. After 24 years, the people of East Timor voted overwhelmingly for independence. Now, there are forces who want to reverse the popular will. At stake are the lives and way of life of innocent people. At issue is whether the democratically-expressed will of the people can be overturned by violence and intimidation.

Also at stake is Indonesia's own transition to civilian democratic rule. For these reasons, we will continue with our allies in Asia and elsewhere to make it clear that we expect the authorities to live up to their word and to their responsibilities. The Indonesian government and military are responsible for the safety of the East Timorese, and of the U.N. mission there. If Indonesia does not end the violence, it must invite -- it must invite -- the international community to assist in restoring security. It must allow international relief agencies to help people on the ground. It must move forward with the transition to independence. Having allowed the vote and gotten such a clear, unambiguous answer, we cannot have a reversal of course here.

The overwhelming weight of international opinion, from Asia to Africa to Europe to North America, strongly agrees with this position. Right now, the international financial institutions are not moving forward with substantial new lending to Indonesia. My own willingness to support future assistance will depend very strongly on the way Indonesia handles this situation.

Today, I have also ordered the suspension of all programs of military cooperation with Indonesia effective immediately. Our military leaders have made crystal-clear to senior military officials in Indonesia what they must do to restore our confidence. In the past few days, I have made many phone calls with our partners in the region and around the world and with Secretary General Annan. I applaud the efforts, especially, of Australia to mobilize a multinational force to help provide security in East Timor. I thank all countries that have already agreed to participate.

The United States is prepared to provide support to this Australian-led effort. Although we've made no final decisions, we are

consulting with Congress now on the best way to support this mission if it goes forward.

The will of the people of East Timor must not be thwarted. They have a right to live in peace and security, and they have earned and voted for their freedom. This issue obviously will be an important part of our discussions in New Zealand, and I look forward to having the opportunity to meet with all of the leaders on this and the other matters we will discuss. Thank you.

Q Mr. President, Republicans in Congress are saying that if you veto their tax cut package, they're not likely to send you another one. Are tax cuts dead for this year, or will you offer them a little bit more, perhaps, than the \$300 billion you said you might be willing to accept?

THE PRESIDENT: My bill is \$250 billion, and it provides almost exactly as much aid to middle-class Americans as theirs does. Whether there is a bill, of course, is up to them; they can control what bills come up. But if they're saying, well, it's our way or no way, then that is evidence that this has been pretty much about politics all along.

I'm all about progress; I want to get something done. I'd like to see us secure and modernize Medicare. I am willing to work with them on the Social Security issue. I think we ought to run the life of the Social Security Trust Fund out beyond the life expectancy of the baby boom generation, and I am willing to provide for a modest tax cut that will not undermine our ability to pay down the debt and make this country debt-free over the next 15 years. So I'm willing to work with them.

There is always some flexibility in this budget, we can have an agreement, but it is up to them. They know good and well I'm not going to sign this bill. It's wrong for America, it's bad for the economy, it will lead to an increase in interest rates and a cut in education spending, and a lot of other things that won't be good, and it won't add a day to Social Security or Medicare and it will undermine our ability to pay down the debt. So they know that. The question is whether we're going to meet and work together. My door is open, and I hope we will.

Go ahead, Ann. Did you have a question?

Q I did, about the FALN. Do you think now that the clemency has been accepted, but these -- the prisoners say they are political prisoners, they challenge the restrictions on them and your disagreement with the First Lady, can you describe to us how you discussed it with her on the issue of clemency?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, first of all, let me discuss this issue on the merits so you'll know what happened. It came up in what I would

call the ordinary course of business from the Counsel's Office, and I received a very detailed statement of the facts and the claims. I was requested by hundreds of people, including President Carter, Bishop Tutu and many other religious leaders and members of Congress to look at this and act favorably on it, and then obviously there were those who disagreed.

My judgment was that these people should be offered a conditional clemency for two reasons: One, none of them, even though they belong to an organization which had espoused violent means, none of them were convicted of doing any bodily harm to anyone. And, two, they had all served sentences that were considerably longer than they would serve under the sentencing guidelines which control federal sentencing now. Most of them had been in for somewhere around 19 years; they had served very long sentences for offenses that did not involve bodily harm to other people.

Because I did not believe they should be held in incarceration, in effect, by guilt by association, I agreed to offer them clemency if they would abide by the conditions of parole and specifically renounce violence.

What that means is, if they get out and they violate the conditions of parole, and particularly if they are engaged in any way with people who are espousing violence, that their parole will be revoked and they'll have to go back to prison. So under those circumstances, I felt then and I still feel that that was the just decision.

She didn't know anything about it, as far as I know, until someone from her office called and asked her for a comment, because I did not discuss it with her. I haven't discussed other clemency issues with her and I didn't think I should discuss this one. So it was up to her and entirely appropriate for her to say whatever she wanted to about it, but I did what I thought was right and that's what I'll continue to do.

Q As a very skilled politician, using that perspective, if your wife decides on a run for office, does she figure to be hurt by what many people perceive as a flip-flop on the issue of clemency for the Puerto Rican nationals?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, you know, they'll have to evaluate that as they please. You know what she said in her statement; I don't know that that's a flip-flop. I had a different position. I thought they should be given another week. If, in the course of this week, if we had come to tomorrow and they hadn't taken it and I had revoked the offer, would that have been a flip-flop by me? I don't think so.

The reason I felt they should be given to this week is, I knew that their lawyer was actually physically going around to see all of them and would not finish until, I think, yesterday. So I thought they ought to

be given that amount of time, and it's a judgment I made.

Q Mr. President, what level of military support are you prepared to provide to any peacekeeping mission, and what recourse do you have if Indonesia continues to refuse an international mission for East Timor?

THE PRESIDENT: The answer to the first question is, we're still -- we're consulting with the Australians and with others and we're also talking to interested members of Congress about this, and no decision has been made. I want the American people to know two things: Number one, the Australians have made it clear that they, being the nearest military authority, intend to play the largest role and provide the lion's share of the effort, and that many other countries have already agreed to contribute.

But, secondly, the United States has been, certainly since the Second World War, and indeed, going back before, heavily involved in the Asia Pacific region. The Australians and many of these other countries have been our allies in every difficulty that we have faced, and I believe that we should support them in an appropriate way. But that is something that would still have to be worked out.

Now, the second question you asked is the most difficult one. There are any number of countries that are willing to support this endeavor, there are any number of countries on the security council who are willing to support it if Indonesia will ask. The problem is, we're in this interim period where the East Timorese have voted for independence, but East Timor is still a part of Indonesia, and we're going through this transition period.

The frustrating thing to me -- and I don't know how many phone calls I've made the last three or four days about this, but the thing that's frustrating people all over the world is, they either can't or won't stop the violence, which is leading people to leave, but they don't want to admit they can't so they don't want to ask anybody else to come in. That is why I have made the statements I've made today about economic aid, and the military cooperation.

I tried to do this with telephone calls, working with others. I have seen the frustration and the anxiety in the voice of the Portuguese Prime Minister and any other number of leaders who are passionately concerned about this area, and obviously Prime Minister Howard in Australia, Prime Minister Shipley in New Zealand, and others. We are doing our best. Kofi Annan is doing his best. He sent a U.N. delegation there. They arrived there yesterday. So this may be a question that you'll have to ask me again tomorrow and the next day and the next day because I don't have a clear answer for you yet.

Q What are they telling you? What are the Indonesians telling you, and have you thought of economic sanctions?

Q -- force change in Indonesia right now would suspend temporarily IMF and World Bank -- who are set to go there -- do you think that's the right approach?

THE PRESIDENT: First of all, I think today the right thing to do is to make it clear what our intentions are, and our intentions are, one, to stop military and military cooperation right now until this matter gets resolved, and two, we have sent a clear signal about what we will do on economic cooperation if it is not resolved.

It would be a pity if the Indonesian recovery were crashed by this, but one way or the other, it will be crashed by this if they don't fix it, because there will be overwhelming public sentiment to stop the international economic cooperation, but quite to the side of that, nobody is going to want to continue to invest there if they are allowing this sort of travesty to go on.

So I think one way or the other, the economic consequences to them are going to be very dire, but I think -- my statement clearly signals where I'm prepared to go on the economic issue.

Q If you got asked this, I didn't hear the question and I apologize. But what about in terms of support troops for any international mission or infantry-level troops? Would it be mostly just support the United States is considering at this point?

THE PRESIDENT: There are any number of ways that we can support this mission and participate in it. But I normally make a practice, and you will know now after several years of our doing this from, I guess we started with Haiti and then Bosnia, I like to consult with the leaders of Congress; they've been gone, they're coming back.

What I want the American people to know is that the Australians are clearly prepared to lead this. Prime Minister Howard's been very strong, very unambiguous and very impressive, I think, in his determination to try to help. Several other countries have said they will go along if the Indonesians ask and the United Nations approves. And I think the United States should support this mission.

Whatever we do, the lion's share of the people involved will be from the region. But a lot of those people, starting with the Australians, have been with us every step of the way for decades now, and I think we have to be involved with them in whatever way we can and our military people will have to work that out and we'll have to work that out -- some consultation with Congress as well.

Yes, in the back.

Q Yesterday -- coverage. Would you be willing to -- on this issue

-- means testing -- Medicaid coverage?

THE PRESIDENT: In order to jump start what? I think the question is, would I be willing to work with the Republicans and take a smaller drug benefit in order to get one started. Is that what you said? Is that -- what did you say? I don't want to misstate you?

Q If you would accept means testing.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, what I don't want to do is to accept something that's so meager it doesn't mean anything. The real problem with the medical benefits, the prescription drug benefits available to seniors today in so many of these programs is that they are so expensive, they're unaffordable, or they're so meager, they don't mean anything.

Any proposal the President sends to Congress has got to be, by definition, subject to negotiation and modification. I mean, that's just any proposal, and you know that. There are things we could do apart from the prescription drugs proposal to come closer together on Medicare. They have acknowledged, as Senator Lott said, which, as I said at the time, for him was probably high praise, when I proposed my Medicare program and I called him about it, he said, well, it's not as bad as I thought it would be, which is another way of saying that I adopted a lot of the competitive mechanisms and structural reforms in Medicare that were embraced by the Medicare Commission.

I'm willing to work with them, but I don't want to undermine the universal character of the program, the clear benefits of the program. I don't want to force people into managed care by some pricing gimmick, and I don't want the drug benefit to be so small as to be meaningless or so expensive as to be unaffordable. And I think that -- I frankly think the areas we have for compromise and where I think they want to go may be more in other areas. But I am willing -- I just want to sit down and talk to them about it.

Now, we are going to have a chance to do that because Senator Roth has committed to mark up a Medicare bill. And so what I would urge you to do is to watch the progress of the Medicare bill in the Senate, in the Finance Committee, and see what we have to say about it. And you'll see whether we're working together or at cross purposes.

Q You've left a big blank on what kind of response you're getting from the Indonesian government. You keep saying what we're willing to do and what the Australians -- what are they --

THE PRESIDENT: The reason I left a big blank there is that, so far, both the political and military authorities have been unwilling -- they have been very clear -- they do not want to ask for international assistance.

Now, that is subject to one of two or three interpretations. Interpretation number one is, they believe they can stop this madness in East Timor and they want to do it, and they don't want to have to admit that they have to have help to do it. Two is, nobody's got the authority to make a decision because it's chaotic there; they've already had a presidential election and parliamentary elections, but they haven't, because of the complex system for picking a new leader, they haven't done that. Three is that at least some elements in the country support what is happening in East Timor for whatever reasons.

In other words, they didn't like the results of the referendum and they're trying to undo it by running people out of the country or into the grave. There may be other explanations. But, no, we've gotten very clear answers, which is at this time they are not prepared to ask for international help, and we have continued to press them in our military contacts, which have been quite extensive over the last several years. General Shelton, in particular, has worked very, very hard to push the Indonesians to send people in there that can stop this killing and stop these people from being run out of their country.

We want to get the humanitarian agencies in there as well. So that's what we're doing. But we've gotten a clear answer. The answer to date has been no, and that's what we're frustrated about, because if the answer were no and they were fixing the problem, that would be the best of all worlds.

Q Mr. President, are you confident that Japan is on the path to economic recovery? Today, they reported a second straight quarter of economic growth.

THE PRESIDENT: They're doing better, and I'm real pleased about it. I think the world should be pleased about it. I know some in America are worried. They're afraid that a resurgent Japan means more competition for money and more pressure on the dollar. But on the whole, a Japan that could buy more American products and buy more products in Asia from other Asian countries would be very much good for the global economy and therefore good for America's working people. So you're asking me do I know for sure that their recovery is underway? I think they're doing better and I think Mr. Obuchi has shown real ability, real talent in getting people together.

We -- as you know, our Treasury officials have continued to recommend things in conversations with the Japanese that we think will help to speed up the recovery, but we're working with them well, and I'm pleased that they seem to be turning around. It's a good thing for the world.

Q Are our relations with China on the mend now? And what are the prospect for signing a WTO deal with President Jiang?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we've done our best to do what I think is the honorable and decent thing in the wake of the terrible accident involving the embassy in Belgrade. And we have made it clear in the recent tensions between Taiwan and China that we still strongly support the One China policy and the so-called "Three Nos." But we also believe that any differences between them should be resolved in a peaceful manner, and we feel very strongly about it.

I hope that those things and the passage of time will permit us to resume constructive conversations with the Chinese, beginning with my meeting with President Jiang, and I would very much like to resume the WTO negotiations. I think it would be good for China, good for the United States, and good for the world economic system. So I hope we'll be able to resume our talks, and if we resume them, obviously I hope we'll be able to bring them to a successful conclusion.

Q Sir, have you seen the new State Department report on religious persecution out today, and do you plan on talking about China's actions when you meet --

THE PRESIDENT: On what?

Q -- the State Department report on religious persecution. Have you seen that today, and do you plan on talking about China's actions, the allegations, when you see President Jiang on the weekend?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not seen it, but I will see it, and if I think it's appropriate, I'll certainly bring it up. I brought it up before, and as you remember, I actually sent a delegation of religious leaders to China to tour around the country and to talk to religious leaders in China and also talk to high representatives of the Chinese government about that. That's a big issue for the United States, we have legislation on it and it's a very large issue for me, personally.

I've been working on that issue ever since I got here and in many countries, so I look forward to having a chance to review the contents of the report and to taking appropriate action. Thank you.

Q There's a lot of pressure on Reno to resign. Do you think Freeh should resign?

THE PRESIDENT: I think Janet -- first of all, in terms of the merits of this and the FBI, I don't have anything to add to what I said last week. I think that she did the right thing in asking an outside person to review it. I think that Mr. Freeh did the right thing in supporting that. I think -- I've known Senator Danforth for -- well, I met him when President Carter was in office sometime during that period, so somewhere around 20 years. And I have always thought him an honorable man and an intelligent and straightforward man.

The only thing that I would ask is that he conduct a thorough and honest inquiry and do it as promptly as he can so that we can get the facts, take appropriate action and go forward. But based on what I know of him and what I have observed, I think that's a good move by the Attorney General, and I certainly don't think there's any reason for her to resign. Thank you.

Q Mr. President can you say that -- politics played no role in the Puerto Rican decision?

THE PRESIDENT: Absolutely. Absolutely. I got the memo from Mr. Ruff, I didn't know it was coming, it came with all the other papers I get every day and every week and I dealt with it the way I deal with everything.

Q The First Lady says you didn't tell her about your deadline when she --

THE PRESIDENT: That's also true.

Q Why not?

END

From: East Timor Ireland Solidarity Campaign <etisc@indigo.ie>
To: Arnold Kohen <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Saturday, August 14, 1999 5:03 PM
Subject: Re: US Catholic Conference Action Alert on New Congressional Eas

Arnie,

I see that Agio Periera is on the ground in Dili. I have to say that the quality of the people the CNRT have placed on the ground seems to take its lead from the 'old boy network' rather than the urgency of the situation demands. I thought I would come into the office and email you. I telephoned your number and it was on answer-phone so I thought that you may be continuing with your nap. Arnie, we are no doubt entering a dangerous phase in the process. I feel that we have to identify a number of people in the support/solidarity movement that we can trust and who are willing to devote some time to trying to prevent an outbreak of violence.

I for one will devote the period from now until after the ballot on only for preventing violence. As an initial start I will ask for a meeting with the Taoiseach (Prime Minister) and ask him to telephooone President Clinton and Blair to urge US intervention at Indonesian Government and UN level. I think that he will do this. I am also of the opinion that we need osme others to do like-wise. That is going to be my first task on Monday morning. Tomorrow, Sunday, I intend to take the train to the beach and spend some hours away from the office and try to come up with some other ideas. I think best when I am alone in a pleasant enviornment. Hopefully, both you and I can give it some thought. We need not to waste time on people like the BCET, or indeed the French.

Talk to you later.

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1999

Kosovo and East Timor by Arnold S. Kohen

(former investigative report at NBC News and author of "From the Place of the Dead: The Epic Struggles of Bishop Belo of East Timor," St. Martin's Press, June 1999)

I had shared cups of strong coffee only a few weeks before with one of the elders of the most prominent family in their small, proud nation. A courageous man, he was a valued source of information for foreign visitors and people phoning from abroad, particularly journalists. I was admitted through the iron gate of his spacious house by family members who were obviously nervous. The elder himself was friendly but edgy that day. There had been repeated threats against his home and those inside it, but at the time, in mid-March, it was impossible to know that even a family like this -- one brother had been the governor of the territory -- would be so vulnerable. Weeks later, however, militiamen railed in a public square about the need for "cleansing" the territory of pro-independence elements. Then the assault came. It was shocking in its viciousness.

This may sound like Kosovo, but it happened in East Timor, a former Portuguese colony about the size of New Jersey off the coast of northern Australia. East Timor has been illegally occupied for more than two decades by Indonesia, a resource-rich nation and an important trading partner of the United States and many other countries. For much of the time that Indonesia has waged this war of subjugation, it has been supported with weapons and diplomatic backing by many of the same NATO nations now fighting in the name of humanitarian concerns in Kosovo. In a further irony, some experts believe that Indonesian military intelligence chiefs, calculating that the international community can only focus on one foreign crisis at a time, have taken the opportunity to expand their campaign of terror in East Timor while the world is absorbed with events in Kosovo.

After I returned from my recent visit to East Timor, I was asked by a European magazine editor if such comparisons with Kosovo could possibly be accurate. In fact, many in East Timor, including the 1996 Nobel Peace laureate, Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo, a Roman Catholic, have emphasized that their nation of 700,000 people has experienced conditions over the past 23 years that, taken together, tell a grim story akin to that of Kosovo. An estimated 200,000 people, or nearly a third of the original population, perished from the combined effects of the Indonesian assault by 1979 alone: international relief experts said that war-related starvation in East Timor, where nutritional levels were far lower than in Kosovo to begin with, was even worse than disasters in Biafra and Cambodia. More recently, military operations led or backed by Indonesian forces have created about 20,000 refugees.

Despite the tragedy it has endured, Timor, a crocodile-shaped island, has exquisitely beautiful aspects, as Captain Bligh observed when he took refuge there after the mutiny on the *Bounty* two centuries ago. East Timor boasts breathtaking vistas of mountains venerated in the traditional religions of the indigenous population, who suffered the most when Indonesian forces invaded the territory after the Portuguese withdrew in 1975 after centuries of colonial rule. Mount Matebian, the most sacred all, is near the boyhood home of Bishop Belo. Matebian, known as a place inhabited by the souls of the dead, had an especially harsh fate in the late 1970s, when American-supplied OV-10 Bronco counter-guerrilla aircraft turned the area into what survivors described as a kind of Dante's Inferno.

To conceal such operations from outside view, East Timor was closed to most independent visitors until 1989. Widespread international notice only came when Indonesian troops opened fire on unarmed demonstrators and mourners at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili, the capital of East Timor, in November 1991. There had been massacres before, but this time foreign journalists were present, including a British television newsman, whose videotape shocked millions of viewers around the world. In 1996, the Nobel Peace Prize brought further attention.

When Indonesia's longtime strongman, President Suharto, resigned from office last year as a result of the Asian economic crisis and was replaced by his vice-president, B.J. Habibie, there were some months

of relative freedom, and the pro-independence sentiments of the vast majority of East Timor's population were on vivid display. In late January, in a surprise move, Habibie announced that the people of East Timor would be given the choice of "wide-ranging autonomy" or outright independence. (Ten United Nations resolutions have refused to recognize Indonesian sovereignty over East Timor.) To far-off observers, it seemed as if the conflict was finally at an end.

In reality, military elements who opposed the new policy, fearing that it could encourage secessionist movements in Indonesia, struck back, even as hopeful news of fresh diplomatic possibilities was emanating from Jakarta. Army hard-liners, including a group that conducted a merciless campaign against a nationalist movement in the Muslim province of Aceh in the early 1990s, which claimed thousands of lives, organized paramilitary groups to attack those favoring independence for East Timor. This has been coupled with a clever propaganda effort to portray the struggle as one between rival East Timorese groups, to mask the reality, namely the continuation of Indonesian military grip on the territory by any means necessary. Indeed, the Indonesian military presence in East Timor was heavier during my visit in March than during either of my two earlier visits to the territory.

The sense of foreboding was overwhelming as I traveled around the island. Bishop Belo was sure that there was a well-orchestrated effort by Indonesian security forces to foment violence, while spreading false information to create the impression that the people of East Timor were incapable of being independent. Everywhere I heard detailed accounts of brutal intimidation by the Indonesian army and East Timorese they had either forced or paid to join the "militias", which are said to include plainclothes Indonesian troops and other irregulars. In a chilling threat, Indonesian military commanders had made it clear that if they had to leave East Timor in the end, they would not do so peacefully: "We came in blood, and we will leave in blood," one local commander had told the local people.

In the weeks that followed, they took steps to make good on this dreadful promise. On April 6, dozens were slaughtered by militiamen after taking refuge at a church in the coastal town of Liquica, while Indonesian security forces either assisted the killers or simply stood by. Bishop Belo said that it was like a repeat of the 1991 Santa Cruz massacre. Then came the attack on the home of the Carrascalao family on April 17. The family elder, Manuel Viegas Carrascalao, a former local legislator, ran for help as he saw thugs rampaging down his street. He begged the local army commander for protection, to no avail. Ireland's Foreign Minister, David Andrews, was meeting with the military commander at the time as part of a fact-finding trip to Dili. Andrews stressed that despite official denials, cooperation between the militias and the security forces was clear.

A group of paramilitaries including plainclothes soldiers burst in and killed and maimed without mercy, targeting, among others, Carrascalao's adopted son. The 18-year-old, Manuelito was viciously slain, his only crime assisting refugees who had come to the capital to flee military sweeps by security forces. At least a dozen people were killed. These defenseless people had been given shelter in the family home, which had seemed secure, a symbol of stability: one brother, Mario, was the Indonesian appointed governor of East Timor for a decade, but recently came out in favor of independence, as had Manuel. It is a measure of how dangerous the situation has become that both brothers have taken asylum abroad..

While such things are taking place, with more killings of supporters of independence last week in rural towns, news from the diplomatic front seems positive, but has a surreal cast under current circumstances. Indonesia and Portugal will sign an agreement on May 5 that calls for a "consultation" of the population of East Timor on August 8, with the choices of independence or autonomy. In a grotesque corruption of language that would have made George Orwell blanch, some Indonesian spokesmen have described machete-wielding thugs as advocates of "autonomy." The paramilitaries have been going door-to-door, and in a bizarre rendition of ordinary electioneering, forcing citizens to sign forms in favor of continued Indonesian rule, which is now as it existed in the darkest days of the occupation. The fear is that any election held under these conditions will produce the same result as in West Irian, Where selected leaders coerced by the government voted to be part of Indonesia in a 1969 exercise known as the "act of free choice."

Only strong international pressure can prevent such a result, even with United Nations observers present. But hard-line military elements might not be blamed for believing that Indonesia has little to fear from the United States and other nations, despite the fact that Jakarta now needs tens of billions of dollars in foreign loans to stabilize its teetering economy. Some retired army generals who took part in the initial stages of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor are said to be playing a backstage role in the current operations, and remember that the world did little the last time. Though the Clinton Administration and several other NATO nations plus Japan and Australia have applied some degree of pressure on Indonesia during the current East Timor crisis, it is far from clear how seriously this is taken by the Indonesian armed forces. Only last week, for instance, a retired Indonesian general was cited in *The Manchester Guardian* as saying that President Gerald Ford not only condoned the Indonesian invasion of East Timor when he paid a state visit to Jakarta in the days before the 1975 assault, he actively encouraged it. "[Ford] pretty much told us to do it," the general reportedly said. The implication of the general's comment at this moment is that the U.S. in the end will do little to oppose Indonesian policy on this issue.

At a time when Indonesia needs assurances of international financial backing, a different message can be sent. "Only international pressure can end the violence," a priest told me. The outcome in East Timor will be a crucial test of Western consistency at a time when the fate of the Kosovars is so high on Washington's agenda. The East Timorese are only asking for American influence, not troops.

From: Steve Alston <salston@cafod.org.uk>
To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 1999 7:40 AM
Subject: Re: Great Article in the Tablet

Well I just read an excellent article by you in the 27th Feb edition of the Tablet - I sent the UCAN news bits for your info.

Get it???

Have fun

Steve Alston
Asia Section

Tel 00 44 171 733 7900
Fax 00 44 171 274 9630
Email: alston@gn.apc.org (personal)
[Http://www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

From: Helen M. Hill <helenh@alphalink.com.au>
To: Arnold Kohen <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Monday, February 08, 1999 8:17 AM
Subject: East Timor at the Security Council?

Dear Arnold,

Greetings after many years, I tried to track you down in Washington the year before last but didn't manage to find you. Ever since I saw you email address on the listserve on a message to Charlie Scheiner I have been meaning to send you an email as we are hosting a Conference on Strategic Planning for the Future East Timor Conference at our University (Victoria University) in Melbourne in April. Jose Ramos Horta is busy raising the funds and we have sent out calls for papers from TImorese all over the world.

However what I am writing to you about now is more urgent. I took the liberty of forwarding your post about Bishop Belo calling for UN Peacekeepers to a number of contacts and listserves I am on. It seemed so well written and attractive for people who are either new to East Timor activism or have not been involved for some time. I followed it up with Roque Rodriguez posting from Portugal. One of those I sent it to was the WILPF listserve (I am the President of the Victoria Branch) I got this reply from our office in New York at the UN, which is run by Felicity Hill (no relation but another Australian - I've never met her). As you will see she does continuous work at the UN and would like more on the approach to be taken at the Security Council (where she does a lot of lobbying). I thought she should be directly in touch with you as you might even be in the same city.

Congratulations on the marvelous job you have been doing on East Timor, we are still struggling along in Australia with lots of different warring groups unfortunately. I just wish they could get together. However even the Aust. govt has changed a bit now so things must really be on the move.

We had an excellent conference on Health in the future East Timor last weekend, a health network has been set up and will meet regularly. others will follow. We have quite a few TImorese studying at our university and now we have taken up TImorese studies as an official program of the Centre for Asia-Pacific Studies. Many of the TImorese are keen to go back home and work for their country.

Best wishes
Helen Hill

Felicity Hill wrote:

> Dear Helen,
>
> Hope all is well with you in warm Melbourne.
>
> I got your posting re East Timor. I hope you got my Security Council

- > Ireport - at the end I mention the East Timor content of the briefing.
- >
- > Is there any chance of you drafting me something on the idea of the
- > Security Council making a decision on this. I can work on it and
- > distribute it, or get Babsi to send somethign to the relevant governmetns
- > signed by her. I am so overwhelmed Helen, just can't keep up at all and
- > would appreciate help from someone closer to the issue.
- >
- > thanks
- >
- > love felicity

From: Clare Dixon <cdixon@cafod.org.uk>
To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Tuesday, September 07, 1999 7:53 PM
Subject: Re: abrazos

Dear Arnie

I'm off to Salvador tomorrow but my heart is in East Timor... oh how could they have let it happen ?? If you speak to dom Carlos tell him we're all praying. Much love to you both
Clare x

9/7/99

From: Jack Panozzo <j_panozzo@hotmail.com>
To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Wednesday, July 21, 1999 9:06 AM
Subject: INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT PROHIBITS BISHOP'S TRAVEL TO U.S.

Arnold:

This appeared on ZENIT News Service, the news service out of Rome that reports on the Vatican. Just in case you hadn't seen it.

JACK

INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT PROHIBITS BISHOP'S TRAVEL TO U.S.

DILI, EAST TIMOR, JUL 19 (ZENIT).- The Indonesian government has denied permission to Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenez Belo of Dili, East Timor, to travel to the United States. Bishop Belo, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, was invited by the American Bishops to attend a series of conferences. The U.S. Bishops have appealed to the White House to intervene to resolve the issue. The Indonesian government stated that Bishop Belo does not have a passport. Bishop Belo is known throughout the world for his commitment to human rights in East Timor, unilaterally annexed by Indonesia in 1976.

East Timor will decide its future in an August referendum. At present, it is experiencing difficult times, including violence resulting from the uncontrolled action of militias that support union with Indonesia, against Christian groups in favor of independence. Many of the latter have been threatened and fled from their homes, swelling the ranks of refugees who are totally abandoned by the Indonesian government.
ZE99071908

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Arnold Kohen
to BP Belo

Sept 1999

Senhor Bispo, the following report has reached a Catholic newspaper in NEW YORK, saying that a paper has been circulating in Dili threatening your life and that of other clergy. Is this true? What is your reaction to to this? Also, who were the other clergy threatened? I want to take this up at the highest levels here if this is true.

I will be out at your breakfast time but can call you later. However, I know you have visitors (send my compliments) and so I may not succeed In reaching you. Therefore, would you send me a fax with your reaction?

The following is the information that the Catholic paper in New York received from Dili:

"...Yes, the militia had attacked inside a

Church in Suai.... I know that there is an >increased propaganda on the part of the pro-autonomy group (namely, the militia) against the clergy and religious. The anti-clerical climate is becoming more evident. Two days ago, a flier went out openly threatening the bishop and some priests who were named specifically in the document). To the Bishop: "Be careful. For now your robe is white, but one day, it will be stained with your own blood." The militia shoot in the air when they campaign, and unfortunately, sometimes the bullets hit persons..."

Is it true that such a document is circulating? It is very important to know...

>

111 Northwood Road,
Thornton Heath.
Surrey CR7 8HW

0181 771-2904
Fax: 0181 653-0322

4 June 1999

Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo
Dili

Dear Bishop Belo,

I am writing to inform you that we have issued a release to the British press, radio and television informing them of the views you expressed about the serious situation in East Timor which were circulated earlier this week by our mutual friend, Arnold Kohen.

This means that you may be approached by journalists from London wishing to interview you so as to have your views explained by your good self rather than taking your words from a press release, which is the way many journalists prefer to work.

If anyone does contact you, we would be grateful if your office could inform us in London by fax so that we here can follow up the interest shown by the journalist in question. My fax number is: 44-181 653-0322.

We very much hope that this will give wider publicity to the changes which you feel should be made in the UN's operations in East Timor.

From one of your many friends in London,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Carmel Budiardjo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carmel Budiardjo

From: Agenzia Internazionale FIDES <fides@fides.va>
To: etimor@cidse.be <etimor@cidse.be>
Cc: humanitarian@igc.apc.org <humanitarian@igc.apc.org>
Date: Monday, September 06, 1999 9:24 AM
Subject: Interview on East Timor

To: Mr Arnold Kohen
"Humanitarian project on East Timor"

Dear Mr Kohen,
let me introduce myself. My name is Paolo Affatato, I write for FIDES International News Service, belonging to the Vatican. I had your address from the Jesuit Refugee Service in Rome.
FIDES would appreciate your commentary about East Timor situation. So I send you some questions for a short e-mail interview:

- What is the situation in Dili and the rest of East Timor? Have you any fresh report?
- How are people reacting to the after-vote violence?
- What must the International Community do? Would a UN peace-keeping force be useful?
- Analysts say Indonesian army is behind the riots. Do you agree?
- In last days bishop Belo has been urging the sides to forgive each other: why than they attack the Church? What else can the Church do?
- Is there a hope for a peaceful solution?

I would be grateful if you would answer briefly by fax or e-mail as soon as possible (at most one day). Thank you from Fides.

Best regards,

Paolo Affatato
Fides, Rome

Please, reply to:
Paolo Affatato - FIDES
Tel. (39) 06 69880115 - Fax (39) 06 69880107
E-mail: fides@fides.va

If you want to know more information about FIDES, please visit our website:
www.fides.org

Subject: Nun describes her escape from E.Timor's reign of terror

Date: 10 Sep 1999 11:21:18

From: Joyo@aol.com

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

Subject: Nun describes her escape from E.Timor's reign of terror

Transcript

ABC's 7:30 News with Kerry O'Brien

10/09/1999

Ballarat nun escapes East Timor's reign of terror

KERRY O'BRIEN: In the continuing evacuation of foreign observers and refugees, another 400 were flown into Darwin today.

They included 70-year-old Ballarat nun Sister Anne Forbes, who defied immense odds to escape the reign of terror in the hill country of East Timor.

Desperate to stay, she left only to tell her story to the world.

Sister Anne spoke with Philip Williams.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: But I thought, I want to go home and shout this from the house tops, that this should not be allowed to happen on the eve, you know, of our new millennium -- does Jesus have to come again to bring some kind of humanity to our world?

PHILIP WILLIAMS: For nearly two weeks Sister Anne Forbes has watched with disbelief from the village of Dare in the hills just above Dili.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: We look down on Dili and a couple of days we couldn't even see a thing in Dili because of the smoke.

Even yesterday I counted 18 fires still burning.

I'm 70 years of age.

I have a past.

But everywhere you look in East Timor there are young children and if this kind of mania is going to go on and be allowed to go on without anyone telling things as they really are, what hope have those kiddies got?

It must have a profound effect on their lives.

I've heard a little girl of three describing very vividly what she had seen when she was hiding in the garden and she'd seen military kill three people.

Another little girl about nine who saw her own brother killed with a machete at Liquica and talking about the way that the bodies were just piled up.

You couldn't count them and of her terror as she ran up the hill with the rest of her family.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: She told you this?

SISTER ANNE FORBES: She told me that.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: And there was the slaughter of two local boys, one a nephew of a fellow nun.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: And I said, "When he's being buried?"

and she said "He's being buried today but I can't go because things are too frightening in Dili."

But the one who was killed with him after that second young boy, young man was killed, they hammered his head with nails and they took their machetes and cut strips of flesh off him and said, "Now we've got meat".

Now I'm not saying they ate that meat, but that's the kind of inexplicable frenzy that I see is happening.

And there was such really frightening things being told.

Now one day we saw two boats going out and we thought they were probably going over to Atauro, but they went halfway out and then they turned round and came back very quickly.

And that was the night after they had burnt Bishop Belo's house and one of Caritas Australia's development officers said to me, "We're very worried about those boats.

We think they've probably taken bodies out and just thrown them overboard".

And that kind of reality to be there in front of you, it was chilling.

And all the time there was the hope that something would come from overseas and, you know, when Ali Alatas said "We must stick to the agreement that was made, you know, we're responsible for law and order", why didn't somebody to say to him -- "You're not keeping to the agreement, you haven't done a thing about law and order.

You're encouraging it"?

I can't believe that it was only Indonesia that said no to East Timor freedom.

It seems to men that the whole world turned its back on them.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: Just as some of the Timorese refugees holed up in the UN compound made a late-night dash for the hills, Sister Anne, too, decided to get out, accepting a lift from a Jesuit priest, down through the burning streets of Dili.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: And that was when we found that the Jesuit house was about to be burnt and he stopped that.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: Tell me how he did that.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: Well, he just said "Get the hell out of here".

And immediately, the old habits came back to them, it seemed and they were kissing his hand and apologising for what they were about to do.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: The looters?

SISTER ANNE FORBES: No, the looters were the army and the army had moved off.

These were the militias who were ready to burn after the looting had happened.

They left a vertical fan behind and the Father with great dignity just picked up the fan and walked back into the house, and they all more or less crawled away, feeling very ashamed of themselves, and didn't set fire to the place.

PHILIP WILLIAMS: To the amazement of all, she then walked into the UN compound, where the weight of the past two weeks finally caught up with her.

SISTER ANNE FORBES: I cried all day yesterday.

I just -- and I think that I had many hours of thinking and crying yet to do, because you can't come up against the pain of the world like that and come away from it unscathed.

You can't do it.

And I'm no different from anyone else.

I just happened to be there in that situation.

There's nothing special about me at all.

I look to the day when we'll rule countries with our hearts, not our heads.

From: Johanne Parent <jparent@devp.org>
To: 'askohen@igc.apc.org' <askohen@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, April 23, 1999 11:39 AM
Subject: NEWS from Jess

Greetings from Development and Peace,

At Jess' request please find enclosed Jess' reports on the situation in East Timor. Jess will be back from Asia on April 29 very late and have a big meeting on the week-end of May 1 and 2, 1999.

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Joanne Parent
Technicienne aux programmes - Afrique/Asie
Development Program Technician - Africa/Asia
jparent@devp.org

Saturday, 17 April.

Very quick report of what I have witnessed since I got here.

I arrived in Dili Saturday afternoon and witnessed a very terrified population. Not sure what kind of news you are getting in Canada but the situation here is so serious now and has deteriorated very badly.

I got my first introduction of the violence immediately when I got in. I was told that today they're launching the "pembersihan total" or total cleansing. Pro-integration paraded in military formation in front of the Provincial house. They had a swearing in ceremony to the Indonesian flag and performed the ritual of drinking the dog's blood to signify loyalty to their pro-integration cause. They have taken control of the streets of Dili. The city is totally deserted. They targetted mainly individuals and institutions connected to CNRT. They forced people to put flags in their homes or stores in order not to be attacked.

Well-known spokesperson of CNRT, Manuel Carrasclao was ransacked and his son and nephew killed. We passed by the street where he lives but was cordoned off by the Military and the media was not allowed in.

When I got back to my hotel around 5pm, I was in my room discussing with Fr. Domingos, we heard explosions and gunfire, we looked at the window and saw about 10 dump trucks full of pro-integration attacking the office of the newspaper Suara Timor Timur "voice of East Timor", several saw us looking and pointed guns towards us. A military truck came and saw one military telling the pro-integration terrorist to move away and gave a thumb up sign. I went down with Fr. Domingos (the publisher is his brother in law) to the Voice of Timor office/printing house, the place was totally destroyed. Computers, printing press, photo studios, library were smashed, broken glasses littered the floors. Luckily two of the employee in the building hid in a closet and was in tears and terrified. I took photos of the destruction. I asked the military why they did not do anything, and they said that they arrived "late" and they were only five of them and could not really stop them. I find this hard to believe. The military is well-armed, and could easily disarm or neutralize the pro-integration but like in other attacks they are simply spectators to this violence and yet appearing to prevent violence. It is clear that the military is orchestrating this campaign of terror.

We then proceeded to the Radio station. One of the reporters was telling us the story how he was almost killed as he was covering the parade/ritual of the pro-integration group. Someone, fortunately recognized him and escorted him out of the crowd. The rest of staff looked very scared. Took them home, as they were fearful of taking the public bus. I noticed a cross at the gate of the Radio Station and Fr. Domingos said that this is another way to scare the attackers. Some people are putting crosses outside their homes. This indicates that this pro-integration is becoming like a fanatical group, reminded me of the vigilantes in the Philippines.

Saturday at 6pm, not a single soul could be seen on the streets, no taxis - many journalist were stranded in the hotel. I had to eat my dinner at the rectory with the priests as the restaurants even in the hotel was shut down. One of the priests I met is Fr. Rafael, the priest from Liquica where the massacre took place. He is here resting here from the trauma. There a number of "refugees" here, where I am sending this e-mail. Their lives are in great danger because they were former leaders pro-integration and then later

joined the pro-independence group. It seems that they are the first target priority of the pro-integration group. A number of them are also in the Bishop's house.

In the hotel where I am staying, they are a good number of foreign and local journalists, BBC, CNN and a Japanese Televisions, and Indonesian media. Members of Human Rights commission are also in the same hotel and witnessed the attack to the Voice of East Timor.

Tomorrow Sunday, the pro-integration group is planning to have a mass where the pope had his when he visited ET. They invited Bishop Belo but the bishop turned them down.

Sunday, 18 April

I met the Bishop and Manuel of JP Commission. They just came back from the hospitals and houses of the victims of last night attacks. According to them, so far 13 people were confirmed killed by the pro-integration just from yesterday's attack. There are two unconfirmed killing this morning of pro-integration and heard that there will be counter attack from them tonight.

I just saw about 6 dump trucks full of pro-integration and a military/police truck tailing them.

I started the discussion with Fr. Domingos on the programme we will be supporting but interrupted by a request from the Bishop that he should negotiate with the military commander regarding the security of the refugees staying at his place.

It is actually very difficult to get a real picture of the situation as it is very dangerous to move around, journalists are threatened and prevented from covering anything.

The situation is indeed very dangerous and terrifying. The Foreign Minister of Ireland was also here yesterday on a charter flight with a full Irish delegation including our counterpart Trocaire. There are a number of our counterparts and foreign NGOs here, including CAFOD and MISEREOR but their presence did not prevent the violence. We must pressure our Canadian government to do something now before the situation here turns into full-scale civil war, it is

actually in the brink of it now. It is deplorable that Canada is silent on this. The Indonesian government is succeeding in portraying this conflict as simply between the pro-integration and pro-independence, the military is in the middle stopping the ravages of the para-military. This is a very well coordinated, well funded campaign of destabilizing the negotiation, sowing fear among the Timorese and to project the image the Indonesia military is needed in East Timor.

Jess

Dear all,

Thanks for all your expressions of concerns. I am doing fine. I am having problems downloading the e-mails but was able read the D&P letter to Axworthy.

It seems that my visit will be a complete one with a surreal touch into it: I arrived in the midst of the worst violence and will end my last day here with some semblance of peace.

Dili has been bit a bit calmer for the last two days, although at about 6pm the streets are still deserted. And there are still some reports of sporadic violence in the countryside and rumours of more killing. Gen. Wiranto got in last night, and by coincidence phoned the bishop while I was with him and Bishop Basilio. There I learned that Wiranto wanted the two parties to immediately agree to cessation of violence by signing an agreement and requested the church to act as witness. The Bishop almost agreed to it, but Fr. Domingos, Bishop Basilio and myself convinced him not to do so. For various reasons: that it is not all clear what it implies; it is mainly coming from the top, mainly ABRI; that there was no time to discuss it and that the justice to the victims of violence is not part of the deal, and that will only legitimize further the para-military; and will only give the impression that the military is not part of the spiral of violence. Furthermore, it is not in the interest of the church to be seen by the people as being just one of the parties in this conflict, the church will lose its bargaining power to push for more durable peace. Wiranto will also come out like the saviour who brought singlehandedly peace to ET.

This morning, a meeting was held in-camera before the formal signing ceremony at the Bishop's House among

the pro-integration, CNRT, the two Bishops, General Wiranto, the Governor and the police chief. The meeting was supposed to last only for half an hour but went on for almost two hours. In the signing ceremony, the agreement was announced that the two parties will cease from any arm confrontations, attacks or provocation. All the parties signed including Wiranto, the Governor and chief of police except the two Bishops. The two bishops issued a formal announcement read by Fr. Domingos, that they are merely witnesses to this agreement but would not affix their signatures given the fact that they need time to study very carefully the text and that they need to "consult" the Vatican. The latter was indeed a good way out of this since I heard that Wiranto was very insistent that the two bishops sign the document. At one point, I was told that when the Bishop asked whether the paramilitary will lay down their arms, Wiranto answered back by saying that he would order the military to do so only if the Bishop could bring Falantil to Dili to surrender their arms!

The signing ceremony in the bishop's yard was mainly dominated by pro-integration and of course the international media, with all the formalities, decorations and food- courtesy of the military. The whole event is so artificial that one can't help but feel this agreement isn't going to go anywhere, I think the other two bishops feel the same way.

I mention this just to give you some idea that this is all a military show (which they are forced to produce because of the international pressure), from the violence that began last Saturday to today's signing of cessation of violence. I admire the CNRT for its restraint during the bloody weekend and now for its remarkable decision (of Xanana) to agree to signing the Wiranto script. I am sure this is motivated mainly by the desire of CNRT not to derail the UN-brokered negotiation. There are so many points that is not very clear in this hurriedly formulated agreement, including whether this is ceasefire and whether the UN is part of the joint commission for Peace and stability that will monitor the implementation of the agreement etc.

I met Manuel again this morning (who also advised the Bishop not to sign the agreement) and he said the situation is far from being back to normal. People are still very scared since they know that pro-integration

will not respect any kind of deal, and that there are still invisible hands pulling the strings of the other pro-integration groups (there are numerous factions now). This is what two Bishops said after the ceremony while we were having refreshment inside the house that they we will give them a couple of weeks to see how effective this agreement will be. Fr. Domingos said that eventually the military will be forced to "kill these pro-integration when they can no longer be contained or controlled since they will eventually embarrass the military and that they are basically a fanatical group." Bishop Belo then jokingly said maybe he will announce on the radio that they will catch AIDs if they continue to drink dog's blood!

We succeeded in finalizing our six months plan for the new Centre for Peace and Development and revision of the program for the Radio Station despite all the problems and disruptions of the last few days. I am very confident that Centre will play a key and supporting role for the peace/conflict-resolutions efforts of the Church - this is an "added" tool to strengthen the capacity of the people to confront the forces of violence. In fact, the role of Fr. Domingos in this discussion with the military, the mediation with the two parties, assisting the two bishops to look at the nuances of what is peace agreement and what is simply is an intention to stop the violence by other parties, the notion of impunity, justice to the victims etc. are all like the Centre's mandate in action.

I must also say that Bishop Basilio is quite an impressive, dynamic guy. Spoke with him last night for almost a couple of hours. He speaks fluent French and Portuguese and has good development perspective. I promised to visit him in Baucau next time. He is rather leaning to the idea of the Police here being the peacekeeper or maker with small contingent of international observers. According to him, the police is still "well-respected and that they are capable of disarming and disbanding the militias." It has to be done though with the international observer, according to him, to prevent the manipulation of the military of the militia.. He does not think that the Indonesian government will agree with the UN peacekeeping forces.

I am flying out of ET tomorrow but still have the whole morning here. I have another discussion with

Bishop Belo to discuss the plan that we came out with in the last few days. Hope to discuss with him also what the next step is after this signing of the agreement. Will keep you updated.

Regards,

Jess
21 April
11:30 pm
Dili

From: Johanne Parent <jparent@devp.org>
To: ** Communications <DPMTL/MONTREAL/Comm@devp.org>; ** SPD - Asia Working Group <DPMTL/MONTREAL/AWG@devp.org>
Cc: Fabien Leboeuf <DPMTL/MONTREAL/LEBF@devp.org>; 'jorge_rodriguez@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <jorge_rodriguez@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'askohen@igc.apc.org' <askohen@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, April 23, 1999 1:56 PM
Subject: Jess' final update

23 April

This is probably my last update on ET. I am on my way now to Seoul.

The photos I took in ET came out really good. Hope to write a short publishable "eyewitness account" of what took place in ET but need a copy editor - perhaps the D&P communication people can help out.

Just before the flight to Denpasar, Fr. Domingos (who flew with me. He's on his way to Singapore for back operation) Heard the news directly from the area that 2 people were killed in Oelussi district yesterday and the militia commander was arrested along with his family.

There was also a report that 5 people were killed in Liquica in an attack by prointegration group within hours after the so-called peace deal. As I said in my last e-mail, this is almost expected.

Today, Jakarta Post quoted a head of one of the regions of the Falintil that soldiers had attacked Falantil bases in Aileau and Manatuto districts. He said the attacks were conducted by some 1200 soldiers from Army Battalion 301 which has been in the area since 12 April.

ET military chief acknowledged in the Antara that por-integration "red and white iron" were still patrolling streets in Liquica.

A member of the National Commission on HR who visited Liquica yesterday (Thurs) was angry according to the news because he found out that the potential evidence relating to 6 April killing in Liquica has been

covered, repaired and repainted.

I spoke to Manuel yesterday morning (JP Com is like a dentist clinic - lots of people in the waiting room with complaints of HR abuses) and this is the gist of our discussion, points we can raise to DFAIT:

- He read the DFAIT communique on Axworthy statement. Very mild, according to him. He's disappointed to say the least considering that we had that roundtable discussion and invited the Timorese;

- he expects the violence will continue because the militia did not surrender their arms and not threats of prosecution;

- Canada must pressure Habibie not just to send Wiranto but also Alatas or the President himself to settle the problem of militia;

- Canada should not equate Falintil with the paramilitary. On the issue of laying down the arms, Falintil is "equivalent" to ABRI;

- Canada can play a vital role particularly on the possible use of the Police (same as Bp Basilio's stand). While in Canada, Manuel met with the RCMP and had discussion with them on how they can assist in the training. He thinks that this training program could be embodied within the International monitoring/observers and could be done step by step, as it gradually puts the police within a legal system and not under the military.

- This "peace" moves by the military is part of its tactics to take the initiatives out of the church. It is the stand of the church that any joint commission should also include UN reps.

- First step to genuine peace is if all arms of the militia are confiscated and they are brought to justice.

- Finally, the Dare II preparation is underway. Manuel was given the task by the Bishop to prepare this important event which will bring all factions including the prointegration into real dialogue and process of conflict resolution. He will be getting assistance from some people/inst. esp on developing the process.

More reflection on the last point above while I am on it -- but please don't quote this one:

While the church is indeed playing a crucial role in ET, the church leaders, esp. Bp Belo badly need a good "technical" back up in the field of negotiation, diplomacy, analysis etc.

It just can't be done the way I observed it. It can't be done by "remote" sporadic advice of close friends here and there, or by that group or this group etc.

It has to be done more systematically and strategically. An enormous task. This is what the Centre hopes to do but it won't be fully operational in the next six months at least. Bp Belo envisions it as a think-tank - "I need this kind of help because I have no time to read and reflect on many issues." he said in our final meeting Thurs.morning.

Really worried about him, He's under tremendous pressure - day in and day he confronts complex, life and death issues, intervene and mediate with all sorts of groups and factions within each one, ignore death threats, be a pastor, relate to the government, military and the vatican --- all these he must do with very minimal "expert" support on the ground.

Jess

Joanne Parent
Technicienne aux programmes - Afrique/Asie
Development Program Technician - Africa/Asia
jparent@devp.org

From: Jess Agustin <jagustin@devp.org>
To: Caritas Internationalis (Adresse de messagerie) <ci.comm@caritas.va>; Denis Uba (Adresse de messagerie) <aphdbkk@ksc.th.com>; 'jpanozzo@devp.org' <jpanozzo@devp.org>; Joe Gunn [cccbsac@mail.web.net] (Adresse de messagerie) <cccbsac@mail.web.net>; Maria Winnubst (Adresse de messagerie) <winnubst@cidse.be>; 'dgobeil@devp.org' <dgobeil@devp.org>; 'gbrunelli@devp.org' <gbrunelli@devp.org>; 'pcliche@devp.org' <pcliche@devp.org>; 'tess4a@yahoo.com' <tess4a@yahoo.com>
Cc: Arnold Kohen (Adresse de messagerie) <askohen@igc.apc.org>; Arnold Kohen (Adresse de messagerie) <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Wednesday, September 08, 1999 7:13 PM
Subject: Bishop Belo - Ethnic Cleansing

ABC Transcript
7:30 PM News with Kerry O'Broen
8/09/99

Ethnic cleansing will empty East Timor if no aid comes: Belo

KERRY O'BRIEN: First, Bishop Belo, an important voice of moral authority in East Timor.

He arrived in Darwin exhausted yesterday after being persuaded that his life was at serious risk if he stayed.

I spoke with him less than an hour ago from the Bishop's residence in Darwin.

Bishop Belo, thank you for making the effort.

I know you must be exhausted.

Can you describe for me the way events have unfolded for you over the past few days in East Timor after the result of the ballot became known?

BISHOP CARLOS BELO, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER: Well, after the ballot, the pro-Indonesian militias, they immediately reacted against the results and they organised to attack the pro-activists, burned down the houses and pressed the people to leave to West Timor.

This is the situation.

KERRY O'BRIEN: What was it that forced you to Dili to Baucau?

BISHOP BELO: Well, as you know, I have received more than 4,000 people in my house.

And on Monday when they attacked my house, I left for the police headquarters near the airport and the police asked me what am I going to do -- stay or rest?

I told him, if there is possibility I go to Baucau to stay with the bishop in Baucau.

Then he offered a helicopter and I stayed overnight there.

KERRY O'BRIEN: I understand your colleague, the Bishop of Baucau has received a knife wound.

What can you tell us about that?

BISHOP BELO: Well, it is a pity.

The first time I hear about that, I'm worried, and it's not a good signal for one nation where they praise the religious values, the faith in one god.

All these values have been purely -- how do you say? Not be valued.

KERRY O'BRIEN: There was one period there where all sorts of reports were coming out about your own safety.

There was one report that you'd been kidnapped, another that you'd suffered harm.

How big a risk has there been?

How big a risk did you feel personally over those few days before you were finally forced to leave?

BISHOP BELO: Well, on Monday at 10 o'clock, in fact, when the militias arrived, they begin to shoot from every side, every corner.

I was there inside protected by five or six young men, my aides there.

They told me to sit down on the ground, but I say that we must face, we must leave.

I told them, it is better to leave with other people rather than to stay at home, because we already experienced in Liquica area, where the people were killed inside the residence.

KERRY O'BRIEN: Have you heard report of other clergy actually being killed?

Until now, not yet, but I don't know what's happened.

KERRY O'BRIEN: How tough was it for you to decide to leave East Timor, to

leave your people?

BISHOP BELO: Well, it was the only way to tell the world that Timor needs support, international support, and also, because I have the obligation to report to the Holy City to talk to the Pope.

So I decided after consulting the Bishop and after consulting the Vatican embassy in Jakarta that I should leave and next week I will have a meeting in the Vatican.

KERRY O'BRIEN: What will you tell the Pope?

BISHOP BELO: I will tell the Pope to pray, to bless the East Timor people and to understand that the desire of the East Timor people is to maintain what the Holy Father used to say, that maintain their identity, cultural, historical identity.

KERRY O'BRIEN: What is your perspective of the current situation?

Do you feel it is hopeless?

BISHOP BELO: If there are no immediate and urgent international intervention, Timor will be a burnt land.

Timor will be empty, because now all the strategy is how to push their population, pro-independence, pro-autonomy, to West Timor.

So when Xanana Gusmao enters East Timor he will find only trees and stones and so on.

KERRY O'BRIEN: Do you feel that this operation has been so big, so systematic and such a clear pattern to it, that it couldn't be anything other than orchestrated from the top?

BISHOP BELO: Yes, I think so, I think so.

It's orchestrated from the top.

KERRY O'BRIEN: What do you think of the efforts from the rest of the world so far to come to East Timor's aid?

BISHOP BELO: It is too late.

It is late and when we talk about the diplomacy, we are talking, talking, but what the people need is immediate assistance.

And support and protection.

KERRY O'BRIEN: What do you think it will take to force Indonesia to agree to international peacekeepers?

Or should I say "peace enforcers" in East Timor?

BISHOP BELO: Well, I can only say that I don't believe the Indonesian effort to maintain peace.

They are sending more troops there, but they don't maintain peace.

Why these waves and waves of people leaving East Timor?

Because there is no security.

So it is necessary to be considered by the international community that East Timor people needs international protection.

KERRY O'BRIEN: Do you understand the argument from world leaders, including Australia's -- the Australian Government's leadership, that peacekeeping or enforcing troops can't be sent into East Timor without Indonesia's agreement, because that would amount to an invasion, to a war?

BISHOP BELO: Well, we know already that the international community never recognise East Timor.

It is not the territory, no?

Before the international community only recognise Portugal as an administrative power.

What contradiction is this? I don't understand.

KERRY O'BRIEN: Do you think what has happened since the ballot has been announced -- do you think what has happened in these last few days could have been more easily anticipated by the international community?

BISHOP BELO: Yes, it could have been anticipated.

But before the ballot I insist already that the militias should be disarmed, that their international peacekeeping force should be there.

I thought already these things many times before the ballot.

KERRY O'BRIEN: How soon would you contemplate returning and in what circumstances?

BISHOP BELO: Immediately.

If tomorrow the United Nations troops already in Baucau, tomorrow I'll return to East Timor.

KERRY O'BRIEN: There are reports that the militia are saying that they are

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 <hileman@rad.net.id>

Date: Saturday, September 11, 1999 10:00 AM

Subject: Bishop Belo in Lisbon

BSHOP BELO IN LISBON - LATEST FROM TIMOR

Bishop Dom Ximenes Belo received a rapturous welcome when he arrived in Lisbon, Portugal today. Thousands of people gathered at the airport, which was draped in white in a call for peace in Timor. At a short press conference, he told for the first time how he had narrowly escaped death at the hands of Indonesian soldiers and militias before he fled to Australia.

"I come with pain in my heart. The situation in East Timor is dramatic. Dili has been destroyed.

"Already on the day of the referendum, August 30, the refugees started arriving at my house. By the following Monday, there were 4,000 of them. It was then that the special troops and the militias arrived. I asked for protection from the army commander and chief of police. Five minutes later there were shots. I hid under the table. We tried using bottles of water to put out the fires. We opened the windows to try and clear the smoke.

"We realised we had to leave, to evacuate the building. We went into the gardens, where we were joined by another 1,000 refugees from the adjoining Red Cross facilities. Fifteen minutes later the police arrived, and twenty minutes when the army arrived. They did nothing. They just watched.

"By midday, I could see the whole city was in flames. I could see it from

the helicopter. By four o'clock my house was destroyed. Everything had been destroyed. I went to Baucau. The next day that place was destroyed too. There were shots. Some were fired by the Indonesian police.

"What is happening is genocide, a cleansing of all the villages and towns. Everyone is being taken away. I do not know what the Indonesian strategy is.

"If Xanana Gusmao ever becomes President, he will lead a country of trees, weeds, and animals. He won't find any Timorese there."

He called for immediate UN intervention and for a humanitarian aid mission to help people return to East Timor.

"Timor today is a scorched country. We are going to have to start again from scratch. There is no food, water, medicine. People are going to the mountains with no clothes or money. The UN Security Council must take the necessary measures to save what there is left to save. The shepherd has been forced to leave his flock in order to tell the world what is happening."

He was mobbed by thousands of people along the streets of Lisbon between the airport and the Igreja dos Salesianos, where he celebrated mass. In emotional scenes, he wiped away tears as people shouted "Timor Vencera!" - "Timor will win!" The city centre was brought to a standstill.

Elsewhere in Portugal, protests continued and the East Timorese flag was raised on the top of Portugal's highest mountain in the Serra da Estrela in a sign of solidarity with the thousands of Timorese forced to flee from the UNAMET compound to the mountains around Dili.

The UNAMET compound in Dili is reported to have been attacked shortly after the UN's withdrawal. The school next door and UN vehicles were destroyed, and shots were fired as Indonesian police watched impassively. A member of Bishop Belo's team said that Indonesian Jesuit priests in Timor had also been murdered.

In Australia, Jose Ramos Horta said a religious war was being carried out in East Timor. "This is a religious war against East Timor's Catholic population. Even the Bishop's house was not attacked by the Japanese during World War Two. This is the first time in 500 years that churches have been burned in Timor."

Portuguese TV news showed hundreds of desperate people fleeing to the mountains from the UNAMET compound before it was abandoned. People were reportedly intercepted by Indonesian troops and militias. "They have no strength left", said a reporter. "They have not eaten for several days. They are dehydrated and sick".

There were emotional scenes inside the compound itself. The sister of Jose Ramos Horta said: "Please ring my brother. Maybe he can help." Attempts to

included in the sanctions, in order to lessen the impact of these sanctions on the poor. Moreover, Canada should also consider ways in which to redirect some portion of aid and loans to Indonesia to a trust fund for relief and reconstruction in East Timor.

We recognize that this call for sanctions is controversial and not to be taken lightly. We believe that the grave consequences of recent violence and Indonesia's continued resistance, which we in Canada have witnessed warrant these significant steps.

THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE SHORT TERM:

Additionally, we urge Canada to:

offer safe haven to Timorese in Canadian embassies overseas and to call on other countries to do the same

recognize and accept people fleeing from East Timor as refugees

commit funding and personnel, if possible, to address the humanitarian crisis both within East Timor and in areas of Indonesia, especially West Timor

New sanctions may be necessary if Indonesia fails to allow humanitarian groups to operate freely and safely, both inside East Timor and in West Timor.

The Canadian churches have committed ourselves to a significant program of work in East Timor. Already, Canadian church groups are investigating ways to assist refugees in West Timor and are collecting information regarding human rights abuses. In addition, people from local Canadian congregations will be expressing their concern for and solidarity with the people of East Timor through prayer and advocacy. We have been in contact with church partners around the world, who echo our outrage regarding what is happening in East Timor.

We recognize that the steps which we have outlined are significant. Canada, as one of the major donors to East Timor, as well as a member of the UN Security Council, has a moral responsibility to address these issues, to ensure that desire for East Timorese independence, which was so clearly expressed only one week ago, is fulfilled. After the massacres in Rwanda, the international community questioned and even regretted the slowness of its actions. If East Timor is not to become another Rwanda, then we must act quickly and decisively.

We hope that you and your colleagues on the Security Council will give these issues your full and urgent attention.

Sincerely,

Subj: **Situation**

Date: 3/1/99 3:03:29 AM Eastern Standard Time

From: tapol@gn.apc.org (TAPOL)

To: askohen@aol.com

Dear Amie,

Continuing our chat yesterday, the Mahidi may have done irreparable damage to their 'cause' by issuing that death threat to Aussie journalists and diplomats, and doing so while Tamrat Samuel was in Dili. This made people like Downer and others convinced that these thugs must be dealt with. They have taken the threats seriously by removing all aid workers in Timor, while some jourmos have already been roughed up. The police and abri may be getting fed up with the monsters they have created and, since Habibie has said Indonesia will leave, they are coming to realise that the best bet is to bring the UN in whatever reservations Alatas may have. Samuel may be returning to NY with some clearer idea of what the UN may be called on to do very soon in terms of sending blue helmets in. Suratman has talked in the past of a possible UN role and I think that point is now getting closer.

XG was due to have a broad meeting yesterday with all sides in the integrasi/independence dispute, to be attended by Tono Suratman. I haven't yet heard the outcome but clearly he's trying to build a common front against the use of violence before things in Timor get out of hand as they are threatening to do.

I am also impressed by the more active role being paid by the British gov. Fatchett was in NY last week and gave publicity to XG's idea of electing a national assembly, quite a departure from Whitehall's past back-seat approach of leaving it to the Portuguese. Incidentally, the idea of an elected assembly was put to Xanana by Avebury in a letter he sent to Xanana last December when he was in Jakarta.

The next tripartite meeting on 10 March could come up with some major new decisions.

Glad to hear that /Albright may meet XG. Personally I can't see how she can avoid it anymore.

Take care,

Carmel

TAPOL, the Indonesia Human Rights Campaign

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Campaigning to expose human rights violations in
Indonesia, East Timor, West Papua and Aceh

25 years - and still going strong

Where is
Paul
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Headers

CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
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INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
WESTERN HEMISPHERE

COMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL SECURITY

MILITARY READINESS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1011

April 19, 1998 9

The Most Reverend Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo
Diocese of Dili
Dili, East Timor

Dear Bishop Belo,

I wish to express my profound anguish over the continuing atrocities committed against the people of East Timor, including the recent massacres in Liquica and Dili.

It has come to my attention that Fr. Rafael dos Santos, parish priest for the community of Lliquica, is willing to offer eyewitness testimony of the recent massacre of civilians in his care by paramilitary forces linked to the Indonesian military.

I would therefore like to formally invite Fr. Rafael to give testimony before the Progressive and Human Rights Caucuses of the U.S. House of Representatives. I understand and fully support the need to consider the personal safety of Fr. Rafael in making your decision.

I understand that Fr. Rafael may also be asked to testify before other bodies in the U.S. Congress, and to meet with Representatives and Senators privately. My staff and I will work with the human rights community in Washington to insure that his presence here will be most seriously utilized.

I would therefore request your permission for Fr. Rafael to travel to Washington between April 27 or 28 and May 6 or 7. We have scheduled one briefing for April 29, but wish to leave time available for other important hearings and meetings as well as give Fr. Rafael a day or two in Washington to prepare for these events.

Bishop, in closing I would like to express gratitude for your courage and commitment to peace and social justice. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. McKinney
Member of Congress
CAM/ph

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INTERNET ADDRESS:
cymck@hr.house.gov

Subject: RT: Timorese want independence: Belo

Date: Fri, 23 Jul 1999 06:10:07 -0700 (PDT)

From: Foreign Bases Project <fbp@igc.apc.org>

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

From: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>
Reply-To: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>
Subject: RT: Timorese want independence: Belo

Received from Joyo Indonesian News:

Reuters
July 23, 1999

Timorese want independence: Belo

DILI — The people of East Timor want to be independent and are not afraid to face the future alone, the spiritual leader of the troubled territory said yesterday.

Nobel prize-winner Bishop Carlos Belo told CNN that the people of East Timor would choose to break away from Indonesia in the August ballot on independence.

"Over the previous months they are living under pressure and they are afraid, but they know what they are going to do, if we don't have this pressure from the militias and the military side, the majority will choose to have their own identity," Belo said from Los Angeles.

East Timor has been engulfed by violence since January, when Jakarta reversed decades of adamant opposition to considering independence for what it regards as the country's 27th province.

Some people have accused the Indonesian military, parts of which are known to be deeply unhappy at the prospect of independence for East Timor, of supporting the militias.

Belo said that he hoped that the process of registration, which started last Friday, would be peaceful.

"It will take two weeks and we hope that [during] these two weeks there will be a climate of peace, of tranquility, so that we can have a fair and free election," he said.

A final date for the ballot has not been set, but it is expected in late August or early September.

Belo said that he would not be giving advice on which way his fellow East Timorese should vote.

"My only role is to say let the people vote freely and...let the people decide for themselves," he said.

"I can't tell the people vote for A or B, let them choose, but for me the important thing is that they vote according to their conscience."

He said that the first few years would be difficult if the voters decide to split from Jakarta, which has run the former Portuguese colony.

"From the beginning it will be difficult...a new country without the structure, the infrastructure, the human resources," he said.

"But we hope that the Timorese are able to learn how to build up a country and we hope the international community will show their solidarity to help this country."

He said that the people of East Timor were not afraid to go it alone.

"They tell me; 'Bishop we are poor, we are illiterate but we prefer to be free and live without oppression', so they are decided to face the future."

END

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John M. Miller Internet: etan-outreach@igc.apc.org
Media & Outreach Coordinator, East Timor Action Network
PO Box 150753, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0753 USA
Phone: (718)596-7668 Fax: (718)222-4097
Web site: <http://www.etan.org>

Send a blank e-mail message to timor-info@igc.apc.org to find out how to learn more about East Timor on the Internet
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From: JoboNZ@aol.com <JoboNZ@aol.com>
To: mnelson@the-tidings.com <mnelson@the-tidings.com>; Salesian@aol.com <Salesian@aol.com>
Date: Saturday, September 11, 1999 4:02 AM
Subject: Update on Salesian Sisters in East Timor

The following came in early this morning; I was not able to access my email for most of today... the news is a little late, but it is the latest I have.

Subj: Update on Timor
 Date: Friday, September 10, 1999 3:13:28
 From: fmafil@cni.net
 To: czarsdb@yahoo.com, dbstc@mozcom.com, GodofredoSDB@aol.com, casacanta@pcn.net, dbgabutu@daltron.com.pg, dbkumgi@iname.com, skyguy@mozcom.com, flor@pcn.net

From: fmafil@cni.net (by way of "St. Mary Mazzarello Novitiate" <fmanov@lgn.pworld.net.ph>)

To: czarsdb@yahoo.com, dbstc@mozcom.com (Don Bosco San Jose), GodofredoSDB@aol.com, casacanta@pcn.net (Sr. Milagros Gregorio), dbgabutu@daltron.com.pg (Gabutu), dbkumgi@iname.com (Kumgi), skyguy@mozcom.com, flor@pcn.net

BULLETIN ON EAST TIMOR

(Telephone conversation of Sr. Alice with Sr. Paola Battagliola

3:10 p.m.

September 10, 1999)

Only our sisters are left in Dili. All the other religious of other congregations have left the city.

Our sisters are staying in the hope that some sort of agreement will come up very soon. In case they will be forced to leave, there is the difficulty of moving around with the orphans and mothers (around 80 of them). Our sisters have food provisions which will last for two months.

Fr. Andy Wong, Fr. Rolando Fernandez and Fr. Edmundo Barretta who were with the sisters for some time (I was not able to ask for how long the SDB's stayed) have left for the airport with 6,000 refugees hoping to get an airlift to Kupang, West Timor. It is not clear whether Fr. Wong will go with the group or will decide to remain behind.

As of September 8, through telephone conversation before the lines were cut-off, our communities and the SDB communities in Venilale, Laga, Fuiloro and Fatumaka are all okay.

But they have lost contact since then. Sr. Paola is now trying to get some news through some contacts but so far she has not received any yet.

From: Buhl, Cindy <Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov>
To: Arnold Kohen <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Friday, August 06, 1999 9:21 AM
Subject: RE: "Dear Colleague" Letter on East Timor

Dear Arnold -- Thanks for the info. I've put it in front of Jim. Jim is going to East Timor with Senators Harkin and Reed on August 20th. This is the rough outline of what I know about the trip, with nearly all the details being put in place next week:

On August 19th, in Jakarta, we've asked for two meetings (because the 3 Members arrive at different times, so we can only do meetings in the late afternoon and evening): With Ximana Gusmao and an embassy country briefing.

On August 20th, they fly out early for Dili and should get in between 11 AM and Noon. Our office has requested meetings with Belo, with Ian Martin of UNAMET, with Indonesian military and political officials, and to get outside of the city to some site (preferably one identified by Belo).

We return to Jakarta on August 21st, probably by Noon. Harkin and Reed fly out fairly quickly, but Jim's flight leaves at 11:30 PM, so I'm trying to set up meetings between 1 PM and 7 PM. So far, I've asked for meetings with Megawati Sukarnoputri, and one meeting with NGO & civil society groups (suggesting that INFID could bring some folks together). I've also suggested a possible "de-briefing" dinner with the Ambassador. I'm very much open and looking for suggestions for 1-2 other Jakarta-based meetings that could be helpful to Jim on the East Timor question.

For the meeting with Gusmao and with Indonesian officials, including military, I would very much appreciate hearing from you about the 1-3 most important questions to ask or information to solicit.

Any help with this would be deeply appreciated.

-- Cindy --

> -----

> From: Arnold Kohen[SMTP:humanitarian@igc.org]
 > Sent: Friday, August 06, 1999 9:15 AM
 > To: Zachritz, Bob; Huiskes, Anne; Tift, Randy; Rees, Joseph; Buhl, Cindy
 > Cc: Arnold Kohen; ETAN; Marty Rendon
 > Subject: Re: "Dear Colleague" Letter on East Timor
 >
 > Bishop Belo: "They are openly and clearly distributing guns."
 >
 > In a phone conversation on the morning of August 6, 1999,
 > Bishop Belo stated, in a reference to the actions of the Indonesian

- > military
- > and those under their control:
- >
- > I have bad news. They are openly and clearly
- > distributing
- > guns in [the eastern towns of] Baucau, Laga [and other places]. They are
- > turning Timorese against Timorese. It is like hell.
- >
- > Voter registration for the United Nations-sponsored referendum in
- > East Timor has been encouraging. The Indonesian military and their local
- > allies obviously fear the result of a free election. That is the reason
- > for
- > the campaign of terror throughout this year and now, stepped-up arming of
- > militias to make a genuine consultation of the people impossible.
- >
- > While it is too early to say that the referendum now slated
- > for
- > August 30 will not be held, the situation in East Timor's countryside is
- > perilous. On August 1, 1999 Bishop Belo stated:
- >
- > "I only say that in Alas, Suai and other remote areas, people are
- > threatened by militias together with Kopassus. Mainly at night they enter
- > houses and pressure people [to vote against independence].
- >
- > Authoritative Church sources say the militia attacks over the
- > past six months have claimed 3,000 to 5,000 lives. Elements of
- > Indonesia's
- > armed forces who are adamantly opposed to independence for East Timor
- > are
- > said to be preparing to foment even greater violence if the East Timorese
- > vote against continued Indonesian rule. There also are worries that on
- > election day or in the campaigning period leading up to it the Indonesian
- > military and forces under its control will generate enough chaos to force
- > the cancellation of the ballot. The distribution of weapons is an
- > extremely
- > troubling sign. Bishop Belo, has stated in recent days that "What you
- > hear
- > from the priests and nuns in the countryside makes you tremble."
- >
- > Nonetheless, as difficult as the situation in East
- > Timor
- > may appear, the violence can largely be stopped by tough international
- > pressure that must become relentless. The leadership of the Indonesian
- > armed forces have sufficient control over their troops to assert the kind
- > of
- > discipline needed to restrain the militias and their supporters in the
- > military. They can end the terror if they want to, and they must.
- > Indonesia
- > is at a crossroads unlike any in its 50-year history as an independent
- > nation, facing the choice of democratization or a return to military

- > dictatorship. While the international powers once found it acceptable to
- > unquestioningly support such a regime, that is less true at present. With
- > public revulsion over repression in Indonesia and East Timor at a high
- > point, it will be quite difficult to proceed with business as usual.
- > Thus
- > Indonesian-controlled forces must be convinced to end their intimidation
- > of
- > the East Timorese and allow an expanded United Nations presence, including
- > armed peacekeepers, immediately. In short, Jakarta must accept the
- > results
- > of a free and fair election and prepare for a peaceful transition.

Action Suggestions

- >
- >
- > It is vital to contact your government, legislators, and foreign ministry
- > and call for the toughest possible
- > international pressure on the Indonesian military to end this campaign of
- > terror and allow armed international peacekeepers forces into East Timor
- > as
- > a matter of urgency. The arming of militias and violent actions by other
- > army-backed forces must be ended. The international community should exert
- > its influence to bring about a peaceful transition and maximum protection
- > for the people of East Timor during this period and beyond.

The Humanitarian Project
Project on East Timor
P.O. Box 32307
Washington, DC 20007 USA
Tel: 301 585 3229
Fax: 301 585 3288
E Mail: Humanitarian@igc.apc.org

> -----Original Message-----

- > From: Zachritz, Bob <Bob.Zachritz@mail.house.gov>
- > To: Hiskes, Anne <Anne.Hiskes@mail.house.gov>; Tift, Randy
- > <Randy.Tift@mail.house.gov>; Rees, Joseph <Joseph.Rees@mail.house.gov>;
- > Buhl, Cindy <Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov>
- > Cc: Arnold Kohen <askohen@igc.apc.org>; ETAN <etandc@igc.apc.org>; Marty
- > Rendon <mrendon@unicefusa.org>
- > Date: Friday, July 09, 1999 3:35 PM
- > Subject: "Dear Colleague" Letter on East Timor

- >
- >
- > >Here is the revised version of the letter to the President and the "Dear
- > >Colleague" letter. I have incorporated some changes from both Joseph,
- > Lynn
- > >and myself.

> >
> >Please let me know if you have any additional changes. Otherwise, I will
> >bring it around for a signature on Monday, July 12.
> >
> >Thanks for all your help.
> >
> > <<eastimor.DC.wpd>>
> >
> >July 12, 1999
> >
> >Support Democracy in East Timor
> >
> >Sign Letter to President Clinton
> >
> >Dear Colleague,
> >
> > The United Nations-sponsored election in East Timor scheduled in
> >August presents a historic opportunity. Since the invasion of East Timor
> >by
> >Indonesian armed forces in 1975, an estimated 200,000 people, one-third
> >of
> >the island territory's original population, have perished. The August
> >election is designed to bring about an end to the conflict, but the
> >process
> >has been put at grave risk by recent attacks on UN personnel by
> >anti-independence militias. There is overwhelming evidence that these
> >militias are being armed and directed by the Indonesian army.
> >
> > It is essential that the United States use all the influence it can
> >bring to bear to stop these attacks and ensure a fair election. We must
> >also address the urgent humanitarian needs that remain unmet and have
> >been
> >caused by military-sponsored violence. We urge you to join us in signing
> >the
> >attached letter to President Clinton.
> >
> >
> >Sincerely yours,
> >Tony Hall
> >Frank Wolf
> >James McGovern
> >Christopher Smith
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >Dear Mr. President,
> >
> > We would like to express our grave concern over developments in East
> >Timor. Atrocities in recent months by anti-independence paramilitaries -

> >which operate with the support, direction, and sometimes even
 > participation
 > >of elements of the Indonesian military - have led to hundreds of
 > killings.
 > >Although the most dramatic incident was a bloody assault on a church in
 > >April, the killings continue even now. Tens of thousands have been
 > >displaced by these attacks, leading to widespread deprivation in East
 > >Timor's countryside. Authoritative church sources say that such actions,
 > >orchestrated by the Indonesian military, could make it impossible for a
 > fair
 > >vote to be held as scheduled in August. Repeated physical attacks and
 > >intimidation against United Nations monitors and relief personnel in East
 > >Timor are an added cause for grave concern.
 > >
 > > We therefore believe it is imperative that the United States and its
 > >allies use all the influence we can possibly bring to bear with Jakarta
 > to
 > >help ensure a democratic process in East Timor in complete cooperation
 > with
 > >the United Nations, coupled with an end to obstruction of relief efforts.
 > >The United States and its allies should work to persuade Indonesian
 > forces
 > >to put an end to atrocities in East Timor and allow a free and fair vote
 > to
 > >take place. There must also be an expansion of access for the
 > International
 > >Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in East Timor's countryside and towns,
 > and
 > >a relief operation and protection efforts should be conducted
 > immediately.
 > >It must be stressed that in 1978-79, many tens of thousands of people
 > >perished because of a catastrophic war-related famine, which underscores
 > the
 > >need to address the current crisis without further delay.
 > >
 > > These humanitarian problems and the 23-year conflict itself could
 > >soon be resolved through the employment of timely international
 > diplomatic
 > >action and unrelenting pressure on Jakarta to fulfill its commitments
 > within
 > >the May 5, 1999 United Nations agreement on the vote in East Timor. This
 > is
 > >a historic opportunity. However, if Indonesian forces and those under
 > their
 > >effective control continue in their current manner, the process will lead
 > >instead to an unfair election or no election at all - which could lead in
 > >turn to yet another bloodbath in East Timor. This would have disastrous
 > >consequences not only for the East Timorese, but also for Indonesia's
 > >relations with the United States and other nations.
 > >

> > There is still time to reverse course - but only if Washington does
> >everything in its power to convince Jakarta to call off the
> paramilitaries.
> >Not only our Embassy and State Department, but also U.S. Defense
> Department
> >officials who have enjoyed a close relationship over the years with the
> >senior command of the Indonesian military, must make this appeal in the
> >strongest possible terms.
> >
> > We would like to request a meeting with you to personally
> discuss
> >these urgent matters in greater detail. Thank you in advance for your
> >consideration of these requests.
> >
> >Sincerely yours,
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

Subj: Bad Day
Date: 4/17/99 5:20:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)
To: cscott3707@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, ASKOHEN@aol.com, tapol@gn.apc.org
CC: pet@web.net, emiliap@bigpond.com, jagustin@devp.org, tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, stephen@kings4.freemove.co.uk

Well the day started with a sense that things might not turn out as badly as was rumoured. Unfortunately that hasn't been the case. After the pro-integration militias parade this morning gangs roamed around Dili and one surrounded and set fire to Manuel Carascalao's house. News is that 6 people have been killed which could rise to 8 as 2 mortally wounded in Motael church (just heard the news is now 9). Jonathan Head BBC is here and covering the situation and his sources seem good.

David Andrews the Irish Foreign Minister arrived with Tom Hyland this morning. They had time to meet Bishop Belo and one or two other meetings before deciding to return to Jakarta. Before coming to the Bishops house at about 2pm Andrews and his entourage had been with military people (possibly Col Suratnam). Manuel Carascalao had come appealing for security to protect his house. There was no action. He then returned later in the day to the Bishops house and met Andrews again to say his house was on fire and his adoptive son killed. It was after that Andrews (I was on the other side of town where I heard a grenade and gun shots) decided to return to Jakarta and demand from Wiranto that the Government/Abri take full responsibility for the killings.

When I crossed town this morning there was no police presence and we were stopped by a militia group wearing red and white head bands over ski masks. The road block was only meters away from Manuel Carascalao's house. Becora market was also set ablaze as was the house of Leandro Issacs. I don't yet know where the majority of casualties came from but it is likely that it was Manuel Carascalao's house.

Nito is around and was OK at 4pm this afternoon but was being taken somewhere by someone I hope was a friend. He declined staying at the hotel and I must simply leave it to him to decide where it is safest to stay (he has just called at 7pm to say he's fine and feels safe and will contact us tomorrow). Roberto and other friends are staying at home but fear house to house searches during tonight. It is clear that some of the militias are BritMob (mobile police) and Abri in civilian clothes and nothing has been done to protect the houses of known pro-independence people.

It's my view the Kosovo crisis is giving ABRI full cover under which to launch these attacks in East Timor using the smoke screen of the militias which are nothing more than mobs facilitated and organised by the military. What can be done. The highest level of diplomatic rebuke from the UN Secretary General is what is needed. I know his hands must be full with Kosovo but unless the UN moves quickly to insist on ABRI being brought under control then not only East Timor but Indonesia faces a dim future.

How the UNHCR cannot pass a tough resolution after this I don't know.

Jonathan confirms that a BBC stringer got the TV footage in Liquicia.

Liz Philipson and I are now both in the Turismo Hotel Tel 62 390 322029 and my

mobile is (44) 0468 816 649. We feel quite secure but we are seriously worried about our partners.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-st03.mail.aol.com (rly-st03.mail.aol.com [172.31.34.2]) by air02.mail.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Sat, 17 Apr 1999 17:20:45 -0400

Received: from rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (rly-yd05.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.5])

by rly-st03.mail.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id HAA15785;

Sat, 17 Apr 1999 07:48:28 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from out5.ibm.net (out5.ibm.net [165.87.194.243])

by rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id HAA27921;

Sat, 17 Apr 1999 07:48:29 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [202.135.133.92] (slip202-135-133-92.jk.id.ibm.net [202.135.133.92]) by out5.ibm.net (8.8.5/8.6.9) with SMTP id LAA11462; Sat, 17 Apr 1999 11:47:32 GMT

Message-Id: <199904171147.LAA11462@out5.ibm.net>

From: Steve Alston <alston4@ibm.net>

To: cscott3707@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, ASKOHEN@aol.com, tapol@gn.apc.org

Cc: pet@web.net, emiliap@bigpond.com, jagustin@devp.org, tbrooker@cafod.org.uk,

miriam@apcjp.org, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr,

stephen@kings4.freemove.co.uk

Subject: Bad Day

Date: Sat, 17 Apr 1999 19:47:21 +0800

X-Mailer: EPOC32 Email Version 1.10

KEUSKUPAN DILI

SEKRETARIAT KEUSKUPAN - CAMARA ECLESIASTICA

Jl. Gov. Alves Aldeia 25, P.O Box 1038, Dili, Timor Timur Tel 21665

Hiu, August 11, 1997 **MEMO**No. :
Tgl. :
Hal :

Kepada Yth :

Bisipa di Takema

How are you? I am in Dili again. I ask you to call me, this afternoon,
8 o'clock p.m., number telephone- 323.184 (not 321 331).
I can have dinner tomorrow night with the visitors.

Please send me your e-mail

Ciao!

*Am Bisipa Dili
t. Am Bisipa Dili*



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Message

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Received: Fri, 17 Sep 1999 09:50:08 +0200

From: Danielle Vella <danielle.vella@jesref.org>

To: 'Arnold Kohen' <humanitarian@igc.org>

CC:

Subject: about JRS/East Timor

MIME Ver: 1.0

Part 1
TEXT

Content-Type: text/plain, charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Dear Arnold,

This is the transcript of a phone interview given by JRS East Timor director, Karl Albrecht SJ, to an Italian journalist on 10 September. Fr Karl was shot and killed by intruder/s in the courtyard of the Jesuit residence in Dili the following day, a few days before he was due to celebrate 50 years in the Society of Jesus. Until the day he was killed, Fr Karl worked tirelessly for the poor, especially in these past weeks for those displaced by militia and military violence in East Timor.

Messages of condolences for the death of Fr Karl Albrecht have been pouring in from all over the world. JRS International director, Mark Raper SJ, writes: "We are grateful for the solidarity shown at the loss of our East Timor director. We mourn his loss as a companion and friend. At the same time, we are proud of him. If we cannot persuade any earthly authority that the suffering of the Timorese people must end, may he now be their advocate in heaven."

Please feel free to use this material for publication, and to contact me for any further background information you may need about Fr Albrecht himself. I am also sending a photo of Fr Karl and the words of Indonesian provincial, P. Wiryono P. SJ, about Fr Karl. Sorry if I have already sent you some of this stuff, I have been sending out material to so many people, I've forgotten what I sent to whom!

Regards,
Danielle Vella

JRS International information officer

Phone Interview: Italian Journalist, Vittoria Prisciandaro (of Famiglia Cristiana magazine) with Karim Albrecht SJ, JRS East Timor Director. 10 September, 1999.

What is the situation in Dili now?

Half the town is burnt down and more than half of the people have fled the town into the hills. They are hiding in the hills because the military and the militia are roaming the town, burning up houses and shops and government offices. That is what the situation is like. Most of the religious have left their convents and have fled outside the province. And the residence of the bishop has been burnt down, and also the diocesan secretariat. As far as I know so far, no churches have been touched. That is more or less the situation now.

I read that Father Dewanto was killed...

I don't know about that, no. Who told you that?

I read that in the newspaper this morning

Well if that is the case, yes. But he was not here in Dili. He was far away in Suai, which is on the south coast, south-west... I know nothing can you give me any details?

I can fax you the article, okay?

JRS says that in the parish in Suai, Dewanto and two other priests and 100 people were killed. I am sorry.

That is very bad news.

You haven't had any other news?

No nothing at all, because we were cut off the phone started working again an hour ago. We were cut off for 2 days.

What is your situation? How many people are now in the residenza?

There are only two of us Father Ageng and myself. Father Edu Ratu is at the school with a group of students and families. He's trying to keep the militia away from the school. And another secular priest is at the seminary he is doing the same, trying to keep them out of the building. His name is Juritu.

Has your building been touched by the military?

No, it has not. But they have repeatedly attempted to enter the building. We have always been able to keep them out, by engaging them in conversation and trying to reason with them. Because the militia are Timorese people and they still have respect for the priests and when we talk to them they listen to us.

But the situation is changing now. The militia is retreating from Dili and the army is taking over. There are more army units coming into town and I suppose it is in anticipation for an armed intervention and international intervention.

And if that happens then we will have a real war in Dili, of course. So far there has been shooting and burning day and night, but without any opposition.

Nobody is shooting in defence or against them...they just carry on like robbers, without anybody opposing them.

How many days have you stayed in the building? Have you gone out?

I am almost the whole day away. From Saturday (4.9.99) until yesterday (9.9.99)

I was trying to bring food to the refugees in various locations, as far as I am able to do it. I can still move around. I have never been interfered with. But

I can't get a truck. I can't get a driver because nobody dares to go out on

the street. So I have to do it in my small car. But I am visiting a number of

religious communities and visiting the refugees in their compounds. And now that they have gone out of town, this morning I went out also after them to look how things are with them. I was able to organise a truck to come back into

town to pickup some 30 or 40 bags of rice for them and send it out of town.

We had difficulties, but we succeeded in that.

What is your job?

Jesuit Refugee Service.

Ah, I work for the Jesuit Refugee Service as a volunteer.

Jesuit Refugee Service is my job and that is why I am looking after them as much as I can. I am originally from Germany. I was born in Germany, but I've been for 40 years in Indonesia.

What do you expect now?

Well, we expect that within a couple of days some kind of intervention will

happen. It must happen, otherwise the people will suffer from acute hunger and diseases. And very many of them will die. Up to the present moment, they were still able to hold out with a little food supply that they were able to carry.

But that is going to be finished very soon. Besides that, if no intervention happens, there will be nothing left in Dili it will be absolutely burnt down.

There seems to be a 'scorched earth policy' behind it - if you understand what

I mean. A scorched earth policy by the army: they want to burn down everything

the Indonesian Government has built in the last 25 years. And not only that, but also to destroy the economic basis of East Timor by howling (?) up all the

shops and all the businesses. And they have succeeded in that already. So far

in Dili I don't know what has happened in other towns, that is why I was completely taken aback by your report about Suai; I hadn't heard anything about that.

What did you think about the referendum? You agreed with people...

Oh absolutely, there is no doubt it was a very clear demonstration of the people in favour of their independence and it was carried out in a clear way. There is not a shadow of a doubt that it was just and fair. And now the people are made to pay for it.

What went wrong? Why did this happen?

Because the people voted for independence.

Yes but before before the referendum what happened from the International Community?

Well, the United Nations interfered and sent the UNAMET team to East Timor in

order to prepare for the vote and they did that. And they did it in a very good

way. But right from the beginning, there was animosity from the Indonesian Army

and the opposition who were for integration with Indonesia. Right from the beginning they were against it and after the vote had been announced, they declared that it was not just and it was not fair and therefore they can't agree with it. And so they took up arms and started to fight it.

Can you describe what you see when you go around the town and you go to the refugee people, because we read a lot of things about killed people and people

without heads, and things like this. Have you seen all these horrible

things?

There is not much to be seen in this way, because most of the people have fled the town. Only if ... anybody...people who refuse...ah...excuse me I have to leave now.

There is somebody coming to interfere. Thankyou very much for calling. Bye bye now.

Part 2 Content-Type: application/msword; name="wiryono on karl.doc"
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Part 3 Content-Type: application/octet-stream; name="P.Albert.jpg"
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Two (2) total pages

To: Arnold Kohen fax 301-585-3288 (I hope)

From: Jack Mitchell (tele. 202-690-5621, 310-681-6283) 

Date: Mon., 9.20.99, 1:30 p.m.

Re: GOOD TO KNOW THAT.....

Someone I know and respect from the Old Days is still fighting for the rights and lives of oppressed and downtrodden people. I saw your name in an article about East Timor in today's "CQ Daily Monitor" (attached). I have not heard you on Lungren's radio show. I would not have picked Lungren as a likely choice for international crusader for human rights, but more power to him for caring.

I never dreamed when I was writing and broadcasting about this issue in the 1970's and 1980's for Jack Anderson ('75-'82) and CNN ('82-'86) that it would turn out like it has. How awful, horrific and depressing all at once. How many have to die or be forced from their homes in that sad place? This is not how I wanted to see consistent press attention brought to East Timor. What's going to happen to Alan Naim?

After seven years at FDA as Commissioner Kessler's special assistant and chief investigator (see "the tobacco wars"), I've recently left the agency and gone to the Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) downtown, in the Office of the Secretary, working as a legislative and policy trouble-shooter for the HHS asst. secretary.

Phone numbers above and e-mail is jmitchel@os.dhhs.gov (one "l" in Mitchell for some reason). Hope you're well. Keep swinging.

From: Stephanie O'Connell <soconnel@cafod.org.uk>

To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>

Date: Wednesday, September 08, 1999 1:13 PM

Dear Arnie

It's all so depressing I don't even know what to say.

I am sure you are exhausted but can you give us an update on what is happening at your end.

Have you heard Bishop Basilio was hurt. What follows is a message received from the Salesians in Jakarta

We have already spread the news to all over the world. The military forces and the armed militia are entering in our places: Comoro-Dili, Diocesan Seminary, School in Baucau and Fatumaca; destroying everything. The Salesians in Dili are taken by the police to the their headquarters in Dili for their safety, while others in Fatumaca left the school and went up to the mountain together with the people who fled for their lives.

We must denounce the passivity of the Indonesian Army which are behind the action of the militia.

Bishop Belo must be already in Lisbon or in Rome. We got the news that Bishop Basilio was wounded in his arm while preventing the militia from attacking the Church.

Now we can not contact Dili and Baucau.

>From Canadian Embassy I have just received the news that in Suai the militia attacked the Parish and killed Fr. Hilario.

Last news from The Nunciature: some of the sisters, seminarians, and priests from Dili are already evacuated to Kupang, West Timor. They are about 200. Continue in praying for us and mostly for the people of East Timor.

Fr. Jose Carbonell, SDB

Stephanie O'Connell
Asia Desk - International Division
email - soconnel@cafod.org.uk

9/8/99

From: Robyn Lieberman <Robyn@haassr.org>
To: Arnold Kohen <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Monday, September 13, 1999 6:41 PM
Subject: Tragedy

The news about the referendum is the worst scenario that we have always tried to avoid. Do you even think the nation of East Timor will exist when the situation settles down?

I know you have so much to organize in such critical, tragic times. The one thing I know I can do from here is raise some money for the refugees and perhaps for those remaining and returning (is anyone?)

Question: To whom should contributions be directed and for what purposes?

Thanks. I am sure this is consuming your prayers at the Jewish high holidays as well.

Robyn Lieberman

9/13/99

Muito Obrigado.

Arnold Kelen
to Bishop Belo
July 1999

Por vossa informação: os assessores e coo-parantes dos bispos americanos vão preparar vossa papelsinho (mas or menos duas paginas e meia, precisamente seite minutos) por vossa intervenção dia 17 de Julho em Los Angeles. Eles vão mandar um fax com este papelsinho, por vossa concordo, segunda-feira ou terca-feira. Está bem?

Com nossa melhores cumprimentos.

Descupla minhas culpas, não escrevo português muito bem, Dona Korinna está em Lisboa agora.

Ciao!

X TK

PS An English proverb: "An elephant never forgets."

Subj: **Sunday 18th April**

Date: 4/18/99 1:22:11 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com, emiliap@bigpond.com, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, kbrogan@amnesty.org, kholil@minihub.org (kholil), mukya@minihub.org

CC: pet@web.net, carindo@rad.net.id, vic@kupang.wasantara.net.id, soconnel@cafod.org.uk (Stephanie O'Connell), tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, sking@cafod.org.uk, jgtaylor@gn.apc.org, louisa.lim@bbc.co.uk, milena.zacarias@skynet.be, Pvalentin@oxfam.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org, etisc@indigo.ie

We attended Bishop Belo's mass this morning after what had seemed a quiet night. The death toll from yesterday was put at 9 before we went to seep. Nito turned up at the Bishop's house so was obviously safe. Then we heard that there had been shooting during the night but not clear yet what casualties there were if any. Some people coming to the Turismo are saying up to 30 were killed during Friday and over the night but no more injured, over the c.14 yesterday have been taken to Motael clinic. (2 died during the night from mortal wounds)

Dan Murphy, the US doctor, came here this morning to meet two french doctors who have turned up on tourist visas. We had discussions with them and I said I'd try to contact Fr Barreto to see if they could work (volunteer) under the umbrella of Caritas. They need a 'cover of some sort as there's no chance of them being allowed to work in the Government clinic. They wanted to spend some time here training some local Timorese doctors on some basic procedures for trauma victims. That was their idea before they came now with the situation so volatile it's not clear how long they'll stay although they are both veterans of war situations.

Yesterday the ABC camera crew were threatened outside the Makota Hotel, and a french journalist was assaulted when trying to get to Manuel Carascalao's house. It is not clear how many died there but we do know there were up to 200 IDPs in the compound and that the ICRC were not allowed near the building for some hours. That's plenty of time to clear away bodies.

The newspaper offices, STT newspaper premises, were also attacked yesterday but it is not clear if anyone was injured. The other Dili based newspaper has closed recently and STT will now probably follow suit. The militias are clearly targeting media and trying to stop coverage.

Word is spreading around among the clandestine, that those being threatened should leave Dili and we'll be meeting with the Students later today to assess what to do. Also families of those targeted are not happy with them staying around and clearly feel more vulnerable.

Now, 11.30am Sunday seems strangely peaceful and opinion is divided on whether the military and Besi Merah Putih (militias) have made their point and shown what they can do with the connivance of the state. On the road outside the Turismo it seems business as usual with normal Sunday traffic.

12.30 pm Just back from the Resende and the staff tell us there is now shooting in Becora area both Besi Merah Putih and ABRI. An Australian journalist Jeff ? has just left by taxi to find out what's happening. We can hear no shooting from either the Resende or Turismo. However the earlier assessment that the killing may be over now seems optimistic. Our scheduled meeting with the students has now been moved to a new location as they understand the earlier one has been targeted.

It seems to me that the UN needs to be targeted for urgent advocacy. The UN Secretary General coming to JK and insisting on meeting with all army chiefs of staff just might persuade ABRI that they'll be held to account. I believe Col Suratnam, the commander her in Dili, must bear responsibility and some clear message that he could face a future tribunal needs to be delivered. Basilio Araujo is also playing an important part in rationalising the militias behaviour. He has just refused to an interview with Jonathan Head BBC and said 'you'd better watch out'. Jonathan confirms there's is shooting up in Becora and that militias are still basically in control of much of Dili.

Manuel Carascalao is talking of seeking asylum in Portugal. There seems no doubt that pro-integration groups are geared to ridding Dili, and the west of East Timor, of pro-independence elements. All these who have 'surfaced' in recent years must now be considered in danger. The Governor 'inspecting the troop', the Besi Merah Putih, yesterday is just further evidence of the close link between the state and the militias.

Basilio too could be the target for international campaigning. His fax 0390 321010 or 323366 (I think).

I'm now at the Tursimo tel 0390 322029 or mobile (UK) 0468 816 649

More later

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-zc01.mx.aol.com (rly-zc01.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.1]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Sun, 18 Apr 1999 01:22:10 -0400

Received: from out4.ibm.net (out4.ibm.net [165.87.194.239])

by rly-zc01.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id BAA16714;

Sun, 18 Apr 1999 01:22:09 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [202.135.133.166] (slip202-135-133-166.jk.id.ibm.net [202.135.133.166]) by out4.ibm.net (8.8.5/8.6.9) with SMTP id FAA93080; Sun, 18 Apr 1999 05:20:50 GMT

Message-Id: <199904180520.FAA93080@out4.ibm.net>

From: Steve Alston <alston4@ibm.net>

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com, emiliap@bigpond.com, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, kbrogan@amnesty.org, kholil <kholil@minihub.org>, mukya@minihub.org

Cc: pet@web.net, carindo@rad.net.id, vic@kupang.wasantara.net.id, "Stephanie O'Connell" <soconnel@cafod.org.uk>, tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, sking@cafod.org.uk, jgtaylor@gn.apc.org, louisa.lim@bbc.co.uk, milena.zacarias@skynet.be, Pvalentin@oxfam.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org, etisc@indigo.ie

Subject: Sunday 18th April

Date: Sun, 18 Apr 1999 13:20:41 +0800

X-Mailer: EPOC32 Email Version 1.10

Dear Madame Secretary,

*for members of
Draft 1999 US Congress*

We are writing to you with regard to the critical situation that currently exists in East Timor.

There have been reports of an impending attack on Dili, the East Timor capital, by paramilitary forces widely viewed as under Indonesian military control. We were shocked by the tragic massacre at the church in the town of Liquica last week, and believe that the United States should convey to the Indonesian military the unambiguous message that in the event of further incidents of this nature, and in the absence of a free and fair election in East Timor under impartial international supervision, American public support for assistance to Indonesia will be severely undermined and, in fact, may no longer exist.

We know that you have taken an interest in this problem and appreciate your efforts. However, we believe that the situation is so urgent that extraordinary measures are vital.

We look forward to meeting with you at the earliest possible time.

**WISMA SALESIAN DON BOSCO**

Jl. Mandor Iren, No. 5 Sunter Jaya
JAKARTA UTARA 14350
Telp. (021) 651-7330 Fax. (021) 650-5209
E-mail: wsdjkt@rad.net.id

Postal Address
P.O. Box 3411
JAKARTA PUSAT

Jakarta, July 15th, 1999

Mr. Arnold Kohen

*Hotel Doubletree Hotel Westwood
10740 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90024
Fax - 310.475.5220*

Senhor Arnold

My best greetings.

I have problems with the passport. It will expire on Oct. 19, 1999. But in the airport they don't accept it. According to the regulations I ought to renew it six months before. So I have to go back to Dili. Please, don't be worry. I will go to US next time.

Obrigado.

*+ Carlos Filipe X. Belo, SDB.
Bishop of Dili - East Timor*

NB/Faz o favor de avisar a organização que já não vou obrigado.

DIOCESE DE DILI TIMOR –ORIENTAL

Alamat Kediaman : Uskupan Bidau Lecidere-Kotak Pos 1250-Dili 88000- Tel.321331 –Fax. 62-390-23184
Alamat Kantor : CÂMARA ECLESIASTICA, Jl. Gov.Alves Aldeia,25 – Dili-88000-Tel.321665

AVISO

Roga-me a Missão Portuguesa em Dili, para pedir aos parocos, se podem fazer chegar aos fieis, nas Missas, o seguinte:

- 1. Vai reabrir o Hospital de Lahane (antigo Wirahusada) a cargo dos Portugueses. Pede-se aos medicos Timorences (homens e senhoras) para se increverem a fim de poderem exercer a profissão a missão nesse hospital. Farão o favor de contactarem a Missão Portuguesa em Balide.**
- 2. Vai abrir o Banco Nacional Ultramarino, em Dili. Pede-se a todos os Timorenses que tem a experiência de trabalho nos Bancos, para se inscreverem junto da Missão Portuguesa.**
- 3. O mesmo Banco Nacional Ultramarino abrirá a sua filial em Dili (ACAIT). A BNU fará o pagamento a todos os pensionistas (Reformados) e funcionarios durante o tempo colonial indonesio, para se apresentarem com os devidos documentos ou testemunhas, para pode receber o vencimento (Gaji) em Escudo Portugueses.**

Dili, 18 de Outubro de 1999

**Mgr. Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo, SDB
Administrador Apostólico de Dili**

*** TX REPORT ***

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Comments

Pe. António Gonçalves
por favor, entregue a Mgr Belo.
Campanhentos, Arnold

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Arnold Kohen

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c/o Pe Mauricio

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011-351-2-5103030

Comments

Please pass to Bishop
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Arnold (I am at my mother's tonight on.

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Subj: A couple of words on the Richburg piece on Timor, Sunday June 27

Date: 6/27/99 3:00:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: ASKOHEN

To: RosenfeldS@Washpost.com

*Chief editorial
writer*

Dear Mr. Rosenfeld,

First, thanks for taking the time to meet with me the other week. When I read today's paper I thought of our conversation and thought I should drop a few lines to you. As you correctly pointed out, there have been a number of positive changes in Indonesia recently, and the return of Ramos Horta for the meeting in Jakarta between Timorese groups is one manifestation of this. But as I pointed out I when we met, events in the hinterlands are an entirely different matter. In the Economist of June 19, page 34, the writer (who I believe is based there, according to my sources in the magazine) speaks of the terror in East Timor, of as many as 100,000 people displaced by militia violence. In my last conversation with Bishop Belo the day before he left for Jakarta for the meeting now underway, he said, with emphasis, that in the interior of East Timor the militias continue their work as usual.

Of course, Keith Richburg does make this point in his article. But it is worth remembering. Right now, according to independent information I have received from an Australian delegation that was visiting East Timor around the time that you and I met, the displaced people are facing severe humanitarian problems, and the militias (which really means the army) are not allowing relief agencies to reach all but a relative handful of them. I will probably send out a short e mail bulletin on this matter very soon. As nice as Ramos Horta's return looks, we need hard evidence that it will lead to concrete changes before one can go out and celebrate.

Thanks for your patience. If you want to full text of the Australian report (by knowledgeable relief agency people) please let me know. It is available by e mail.

Best regards, Arnold

Kevin Moriarty, Legislative Corodinator
U.S. Committee for UNICEF
Office of Public Policy & Advocacy
1775 K Street, NW Suite 360
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone (202) 296-4242
Fax (202) 296-4060

Facsimile Transmittal

To: Arnold Kohen

Fax:

From: Kevin Moriarty

Date: September 20, 1999

Re: In the news

Pages: One to follow

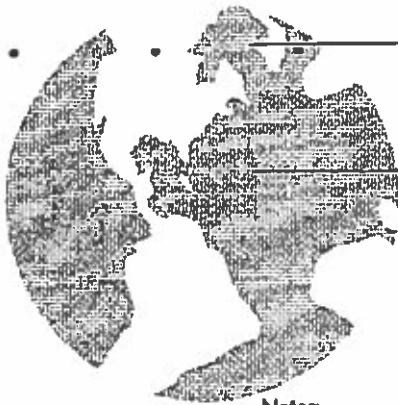
cc:

☐ Urgent

☒ For Your
Information

☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply



Notes:

If you're atoning today, you might consider further appearances in the R.C. media. Is your mother suitably impressed?

See the following from this morning's CQ; column 2.



Subj: **Re: Editorial for Aug. 7 Tablet**
Date: 8/4/99 11:59:41 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: fmcdonag@cafod.org.uk (Francis McDonagh)
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com

Good if something like this gets published; as you know Wilkins chews up texts and recycles them as muffins. My only real comment would be: stress the need for the international community to beef up the UN presence, not just say the Indonesian military can control their thugs.

Second, the sentence below seems to have come into the world a little damaged:

First there [was] a bloody struggle of more than two decades against the Indonesian army, in which an estimated 200,000 people, or one third of East Timor's original population, perished from the combined effects of the war[and famine].

I am discovering, or relearning, that moving house is a process, but the number of stray packing cases is going down, and the wilderness garden is proving excellent for lunch, indeed for living in much of the time at current London temperatures.

For your files: 46a Woodberry Grove, London N4 1SN, tel. +44 (0)181 802 9187

Regards

Francis

Francis McDonagh
Programme Officer
Latin America and Caribbean
Tel: +44-(0)171-733 7900
Fax: +44-(0)171-274 9630
email
(1) fmcdonag@cafod.org.uk
(2) francis@mcdinho.freeserve.co.uk
Web: www.cafod.org.uk

Father Martins → From Prison
Chaplain in East Timor

2.9.99.Díli.Timor

URGENCIAS PREMENTES:

1.A ONU TER TODA A FORÇA ARMADA NECESSARIA PARA GARANTIR A SEGURANÇA DAS FOLHAS DE VOTO ATÉ À CONTAGEM FINAL.E o mínimo que se tem de exigir a quem(Nações Unidas) PEDIU AO MARTIRIZADO POVO TIMORENSE QUE SE SUBMETESSE AO RISCO TREMENDO DE UM REFERENDUM NAS CIRCUNSTANCIAS QUE ESTÃO À VISTA DOS OLHOS DE TODO O MUNDO!...Ao acto de insuperável civismo e dignidade que heróicamente realizou o Povo de Timor Leste,a ONU tem de corresponder no mesmo nível prático de fidelidade e nobreza.

2.SÃO NECESSARIOS FORTES CONTINGENTES POLICIAIS ARMADOS INDONÉSIOS,SOIN O CONTROLE DA POLICIA DA UNAMET,PARA GARANTIR A SEGURANCA DOS CAMPOS DE REFUGIADOS EM DÍLI E NOUTROS LOCAIS.Só em Díli,são milhares de cidadãos em perigo Iminente,e sob o pânico do ASSALTO IXXS BANIXOS ARMADOS INDONÉSIOS PARA EXECUTAR COM FACILIDADE A POPULACAO QUE VOTOU NO DIA 30.As pessoas pedem-nos que transmitamos este apelo.

Neste momento,há muitas concentrações da população que é forçada a abandonar as suas residências.

3.Seja a Polícia indonésia,como lhe compete,a capturar imediatamente os ARQUIVOS dos responsáveis dos diversos bandos de milicianos ou mercenários,para proceder ao Processo crime,dos autores dos assassinatos públicos,dos Massacres públicos,e das devastações,saques,e incêndios das residências do Povo.

4.Não deixar esta acção,de combate ao crime organizado e público,para os Capacetes azuis.

Díli continua mergulhada no terror,à descreção e impunidade...das hordas indonésias de assassinos.

A maioria da População dorme fora de suas casas.

Continua a perseguição de morte aos membros da CNRT e Auxiliares locais da UNAMET.

AS IMAGENS FORAM VISTAS,OS RUÍDOS FORAM OUVIDOS POR VOS,NO EXTERIOR,mas aqui estão gravados nos corações.

E intolerável que se permita tudo isto,há 24 anos...a um Governo invasor,e sempre em TOTAL IMPUNIDADE.Durante 24 anos,centenas de milhares de cadáveres espalhados pelas montanhas,ou enterrados nos quintais.É o que fica PARA A HISTORIA DA PASSAGEM POR TIMOR...DE UM PAÍZ AGRESSOR.Assinaram no crime,a retirada.Sempre nos disseram que o fariam.E assim,ficará a tristeza,sem SAUDADE.

Dili, 2.9.99

O "programa" de destruição está a avançar rapidamente por vários lugares da
território.

Em Ermera o Pároco, P. Sancho Amaral tem estado detido *com as católicas, em interrogatórios* pelos mercenários, *que*
Na zona de Ermera muitas casas incendiadas. *problemas.*

Naquela zona as pessoas são detidas e torturadas a golpes.

As mulheres e raparigas torturas e humilhações especiais, cortes e
golpes nos seios.

Oe-Cusac: 50 casas incendiadas.

Para Oe-Cusse tinham seguida bandos especiais para os costumes
ataques e destruições.

Todas ~~as~~ actividades estavam, há anos prometidas, no caso de o Povo
Timorense se manifestar a favor da Independência.

Neste momento, os indonésios (Governo, Militares) sabem a certeza da
votação em massas, e sabem a certeza de que o Povo, em grande maioria votou
pela rejeição da ocupação indonésia, e pela Independência.

Este fracasso militar e político, deixou fora de
si, governantes, políticos e militares.

Há anos, pois que eles prometeram estas represálias.

SE A COMUNIDADE INTERNACIONAL (CONSELHO DE SEGURANÇA COM ESTADOS
UNIDOS), NÃO LHESS LANÇA um dilema disuasor, o que aconteceu no dia 30 vai
esvair-se, como fumo, em poucos dias.

Todos estes actos de violência, são absolutamente, todos controlados e
dirigidos pelos javaneses altamente especializados neste tipo de terrorismo
político. Ontem, à volta dos actos de violência que se desenrolavam, desde as
imediações da Universidade, até à UNAMET enxameavam de polícia secreta à
palsana, e em viaturas de matrícula civil.

Nesta fase, até ao anúncio do resultado (se lá chegarmos...) eles podem
ser imperiosamente forçados a capturar os dirigentes (caudilhos e
cabecilhas aos quais, como é sabido aqui, eles confiaram a formação de vários
grupos de "acção", para fazer o que estão a fazer, usando os elementos que
previamente tinham sido treinados pelos militares. Surgiram assim vários
grupos, aparentemente de iniciativa de indivíduos timorenses. Os nomes
desses caudilhos, são de todos conhecidos....

É a Intel (a cúpula) a autora, a responsável, pelo programa de
violência, que está a ser executado pelos agentes indonésios. Estes dominam
os caudilhos, estes cada uma tem de há muito o seu grupo de acção. Todos
recebem pagamento. Mas o cérebro é javanês, é Intel militar. Assim, jamais
nenhum chefe de polícia local, ou os seus elementos, chegará... a tempo de
evitar, seja o o que for. O "programa", pois, vai avançar!



CAFOD warns civil conflict may escalate despite policy shift by Indonesia in East Timor

CAFOD has welcomed today's announcement by the Indonesian government that it is considering accepting full independence for East Timor after the country's elections in June. But the Catholic Aid Agency warned that the situation in East Timor has deteriorated recently and could still slide into a bitter civil conflict.

CAFOD's East Timor programme officer Steve Alston said: "I welcome the apparent shift in policy by the Indonesian government but recent events in East Timor contradict that message. The Indonesian military has been fomenting violence by supplying arms to vigilante groups and so escalating an already volatile situation.

"Sadly I believe this is a deliberate Indonesian strategy to make genuine elections or the holding of an open referendum impossible. If conducted under the present Indonesian constitutional provisions the Consultative Assembly in East Timor would be chosen by an electorate which includes about one third of the people of non-Timorese origin. This would be totally unacceptable to the people of East Timor."

"I believe the international community bears responsibility for the situation in East Timor", Mr Alston added, urging the UK government to use its position on the UN Security Council to ensure:

- the leader of the CNRT, Xanana Gusmao, is fully involved in UN negotiations
- the Indonesian military stop supplying arms to vigilante groups
- a permanent UN presence is established in East Timor to monitor and restrain further aggression against the Timorese people.

CAFOD has recently received a report from the Justice and Peace Commission of East Timor which outlines more than 50 extra-judicial executions and 200 cases of arbitrary arrest and detention by the local authorities, including the military and police, in East Timor in 1998.

For further information or to arrange interviews contact Mary McCollum tel: 0171 733 7900 or 0171 704 1315(home) or Steve Alston tel: 0956 843205 or 0171 6394700.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CAFOD Press Office: 0171 733 7900. Out of Hours: 0860 284248

Romero Close, Stockwell Road, London SW9 9TY Tel: 0171 733 7900 Fax: 0171 737 6877 Telex: 893347 CAFOD G

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Wednesday, January 27, 1999 Published at 12:59 GMT

East Timor breakthrough

East Timor is a mainly Catholic territory within predominantly Muslim Indonesia. The Indonesian government has suggested for the first time that it will consider letting go of the troubled territory of East Timor.

Information Minister Yunus Yosfiah said on Wednesday that Indonesia's parliament may consider granting full independence to East Timor after the country's June elections.

"A regional autonomy 'plus' will be accorded to East Timor," he told reporters after a cabinet meeting on security issues. "If this is not accepted by the mass in East Timor, we will suggest to the new membership of the People's Consultative Assembly formed as the result of the next elections - to release East Timor from Indonesia," he said. "This is very democratic, because the people decide, not the president."

BBC Jakarta Correspondent Jonathan Head says this is the first time in 23 years that the Indonesian government has acknowledged the possibility of letting Indonesia go.

'Fair and wise'

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas confirmed that if autonomy was rejected, the cabinet had agreed it was "only fair and wise, and even democratic and constitutional, to suggest to the upcoming elected people's representatives to allow East Timor to separate from Indonesia in a dignified and good manner."

East Timorese Nobel peace laureate Jose Ramos Horta said he was sceptical about the offer, but said it indicated there was growing sentiment in the Indonesian government that East Timorese self-rule was inevitable. "This confirms what we have heard from many sources of that regime, that there is a prevalent point of view in Jakarta that Indonesia has lost the battle over East Timor," he told Portugal's TSF radio from his home in Australia. Since it invaded East Timor in 1975 and annexed it a year later, Indonesia has insisted the status of the territory - as Indonesia's 27th province - is non-negotiable. Its sovereignty over the province has not been recognised by the United Nations.

Guerilla war

Throughout its occupation Indonesia has retained an iron grip on the former Portuguese territory. Some estimates say as many as 200,000 people have been killed in protests and a bloody guerrilla war against Jakarta's rule. Last June President BJ Habibie, who took over after the fall of President Suharto, made an offer of limited autonomy to East Timor, but until now the government has ruled out holding a referendum on the full independence demanded by Portugal, and many Timorese people.

Wednesday's announcement by the Indonesian Government comes just two weeks after Australia, which had been a strong ally of Indonesia's, announced that it would change its long standing policy in favour of the status quo and press for Timorese autonomy. Australia was the only Western country to recognise Indonesia's claim to sovereignty over the territory.

Talks began last year between Indonesia and Portugal at the UN in New York in an effort to flesh out President Habibie's proposals for East Timorese autonomy. The next session of talks is due to begin on Thursday.

September 14, 1999

Mr. Michel Cadmessus
Managing Director
International Monetary Fund
Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Cadmessus,

On my last visit to the United States I had hoped to visit Washington, but this was unfortunately impossible.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the public stance that you and your institution have taken after the United Nations-sponsored referendum in East Timor. The intense suffering that the East Timorese people and my brethren in the Catholic Church have been forced to endure can only be eased by the firm commitment of the international community to justice and human rights. I understand the difficult circumstances surrounding your organization's decision-making process, and thus your resolute stand is all the more meaningful.

I would only ask you to take further action to protect the people of East Timor at this dark hour. There is a desperate need for immediate humanitarian assistance and to stop the killing at once.

I look forward to meeting with you in the future, and take this opportunity to extend my highest compliments. Here I send you a copy of Mr. Arnold Kohen's recent book on East Timor.

Fraternally Yours in Christ,
I am,

to carry file X. Belo. 10/13
Bishop of Dili
East Timor

Subj: **Situ Tuesday**

Date: 4/20/99 7:40:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com, emiliap@bigpond.com, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, kbrogan@amnesty.org, kholil@minihub.org (kholil), mukya@minihub.org, pet@web.net, carindo@rad.net.id, vic@kupang.wasantara.net.id, soconnel@cafod.org.uk (Stephanie O'Connell), tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, sking@cafod.org.uk, jgtaylor@gn.apc.org, louisa.lim@bbc.co.uk, milena.zacarias@skynet.be, Pvalentin@oxfam.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org, etisc@indigo.ie, cscheiner@igc.apc.org, etisc@ibm.net, willdaws@hotmail.com, mmccollu@cafod.org.uk, iiddvo@skyinet.net

Some more reports of shooting over night within Dili but again no confirmation. Most observers believe that with Wironto in town the militias will creep back into the wood work. Gov Abilio apparently sent invitations to CNRT leaders to meet with Wironto today but I understand that there's been no response. I also understand CRNT is preparing a message to the people commending them for their patience in not responding to the deathly provocations. They must remain vigilant but try to remain patient until the UN negotiated package is announced.

1.30 a telephone call to say helicopter with militias on board landed near Hera Politechnic - people scared that attack is imminent.

Generally normal traffic on roads today. NGOs such as Fokupers, Etadep closed - not sure whether Yayasan Hak is open. Nobody knows whether Wironto is here or not.

4pm Now confirmed that he is here so are Kiki Zanakri and Zeki Anwar. They were present on Sunday at a meeting with Bishop Belo. They said their role was to prepare for the UN Consultation/ballot in July. Keki Anwar is particularly know for his close links to Prabawo and elite 'snatch' squads. May be not coincidental that it is rumoured 80 were detained and held after the opeation in Becora Monday.

General Wironto will come to the Bishop's House tomorrow and intends to hold a 'peace signing' ceremony with 10 pro and 10 anti independence leaders. Its not cler whether any independence leaders are prepared to cooperate with this until the miiitias are disarmed and off the streets.

Headers

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-yd04.mx.aol.com (rly-yd04.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.4]) by air-yd03.mx.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Tue, 20 Apr 1999 07:40:01 -0400

Received: from out2.ibm.net (out2.ibm.net [165.87.194.229]) by rly-yd04.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.5/AOL-4.0.0) with ESMTP id HAA00204;

Tue, 20 Apr 1999 07:40:00 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [202.135.133.145] (slip202-135-133-145.jk.id.ibm.net [202.135.133.145]) by out2.ibm.net (8.8.5/8.6.9) with SMTP id LAA68568; Tue, 20 Apr 1999 11:38:30 GMT

Message-Id: <199904201138.LAA68568@out2.ibm.net>

From: Steve Alston <alston4@ibm.net>

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com, emiliap@bigpond.com, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, kbrogan@amnesty.org, kholil <kholil@minihub.org>, mukya@minihub.org, pet@web.net, carindo@rad.net.id, vic@kupang.wasantara.net.id, "Stephanie O'Connell" <soconnel@cafod.org.uk>, tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, sking@cafod.org.uk, jgtaylor@gn.apc.org, louisa.lim@bbc.co.uk, milena.zacarias@skynet.be, Pvalentin@oxfam.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org,

escalate pressure in a way
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Gen. Zachy Anwar Makarim

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Protect
E Timorese

Deutsche Kommission Justitia et Pax

Justitia et Pax, Adenauerallee 134, 53113 Bonn - Tel. (0228) 103-217 / FAX (0228) 103-318

TELEFAX

date: 11.03.1999

fax-number: 0228/103-318

phone: 0228/103-260

from: Dr. Sabine Marquardt

to: Arnold Kohen

subject: Meeting in Bonn

fax-number of the addressee: 001 301 585 3288

Total number of pages including this covering page: 1

If you do not receive all the pages or if they are not readable,
please contact us immediately!!

Notes:

Dear Arnold Kohen, here our e-mail- address: Justitia_et_Pax_Deutschland@t-online.de
As I mentioned it would be helpfull for our grman and european lobbying with the ministry of development to know, which institutions on East Timor would be prepared to realise and organise a special programm for rebuilding a peacefull east-timorese society. It would be helpfull, if Bishop Below would name the right partners. Thank you. Best wishes for your trip to East-Timor - Sabine Marquardt

From: winnubst@cidse.be <winnubst@cidse.be>
To: etimor@cidse.antenna.nl <etimor@cidse.antenna.nl>
Date: Monday, September 06, 1999 11:50 AM
Subject: (Fwd) Lines cut off, Convents evacuated/Bp has escaped to Bauca

----- Forwarded Message Follows -----

From: Jess Agustin <jagustin@devp.org>
Subject: Lines cut off, Convents evacuated/Bp has escaped to Baucau
Date sent: Mon, 6 Sep 1999 11:09:42 -0400

It is extremely difficult to establish communication to Dili. Lines have been cut off, including cell phones. Part of Camara Ecclesiastica - mainly the library was set ablaze but was contained immediately. Most priests/nuns have been told to leave their convents/houses by the police. St. Paul sisters who are helping the Centre for Peace and Development have escaped to the nearby police station. Bishop Belo (and his 5-priests diocesan team) is safe and is now in Baucau.

Fate of the displaced people in those convents including those who are in Bishop Belo's residence is unknown as they been forcibly taken into army trucks. Last call I made (10 am today our time) to our contacts say that people feel abandoned. Radio Kmanek is not operating may or already have been attacked. Real genocide is occurring.

Fear is turning to anger and feeling of betrayal of the international community. I personally feel intense anger and helplessness that this has been allowed to occur because for months we have been saying that this terror would happen.

=====
Jess Agustin
Développement et Paix/Development and Peace
5633 Sherbrooke Est

9/6/99

Montréal, Québec
Canada
H1N 1A6

e-mail: jaustin@devp.org
website: www.devp.org

Tel. 514-257-8710 ext 361
Fax 514-257-8497

>From winnubst@misereor.de Mon Sep 6 17:23:29 1999
Maria Winnubst
Co-ordinator for the Africa and Asia-Pacific Continental Platforms
CIDSE
Rue Stévin 16
B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel (32) 2 233 37 50
Fax (32) 2 230 70 82
winnubst@cidse.be
<http://www.cidse.be>

From: Jess Agustin <jagustin@devp.org>

To: 'Jess Agustin' <Jess.Agustin@+1.257.-8497>; 'rathaide@devp.org' <rathaide@devp.org>; 'sbeaudoin@devp.org' <sbeaudoin@devp.org>; 'lbernier@devp.org' <lbernier@devp.org>; 'pbernier@devp.org' <pbernier@devp.org>; 'jparent@devp.org' <jparent@devp.org>; 'tschnorr@devp.org' <tschnorr@devp.org>; 'imartel@devp.org' <imartel@devp.org>; 'nblair@devp.org' <nblair@devp.org>; 'jbertrand@devp.org' <jbertrand@devp.org>; 'fbisson@devp.org' <fbisson@devp.org>; 'sblais@devp.org' <sblais@devp.org>; 'gbriand@devp.org' <gbriand@devp.org>; 'mbrochu@devp.org' <mbrochu@devp.org>; 'gbrunelli@devp.org' <gbrunelli@devp.org>; 'mchampagne@devp.org' <mchampagne@devp.org>; 'tchretien@devp.org' <tchretien@devp.org>; 'pcliche@devp.org' <pcliche@devp.org>; 'fconnelly@devp.org' <fconnelly@devp.org>; 'tcook@devp.org' <tcook@devp.org>; 'mcorkery@devp.org' <mcorkery@devp.org>; 'cgagnon@devp.org' <cgagnon@devp.org>; 'gdesaulniers@devp.org' <gdesaulniers@devp.org>; 'gduquette@devp.org' <gduquette@devp.org>; 'adoucet@devp.org' <adoucet@devp.org>; 'Fabien Leboeuf' <fleboeuf@devp.org>; 'dgillis@devp.org' <dgillis@devp.org>; 'ldumont@devp.org' <ldumont@devp.org>; 'efoy@devp.org' <efoy@devp.org>; 'jgabor@devp.org' <jgabor@devp.org>; 'fgloutnay@devp.org' <fgloutnay@devp.org>; 'dgobeil@devp.org' <dgobeil@devp.org>; 'jgoulet@devp.org' <jgoulet@devp.org>; 'hgobeil@devp.org' <hgobeil@devp.org>; Denis Uba (Adresse de messagerie) <aphdbkk@ksc.th.com>; 'jparent@devp.org' <jparent@devp.org>; 'imartel@devp.org' <imartel@devp.org>

Cc: 'TED_LANGTRY@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <TED_LANGTRY@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'JORGE_RODRIGUEZ@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <JORGE_RODRIGUEZ@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'TANG_TUONG@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <TANG_TUONG@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'ELAINE_NICKERSON@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <ELAINE_NICKERSON@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'Kathryn Robertson' <krcawg@web.net>; 'MASUDA_ANWAR@acdi-cida.gc.ca' <MASUDA_ANWAR@acdi-cida.gc.ca>; 'tess4a@yahoo.com' <tess4a@yahoo.com>; 'Sarah.J.Taylor@dfaitmaeci.x400.gc.ca' <Sarah.J.Taylor@dfaitmaeci.x400.gc.ca>; 'nancy.mackay-dietrich@dfaitmaeci.x400.gc.ca' <nancy.mackay-dietrich@dfaitmaeci.x400.gc.ca>; 'winnubst@cidse.be' <winnubst@cidse.be>; 'Maggie Helwig' <maggie@web.net>; 'Cathy' <cathy@ciir.org>; Natalie Parent (Adresse de messagerie) <nparent@cwj-jcm.org>; Tom Johnston (Adresse de messagerie) <praxis@vianet.on.ca>

Date: Monday, September 06, 1999 11:16 PM

Subject: Our worst nightmare

Contact is lost. bits and pieces of news we received now are from various sources outside of the church. They only confirmed our worst nightmare. Extremely worried about the fate of our partners. Martial Law has been declared in East Timor. There are unconfirmed reports that Camara, the diocesan office have been taken over by the militia and about 25 people

killed inside, people who took shelter there in the last two days were taken away by police trucks.

Sad, very sad indeed.

Belo's home appeared to be burning out of control after militiamen attacked 6,000 refugees who had taken refuge in his compound, witnesses said.

Pro-independence leader Manuel Carrascalao said that "the attack on Bishop Belo's residence left at least 39 people dead." The death toll could not be independently confirmed.

Belo was at home at the time of the attack but was uninjured. He was later flown in a police helicopter to the eastern town of Bacau.

Bacau Bishop Basilio Nascimento told Portugal's Antena 1 news station that Belo was "deeply hurt, especially psychologically. He's in a state of shock. >From the scarce words he uttered, the attack was violent."

"First, they struck the windows, then they threw in a Molotov cocktail, which dispersed the refugees," Nascimento said.

The militiamen then stormed the nearby headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross. They "entered the compound and started shooting and people started fleeing," said Australian Red Cross spokesman Vedran Drakulic.

Speaking in Melbourne, Australia, Drakulic said 11 Red Cross delegates and eight other foreign aid workers fled to a local police station, but the whereabouts of the building's local employees and more than 2,000 displaced people who sought shelter in its compound were unknown.

According to the Western official, Indonesian military forces accompanied the militias to the bishop's residence along the waterfront, though they did not take part in the shooting. The official said the military loaded the refugees onto trucks and hauled them away.

Also Monday, Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said Australia's ambassador, James McCarthy, was shot at in his car in Dili. McCarthy was uninjured.

=====
Jess Agustin
Développement et Paix/Development and Peace
5633 Sherbrooke Est
Montréal, Québec
Canada
H1N 1A6

9/7/99

To: P.Reinaldo Cardoso Fax: 00114018238425	From: José Martins Pessoal Tel: 62 390 323477 Fax: 62 390 323632
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Number of pages (including coversheet):	1	Date:	9/ 4/99	10:36a
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Dili, 4 de Setembro de 99

Ouvimos há momentos a proclamação oficial com os resultados do referendo feito em Timor Loronsai, pela voz do secretario geral das Nações Unidas, o povo timorense sabe que é acolhido pela comunidade internacional como um estado livre e independente.

Ver reconhecidos os seus direitos de nação, porém nestes mesmos momentos continuavam a ouvir por quase toda a cidade tiroteio quase ininterrupto. Não obstante todo o regosijo que nos é transmitido pelas imagens da televisão de varios locais do mundo, nós em Timor ainda nos sentimos em perigo.

Porque na verdade, até ao ultimo momento mesmo até após a declaração do secretario geral o governo indonesio não garantiu e mostra que não garantirá nenhuma segurança aos cidadãos timorenses. Novos reforços militares que acabam de chegar a Timor não tem outro objectivo senão proteger a figura do general Wiranto que hoje chega a Dili e os cidadãos indonesios que estejam a retirar. Os bandos de atiradores e de desordeiros orientados e apoiados pela policia secreta Indonesia continuam em plena liberdade percorrendo a cidade ou disparando por quase toda a cidade. A cidade por mais estranho que pareça numa hora de exaltação patriótica que pareça está absolutamente deserta. Esperamos a comunidade internacional não aquarde por novos incendios e massacres para entrar precipitadamente no territorio.

Apelamos pois para a comunidade internacional que faça urgentemente as diligencias necessarias imeditamente para um dia que começou com alegria não venha a terminar na noite de carnificina.

Esperamos ser ouvidos pela comunidade internacional.

Aqui em Timor já não há alguém que acredite que as forças militares indonesias possam assegurar a paz e a ordem. E se não se acaba de ver isto e enviar imediatenmente uma força de segurança, o genocideo do povo de Timor continuará.

Subj: **Statement**
Date: 9/15/99 3:37:39 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: TQuigley@nccbuscc.org (Thomas Quigley)
To: askohen@aol.com

Statement on East Timor

Most Reverend Theodore E. McCarrick
Archbishop of Newark
Chairman, International Policy Committee
U.S. Catholic Conference

September 15, 1999

We welcome the agreement of the Government of Indonesia that an international military force enter East Timor to secure and maintain the peace in the region.

The action of the international community must first put an end to the massive human rights violations that, by all accounts, are still occurring. It must also address the broad and urgent need for humanitarian assistance to the people of East Timor, especially the many thousands of internally displaced. Food, water, medicines and sanitary facilities are needed immediately. International agencies must also have free and full access to protect displaced persons in East and West Timor; those who have fled to other countries deserve full protection as refugees.

Despite the welcome reversal of Jakarta's policy on the peacekeeping force, the recent history of broken promises warrants a certain skepticism that the violence will be stopped immediately and the people's right to return to their homes will be respected. Sustained pressure from the international community and especially from the United States ought to characterize all dealings with the Indonesian authorities. Not only must the peace be secured but the expressed will of the vast majority of the people for a free and independent East Timor must be respected.

What has happened this past week has left a deep and lasting scar on the face of East Timor. As in the Balkans, as in Africa, and now in East Timor, the Second Millennium is ending with the horrors of communal violence, ethnic cleansing and unrestrained military brutality. Crimes against humanity have been committed and those responsible must be held accountable.

We join in prayerful solidarity with the suffering people of East Timor, with their brave bishops, Carlos Ximenes Belo and Basilio Do Nascimento, and with their clergy, religious and lay leaders. Many have paid with their life's blood for their selfless commitment to the people they served. May a new East Timor rise from the ashes of this tragic time.

Sept. 5, 1999

A situação em Timor é desesperadora.

Milícias continuam as suas acções criminosas

Os militares e polícias aliam-se às milícias para a chacina dos timorenses.

Há mercenários indonésios recrutados dos militares e polícias indonésios.

Varias localidades são agora localidades fantasmas, isto é, desértica. A população foi todo para o monte.

As estradas que ligam as localidades estão todas controladas pelos milícias.

A ligação de Dili e Manatuto tem pelo menos três postos de controle dos milícias.

Em Maliana a população foi levada toda em refém para Atambua.

Os presos políticos e de delito comum também foram levados como reféns para Atambua.

Xanana vai ser libertado na próxima quarta-feira e vida dele corre perigo.

From: Arnold Kohen <humanitarian@igc.org>
To: etimor@cidse.be <etimor@cidse.be>
Cc: karl.wintgens@entraide.be <karl.wintgens@entraide.be>
Date: Friday, June 11, 1999 2:04 AM
Subject: US CATHolic Bishops Statement on East Timor

Statement on East Timor

By Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, Chairman

United States Catholic Conference Committee On International Policy

June 10, 1999

Thus far this year, the people of East Timor have experienced a level of violence not seen since the 1970s when Indonesian forces invaded and annexed that territory. Rampaging groups of armed militias have committed numerous atrocities upon mostly unarmed, pro-independence communities and individuals. While there are factions among the Timorese as well as an armed pro-independence guerrilla movement, the vast majority of the violence has been committed by paramilitary bands linked to the Indonesian security forces.

On April 6, dozens of people were shot and hacked to death at the Catholic church in Liquiça, a massacre Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo of Dili has likened to that at the Santa Cruz Cemetery in 1991. Just days later, more than a dozen people who had taken refuge in the home of a leading pro-independence figure and brother of the former Indonesian appointed governor were killed by roving militias. In these and other instances, reports indicate that Indonesian police either stood by or directly participated in the attacks.

Throughout the territory, armed members of the dozen or so local militias that have sprung up in the months after B.J. Habibie became president of Indonesia a year ago have waged a relentless campaign of intimidation and violence directed at those thought to favor independence. Estimates of people killed in recent months range from well over 300 to as many as

1,000. Over 40,000 East Timorese have fled their homes and farms, raising again the spectre of hunger that devastated much of the island in the late 1970s. While some of the internally displaced persons are in centers assisted by the Church's Caritas workers, many are without any help and need the protection and relief that could be provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross, if allowed to enter in sufficient numbers.

Since President Habibie announced in late January that the people of East Timor were to be given a choice between autonomy and independence, army elements have fomented a campaign of anti-independence violence that has swept over the island. From all accounts, the vast majority of the violence has been committed by the pro-Indonesian militias. In many instances Indonesian military have been reported as either doing nothing to stop the mayhem or as encouraging and actually participating in it. It is beyond question that the Indonesian government has failed in its responsibility to maintain order and provide security for the people.

In early May, the Indonesian and Portuguese foreign ministers signed an accord at the United Nations calling for a popular consultation in East Timor. Scheduled initially for Sunday, August 8 of this year, the people are to be given the choice of voting for autonomy or independence. The UN, which will conduct the consultation, has begun deploying its personnel that will prepare for and monitor the vote; but the violence has continued. Unless it is brought under control and the militias disbanded, the conditions essential for a fair and free vote will be seriously lacking. At this time, a postponement seems likely, if not inevitable. A delay, however, of more than a few months could result in the entire consultation plan coming undone if forces opposed to the plan come to power as a result of recent elections in Indonesia. If that were to happen, the prospect of even greater civil strife enveloping all of East Timor cannot be ruled out.

What can be done? The Church in East Timor is urgently directing its efforts toward achieving trust and mutual acceptance among those engaged in conflict. Nevertheless, even such unstinting efforts have had limited impact under circumstances ruled by outside forces bent on promoting violence and strife. The two bishops in this majority Catholic and intensely religious country have long combined their fearless denunciation of the violence with an insistent call for dialogue and reconciliation among contending parties. They have formed a Peace and Reconciliation Initiative to promote dialogue

and conflict resolution among the main Timorese groups and with representatives of the police and government.

On May 13, Ascension Thursday, the bishops with their clergy and religious led a huge, peaceful march through the streets of Dili calling for an end to the violence. The previous day, the bishops had joined with Protestant, Muslim and Hindu leaders in joint prayers for peace. *We know our land was once peaceful,* said Bishop Belo, *but now it has a history of war, death, imprisonment, weeping and suffering.* He prayed that East Timorese would be kept from killing each other, and days later, speaking of the August vote, he insisted that *after the choice is made, no group must feel it has won or lost.*

In the near term, however, decisive action by parts of the international community seems more essential than ever and could spell the difference between a peaceful outcome and continued bloodshed. As the numbers of the United Nations Assistance Mission to East Timor (UNAMET) increase, they will be able more effectively to monitor and report on the conditions that either favor or impede a successful consultation. While their present mandate does not allow them to offer any direct protection to persons under attack, nor are they allowed to carry sidearms, the particular circumstances of East Timor suggest a review of that policy. Bishop Belo has just recently stated that for a successful consultation to be held, a far larger and armed United Nations presence will be necessary.

More importantly, the Indonesian military that is widely cited as organizing, arming and inciting many of the paramilitary mobs must end such activity and resume their proper function of protecting the citizenry and maintaining order. For this to happen, far greater diplomatic pressure must be applied by the United States especially, but also by other interested governments, and it must be done immediately and urgently. The window of opportunity for effective diplomatic action here is exceedingly narrow. We respectfully urge that our own government act decisively to take the necessary steps, including consideration of maintaining a resident diplomatic presence in the territory throughout this period.

We join with the bishops of East Timor, Carlos Ximenes Belo and Basilio Do

Nascimento, and all the Church and people of that troubled land, in praying that this year will mark the true beginning of a lasting peace, in which the rights and dignity of all will be respected.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

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FROM:

KORINNA

AT FAX #:

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PAGE(S) (incl. cover):

2

DATE/TIME:

May 17, 99

MESSAGE:

Hope this is more readable,

Sincerely,

Korinna

From: Allan Margolin on 05/17/99 08:42 AM
To: Bruce Rich, Korinna Horta, Deborah Moore, Pete Emerson, Stephan Schwartzman, Annie Petsonk, Stephanie Fried, Kenneth Walsh, Lisa Dreier, Holly Rose, Dan Dudek, Dirk Forrister, Suzanne Fanger
cc:
Subject: Indonesia Ousts Doctor Serving Strife Victims

----- Forwarded by Allan Margolin on 05/17/99 08:42 AM -----

News from the Net

Date: 05/17/99
EDF Program: International
Publication: New York Times
Headline: Indonesia Ousts Doctor Serving Strife Victims
EDF Quoted:
<http://www.nytimes.com/yr/mo/day/news/world/indonesia-doctor.html>

May 17, 1999

Indonesia Ousts Doctor Serving Strife Victims

By THE NEW YORK TIMES

ILL, Indonesia, May 16 — An American doctor whose small clinic here treated victims of militia violence left the province of East Timor Sunday after a visa dispute with Indonesian authorities.

The doctor, Dan Murphy, 54, of Alton, Ohio, ran afoul of Indonesian authorities over his harsh criticism of the military's support for paramilitary groups who want East Timor to remain a part of Indonesia. His clinic's small volunteer medical team is widely credited with saving the lives of those wounded in recent paramilitary violence.

More than 100 people died and scores of others were hurt in attacks mainly provoked by pro-Indonesian militias that have driven supporters of independence into hiding.

The clinic has received several telephone threats from the militias and army, at times forcing staff members to move injured patients into safe houses. Dr. Murphy had lashed out at Indonesian bureaucratic wrangling, which he asserted had caused delays in the delivery of vital drugs and medical equipment.

"Apparently the political wing of the paramilitaries made a request to the immigration officials that my papers be checked," Dr. Murphy said before departing on a special flight to Bali. "I did not have a work visa but there was no mechanism to get one at the time." He said he hoped to get a visa in Singapore and return within three days.

One critic of the clinic, Basilio Araujo, a hawkish pro-Indonesian

advocate, last week accused Dr. Murphy of spreading "lies to intentionally discredit the Indonesian military and Indonesian Government."

Asked whether he would be allowed to return, Dr. Murphy said the Indonesian authorities "seem to be welcoming doctors at the moment."

On Saturday, three Australians working for the International Committee of the Red Cross arrived in Dili to work as a surgical team in a local community hospital.

Another Australian doctor will fill in at the Catholic-run Motael Clinic during Dr. Murphy's absence.

Arriving back from a peace summit meeting in Bali organized by the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas, Araujo said pro-Indonesian groups in East Timor were now more confident about a United Nations-brokered ballot for self-determination scheduled for Aug. 8.

He said the Indonesian Foreign Minister had told them about the presence of United Nations police teams and what had to be done to make their presence work. Araujo said he thought all the parties who had signed the United Nations brokered peace agreement last month "will try to restrain themselves from doing any more acts of violence."

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Created By:	Allan Margolin	Created On:	05/17/99 08:21:19 AM
Last Modified By:	Allan Margolin	Last Modified On:	05/17/99 08:23:38 AM

Subj: Re Belo
Date: 6/13/99 6:08:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: tapol@gn.apc.org (TAPOL)
To: askohen@aol.com

Dear Amie,

It seems that Belo was not willing to be interviewed by the BBC's Sunday programme so we had Jonathan saying that his warnings were surely being heeded by UNAMET.

I noted that Belo said on 7 June when explaining that he would not be voting in the Indonesian election, also saying that he would remain with his flock on 8 August as well. That's a rather odd message to project, isn't it, especially since it was him, all those years back who first pleaded with Peres de Cuellar to hold an act of self-determination.

Was he annoyed that we tried to get jourmos to interview him?

Carmel

+++++

TAPOL, the Indonesia Human Rights Campaign
111 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath,
Surrey CR7 8HW, UK
Phone: 0181 771-2904 Fax: 0181 653-0322
email: tapol@gn.apc.org
Internet: www.gn.apc.org/tapol
Campaigning to expose human rights violations in
Indonesia, East Timor, West Papua and Aceh

25 years - and still going strong

+++++

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Sun, 13 Jun 1999 18:08:06 -0400
Received: from monsoon.mail.pipex.net (monsoon.dial.pipex.net [158.43.128.69])
by rly-zd05.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)
with SMTP id SAA20900 for <askohen@aol.com>;
Sun, 13 Jun 1999 18:08:04 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Sun, 13 Jun 1999 18:08:04 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <199906132208.SAA20900@rly-zd05.mx.aol.com>
Received: (qmail 15314 invoked from network); 13 Jun 1999 22:07:42 -0000
Received: from usem523.uk.uudial.com (HELO TAPOLPFS) (193.149.85.48)
by smtp.dial.pipex.com with SMTP; 13 Jun 1999 22:07:42 -0000
X-Sender: tapol@pop.gn.apc.org
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: askohen@aol.com
From: tapol@gn.apc.org (TAPOL)
Subject: Re Belo

Subj: **Situ Report**

Date: 4/19/99 1:02:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com, emiliap@bigpond.com, guichandut@ccfd.asso.fr, kbrogan@amnesty.org, kholil@minihub.org (kholil), mukya@minihub.org, pet@web.net, carindo@rad.net.id, vic@kupang.wasantara.net.id, soconnel@cafod.org.uk (Stephanie O'Connell), tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, sking@cafod.org.uk, jgtaylor@gn.apc.org, lousa.lim@bbc.co.uk, milena.zacarias@skynet.be, Pvalentin@oxfam.org.uk, miriam@apcjp.org, etisc@indigo.ie, cscheiner@igc.apc.org, etisc@ibm.net, willdaws@hotmail.com, mmccollu@cafod.org.uk, iiddvo@skynet.net

Reports from many sources that some form of drugs used among militias - during attacks they seem oblivious and senseless.

Discussions over how to engaged militias and their leaders in dialogue

5pm . Confirmed there was shooting from. 5am in Becora , Jeremy De Costa from Lospalos arrested taken to Koramil. Nito saw him being taken badly beaten at 1am.

At Governor's paraded this morning of civil servants Abilio warned that 'everyone' respects the law here and there's no reason for people to be afraid here. If they say they are afraid they will be prosecuted'. That was supposed to re-assure those threatened by the militias (independence sympathisers told to hand over government property and vacate jobs).

6pm just heard from Fr Sequiera that 9 have been killed in Becora today - no confirmation yet

Previous pro-integration and now pro-independence people are those most vulnerable and many have taken refugee and are trying to escape. Manuel Carascalo has now taken refuge with the police the theory being that the response from the international community would be strong if anything happened to him.

We have also heard that Wironito will be coming tomorrow and that the Irish Foreign Minister has called on the Government to replace Abilio, the Governor, who is failing to respect central Government policy.

Headers

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-st01.mx.aol.com (rly-st01.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.134]) by air01.mail.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Mon, 19 Apr 1999 13:02:15 -0400

Received: from rly-yd02.mx.aol.com (rly-yd02.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.2])
by rly-st01.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)
with ESMTP id JAA18575;
Mon, 19 Apr 1999 09:51:22 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from out4.ibm.net (out4.ibm.net [165.87.194.239])
by rly-yd02.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)
with ESMTP id JAA12485;
Mon, 19 Apr 1999 09:51:21 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [202.135.133.225] (slip202-135-133-225.jk.id.ibm.net [202.135.133.225]) by out4.ibm.net (8.8.5/8.6.9) with SMTP id NAA42124; Mon, 19 Apr 1999 13:49:07 GMT

Message-Id: <199904191349.NAA42124@out4.ibm.net>

From: Steve Alston <alston4@ibm.net>

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com, annw@caritas.org.au, cscott3707@aol.com,

From
Father
Cardoso

September, 07, 1999

Dear Arnold,

Man without GOD has neither justice nor logic.
And closest thing to the absence of logic is
politics, meaning, destruction of as a human being.
I think that cannibals and politicians are cousins.
Proof: The genocide of Timor LOROSAE.

Numbers to get Information on Bishop Belo:

Diocese of Darwin:
Phone: 011-61-89-411244
Fax: 011-61-89-412101

Bishop's Residence
Phone: 89- 812863

Have a nice day and, please, never lose the logic. Adeus.

From: Steve Alston <salston@cafod.org.uk>
To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Wednesday, July 14, 1999 5:42 AM
Subject: Re: Book

Reply
 Greatly suspicious I'm afraid. I don't think there's anything sinister going on but knowing that Fr S is not trusted and not a guy who can really accurately assess the situation I cannot see how he can play a key role in reconciliation. Jess is attracted to his administrative skill and 'accountability' and undoubted ability as a Radio Director - but that's not sufficient. Still I have said this to Jess and he decides not to act on it. What more can we do. I just hope it's not going to do any big damage but don't hold your breath.

Steve Alston
 CAFOD Asia Section
 Tel 0171 733 7900
 Fax 0171 274 9630
www.cafod.org.uk/
 personal email alston@gn.apc.org

Please note that Steve Alston will be on sabbatical from 1st August '99 to 31st July 2000, During his absence Catherine Sexton will be working in his place at CAFOD.

>>> "Arnold Kohen" <humanitarian@igc.org> 07/14/99 05:22am >>>
 Alston, before you fade away, I would greatly appreciate 3 or four lines on your assessment of the soundness of the Jess Agustin--Domingos Seq. alliance??

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Alston <salston@cafod.org.uk>
 To: Humanitarian@igc.apc.org <Humanitarian@igc.apc.org>
 Date: Wednesday, July 07, 1999 11:44 AM
 Subject: Book

>I know your books must be in short supply but Fr Marianno from Manatuto is
 >just sitting next to me and fingering my copy - any chance of getting one
 for

>him before he nicks mine??

>

>Steve Alston
 >CAFOD Asia Section
 >Tel 0171 733 7900
 >Fax 0171 274 9630
 >www.cafod.org.uk/
 >personal email alston@gn.apc.org

My questions

7/14/99

Subj: **Alston-Scharfe on Sequeira**
Date: 7/29/99 11:50:52 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: pet@web.net (Sharon R.A. Scharfe)
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com

CONFIDENTIAL – Please, FYI only

Excerpts from a discussion between Scharfe and Alston circa May 20/99.

...

Scharfe: Meanwhile, had a long chat with Jess today who's been talking with Fr. Domingos who wants Jess to contact the UNSG concerning the "impartiality" of the UN team, that they should be highlighting abuses by FALINTIL as well ..

Alston: I have to say I have lots of misgivings about Fr Sequeira, always have done, and am not too 'happy' about Jesses close links with him. I fear that Fr Sequeira's involvement in Dare II could well spell the Bishops both feeling they want to distance themselves from it. May be I'm just getting too paranoid but I've always preferred to keep Fr Sequeira at a distance.

Scharfe: My suggestion is that the Church talk with the UN team on the ground
... what are your thoughts?

Alston: Absolutely - why aren't they? Or if they are is Fr Sequeira feeling sidelined
and he's trying to 'use' Jess to go behind the backs of the UN people in Dili.
Oh! God knows but the situation is confusing.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <pet@web.net>
Received: from aol.com (rly-yh02.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.34]) by air-yh03.mail.aol.com (v60.18) with ESMTP; Thu, 29 Jul 1999 11:50:52 -0400
Received: from web.net (web.net [192.139.37.21]) by rly-yh02.mx.aol.com (v60.18) with ESMTP; Thu, 29 Jul 1999 11:50:44 -0400
Received: from ip229.ottawa4.dialup.canada.psi.net([154.5.13.229]) (1497 bytes) by web.net
via sendmail with P:smtp/R:bind_hosts/T:inet_zone_bind_smtp
(sender: <pet@web.net>)
id <m119sRz-000ALpC@web.net>
for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>; Thu, 29 Jul 1999 11:50:31 -0400 (EDT)
(Smail-3.2.0.103 1998-Oct-9 #1 built 1998-Oct-22)
Date: Thu, 29 Jul 1999 11:50:31 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <2.2.16.19990729115723.0917e324@pop.web.net>
X-Sender: pet@pop.web.net
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 2.2 (16)
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com
From: "Sharon R.A. Scharfe" <pet@web.net>
Subject: Alston-Scharfe on Sequeira

Subj: CIDA release on new ET projects
Date: 7/29/99 11:50:51 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: pet@web.net (Sharon R.A. Scharfe)
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com

Diane Marleau Announces Canada Will Support the Peace Process in East Timor

News Release May 7, 1999

Ottawa – Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), will support the peace process in East Timor, the Honourable Diane Marleau, Minister for International Cooperation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie, announced today. "Canada's support will help East Timorese become more aware of the democratic process and civic rights, enabling them to have more influence in their future," said Madame Marleau. "These initiatives will help create a favourable environment for social and economic development."

To help promote peace in the region, people in East Timor will take part in conflict resolution and civic rights education. For example, Development and Peace, a Canadian non-governmental organization (NGO), will provide the tools necessary for the production of radio programmes that will recommend methods for peacefully resolving conflicts. CIDA will work with the Unitarian Service Committee (USC), another Canadian non-governmental organization, to increase the networking abilities of local organizations and their capacity to peacefully resolve conflicts.

Twenty-three years after Indonesia annexed East Timor, the Islanders are divided over the future of their homeland. Many favour independence while others favour remaining part of Indonesia. CIDA is supporting the United Nations-sponsored peace process with Portugal and Indonesia, while at the same time supporting East Timorese input into the future of the island. Indonesia and Portugal signed an agreement on May 5 leading the way for a UN-sponsored ballot on August 8 to determine East Timor's future. Canada will contribute \$820,000 over a two-year period towards these education and training campaigns.

Canada has been involved in East Timor since 1979 and is currently one of its largest international donors. Funding for these activities was provided for in the February 1999 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

- 30 -

Information: Office of the Minister for International Cooperation and Minister responsible for La Francophonie Telephone: 819 997-6919 Media Relations Office Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Telephone: 819 953-6534 E-Mail: info@acdi-cida.gc.ca Public Inquiries Service Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Tel: 819 997-5006; Toll Free: 1-800-230-6349 Fax: 819 953-6088 For the hearing and speech impaired (TDD/TTY): 819 953-5023 For the hearing and speech impaired (TDD/TTY): Toll Free Tel.: 1-800-331-5018 E-mail: info@acdi-cida.gc.ca

For more information on Parliamentarians for East Timor,
Please Contact:

MODE = MEMORY TRANSMISSION

START=JAN-31 17:21

END=JAN-31 17:43

FILE NO.= 127

STN NO.	COM	ABBR NO.	STATION NAME/TEL.NO.	PAGES	DURATION
001	634	8	01162390323184	000/003	00:00'00"

-ARNOLD S.KOHN

***** -

- ***** -

301 585 3288- *****

- Jose Ramos Horta: Why I want to be an Australian

Subject: AGE - Jose Ramos Horta: Why I want to be an Australian

Date: 30 Jan 1999 13:33:28

From: paularoque@mail.telepac.pt

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

From: "Paula" <paularoque@mail.telepac.pt>
 Reply-To: "Paula" <paularoque@mail.telepac.pt>
 Subject: AGE - Jose Ramos Horta: Why I want to be an Australian

Received from Jovo:

THE AGE
 Sunday 31 January 1999

Why I want to be an Australian

By Jose Ramos Horta

I HAD been in the United States for more than 10 years, a lone advocate of the East Timorese cause at the United Nations and in the US. I had walked countless miles through the corridors of Congress and become conversant with American politics. One morning sometime in 1987 I was in my office in the embassy of Mozambique in Washington when the phone rang. My job title was press attache but my real job was as more of a political adviser on American politics.

President Joaquim Chissano, one of Africa's most respected statesman, had come to power in Mozambique the year before and has since guided his country out of a devastating civil war and away from extreme poverty. I have now known him for more than 20 years. He was elected after the death in a plane crash of President Samora Machel, whose widow is now Mrs Mandela.

It was President Machel who had invited me to help him in Washington, where a powerful right-wing lobby was trying to persuade the Reagan administration to back a ruthless armed group fighting his government.

When I picked up the phone, an angry voice with a Southern accent screamed that a missionary had been detained in Mozambique, a certain Ian Grey, an Australian from Toowoomba.

This fuelled my curiosity. The man on the phone threatened to get the powerful American TV network CBS on the case. I retorted that I knew the American media well and did not think CBS would really care much about an Australian with an obscure American evangelist group arrested in an obscure corner of Africa. I remember my words: "I'll look into the case because I'm fond of Australians. I just hope he hasn't done anything too stupid."

I immediately contacted the foreign ministry in the Mozambique capital, inquiring about Ian Grey. The next day I received a response informing me that they were not aware of any foreigner detained in the country.

I fired back another message along these lines: "What the hell you mean ... A foreigner is arrested in your country and you don't know?" My second message prompted a more helpful reply. The ministry confirmed that Ian Grey had been detained as he entered Mozambique illegally, allegedly carrying communication equipment for the extremist right-wing Renamo, a group sponsored by South Africa.

Not wanting to interfere with the judicial process in Mozambique, I restricted my intervention to advising the authorities to facilitate visits to the detained by relatives, lawyers and Australian diplomats, all of which was readily granted. I further suggested that the authorities invite international

From: Thomasin Brooker <tbrooker@cafod.org.uk>
To: askohen@igc.apc.org <askohen@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, April 16, 1999 5:29 AM
Subject: Steve Alston

Hi Arnie,

Steve is now in Dili. He would really like to speak to you about what possible action can be taken in Washington with UN agencies. Please can you give him a call on 046 881 6649.

Thanks
Thomasin

4/16/99

Subj: From Dili
Date: 4/16/99 5:18:24 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)
To: tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, soconnel@cafod.org.uk
CC: cathy@ciir.org, ASKOHEN@aol.com, kbrogan@amnesty.org

Well 'we' got in with no problems, although warned yesterday by brit embassy that we could well be turned around. The seminar is likely to be lower in numbers than planned or could well be cancelled. There's still a possibility that we'll try to move the venue to Bali but this would entail much more to clear what logistics and more budget than we'd planned and it's not clear what more would be achieved.

I'll try to email once each day but can't guarantee success. (tried several times today but without success) Remember my mobile phone if needs be, more now I find that both networks are down tonight.. Also Donald Reid's is 07808 932 458 (registered in UK).

I have just spoken with Roberto on the 3 SPI scholarships and he says the other two and himself are now in agreement that they will go to USA. As you recall he and Nito did say 'the others will agree with us and go' but I think Shige is a little upset by their less than democratic approach.

Manuel Abrantes is apparently still here. Not met him yet. So not on his way to Geneva. He, like many others here, is under a death threat. An Abri officer (a catholic) came here (CET) an hour ago giving 'advanced warning' that there is an attack on Caritas and others on Saturday (the day Irish Foreign Minister arrives). There's apparently a death list of those to be 'eliminated' and no doubt this is being planned with abri.

On the short run from the airport Stanislas (Secretary to Barreto) told me the militias are to be seen everywhere at night and have threatened the hotels who put up journalists. The Resende is empty (where I am). He says there is to be a big meeting on the militias in the next 2 days in Governors Offices after which they will conduct 'sweeping' operations throughout Dili. The Clandestine are still saying they'll block access to Dili to militias coming from the East. Caritas CET has also been threatened and most CNRT offices staff have gone under ground. Fr Domingos Soares has gone back to Letifoho.

There were at least 5 journalists on the flight including an Indonesian TV crew. Place has been swarming with journalists apparently but many left having received direct threats from Militias. The militias spokesman, Basilio Araujo was on our flight.

Apparently the Tursimo was cleared of journalists yesterday but has a new complement today.

Stanislas said the more foreigners in Dili the more secure they feel so that at least is a good reason to be here.

Apparently the UN agencies UNDP, UNHCR, WHO were supposed to make a joint assessment mission but this has been postponed three times. It is really important to push for them to come asap. Possible with their presence APRI may act to prevent militias extremes. Just heard from Liz Philipson that Dereck Fatchet intends to come to E Timor on 29th April.

Kerry - if you don't already have it Dr Dan Martin's home number is 313 801

More
later

Headers

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-st04.mx.aol.com (rly-st04.mail.aol.com [172.31.34.3]) by air02.mail.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Fri, 16 Apr 1999 05:18:23 -0500

Received: from rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (rly-yd05.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.5])

by rly-st04.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id UAA06631 for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>;

Thu, 15 Apr 1999 20:59:46 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from out1.ibm.net (out1.ibm.net [165.87.194.252])

by rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id UAA21208 for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>;

Thu, 15 Apr 1999 20:59:46 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from [202.135.133.175] (slip202-135-133-175.jk.id.ibm.net [202.135.133.175]) by out1.ibm.net (8.8.5/8.6.9) with SMTP id AAA98254; Fri, 16 Apr 1999 00:59:15 GMT

Message-Id: <199904160059.AAA98254@out1.ibm.net>

From: Steve Alston <alston4@ibm.net>

To: tbrooker@cafod.org.uk, soconnel@cafod.org.uk

Cc: cathy@ciir.org, ASKOHEN@aol.com, kbrogan@amnesty.org

Subject: From Dili

Date: Fri, 16 Apr 1999 08:59:07 +0800

X-Mailer: EPOC32 Email Version 1.10

Subj: From Dili
Date: 4/16/99 1:32:14 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: alston4@ibm.net (Steve Alston)
To: willdaws@hotmail.com

Dear Will

Goodness nows if I'll get this through. Calling out of Dili is becoming a nightmare. Even my mobie stopped last night. There are 2 networks here and both were 'down'. It seems that this Saturday a substantial action by the joint militias under Joao Traveres is expected. In fact yesterday an Abri officer came to Caritas offices and warned them to vacate the office on Saturday as 'they would be targeted'. Rumours are spreading of a 'death list' on which most of our partners appear.

Wednesday all journalists received death threats (all those staying at the Turismo Hotel) and a number left town, however on my flight a number came in and also an Indonesian TV crew.

We'll be meeting this morning (we being the 2 consultants that have come with me from London plus our student partners) to decide what to do. It seems continuing with our proposed workshop is just impossible but being here alone gives our partners a measure of security. UN agencies (WHO, Unicef, UNDP and UNHCR) have now cancelled their proposed assessment mission for the 3rd time. That's just when their presence is most needed.

Most people I have spoken to about your proposed film are positive. I spoke briefly to Dr Dan Martin yesterday who welcomed the idea. By the way his tel (home) is 0390 313 801. Most say 'don't' apply for journalist visas, you won't get them. Best to come here as tourists with minimal equipment. However the Brit Embassy in JK said that journalists will be prevented from coming here next week, but they also said we'd be turned around at the airport but we got in.

The telephone lines are monitored so if you do call Dan don't refer to your names just talk about Ch 4 and he should know what you're talking about. If you want to refer to me say 'that guy from Caritas'.

So more if and when I find out. I'll be in Dili until 22nd although there were rumours yesterday that all foreigners were to be cleared from Dili so that these militias 'cleansing' operations could go on away from public gaze. However there's no flight until Saturday so I think we're safe to assume we'll be left here.

Later

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <alston4@ibm.net>

Received: from rly-st03.mail.aol.com (rly-st03.mail.aol.com [172.31.34.2]) by air01.mail.aol.com (v59.4) with SMTP; Fri, 16 Apr 1999 01:32:14 -0400

Received: from rly-zd03.mx.aol.com (rly-zd03.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.227])

by rly-st03.mail.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

with ESMTP id VAA18910 for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>;

Thu, 15 Apr 1999 21:00:04 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from out1.ibm.net (out1.ibm.net [165.87.194.252])

by rly-zd03.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)

Broederlijk Delen

Tel. : 32-2-502 57 00

Huidevettersstraat 165

Fax : 32-2-502 81 01

(Rue des Tanneurs 165)

1000**BRUSSEL**To : DR. Sabine MARQUARDTFax nr. 00-49-228-103 318From : ARNOLD KohenDate : 26 March 1999Re : East TimorTotal nr. of pages : 2If not received all pages,
please contact us.**REMARKS / MESSAGE :**

Dear DR MARQUARDT,

Many thanks for meeting with me yesterday. As I mentioned, I am sending a copy of Bishop Belo's letter to Archbishop McCarrick, which should be useful. I will be in contact later regarding the statement of the U.S. bishops, the international campaign, the book, etc.

With kind regards,

ARNOLD
P.S. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by e-mail.

Subject: CNS: Massachusetts Catholic students adopt East Timor cause

Date: Fri, 23 Apr 1999 08:04:55 -0700 (PDT)

From: Foreign Bases Project <fbp@igc.apc.org>

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

From: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>

Reply-To: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>

Subject: CNS: Massachusetts Catholic students adopt East Timor cause

TIMOR-MASSACHUSETTS Apr-22-1999 (580 words) With photo. xxxn

Massachusetts Catholic students adopt East Timor cause

By Mark Pattison

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- There they stood on a drizzly lunch hour on Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House, hundreds of miles from their home, putting into words and actions what they felt in their hearts.

White House demonstrations are usually done by an older generation of protesters. But grade schoolers from St. Mary School in Danvers, Mass., near Boston, knew they had to speak up for their convictions.

So, during their school holiday week, 17 of them, accompanied by five adults, drove to Washington to promote the cause of peace and independence for East Timor.

The White House protest April 21 was just one stop in their journey. Their first taste of protest was in front of the Indonesian Embassy in Washington the day before. Indonesia's annexation of East Timor in 1976 has sparked a sustained outcry and won a Nobel Peace Prize for Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo of Dili, the East Timorese capital.

The students say they weren't looked down upon or condescended to because of their youth, but because this was the first trip to Washington for many of them, there was a bit of an intimidation factor.

"A lot of the cops were laughing" during the embassy protest, said eighth grader Dave Soter.

Eighth-grader Kendra Smith took credit for the idea of a trip. "I started the whole thing," she said -- a fact corroborated by St. Mary teacher Bob Doolittle, who with his wife, Katherine, helped chaperone the trip.

The students also had meetings scheduled with Sens. John Kerry and Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and with Reps. John Tierney and Thomas Capuano, all of whom are Democrats, to discuss the East Timor situation.

Brittany Clifford, a sixth-grader, said the students had collected 218 signatures on a petition to ask for peaceful change in East Timor.

As for White House and museum tours, "we don't like that boring stuff," said seventh-grader Jenn Hudon.

She said Indonesians at the embassy waffled during a conversation after the student protest. "We asked them simple questions, and they talked for hours trying to cover for themselves," Jenn said.

While outside the embassy, students met a couple of adults protesting the East Timor situation who got arrested for civil disobedience.

The students' demonstration took the form of a 10-minute drama, with a couple of students serving as narrators and the rest about evenly split between Indonesian soldiers and East Timorese.

"We speak for them because they are our friends," one of the student narrators said. "We speak for them because they are our heroes."

Using wooden sticks for rifles, they re-enacted beatings and massacres carried out against the Timorese by the Indonesian military.

The violence continues, Doolittle said after the performance. He said he could not reveal the names of Timorese with whom he has been in contact, but said a Timorese priest told him, "We're in danger day by day."

"We think some of them are dead," Doolittle said. "They were activists. They had a list of 250 (Timorese) leaders" to be executed by Indonesian paramilitary forces, he added.

"Beaten, dying, brave. East Timor is still not silent," a narrator

intoned near the end of the drama. The group closed with a chant: "Send the U.N. Send food. Send medicine."

The children headed back to Danvers April 22. That day, as talks were held at the United Nations to find a political solution, pro-Indonesian militias broke a day-old cease-fire and effectively sealed off the Timorese capital of Dili.

END

04/22/1999 4:26 PM ET Copyright c 1999 Catholic News Service/U.S. Catholic Conference CNS-04-22-99 0432pET

END

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John M. Miller Internet: etan-outreach@igc.apc.org

Media & Outreach Coordinator, East Timor Action Network

PO Box 150753, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0753 USA

Phone: (718)596-7668 Fax: (718)222-4097

Web site: <http://www.etan.org>

Send a blank e-mail message to timor-info@igc.apc.org to find out how to learn more about East Timor on the Internet

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COMMUNICATION FORUM FOR EAST TIMOR WOMEN

F O K U P E R S

Dili, 26 of January 1999

Address : Secretariate Fokupers
Jl. Gov. Serpa Rosa T-045
Farol Dili Barat
East Timor

E-mail : Zeus@dili.wasantara.net.id

Telephone : 62-390-323214

Faximile : 62-390-313324

I. Background :

Communication Forum for East Timor Women (Fokupers) is a networking Organization which was established in July 1997, after a workshop about Health and Rights of women which was facilitated and sponsored by IIAK Foundation and Health Networking for East Indonesia Women.

In this Organization there are many volunteer activist women and men, from different professions, education, and social statuses. Among these activists some are civil servants, social workers, students, some are from NGOs, and some are victims of violence.

Fokupers has 17 (Seventeen) members, 5 of which are permanent staff and the rest are volunteers. The staff are in charge of daily activity.

During the first six months we prepared ourselves through discussion groups about women's issues, and conducted trainings which were relevant to our programs. During the second six months we did participatory research with our target groups in two pilot areas (Laclo Village and Viqueque district). After the participatory research we conducted one workshop for all of the target groups (war victims/widows, ex-prisoners, rape victims, prisoners' wives, youth groups) to check and recheck the result of participatory research.

II. Mission :

Hand in hand with other NGOs we work to empower women. Specifically we help the victims of human rights abuses and domestic violence to rebuild their self esteem and their physical and mental health.

To raise women's consciousness of their rights and dignity through informal education.

III. Vision :

Justice in gender relations and social equality between women and men

IV. Objectives :

1. To give direct attention to the increasing problem of violations against women.
2. To raise awareness about forms of violation against women
3. To increase assistance for victims of violence against women
4. To make serious efforts to change the discriminatory thinking and behaviour of people (society) towards women.

V. Activities of Fokupers in brief:

Fokupers have three main programs :

- a. **Give assistance to the victims (war victims/widows, ex-prisoners, prisoners' wives, rape victims).**

Field visits and monitoring our partner groups (victims) in Dili, Laclo, Viqueque, Ossu, Baucau and Alas. To give assistance to the clients, to give counselling, to assess their health and assist the recovery of their dignity, to strengthen their educational and financial abilities.

Women's Rights discussions with local women activists about gender issues.

We plan to manage a shelter for women who are victims of human rights abuses and domestic violence.

We will help them to increase their income through our own credit union.

b. Education and Training

Holding meetings, discussions, or workshops about gender issues, women's rights & health, ethics, human rights violations for four target groups : Youth groups, rural women, prisoners' wives & ex-prisoners' groups, as well as a group of Catholic sisters.

Gathering data concerning human rights violations. We prepare documentation on victims of all kinds of violations against women and distribute reports to partner organizations in order to campaign together.

Intervening to help the victims through letters of concern. These letter are sent to local authorities and legal organizations.

Working together with lawyers to prosecute the perpetrators of violence against women in court.

Disseminating information regarding the rights and dignity of women to the wider community, including security forces who commit violations.

Training for Fokupers members in TOT, (train the trainer) in-house administrative training, as well as training regarding gender, health, women against violence and publishing. We also undertake comparative studies with crisis centers.

c. Dissemination of Information

We have a newsletter called **BABADOK** which is published four times a year. **BABADOK** is the name for the traditional instruments that are played by women to receive the guests or visitors.

We distribute copies of the **Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women** and the **Declaration on Violence Against Women** to the public.

We plan to produce a Focupers information brochure and a biography of women fighters. We will also disseminate information through the internet, stickers and leaflets to the public and more particularly for our target groups.

VI. Memory Days of Fokupers

1. March 8, International Women's Day
2. July 15, Anniversary of Fokupers
3. November 25th, International Day Against Violence Against Women
4. Dec 10, Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



**PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE ON
THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE POLITICAL TRANSITION IN INDONESIA**

*29th and 30th March 1999, London
Chatham House*

29th March

09:00 Opening Session

- *Lord Wright of Richmond*, Chairman of RIIA
- *Álvaro de Vasconcelos*, Director of IEEI
- *David Wall*, Head Asia Programme, RIIA
- *Hermawan Sulisty*o, Executive Director of RIDEP

9:30 The process of political transition in Indonesia

- June elections and future scenarios
- Forces favouring and obstructing the democratic transition
- Constitutional reform
- The model for the Indonesian State

Speaker: *Hermawan Sulisty*o, Indonesia Institute of Sciences and Executive Director of the
Research Institute for Democracy and Peace, Jakarta

Comments: *Peter Ferdinand*, Director, Centre for Studies in Democratisation, University of
Warwick

Cornelis Lay, Lecturer, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta

10:45 Coffee break

11:00 Democratic Transitions: lessons from other transition processes

- Comparing experiences
- Lessons from Europe and relevance for Indonesia

Speakers: *José Lamego*, International Secretary of the Portuguese Socialist Party

Comments: *Paulo Wrobel*, Research Fellow of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London

Umar Juoro, President's adviser on economic affairs, Jakarta

13:00 Lunch

14:30 East Timorese Transition – What prospects?

Speaker: *José Ramos Horta*, Nobel Peace Prize winner of 1997, Vice-chairman of CNRT
(Conselho Nacional de Resistência Timorese)

Comments: *Lela Madjiah*, Director of the Jakarta Post, Indonesia

16.45 Coffee break

16:30 EU, Indonesia and East Timor

Speakers: *Dewi Fortuna Anwar*, the president's adviser/spokesperson on global issues and international affairs; researcher at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI).

Constâncio Pinto, Joint Representative of CNRT to the UN

Comments: *Eilis Ward*, Political Scientist, Trinity College, Dublin

20:30 Dinner at New World Chinese Restaurant

1 Gerrard Place W1

Tel. 0171 734 0677

30th March

9:30 The role of the military in the transition

- Internal reform of the Armed Forces
- Relations with political parties

Speaker: *Air Vice Marshall Grito Usodo*, Armed Forces Headquarters, Jakarta

Comments: *David Camroux*, Director Asia-Pacific Programme, Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris
Sabam Siagian, Indonesian press

10:45 Coffee break

11:30 The reform of the State, Rule of Law and Good Governance

- Dealing with the past and preparing the future
- Non-State actors and the media
- Judiciary system

Speakers: *Indria Samego*, Presidential adviser on political and security affairs; researcher at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Jakarta
August Parenkuan, Editor-in-chief, *Kompas* daily newspaper, Jakarta

Comments: *Nico Nordholt*, Associate Professor University of Twente, The Netherlands

13:00 Lunch

14:30 EU-Indonesia political relations

- Co-operation between European political parties and Indonesian parties

Speakers: *Faisal Basri*, Secretary General of *Partai Amanat Nasional* (PAN), Indonesia

Alex Queval, *Parti Socialiste* (PS) - Socialist Party, France

Debate: *Hayono Isman*, Secretary General *Partai Keadilan dan Persatuan* (PKP), Indonesia

José Lamago, International Secretary of *Partido Socialista* (PS) - Socialist Party, Portugal

Ellen van Koppen, Member of *Partij van de Arbeid* (PVDA) – Labour Party, The Netherlands

16:45 Coffee break

17:00 EU-Indonesia future agenda

- Main political issues in the agenda
- Development of a political dialogue

Speakers: *John Gwn Morgan*, former director of the Southeast Asian Unit of the European Commission, Brussels

Emil Salim, Chairman, Community Recovery Programme, Jakarta

Comments: *Zacarias da Costa*, CNRT Representative in Brussels

18.00 Closing Session

- *Álvaro de Vasconcelos*, Director of IEEI
- *George Joffé*, Director of Studies, RIIA
- *Hermawan Sulistyo*, Executive Director of RIDEP

D-R-A-F-T LETTER TO PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR RE: DARTMOUTH STUDENTS

March 11, 1999

The Honorable Fernando Andresen Guimaraes
Ambassador
Embassy of Portugal
2125 Kalorama Road NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ambassador Guimaraes,

On Tuesday, April 26th, a group of 28 students, teachers and city officials from Dartmouth, Massachusetts, will be in Washington, D.C. to meet with U.S. policymakers on the crisis in East Timor. I am writing to ask you not just to meet with these residents of my Congressional District, but to host a get-together at your embassy on the evening of April 26, 1999, to discuss Portuguese and other international efforts to promote a long-term solution to the political crisis in East Timor. I would view it as a personal favor if you were able to host such an informal discussion.

This day-long visit grew out of the interest, involvement and engagement of 15 Dartmouth High School students, all of whom will be coming to Washington as part of this delegation, in the human rights and self-determination movement of the people of East Timor. The southern part of my congressional district is a region proud of its Portuguese heritage, where many of the citizens of the cities of Dartmouth and Fall River are of Portuguese descent, have relatives who still reside in Portugal, and who are engaged in many efforts to promote Portuguese and Portuguese-American culture, history and relations. From humanitarian assistance to disaster victims in the Azores to following the events in East Timor and Indonesia, these communities remain true to their Portuguese roots.

I envision this as an informal discussion, as I've noted above, with food and refreshments during which we would all sit down and have a conversation about the situation in East Timor. The students would be eager to hear of Portugal's efforts to broker and galvanize international support for a resolution of East Timor's future status. They, in turn, could share what they learned that day in meetings with the National Security Council, State Department and Members of Congress. I would propose also inviting one or two of the many East Timor experts who reside in Washington, D.C., such as author and advocate Arnold Cohen, Washington UNICEF Director Marty Rendon and the director of Human Rights Watch Asia Program, Mike Jendrzeczyk. Of course, I would also be attending this gathering.

I realize this is a special request. It is unusual, however, to find high school students so engaged on a foreign policy issues that I want to encourage their interest, provide them with the opportunity to meet and converse with experts, and nurture the joy and satisfaction that comes

from being engaged with the world. Who knows -- one of these students might someday become the U.S. Ambassador to Portugal because of this day in Washington, D.C.

I hope you will give this request every consideration. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or would like to discuss this idea further; or if you prefer, to have someone on your staff contact Cindy Buhl, my Legislative Director, in my Washington office at 202-225-6101.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

JPM:cb

KEUSKUPAN DILI

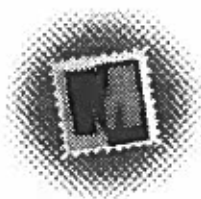
SEKRETARIAT KEUSKUPAN - CAMARA ECLESIASTICA
Jl. Gov. Alves Aldeia 25, P.O Box 1038, Dili, Timor Timur Tel. 21665

MEMO

No. :
Tgl. :
Hal :
Dili, August, 24th 1999

Kepada Yth :
Miriya di Talana

~~Secret~~
The Document is true, but anonymous, written by pre-Otomei intellectuals
supported by your crus...who cause troubles in Ramolau!
Tomorrow I explain in Portuguese to Mrs. Kherina.
Glas!

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Reading message 73 of 140

[Previous](#)[Send New](#)[Mailbox](#)[Delete](#)[Reply](#)[Forward](#)[Next](#)**Message**[Format this email for printing](#) - [Show extended headers](#)**Received:** Thu, 07 Oct 1999 11:23:49 -0400**From:** cgaul <cgaul@catholicreview.org>**To:** humanitarian@igc.apc.org**CC:****Subject:** for Arnold Kohen**MIME Ver:** 1.0

Hi Arnold,
Hope this reaches you, and hope you arrived safely. We would love to get something from you about Bishop Belo's return, his thoughts, reactions, etc., perceptions of state of the church in East Timor and what he sees for the future. Would very much like your own observations as a journalist as well. Is this possible? In order to make our next week's edition we would need something by noon (our time) Monday, Oct. 11. This would also give us a chance to plug the book, of course.
Hope all is well,
God bless you all,
Chris Gaul

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547
533

Subj: Fw: Situation in Suai desperate, 100 feared killed today!
Date: 10/1/99 12:21:22 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: stevesteele@juno.com (Stephen Steele)
To: askohen@aol.com

Arnold,
I thought I'd forward this message I received on Sept. 6. Note that the priest who is quoted is one of the men later killed at Suai-steve

Friends of East Timor,
After reading an article from ABC this morning about the situation in Suai, I decided to give the mentioned priest a call. I was in Suai on an observer mission for the IFET observer project just two weeks ago and was appalled at seeing the conditions that the more than 2300 refugees inside the church were living under. According to the church, a further 5000 refugees (or IDPs, in UN-speak) were living elsewhere in the town. I spoke with the priest on several occasions, and found him a very sincere and trustworthy man.

When I spoke to him just now, Padre Francisco Soares was apparently very distressed and frightened and said that the militias had just attacked the church compound, killing an estimated 100 -one hundred- people, surrounding the perimeter of the compound and not allowing anyone to leave the grounds. The police was not doing anything, he said. He repeated several times that the situation is very, very bad and that someone has to do something to stop it.

I must mention that the phone line to Suai is quite bad and that the whole conversation was very hurried because of his stress and alarm. I asked him to please speak up and repeat what he said, and he repeated the number one hundred killed several times over to make sure I got it. I said it back to him and he confirmed it. It is still possible that I may have gotten something wrong, and I apologize if I did, but I thought the information provided was so alarming and distressing that I had to get it out to you very quickly so that you can act on it. Please do act now! I circulated a list of contacts to Indonesian and world leaders, militia leaders, the UN and so on last night. Please use it and inform me if you find it to contain important errors or omissions.

I'll keep you posted on developments.

Sincerely,

Ronny Hansen
Coordinator
Norwegian Cooperation Council for East Timor and Indonesia
Tel: 92 80 86 07 work
22 68 28 88 priv.
Fax: 92 97 86 07
e-mail: ronh@online.no
<http://www.egroups.com/group/timor-indonesia-nordic>
<http://home.telia.no/timor>

Australian Broadcasting Corp.
Mon, Sep 6 1999 8:33 AM AEST

UN pull-out puts East Timor refugees in peril

There are fears 1,000 refugees are in danger of being attacked by pro-Jakarta militias in East Timor's south-west after the United Nations was forced to abandon its regional office in the town of Suai.

Militias backed by Indonesian security forces have surrounded the Suai Catholic Church, and at last reports were preventing the refugees from leaving.

Speaking by telephone from Suai, a Catholic priest expressed desperation about the fate of people who have sought sanctuary in the church grounds.

Militias have repeatedly threatened the refugees and yesterday staged a series of attacks, killing at least two people and torching scores of homes.

"There has certainly been a number of large fires close by - within a radius of 500 metres," he said.

"It would seem to be that a number of houses are burning and all through the night hundreds of rounds were being fired, ranging from rapid machine-gun

fire to semi-automatic fire, and as I stated earlier, a number of shots were fired in the back alley here."

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Headers

Return-Path: <stevesteele@juno.com>

Received: from rly-za05.mx.aol.com (rly-za05.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.101]) by air-za04.mail.aol.com (vx) with ESMTP; Fri, 01 Oct 1999 00:21:22 2000

Received: from m10.boston.juno.com (m10.boston.juno.com [205.231.101.195]) by rly-za05.mx.aol.com (v61.13) with ESMTP; Fri, 01 Oct 1999 00:21:05 -0400

Received: (from stevesteele@juno.com)

by m10.boston.juno.com (queuelmail) id EMTNCFQJ; Fri, 01 Oct 1999 00:19:52 EDT

To: askohen@aol.com

Date: Fri, 1 Oct 1999 00:07:59 -0400

Subject: Fw: Situation in Suai desperate, 100 feared killed today!

Message-ID: <19991001.001921.430151.1.stevesteele@juno.com>

X-Mailer: Juno 3.0.11

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

X-Juno-Line-Breaks: 0,2-4,12-13,20-21,32-54,56,58-68,70-71,73-75,77,79,81-82

X-Juno-Att: 0

X-Juno-RefParts: 0

Combat Troops Land in East Timor

c The Associated Press

DILI, Indonesia (Sept. 19) - International peacekeepers in combat gear landed in East Timor at dawn Monday, clearing the way for a U.N. approved force charged with restoring order and helping usher the Indonesian province toward independence.

A Hercules C-130 transport plane set down at Dili airport, the first in a wave that was due to bring 2,500 soldiers to the tropical half-island by the end of the day.

The Australian air force planes took off from their bases before dawn Monday, carrying the first troops to Dili, East Timor's capital, Australian Defense Minister John Moore said. He said 16 flights would ferry troops to East Timor before the end of the day.

By Monday afternoon, 2,500 soldiers, helicopters and armored personnel carriers would be on the ground in Dili, said Maj. Gen. Kiki Syahnakri, commander of the Indonesian forces in East Timor.

Nine warships from Australia, Britain and New Zealand, were sailing toward East Timor with troops from more than a half-dozen nations. A small contingent of U.S. Marines is providing logistical support in Australia.

The announcement two weeks ago that 78.5 percent of East Timor's voters approved a break with Indonesia led to a murderous rampage by pro-Indonesia militias that drove more than 300,000 people from their homes, and cost at least several hundred lives.

The foreign intervention is a major humiliation for Indonesia, whose army had fought for nearly 25 years to put down separatist rebels. President B.J. Habibie's decision to invite the peacekeepers a week ago has led to a nationalist backlash in Indonesia, and has sent angry protesters into the streets.

Humanitarian aid to hundreds of thousands of refugees, some of them facing starvation, was to be the first priority of the U.N. approved peace mission.

Australian Maj. Gen. Peter Cosgrove, the commander of the multinational peacekeeping force, toured the provincial capital on Sunday, passing charred houses and buildings reduced to smoking ashes.

Cosgrove said the force would have 3,200 troops in East Timor within a week. The mission will probably last several months before making way for a follow-up U.N. peacekeeping force, he said.

Cosgrove was greeted on the tarmac at Dili airport on Sunday by Syahnakri, whom he met for 90 minutes to coordinate the deployment.

"This is not a time for idle threats or words," he said after meeting Syahnakri. "This is a time for the force to arrive, and to get about its tasks of helping to create a secure environment. We will be here to ensure that all East Timorese are able to go about their business free of threat."

Indonesian soldiers were posted every 200 yards along Cosgrove's route as he went on a 20-minute tour of Dili. Visible effort had been made to clear away rubble and other evidence of the rioting, looting and killing.

While Cosgrove toured the city, the few militiamen who have not left brandished machetes as families hurried aboard crowded Indonesian navy vessels and rusty cargo ships.

Thousands of homeless people huddled under tarpaulins along a narrow strip of beach. Some looked out to sea for the foreign warships on their way from northern Australia.

"We are staying here ... because we heard that the U.N. troops will come," said Frederico de Jesus, 18, who was on the beach. "They will bring peace. We will be safer then."

Hundreds of supporters of Indonesian rule, many of them the wives and children of soldiers, waited in line Sunday to catch

Subj: **Bishop Belo interview**
Date: 9/29/99 3:08:24 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: cgaul@catholicreview.org (cgaul)
To: askohen@aol.com

Good talking to you, Arnold. I'm grateful that you think you'll be able to get responses from Bishop Belo to me by end of Friday. However, if it's not possible, perhaps you could e-mail them to me over the weekend (fleurdegaul@prodigy.net). End of day Monday is our absolute last shot, and that would be pushing it a bit.

Here are some questions. I've probably neglected some more important ones, but I know you'll fill in for me.

1. What are Bishop Belo's immediate plans (travel, etc. and for what) and when does he hope to return to East Timor?
2. Does he have some idea, in terms of priorities, of what he needs to do first when he does return?
3. From what he knows at this point, how damaged or devastated is the church in East Timor, especially in light of the murder of clergy, nuns, deacons, other church workers, not to mention building damage, etc. Is the infra-structure still in place?
4. To what extent does he see the violence, the killing, the terror and destruction, as out and out religious persecution on the part of Muslims (Indonesian)? If there is a significant element of such persecution, why does it seem to be virtually ignored by world media (at least what I read, see and hear)?
5. How does Bishop Belo view the world's response to the East Timor crisis, especially in terms of the specific U.N. response. Is it too little too late?
6. Assuming some real measure of stability can be established in East Timor within a reasonable period of time, what are the realistic, practical chances of East Timor becoming a truly viable independent nation?
7. How did he feel about being evacuated from East Timor at the height of the crisis? Was it absolutely necessary? How did his people feel about it?
8. What would Bishop Belo like to say that I haven't prompted by any of these questions?

Arnold, would you be kind enough to give me a rough itinerary of your travels with Bishop Belo? Are you bringing him back to the United States?

If so, when? What would he be doing here, who would he see, etc.? Is there a chance you could bring him to Baltimore. It's the Premier See and we have a high profile cardinal archbishop here, not to mention an interested and reasonably intelligent media.

Obviously we would do a major piece for The Catholic Review, but I would also like to arrange for a half-hour television interview with Bishop Belo. That's my other hat, by the way.

As I said when we talked on the phone, I hope you will add your own observations to those of Bishop Belo's. And, remind me about your tentative plans for a sequel to your book.

Please do me the kindness of telling Bishop Belo that I pray for him and his countrymen every day and that I look forward to the great pleasure and privilege of meeting him soon.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Keep the wind at your back and God speed,

Chris

P.S. My home phone is 410-686-7273. Work - 410-547-5335. Home e-mail fleurdegaul@prodigy.net work - cgaul@catholicreview.com

KEUSKUPAN DILI

SEKRETARIAT KEUSKUPAN - CAMARA ECLESIASTICA

Jl. Gov. Alves Aldeia 25, P.O Box 1038, Dili, Timor Timur Tel. 21665

MEMONo. :
Tgl. :
Hal :

Dili, August 12 th., 1999

Kepada Yth :

Hells Mr. Bisipu di Takema

How are you, Bisipu? Are you sick? Since I never here again your voice...
I'am O.K. Today the Cardinal of Wellington and Bishop Delan will go back
to New Zealand, after have been here for five days. Now I am waiting for
others visitors.

With this I, would like ask your kindness you we can get more books about
the "Dead". Because there are so many requests. At least 10(ten) exemplars to be
distributed.

I received already the letter of 100 Congress Men. Thank you for your in-
tervention.

Only a last request: If you can send a copy of your book to Cardinal Thomas
of Wellington. This is his adress:

His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Williams

Catholic Center, P.O.Box 1937

Wellington 6015, New Zealand

Obrigade and Cize!!!

Handwritten signature:
Antonio Francisco
Ap. Theol. Administrator of
Dili

Subject: IN: David Munro obit

Date: Sun, 15 Aug 1999 07:02:21 -0700 (PDT)

From: Foreign Bases Project <fbp@igc.apc.org>

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

From: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>
Reply-To: "John M. Miller" <fbp@igc.apc.org>

The Independent (London)

August 12, 1999, Thursday

OBITUARY: DAVID MUNRO

David Boardman

THE DOCUMENTARY film-maker David Munro will be best remembered for the epic documentaries he made in collaboration with the journalist John Pilger for ITV, and especially for the courage and ability that they both displayed 20 years ago when making Year Zero: the silent death of Cambodia, the 1979 film which revealed the horrors of Pol Pot's genocidal rule and for which the Khmer Rouge sentenced Munro and Pilger to death.

Death of a Nation - a chronicle of Indonesia's murderous occupation of East Timor - was made under similar duress in 1993. They first worked together on Do You Remember Vietnam? in 1978, and then on Heroes (1981), investigating America's treatment of its Vietnam veterans. Munro also made Going Back (1982) with Vietnam veterans on their first return to the war-torn country; The Four Horsemen (1986), a chronicle of the wars of the early 1980s; and Death of Venice (1996), in which he movingly filmed the dying city he loved.

He was more than just a producer and director. His voice was often heard as the narrator in other film-makers' work. He was an accomplished photographer as well as a cinematographer, at ease with film and video cameras, and he proved this brilliance when undercover with Pilger in East Timor and Burma. He was about to begin directing his own feature film in Venezuela when illness struck him earlier this year.

Munro came to film and television by way of a bizarre sequence of events - the first of which was getting the sack. His first move on leaving school was to become an apprentice jockey. He found work in stables that adjoined a girls' boarding school and despite his ability with the horses, his employment there was terminated when the school complained that he was having various relationships with both the students and members of staff.

When he suddenly became taller in his late teens, he had to abandon all thoughts of a career in the saddle and turned to his father Hugh's craft - acting. Z Cars was amongst the programmes in which he appeared, but his most remembered role was in the Rediffusion television series Orlando, which ran from 1965 until 1968, and in which he co-starred with Sam Kydd. Later Munro turned to film directing and his enormous potential was realised.

He fought his affliction as tirelessly as he confronted tyrants, arms dealers, governments and abusers of human rights. He championed the struggles of the common man and woman with incredible energy and grace. Even in ill-health he was still to be seen with students from the National Film and Television school.

David Boardman

David Ivor Munro, film-maker: born London 1 July 1944; three times married (one son, one daughter and one stepdaughter); died London 5 August 1999.

GRAPHIC: Munro: confronted tyrants

END

etanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetan
John M. Miller Internet: etan-outreach@igc.apc.org
Media & Outreach Coordinator, East Timor Action Network
PO Box 150753, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0753 USA
Phone: (718)596-7668 Fax: (718)222-4097
Web site: <http://www.etan.org>

Send a blank e-mail message to timor-info@igc.apc.org to find out how to learn more about East Timor on the Internet
etanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetanetan

Subj: RE: Was I in the wrong room at the Randolph?
Date: 2/25/99 9:22:53 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: tfeeney@oxfam.org.uk (Tricia Feeney)
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com (ASKOHEN@aol.com)

Dear Amie,

I am so sorry - I tried to track you down - in fact the teenage terrorist had struck and David and I were summoned to the school for a dressing down/emergency reform programme meeting - so I phoned the Randolph gave your description (Robert Redford look alike) and drew a blank.

Please forgive, make sure you come back, afternoon tea on me.

Lots of love,

Tricia

PS when is the book out. I want to order my copy.

From: ASKOHEN@aol.com
To: Tricia_Feeney@oxfam.org.uk
Subject: Was I in the wrong room at the Randolph?
Date: 25 February 1999 13:33

Dear Tricia,

I was engrossed in Peter Carey's suggestions on my book proofs so I may have been sitting in the wrong place at the Randolph when we were scheduled to meet the other week.

Hope you're well.

Warm regards,

Arnold

PS How is your return to Oxfam treating you?

Headers

Return-Path: <tfeeney@oxfam.org.uk>
Received: from rly-zd02.mx.aol.com (rly-zd02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.226]) by air-zd04.mail.aol.com (v56.26) with SMTP; Thu, 25 Feb 1999 09:22:52 -0500
Received: from mail.oxfam.org.uk (mail.oxfam.org.uk [194.238.40.4]) by rly-zd02.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0) with ESMTP id JAA26572 for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>; Thu, 25 Feb 1999 09:22:46 -0500 (EST)
Received: from oxfam01.oxfam.org.uk (istsvr.oxfam.org.uk [194.238.40.3])

Subj: Re: (no subject)
Date: 7/22/99 11:52:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: aea@igc.org (Abigail Abrash)
Reply-to: aea@igc.org
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com

Arnold,

Thank you for this message. I have taken the liberty of sharing the relevant section of it with Lynn Delaney, the Memorial's Executive Director, who is in close contact with Mrs. Kennedy and other family members. I know she – and they – will be as touched by the Bishop's thoughts and his kind offer as I have been.

Best,

Abigail

ASKOHEN@aol.com wrote:

>
> Abigail, Thanks for your note. Bishop Belo left Los Angeles yesterday for
> Jakarta and Dili. Unfortunately, circumstances in East Timor forced the
> bishop to
> cancel his visit to Washington and New York. Had he not done so (his
> original itinerary would have had him in New York on the 24th) I am
> certain he would have wanted to attend the memorial service. Bishop Belo
> arrived in Los Angeles on July 16, and the following morning the first thing
> he spoke of at breakfast was the disappearance of the plane. The bishop
> noted that it had
> happened almost at the exact time that he went through customs on his
> arrival. Later, driving through Los Angeles, I reminded the bishop that Robert
> F. Kennedy had been assassinated in that city.
> Bishop Belo had a special and touching response to
> these
> tragic events, old and new. He said that on a future trip to America, he hoped
> that he could gather all the members of the Kennedy family in one place and
> bless them, in the hope that this would guard them against further tragedy.
>
> More later, Arnold

Headers

Return-Path: <aea@igc.org>

Received: from aol.com (rly-zc03.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.3]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v60.18) with ESMTP; Thu, 22 Jul 1999 23:52:15 -0400

Received: from igcb.igc.org (igcb.igc.org [192.82.108.46]) by rly-zc03.mx.aol.com (v60.18) with ESMTP; Thu, 22 Jul 1999 23:51:54 -0400

Received: from igce.igc.org (igce.igc.org [192.82.108.49])
by igcb.igc.org (8.9.2/8.9.2) with ESMTP id UAA12293

for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>; Thu, 22 Jul 1999 20:51:49 -0700 (PDT)

Received: from igc.org (PPPa72-Nashua9-2R287.satum.bbn.com [4.9.211.134])
by igce.igc.org (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id UAA24187

for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>; Thu, 22 Jul 1999 20:51:21 -0700 (PDT)

Message-ID: <379712C8.78CF5B86@igc.org>

Date: Thu, 22 Jul 1999 08:47:04 -0400

From: Francis McDonagh <fmcdonag@cafod.org.uk>
To: humanitarian@igc.org <humanitarian@igc.org>
Date: Friday, July 23, 1999 8:07 AM
Subject: Re: I went to L.A. but didn't tell you

I think they're too raw for the Tablet. They prefer things cooked, as L-Strauss would have it. Yes, now I come to think about it, Catherine is on hols, I think back next week.

I am slightly frayed by the slowness of my solicitor/attorney, who won't exchange contracts on the apartment I'm trying to buy and into which I want to move next Friday. And I want to stop CAFOD hiring some jesuitical crony to be a stooge for Clare on Central America and Mexico. And it's sunny and I'm in the office and not on the Staff Day Out mind you as you know our staff there are pros and cons to that. And I don't think I'll get to the US in August.

Apart from that, I'm in reasonable shape, and I will get out into the sun shortly.

Was Julian friendly? Mail the details in Portuguese or yiddish to my home email.

Bye

Francis McDonagh
CAFOD Programme Officer
Latin America and Caribbean
Tel: +44171-733 7900
Fax: +44171-274 9630
email:
(1) fmcdonag@cafod.org.uk
(2) francis@mcdinho.freeserve.co.uk
Web: <http://www.cafod.org.uk>

7/23/99

From: Thomasin Brooker <tbrooker@cafod.org.uk>
To: askohen@igc.apc.org <askohen@igc.apc.org>
Date: Friday, April 16, 1999 5:29 AM
Subject: Steve Alston

Hi Arnie,

Steve is now in Dili. He would really like to speak to you about what possible action can be taken in Washington with UN agencies. Please can you give him a call on 046 881 6649.

Thanks
 Thomasin

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4/16/99



III. Motion: EAST TIMOR

Motion presented by Caritas East Timor, Caritas Norway, CAFOD (Caritas England & Wales) and all the Caritas Member Organisations in the Asia Region.

Authoritative Church sources say that horrific atrocities in the interior of East Timor make it impossible for a fair vote to be held on August 8 as scheduled.

We, the representatives of the 154 member organisations of Caritas Internationalis, gathered here in the Vatican City for our 16th General Assembly, call for a greatly increased international pressure on Indonesia to put an end to militia atrocities and continue disarmament. We also ask for an expansion of the United Nations presence in East Timor as well as the presence of other international organisations in the countryside to serve as a strong peace keeping force where relief operations and protection efforts should be conducted without further delay.

- **Unanimously adopted during the 8th Statutory Session (18 June 1999), 16th General Assembly of Caritas Internationalis, Vatican City.**

B"timor sms 9/30 text"— Page #1 Monday, September 27, 1999 4:16 P

9/30/99

'Constituents'

Cardinal O'Connor announces aid for East Timor's refugees

By STEPHEN STEELE

T

The Manhattan-based Catholic Medical Mission Board has made an initial cash donation of \$50,000 to assist the thousands of East Timorese refugees displaced by violence, Cardinal O'Connor announced.

The cardinal, a member of the CMMB board of directors, noted that there are more than 200,000 displaced persons in East Timor and thousands more in Indonesia-controlled West Timor and other provinces in the wake of the Aug. 30 U.N.-sponsored referendum on East Timor's independence from Indonesia.

"Those people who fled the violence after the election need food, shelter and medical supplies," the cardinal said in a statement. "They are traditional constituents of the Church," he said, referring to the overwhelming Catholic majority in East Timor.

The cash donation was sent to Caritas Australia, which is coordinating emergency relief for displaced Timorese.

Terry Kirch, CMMB executive director, said more help will be given to East Timor in the future. "Once we find out what is needed, we are also prepared to send medicines and other medical supplies," he said.

Last week, Cardinal O'Connor called on New Yorkers to pray for an end to the violence in East Timor. His phone call to a Salesian nun in Dili, East Timor, offering his prayers and support, brought the current tragedy of the Southeast Asia island to the attention of the Church in New York (CNY, Sept. 23).

A new biography of East Timorese Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo explains that Cardinal O'Connor was one of the earliest supporters of East Timor, defending the human rights of the people there before most had ever heard of the country.

In his book, "From the Place of the Dead: The Epic Struggles of Bishop Belo of East Timor," Arnold Kohen writes that the cardinal quietly lobbied the Reagan administration on behalf of East Timor as early as 1984. Cardinal O'Connor also sent a letter of support to Bishop Belo shortly after assuming his post in New York that year.

"He had great warmth, great concern and great solidarity right from the beginning. He was really one of the first in the country to promote human rights in East Timor," Kohen told CNY.

In 1984, Cardinal O'Connor met with Msgr. Martinho da Costa Lopes, Bishop Belo's predecessor as apostolic administrator of Dili. It was the cardinal who helped arrange for Msgr. Lopes to meet with members of the Reagan administration and news media during his visits to the United States.

It was also the cardinal's involvement that led President Ronald Reagan to raise concerns over humanitarian issues during a visit to Indonesia in 1984, Kohen said.

"Certainly, when Reagan visited Indonesia, his representation on humanitarian issues would not have happened had Cardinal O'Connor not said anything. His

involvement allowed humanitarian aid into East Timor and the release of sick political prisoners. In those days, there were very few people saying anything about East Timor," Kohen said.]

The book also details two breakfast meetings the cardinal had with Bishop Belo, the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize winner, at the cardinal's Madison Avenue residence.]

Bishop Belo visited the United States in 1993, seeking support from the Church for the construction of a new seminary.]

"While this was of little interest to those who viewed East Timor only in terms of politics or human rights, it won him points among his American colleagues, including John Cardinal O'Connor of New York," Kohen wrote.]



Ioannis Tavridis <itoslo@gmail.com>

KY: Ex-E. Timor bishop implicates Indonesian soldiers in church burnings

1 μήνυμα

ETAN <fbp@igc.org>

Προς: east-timor@lists.riseup.net

26 Μάρτιος 2007 9:55 μμ

Monday March 26, 10:39 PM

Ex-E. Timor bishop implicates Indonesian soldiers in church burnings

(Kyodo) _ Pro-Jakarta East Timorese militias, supported by Indonesian troops, were involved in attacks against churches across East Timor before and after the U.N.-sanctioned referendum for self-determination in 1999, the former bishop of the tiny country testified Monday.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo made the testimony during a public hearing held by the Commission of Truth and Friendship set up by East Timor and Indonesia to reveal what was behind the 1999 violence in East Timor.

Belo told the commission that since April 6 that year, he had received information and heard reports that militiamen and Indonesian troops had been attacking churches and torturing and killing independence supporters.

On Sept. 5, 1999, they attacked the civilians seeking refuge at the Dili Diocese.

"After opening fire relentlessly, militiamen and some soldiers entered the main building, searching for pastors and people who were seeking refuge there," Belo said.

"The pastors were dragged out. The diocese complex was set into fire, so we lost all of its content, including furniture, library, archives, all books and historical documents," he added.

On the next day, according to Belo, the militiamen attacked his residence.

"We heard shots from every corner and screams from outside, saying, 'Out, out, out!' I saw window glass fall and shatter on the floor. I heard shots to the windows in the living room, which broke into pieces. I heard a Molotov cocktail hit the wall and door. I saw the north gate on fire," Belo recalled.

Belo heard that people were killed in the fire, but he did not know how many. He also heard about subsequent attacks against other Catholic churches and the murdering of pastors and nuns.

At that time, Catholic churches were seen by pro-Jakarta militiamen, who were also Catholics, as supporting pro-independence activists. Belo stressed in the hearing, however, that the Catholic church in

East Timor was "always neutral."

Despite testifying that the Indonesian military was involved in the attacks, when asked by an East Timorese commissioner whether the militias were supported by the military, he replied, "I don't know about that. I don't know for whom they work."

Indonesia and East Timor formed the 10-member commission in 2005 amid calls to bring the perpetrators of the violence to an international tribunal. The commission's mission is to hear testimonies on the violence before and after the 1999 referendum that led to the establishment of an independent East Timor in 2002.

About 1,000 people were reportedly killed and most of the country's infrastructure was destroyed in the violence, which erupted following the announcement in September 1999 of the results of the referendum.

Belo, who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1996 for his nonviolent resistance to Indonesia's 24-year occupation of his homeland, is currently serving as a missionary in Mozambique.

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Read what Noam Chomsky says about ETAN: <http://www.etan.org/etan/2006appl.htm>

John M. Miller etan@igc.org
East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN)

Your contribution makes ETAN's work possible. Donate at
<http://etan.org/etan/donate.htm>

Send a blank e-mail message to info@etan.org to find out how to learn more about East Timor on the Internet

[This message was distributed via the east-timor news list. For info on how to subscribe send a blank e-mail to info@etan.org. To support ETAN see <http://etan.org/etan/donate.htm>]



The Society for **THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH**
...all of us committed to the worldwide mission of Jesus

Most Reverend William J. McCormack, D.D.
National Director
366 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10001
(212) 563-8700 • (800) 431-2222 • (212) 563-8725 FAX

The Society of **ST. PETER APOSTLE**
for the support of mission vocations

September 8, 1999

Mr. Arnold S. Kohen
P. O. Box 32307
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Arnold,

I was delighted to receive your letter and the copy of your book,
From the Place of the Dead. I thank you and Bishop Belo for this gift.

You have been a blessing and a source of strength for Bishop Belo through the years. Indeed, I do remember him well, and assure you that he and the people of East Timor are very much in my prayers in this time of great trial.

Your book will serve to focus more attention on this troubled part of the world. It is good to see the fine review given it by Catholic News Service. Certainly, your article in **THE TABLET** brought the situation in East Timor to the greater attention of thousands.

With gratitude to you, and with all personal and prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Most Reverend William J. McCormack, D.D.
National Director

WJM:mrm

*I heard this AM that our friend
is now a refugee himself.
This is truly the "age of martyrs"*

Please remember The Society for the Propagation of the Faith when writing or changing your Will.

East Timorese bishop urges postponement of independence vote

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop Carlos Filipe

Ximenes Belo of Dili, East Timor, said the Aug. 8 vote on the territory's independence from Indonesia should be postponed unless peace is quickly restored to the island.

The bishop said the current Indonesian military strategy is to eliminate anyone who might vote for independence.

"They burn the houses, they kill the young people. As a result, the numbers of people supporting independence are diminishing. There is no working justice system, while houses are being burned and people are being killed in Dili; there is not even an attempt to bring anyone to justice, to imprison those responsible or anything else," he said.

"Everyone is very afraid. The resistance is not appearing in Dili anymore, because it is too dangerous, there is no security. Under these circumstances, you cannot have a referendum in peace and freedom," he said.

The bishop made his remarks in a statement released May 31 through his biographer, Arnold Kohen, who is a consultant for the International Justice and Peace Office of the U.S. Catholic Conference in Washington.

Bishop Belo said it was unlikely that a free and fair vote could be held under current conditions.

He said Indonesian President B.J. Habibie and the armed forces commander must be told to disarm the pro-integration militias before the referendum can go forward.

"Otherwise it is better not to have a referendum," he said.

"The Indonesians know that they will lose the referendum if people are free to vote. This is why they have developed a strategy to make a free vote impossible," he said.

Bishop Belo also accused Indonesia of infiltrating militia groups with more than 1,000 soldiers and secret service agents in an attempt to disrupt the upcoming election. He called for the immediate deployment of an international military force.

"They are infiltrating everywhere," he said of the Indonesian agents.

"When you hear about militia attacks, they (Indonesians) are always part of the militia groups. They push the militias, they give the orders and they themselves shoot," Bishop Belo said.

"It is necessary that there be an international military force here. A police force by itself is insufficient. This military force must be present in all villages and administrative posts," the bishop emphasized.

On May 16 Bishop Belo promised to remain neutral on the vote, but he has also cautioned that violence will continue until more U.N. security units are brought in.

Five western districts are already under the control of the military, including Liquisa, Ainaro, Ermera, Oecussi, the bishop said.

In the city of Aileu "the entire population is being

Thursday, June 3, 1995

threatened with death unless they vote autonomy" within Indonesia, as opposed to independence, he said. "People are being told that either they vote for autonomy or they will be killed."

He also accused Indonesia of withholding salaries of civil servants until they have signed documents stating their support of integration with Indonesia.

Indonesia invaded East Timor, a predominantly Catholic former Portuguese colony, in 1975 and unilaterally annexed it the following year.

Neither the Vatican nor the United Nations has recognized the annexation, and most countries still view Portugal as territorial administrator.

After 23 years of a military campaign against the East Timorese guerrilla separatist movement, Indonesia agreed in May to hold a U.N.-monitored ballot that will determine independence or continued integration.

...

Subject: AFP: Indon Nobel laureate urges int'l pressure to end violence

Date: 24 Aug 1999 01:05:58

From: Joyo@aol.com

Newsgroups: reg.easttimor

Subject: AFP: Indon Nobel laureate urges int'l pressure to end violence

Indonesian Nobel laureate urges international pressure to end violence

WASHINGTON, Aug 24 (AFP) - Roman Catholic bishop and 1996 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Carlos Ximenes Belo on Tuesday urged the international community to increase the pressure on Indonesia to ensure a peaceful self-determination referendum next week in East Timor.

"I pray that the United States and other nations will do whatever possible to persuade Indonesian forces to allow this choice to be made freely, and, if independence is the result, to accept it without retaliating with violence," the bishop of Dili wrote in an article in The New York Times on Tuesday.

Ximenes gave a brief history of "nearly a quarter century of tragedy" in East Timor, including the death of hundreds of people in the past six months "at the hands of armed groups created by Indonesian army elements" opposed to independence.

Despite all his efforts to reconcile opposing forces in East Timor, "I have concluded that only international pressure on Indonesia's army can end the violence," he said.

Ximenes urged Washington to make it clear to the military "that Indonesia will not receive any military assistance or the loans the country so badly needs unless the army ends its campaign of violence" in East Timor.

"And Indonesian authorities must permit the entry of international peacekeepers," the bishop added.

"Diplomatic intervention may be the only hope there is to avert a new blood bath in my native land," he said.

The Editor
The New York Times Book Review
229 West 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036

December 21, 1999

To the Editor:

What your reviewer calls my "main contention" ("From the Place of the Dead: The Epic Struggles of Bishop Belo of East Timor", Dec. 19), "that the policies of Western governments, including the Vatican, have allowed cold war politics and economic prospects to triumph over human rights in East Timor," mischaracterizes my analysis of the role of the Vatican. Neither economic prospects nor cold war politics were cited in my discussion of the Vatican's policy on East Timor. Instead, I highlighted complex church politics, including Rome's concern over the minority status of the Catholic Church in Indonesia, and relations with the Islamic world, as factors in the Vatican's historical approach to the East Timor tragedy.

In addition, I stressed that the Vatican needed "strong support from governments, which was not always forthcoming," and that "courageous individuals like Bishop Belo can only do so much without proper international support." [both references page 291] Indeed, the backing of powerful nations is an indispensable factor, as was amply demonstrated when Washington, belatedly but encouragingly, helped spearhead an international diplomatic effort to secure Indonesia's military withdrawal from East Timor amidst the terrible violence that captured world attention in recent months. The Vatican also played a significant role in generating international pressure on Jakarta during this critical period.

Sincerely,

Arnold S. Kohen
7324 Baltimore Ave.
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912
301 585 3229

Subj: Re: The concept of a civil war in East Timor
Date: 2/6/99 2:12:07 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: ak4a-mtn@asahi-net.or.jp (Akihisa Matsuno)
To: ASKOHEN@AOL.COM

Dear Arnold,

Thanks for your comments.

Osaka University

In no way I intend to spread optimism at this crucial moment. But we need to have a clear picture about the civil war debate.

Pro-independence speakers say that a referendum will not lead to a civil war. This is correct in the sense that it is not the referendum itself that becomes the cause of fightings among the East Timorese. In this respect, we may be right in saying that the civil war scenario is Jakarta's propaganda.

Bishop Belo and others refer to a danger of clashes among the East Timorese under the current situation. This is real, and the situation inevitably depends on the Indonesia's will. In this respect, we have to say that an armed battle can happen at any time unless effective measures are taken, and that Indonesia should be pressed to stop arming civilians in East Timor.

So, we have to warn the world of the latter danger without spreading misunderstanding that it is a civil war situation that Indonesia is worried about.

Reading news today, I feel that the arming of militias is not a policy of the central government, although, as I wrote before, allowing it to happen is an annoying policy after all. It should be stopped. But apparently a number of military elements inside East Timor are collaborating with pro-Indonesia East Timorese, and what is behind this?

It might well be that it is not only the local military's policy to arm these friends but also these Timorese are demanding to be armed. In that case, blaming the Indonesian army alone is a behavior which is not quite emotionally acceptable to the Indonesian leadership.

Meanwhile, we have to deal with these pro-Indonesia East Timorese somehow, perhaps by giving them some sense of security. By so doing, we will be able to remove a part of the root causes of the conflict in East Timor. I wonder if there is a way to accommodate and calm them rather than to corner them into a more fanatic course.

I personally believe that the potential threat that these pro-Indonesia East Timorese feel is not as real as they think. But saying that perhaps is not enough for them. There must be comprehensive concrete measures to calm down the situation as a whole which include a measure for those who feel endangered by the sudden independence prospect.

The UN peacekeeping is the best, and Portugal should strongly demand this. But it might take time. For the time being, it very much depends on Indonesia. And my personal feeling is that the present Indonesian leadership can be approached for cooperation to seek stability in East Timor. This approach creates a difficult question of whether we can trust the Habibie-Wiranto initiative. Of course we don't trust that they really understand now the meaning of the East Timorese struggle. What we

understand from the recent move is that they now more pragmatically think.
Isn't it a factor that enables us to do something with them?

Aki

Headers

Return-Path: <ak4a-mtn@asahi-net.or.jp>
Received: from rly-zc03.mx.aol.com (rly-zc03.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.3]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v56.24) with SMTP; Sat, 06 Feb 1999 02:12:07 1900
Received: from seven.asahi-net.or.jp (seven.asahi-net.or.jp [202.224.32.7])
by rly-zc03.mx.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.5/AOL-4.0.0)
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by seven.asahi-net.or.jp (8.8.8/3.7W) with ESMTP id OAA16049
for <ASKOHEN@aol.com>; Sat, 6 Feb 1999 14:20:40 +0900 (JST)
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In-Reply-To: <ae5b7571.36bb8532@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: ASKOHEN@AOL.COM
From: Akihisa Matsuno <ak4a-mtn@asahi-net.or.jp>
Subject: Re: The concept of a civil war in East Timor

The Editor
The New York Times Book Review
229 West 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036

December 21, 1999

To the Editor:

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In addition, I stressed that the Vatican needed "strong support from governments, which was not always forthcoming," and that "courageous individuals like Bishop Belo can only do so much without proper international support." [both references page 291] Indeed, the backing of powerful nations is an indispensable factor, as was amply demonstrated when Washington, belatedly but encouragingly, helped spearhead an international diplomatic effort to secure Indonesia's military withdrawal from East Timor amidst the terrible violence that captured world attention in recent months -- when, it should be added, the Vatican also played a crucial role in generating international pressure on Jakarta.

Sincerely,

Arnold S. Kohen
7324 Baltimore Ave.
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912
301 585 3229

Subj: **Belo at APEC meeting?**
Date: 9/8/99 4:30:33 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov (Buhl, Cindy)
To: askohen@aol.com

Dear Arnold – I just wanted you to know that Jim spoke with Under-Secretary of State Thomas Pickering today about East Timor (he's the highest ranking person at State at the moment covering the East Timor issue while Secretary of State Albright is in Asia). One of the things Jim requested is for President Clinton and Secretary Albright to meet with Bishop Belo and Jose Ramos Horta while they are in Australia for the APEC meeting. (Jose is leaving tonight for Australia.) – cindy –

Headers

Return-Path: <Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov>
Received: from rly-yg04.mx.aol.com (rly-yg04.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.4]) by air-yg03.mail.aol.com (v60.28) with ESMTP; Wed, 08 Sep 1999 16:30:32 -0400
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by Draco.house.gov (8.9.1b+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id QAA04695
for <askohen@aol.com>; Wed, 8 Sep 1999 16:28:54 -0400 (EDT)
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id <RXAYX7Q0>; Wed, 8 Sep 1999 16:30:17 -0400
Message-ID: <435A5CEEACA6D211BEEA0008C75DA885032A9A09@hrm12.house.gov>
From: "Buhl, Cindy" <Cindy.Buhl@mail.house.gov>
To: askohen@aol.com
Subject: Belo at APEC meeting?
Date: Wed, 8 Sep 1999 16:30:06 -0400
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2539.1)

Subj: **Action Alert**
Date: 9/8/99 3:01:21 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: TQuigley@nccbuscc.org (Thomas Quigley)
To: askohen@aol.com

East Timor Action Alert

Very Urgent

The Current Situation: As everyone knows, the crisis in East Timor increases dramatically each day. Nearly a quarter of the population have been driven from their homes, many have been forcibly removed to Indonesian West Timor, others have fled to the hills. The number of completely innocent and unarmed people who have been killed by the militias is rising daily while the internally displaced lack food and water and live in constant fear for their lives.

The violent backlash against the popular vote in favor of independence had been warned about, but no one could have predicted the savage attacks against the region's two bishops and others of the Church. Both Bishop Belo and Bishop Do Nascimento have been physically assaulted, their houses burned down, and Bishop Belo forced into exile.

Indonesian promises to rein in the terror have proven worthless and U.S. pressure on Jakarta has clearly failed to achieve results. Nothing short of an international peacekeeping force can end this massacre that approaches the near-genocide suffered by these same people almost a quarter century ago. This is not to request U.S. troops, as military forces in East Asia are more than capable and ready to move. What is urgently needed is for Washington to bring maximum pressure on the Indonesian regime to allow a force of international peacekeepers to enter the territory and stop the killing.

Action Urgently Requested: Call the White House (202-456-1414) and your Representatives and Senators today, insisting that the Administration dramatically increase its pressure on Jakarta, allowing for a regional peacekeeping force to enter East Timor immediately, to secure the peace and provide the necessary humanitarian food and medical assistance.

9/8/99

Headers

Return-Path: <TQuigley@nccbuscc.org>

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Subj: **Bishop Belo's column**

Date: 9/24/99 11:39:25 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: fconwa@newsweek.com (Conway, Fe)

To: ASKOHEN@aol.com (ASKOHEN@aol.com)

Following is a copy of Bishop Belo's column. Pls. let us know if we've accurately characterized him in the little snippet in the bottom. Thanks very much. You may reach me in New York by replying to this e-mail or by calling at (212) 445-4166.

With warm regards,
Fe Conway

By Bishop Carlos Belo

<[hnj Loose]>Much of my beloved homeland <[lb]>of East Timor has been destroyed, my people displaced. Much of their land has been forcibly depopulated by Indonesian forces, with hundreds of thousands suffering from hunger and disease. Many have been killed or wounded; babies and the old have died of malnutrition that could have been avoided had relief convoys been allowed to reach them. The world has a solemn obligation to rescue my people before it is too late.

Why should there be a special debt to East Timor, a former Portuguese colony with a small population (less than a million), a small territory (about the size of The Netherlands), and a remote locale near Australia? There are several reasons, among them the fact that most if not all of the killing and mayhem of recent weeks, and over the past 24 years since Indonesia first invaded our island, might have been averted had the community of nations firmly impressed upon Jakarta that the fate of East Timor was of real concern.

This is the sad reality that history illustrates. In early 1975, months before the initial invasion took place, President Suharto was afraid that important powers might disapprove of Indonesian moves to take East Timor by force. But once the former president became convinced that Indonesia did not have to worry about the world's reaction, he allowed his generals to move on East Timor. The result was that more than 200,000 persons, or fully one third of our population, perished as a consequence of this merciless and illegal occupation. Most nations turned a blind eye toward this situation because of their material and political interests in Indonesia: East Timor paid the price.

Most recently, my people trusted the United Nations to carry out the referendum this August on whether or not East Timor should remain part of Indonesia. Though nearly 79 percent of registered voters chose to become independent, the U.N. had no means to protect the people who voted their conscience. They became the victims of a calculated scorched earth policy carried out as revenge for the decision to free East Timor from Indonesian rule. Before the people of East Timor could celebrate the election result, Indonesian forces and their local allies launched a ferocious attack that has killed many East Timorese and uprooted 90 percent of our population, including an estimated 200,000 who were herded across the border into Indonesian territory.

Thousands had taken refuge in the property surrounding my residence in Dili, the capital, on September 6, when they were compelled to leave after an armed attack led by Indonesian Special Forces. Thousands who found haven next door at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) compound also had to flee. Many remain missing, and are feared dead. Both my home and ICRC offices were set afire, as were numerous homes and other building in Dili and elsewhere, not least of all many Church institutions.

Many were brutally murdered, including members of the clergy whose only crime was to defend their parishioners against violent retribution by Indonesian forces.

Many fled to the mountains, where food and medicine remains scarce even now because of Indonesian military obstruction of international relief operations. Those who have been moved to West Timor face appalling conditions and persecution, as do others who have been forcibly moved to other Indonesian islands.

Now that the spotlight of world attention has reached East Timor, it is vital that everything possible be done to save the lives of those who have thus far survived the Indonesian onslaught, and to make certain that we in East Timor can rebuild our shattered land. Having encouraged the people of East Timor to vote their conscience, it is up to the U.N. to assist those who risked all and paid dearly for their decision. The deployment of international peace keepers is a good beginning, but they must advance into the interior to protect people throughout the territory, not only in Dili. The U.N. must insist on obtaining speedy permission to work in West Timor to address the plight of the East Timorese who have been taken there by Indonesian forces, who are reportedly prepared to use West Timor as a base for cross-border attacks and moves to retain control of sections of East Timorese territory. Powerful nations must use their influence on Jakarta to ensure that all such attacks cease against my people in East Timor, West Timor and other Indonesian islands, and to ensure that all East Timorese can return to their homes.

The killing this week in Dili of Sander Thoenes, a journalist for The Financial Times, is another sad illustration that no one is safe from brazen violence on the part of the Indonesian military, who must be told to withdraw from East Timor once and for all. The disappearance of two East Timorese who were assisting other Western journalists is a further reminder. It seems clear that some Indonesian leaders still believe that they will not suffer any concrete consequences as a result of their crimes in East Timor. How many more lives must be needlessly sacrificed before the world takes a firm stand?

Dili's Roman Catholic Bishop Carlos Belo is the co-winner with independence activist José Ramos-Horta of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize. Bishop Belo's house in the East Timorese capital of Dili was burned to the ground during the recent wave of anti-independence violence, and he has taken temporary refuge in Australia.

Headers

Return-Path: <fconwa@newsweek.com>

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id <SQV53KLQ>; Fri, 24 Sep 1999 23:34:02 -0400

Message-ID: <6C4B71E36EBAD2118641006008A881918A05B6@NW_NY_MAIL>

From: "Conway, Fe" <fconwa@newsweek.com>

To: "ASKOHEN@aol.com" <ASKOHEN@aol.com>

Subject: Bishop Belo's column

Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1999 23:34:00 -0400

MIME-Version: 1.0

X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)



Please pass on to
Arnold Kohler

OIFIG AN AIRE GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2
DUBLIN 2

ROTBLATT

202 - 224 - 2725

23 April 1999

Mr Tom Hyland
East Timor Ireland Solidarity Campaign
Room 16
24-26 Dame Street
Dublin 2

Dear Tom,

I would like to thank you for all the advice and assistance you provided which ensured that our recent visit to Indonesia and East Timor was a success.

Although I have always followed developments in relation to East Timor very closely, the visit brought home to me the full horror which confronts the East Timorese people on a daily basis. I will be giving a report of my visit to my European Union colleagues next week. I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate my support - and that of the government - for the right of the Timorese people to achieve self-determination in a free, open and peaceful manner.

Thank you again and kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

David Andrews, T.D.
Minister for Foreign Affairs

September 14, 1999

**Bishop James F. McCarthy
New York**

Dear Bishop McCarthy,

On the occasion of your consecration, I wish to take this opportunity to send you my highest compliments. Allow me to extend my good wishes for your new challenging new ministry.

I would ask you to please extend to his Eminence John Cardinal O'Connor my good wishes. I pray for his speedy recover from his recent surgery. I hope to see his His Eminence on a future visit to New York.

I have good memories of my visits to St. Patrick's Cathedral. I appreciated your kindness during those times and look forward to seeing you again in New York in the future, and perhaps, ultimately, in East Timor as well.

I hope that you will do everything in your power to come to the aid of East Timor at this dark hour.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

*Paulus F. Belo, SDB
Bishop of Dili
East Timor*

Arnold S. Kohen

Writer/Journalist

August 20, 1999

P. O. Box 32307
Washington, D.C. 20007
Phone: 301-585-3229
FAX: 301-585-3288

**Op-ed Page
The New York Times**

Attention: Michelle Shih

At the suggestion of David Unger, I am sending the attention article on behalf of Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo of East Timor, the 1996 Nobel Peace laureate. The piece has an urgent message, dealing with the violence leading up to the scheduled August 30 United Nations-sponsored referendum in East Timor.

Bishop Belo understands that The Times will be in touch with him for approval should The Times decide to publish the article. His phone is 011 62 390 321331, fax 323184. The time in East Timor is 12 hours ahead of us. The best time to reach him is at approximately 7:15 AM his time.

I am the author of "From the Place of the Dead: The Epic Struggles of Bishop Belo of East Timor," a biography-history just published by St. Martin's Press. I helped Bishop Belo on an earlier piece published in The Times on December 10, 1996, the day he received the Peace Prize.

I will be in contact by phone.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely, *Arnold Kohen*
Arnold Kohen

PS The article is about 690 words long.

East Timor's Crucial Moment by Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo

Dili, East Timor

After nearly a quarter of a century of tragedy, the people of my country, East Timor, will vote August 30 on whether they wish to remain part of Indonesia or become independent. I pray that their the United States and other nations will do whatever possible to convince Indonesian forces to allow this choice to be made freely, and, if independence is the result, to accept it without seeking revenge in the form of an orgy of violence.

Diplomatic intervention by the international community may be the only hope there is to avert a new blood bath in my native land, an area the size of Connecticut near northern Australia. First there was civil war between Timorese groups that erupted in August 1975 as Portugal was planning to withdraw after centuries of colonial rule. Then there was the military intervention a few months later by Indonesia. Possibly a third or more of East Timor's population of less than 700,000 perished from the conflagration by 1980.

Most recently, over the past six months, many more have been killed, most of them young people whose only crime was their desire to be free from Indonesian rule. They died at the hands of armed groups created by Indonesian army elements who oppose independence for East Timor, despite President the offer in January of President B.J. Habibie to allow the people of East Timor to vote on their future.

It is no secret that most East Timorese oppose continued Indonesian rule. If not, there would be no need to wage a campaign of violence and coercion to prevent free election from taking place. I had fervently hoped that the presence of observers from the United Nations Assistance Mission for East Timor (UNAMET) would bring an end to such violence. But there have been attacks on UNAMET facilities as well by the same armed groups responsible for violence against those favoring independence.

Many thousands of people displaced by such violence have taken refuge in churches throughout East Timor, but even here they are not safe. This was demonstrated when scores were brutally killed by armed militias in April at a church in the town of Liquica, and this, sadly, was only the beginning of a terrible series of assaults on people in our mostly rural territory. Only the other day a food convoy organized by a Timorese sister to feed some of the many needy displaced people was destroyed. Houses of villagers were burned, a catechist traveling at night was killed, young mothers were threatened, the hands of young people in one village cut, all to prevent the people from voting freely. In other places, guns have been openly distributed by the military to local allies distributed to force people to vote the "right" way.

I have tried to appeal for reconciliation with Indonesian forces and their Timorese allies. I have emphasized that the rights of all must be guaranteed. All along I have made clear that the Church is there for everyone, and not to be used by any political faction. I have said all of this time and time again. In the end, I have concluded that the only hope of ending this misery and prevent more from taking place is to appeal openly for international pressure on Indonesia's army to end the violence.

Indonesia's generals, who have long standing ties with Washington, should be made to understand that Indonesia will not receive any military assistance, or the international loans the country so badly needs unless the army ends its campaign of violence, not only in East Timor, but elsewhere as well. The Moslems of Aceh should be permitted to live in peace and tranquillity, as should the peoples of Ambon and Irian Jaya. In short, the rights of all should be respected.

As for the people of East Timor, they should be allowed to make their own decision on August 30, free of pressure of any kind, and Indonesian authorities must permit the entry of international peace keeping forces whose presence can help stabilize the situation. After all the suffering they have endured, the people of East Timor deserve no less.

Carlos Ximenes Belo, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Dili, East Timor, received a Nobel Peace Prize in 1996.

Rights Groups Oppose Business On Response to East Timor

Violence in the tiny Southeast Asian island territory of East Timor has diverted the spotlight from Kosovo and prompted a clash between business and human rights groups in this country over U.S. policy toward Indonesia.

Demands for a tough stance against Indonesia's involvement in East Timor have been countered by warnings that such a move could backfire against American economic interests. The growing involvement of the Roman Catholic Church in the debate could prove to be an important factor.

Human rights groups want Congress and the Clinton administration to threaten Indonesia with economic sanctions unless militias are removed from East Timor and U.N. peacekeepers are permitted to help tens of thousands of refugees return to their homes. "I believe that any non-humanitarian assistance should be held up," said Mike Jendrzeczyk, Washington director of the Asia division of Human Rights Watch. "There has to be a way to hold Indonesia's feet to the fire."

But Willard Workman, vice president of international affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, spent three days last week warning congressional leaders that threats of sanctions could hurt American business interests in Indonesia ranging from banking to gold mining.

"The Indonesian economy is not in good shape, and we don't need to be doing anything to further destabilize the economy of the fourth-largest country in the world," Workman said. "I hope that before they shoot from the hip with automatic sanctions, that they would pause and think this through. There are a lot more arrows in the government's quiver to bring to bear on the Indonesian government."

The violence in East Timor began after residents of the former Portuguese colony voted under U.N. monitoring for independence from Indonesia. Portuguese authorities left in 1975 amid political upheaval between Marxist and democratic factions. Fearful of the growth of the Marxist party "Fretilin," former Indonesian President Suharto annexed the territory in 1976 through a military takeover. Pro-Indonesian militias forced many residents of East Timor into neighboring West Timor following the Sept. 4 release of the pro-independence vote.

The Clinton administration has suspended military aid and arms sales to Indonesia, World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans to Indonesia are on hold, and Indonesia and the U.N. Security Council have agreed on a peacekeeping force that was expected to enter the region over the weekend.

Congress weighs in. A Senate bill (S 1568) introduced Sept. 8 would cut off U.S. military and economic assistance to Indonesia until refugees return to their homes and the Indonesian government respects the referendum. "The only thing they're going to understand, ultimately, is that this is going to cost them," said bill cosponsor Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt.

Jendrzeczyk says support is growing for the Senate bill, but Workman points to a pair of non-binding resolutions (H Res 292, S Res 181) as more popular vehicles for congressional disapproval of Indonesia's actions. Support for sanctions is declining, Workman says.

But representatives of the Asia-Pacific Center for Peace and Justice returned from East Timor on Sept. 12 convinced that the Indonesian government is directly responsible for the burning, looting and killings in the region over the past month. The human rights advocates have in mind something tougher than a statement of congressional opinion.

Created in 1995 and financed mostly by churches and individual donations, the Asia-Pacific Center is working through churches and local human rights groups to urge concerned voters to contact their lawmakers.

The campaign for a tougher U.S. policy has little money for lobbying or advertising, but the seven-year-old East Timor Action Network has spread the message in Washington through demonstrations, roundtable discussions and testimony at congressional hearings.

Citing the unpredictability of events in the region, business groups other than the Chamber of Commerce have been less outspoken than human rights advocates about events in East Timor. But business lobbyists oppose on principle the use of unilateral sanctions as a foreign policy tool.

"We would feel very strongly ... that staying engaged with Indonesia is better than trying to sanction them and isolating them," said Frank Kittredge, president of the National Foreign Trade Council and vice chairman of USA Engage, a business coalition that lobbies against trade sanctions.

Church role a wild card. Business lobbyists may find themselves facing an opposition laying claim to considerable moral authority.

While Indonesia, with a population of 200 million, is the largest Muslim country in the world, most of the 800,000 residents of East Timor are Roman Catholics. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops sent a letter to the White House and all members of Congress on Sept. 7 calling for "strong and effective pressure to convince the Indonesian government to meet its responsibilities to stop the violence and ensure that the wishes of the East Timorese are respected."

"Without this Catholic involvement, I think members would just scratch their heads and go, 'This is awful,'" said Arnold Kohlen, who has written extensively about East Timor's fight for independence.

Kohen has been appearing daily on a Catholic Family Radio Network program hosted by former Rep. Dan Lungren, R-Calif. (1979-89), that includes an hour-long update on East Timor. Lungren tells listeners of the brutality exercised by Indonesian militiamen against Catholic leaders.

Lungren urges listeners to call their bishops, senators and representatives to urge greater U.S. involvement in the region. He calls U.S. efforts to date encouraging, but does not rule out resorting to sanctions. "We can't be the bully boys, but there are ways of using diplomacy," he said. "The United States should be engaged, which includes ratcheting up the response if inappropriate action continues."

— Walt Barron

Making the Rounds

• **Rhonda Herman** has been named manager of state and government affairs for the American Hotel & Motel Association. She was previously communications manager at the National Association of State Credit Union Supervisors.

Lobbyists & Advocates appears Mondays. Contact advocates@cq.com or call Randy Wynn at (202) 822-1455.

LOBBYISTS
& ADVOCATES



Jendrzeczyk



Department of Social Development and World Peace
3211 4th Street N.E. Washington, DC 20017-1194 FAX (202) 541-3339



April 21, 1999

The Honorable William S. Cohen
Secretary, Department of Defense
1000 Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Cohen,

The escalating violence being reported daily from East Timor is a matter of gravest concern to us. Unprovoked attacks against defenseless civilians by armed paramilitaries, already resulting in a number of confirmed deaths and large numbers of wounded, foster ever greater instability in the region and threaten the U.N.-supervised vote on autonomy scheduled for July.

In most of these instances, the Indonesian military forces in East Timor are reported to have done nothing to stop the violence and appear even to have facilitated the assaults.

Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo has described the killings that took place at the church in the town of Liquiçá on April 6, 1999, as "another Santa Cruz", recalling the infamous massacre in Dili in 1991. The attack on defenseless refugees at the home of the local legislator and brother of the former Indonesian-appointed governor, Manuel Carrascalao, illustrates the nature of the brutality that these forces are carrying out. Irish Foreign Minister David Andrews was present in Dili during the April 17 attacks and witnessed the collusion between Indonesian military and police and the so-called militias.

Shootings have continued to take place in Dili in these last few days. Bishop Belo is persuaded that a well-orchestrated campaign by the Indonesian military is at work, seeking to create conditions that will make it impossible for the promised vote to be held.

It is the Bishop's view that the United States should do far more to exert its influence on Jakarta. For my part, I believe that the United States and its allies have an obligation to convey to Jakarta the unambiguous message that the "militias" must be disarmed and disbanded.

With thanks for your attention to this critical matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Theodore E. McCarrick

Most Reverend Theodore E. McCarrick
Archbishop of Newark
Chairman, International Policy Committee
U.S. Catholic Conference

Secretariat
(202) 541-3180

Domestic Social Development
(202) 541-3186

International Justice & Peace
(202) 541-3189

Environmental Justice
(202) 541-3180

Diocesan Relations
(202) 541-3195

Senhor Bispo,

1999

Bishop Kirby of Ireland will visit East Timor from July 6—8. The following is the suggested itinerary:

ARR: July 6, from Bali, possibly have coffee with Bispo Belo, then proceed to Baucau, meet with Bispo Basilio, stay overnight in Baucau. Driver is needed to take Bispo Kirby to Baucau, etc.

July 7, After Mass, leave Baucau for Aileu to see Maryknoll Sisters. Afternoon, return to Dili. Meet with Justice and Peace Commission. Dinner with Bispo Belo if convenient, otherwise meet next morning. Is one night accommodation for Bispo Kirby in Bispo Belo's house possible??

July 8, Morning: Meet with Caritas, others in Church in Dili, departure

Two ladies from TROCAIRE, Mrs. Fionnuala (PRONUNCIATION is FIN—OOO—LA) Gilsensan and a colleague, will arrive in Dili on July 1. They respectfully request accommodation with the Sisters.

Prospects for the long-suffering people of East Timor have turned upside down, and are moving at a dizzying pace. For the first time since Indonesian forces invaded and occupied East Timor more than 20 years ago, the Indonesian government announced that it might consider independence for the former Portuguese colony near northern Australia. Last week, Indonesian security forces transferred the leader of the resistance movement, Xanana Gusmao, from prison to house arrest, where Gusmao has begun to play a key negotiating role. Habibie now says he would like to see East Timor independent by January 1, 2000. Few ever expected such a statement from any Indonesian leader.

These are big steps, but what remains unclear is the position of Indonesia's powerful military, who may oppose a pullout from East Timor. The situation remains extremely tense in a place where 200,000 people, one third of East Timor's population, have died from war, killings, famine and disease during Indonesia's occupation. At the very moment talk of sweeping change is in the air, elements of the Indonesian military are arming East Timorese collaborators, who are in a state of near-panic over the prospect on an Indonesian withdrawal. As many of 20,000 modern arms have been distributed to these collaborators to confront the majority favoring independence, who are comparatively lightly armed.. It is a perilous situation.

East Timor's Nobel-Peace-Prize-winning Roman Catholic bishop, Carlos Ximenes Belo, warns of the possibility of civil war and calls for international action to disarm East Timor before it is too late. The respected Timorese churchman is trying to bring about genuine dialogue. Bishop Belo has spoken out forcefully in recent weeks, urging that a United Nations presence be established in East Timor, a mountainous territory in a land area the size of the Netherlands, and Ireland has already offered to send observers to East Timor for the United Nations.

U.S. diplomats say Indonesia's sudden turnabout was triggered when Bishop Belo refused to meet with President B.J. Habibie earlier in the year. The Indonesian leader had invited the Timorese churchman to come to Jakarta to assess the progress made since the two men had last met. In that meeting last June, Habibie agreed to a number of concrete steps, including withdrawal of Indonesian troops from East Timor. But Bishop Belo felt that the situation in East Timor had actually grown worse since then. Pressed to the limit of his patience and already furious over events since he went to Jakarta in June, Belo lashed out when word of Habibie's invitation arrived. The bishop was in no mood to lend his good name to a charade.

From Belo's perspective, the single most important thing is to disarm all sides. While resistance forces are not blameless, Indonesian-backed militias have provoked a series of confrontations with pro-independence forces since last June, when

three European Union ambassadors visited East Timor. Experienced observers of the Indonesian military scene believe the Indonesians have inflamed these confrontations to show that the army's presence in East Timor is essential to maintain order. But Belo sees the presence of Indonesian troops as East Timor's main problem. Only through a process of reconciliation between the opposing sides, in Belo's view, can East Timor's long nightmare be ended.

World pressure for a solution to the East Timor problem has been growing at a time when Indonesia badly needs massive amounts of aid..

International pressure might in the end prove decisive. US officials seem to have delivered the message to the Indonesian government that Jakarta will receive little credit for any policy changes on the East Timor issue if the territory descends into bloody chaos. Other governments have apparently done the same. Thus, even if the military would like to hold onto East Timor or arm its local allies to enable them to win a struggle over pro-independence forces, the ultimate price for Indonesia may be too high.

Arnold Kohen is author of "From the Place of the Dead", a biography of Bishop Belo that will first appear in New York in May 1999 (St Martin's Press)

Bishop Belo: “They are openly and clearly distributing guns.”

In a phone conversation on the morning of August 6, 1999, Bishop Belo stated, in a reference to the actions of the Indonesian military and those under their control:

I have bad news. They are openly and clearly distributing guns in [the eastern towns of] Baucau, Laga [and other places]. They are turning Timorese against Timorese. It is like hell.

Voter registration for the United Nations-sponsored referendum in East Timor has been encouraging. The Indonesian military and their local allies obviously fear the result of a free election. That is the reason for the campaign of terror throughout this year and now, stepped-up arming of militias to make a genuine consultation of the people impossible.

While it is too early to say that it will be impossible for the referendum to be held on August 30 as now planned, the situation in East Timor’s countryside has remained perilous. On August 1, 1999 Bishop Belo stated:

“I only say that in Alas, Suai and other remote areas, people are threatened by militias together with Kopassus. Mainly at night they enter houses and pressure people [to vote against independence].

Authoritative Church sources say the militia/army inspired attacks over the past six months have claimed 3,000 to 5,000 lives. Elements of Indonesia’s armed forces who are adamantly opposed to independence for East Timor are said to be preparing to foment even greater violence if the East Timorese vote against continued Indonesian rule. There also are worries that on election day or in the campaigning period leading up to it the Indonesian military and forces under its control will generate enough chaos to force the cancellation of the ballot. The distribution of weapons is a clear sign of trouble. Bishop Belo, has

stated in recent days that “What you hear from the priests and nuns in the countryside makes you tremble.”

Nonetheless, as difficult as the situation in East Timor may appear, the violence can largely be stopped by tough international pressure. The leadership of the Indonesian armed forces have sufficient control over their troops to assert the kind of discipline needed to restrain the militias and their supporters in the military. They can end the terror if they want to, and they must. Indonesia is at a crossroads unlike any in its 50-year history as an independent nation, facing the choice of democratization or a return to military dictatorship. While the international powers once found it acceptable to unquestioningly support such a regime, that is less true at present. With public revulsion over repression in Indonesia and East Timor at a high point, it will be quite difficult to proceed with business as usual. Thus Indonesian-controlled forces must be convinced to end their intimidation of the East Timorese and allow an expanded United Nations presence, including armed peacekeepers, as soon as possible. In short, Jakarta must accept the results of a free and fair election and prepare for a peaceful transition.

Action Suggestions

It is vital to contact your government, legislators, and foreign ministry and call for the toughest possible international pressure on the Indonesian military to end this campaign of terror and allow armed international peacekeepers forces into East Timor as a matter of urgency. The arming of militias and violent actions by other army-backed forces must be ended. The international community should exert its influence to bring about a peaceful transition and maximum protection for the people of East Timor during this period and beyond.

July 1999 Los Angeles

**BISHOP CARLOS F.X. BELO: HUMAN RIGHTS
AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Cardinal Mahoney, Cardinal Etchegeray, Archbishop McCarrick, fellow bishops, brothers and sisters in Christ, ladies and gentlemen: Thank you for your invitation to speak at this important gathering, for which I am honored. In this Jubilee year at the dawn of the new Millennium, any discussion of human rights and responsibilities must begin with a simple concept. That concept is humility. Unfortunately, so many of the world's problems can be traced to arrogance, which ultimately means a lack of concern for the feelings, opinions and needs of others. The most extreme form of arrogance results in the taking of other human lives, and severe human rights abuses. But the attitude behind human rights abuses must be clearly understood: such lethal arrogance is a condition that must be opposed at every opportunity.

In my humble view, the antidote to arrogance is solidarity. Extending solidarity is our solemn obligation, and as we reach the third Millennium it is more necessary than ever. In your great nation of diverse peoples and cultures you hold in your hands great power, more than many may realize. How you exercise that power shapes not only your character as a nation, but also the future of the world, for good or evil. Any discussion of human rights and responsibilities must take into account the obligation of solidarity. Much too often, little action is taken to stop or prevent terrible injustices from taking place. This must change! Responsibility means perseverance, which is often the only way anything can be accomplished.

We hear more and more about human rights, but millions upon millions of children and young people are uncared for in many parts of the world, in Latin America, Asia and Africa, and even in the United States. As a Salesian priest, this is of special concern to me personally, and it is something

that should be the subject of constructive interest and action on the part of all people of good will no matter where they may be. This solidarity must be carried out no matter what the obstacles.

Many speak of moral and spiritual values and human rights, yet are all too easily swayed by the attraction of money and power. Some speak of freedom, but neglect to mention the needs of the poor, or of other persecuted groups. It is our responsibility to make sure that the poor and the marginalized are not only not forgotten, but that they share in the bounty of the human family.

Simple human decency is our responsibility. Our local, national and international communities are our responsibility. Respect for the independence and dignity of others is our responsibility. Teaching these moral and spiritual values to our children is our responsibility, perhaps most of all by example. Above all, tolerance, which flows from simple humility, is both a human right and a responsibility for all of us.

Thank you for listening to me!!

Spet 5, 99

Consegui fazer agora mesmo, 6:00 am, ligação telefónica para Câmara Eclesiástica, para o telefone do Padre José António, mas ninguém me atendeu.

D. Cunha

9146360021

SEP-07-99 00:05 FROM: CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

ID: 8146360021

PAGE



CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

EASTERN AMERICAN PROVINCE
21 Pryor Terrace
New Rochelle, N.Y. 10804-4499

(914) 636-6194
Fax (914) 636-0021

PLEASE POST

To: Each Local Community
From: Jim Moffett cfc
Re: Messages from East Timor
Date: September 7, 1999

.....

I request that the attached communications be posted in your community so that the brothers might have an opportunity to read them. The lengthier one is from Nick Morris, the other from Francis Hall, Deputy Provincial of the English Province, who is currently participating in the Passover Program.

Nick's communication specifically pleads for a response through prayer and involvement.

SEP-07-99 08:08 FROM: CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

ID: 0140360021

PAGE
Page 1 of 3

From: Patrick Morris <pnmcfc@hotmail.com>
To: jbm@cbinstitute.org <jbm@cbinstitute.org>; jpm@cbinstitute.org
<jpm@cbinstitute.org>; mary.1.murphy@british-airways.com
<mary.1.murphy@british-airways.com>; odonnell@damien.edu
<odonnell@damien.edu>; domsas@compuserve.com
<domsas@compuserve.com>; brlimcfc@dynasty.net <brlimcfc@dynasty.net>;
Michael@Warberry.demon.co.uk <Michael@Warberry.demon.co.uk>
Date: Tuesday, September 07, 1999 2:43 AM
Subject: East Timor

To Brothers and friends,

Today, September 6, 1999, I, along with about 320 mostly Australians, were airlifted from Dili, East Timor by the Royal Australian Air Force on Hercules military transports. This call to be evacuated came at midnight, after an especially difficult night in East Timor of intimidation, gunfire, burning of homes, and transport of people, against their will, across the border to West Timor, a separate province of Indonesia.

What I had begun to experience in my few days of visiting our Edmund Rice Community was a deliberate and sustained plot orchestrated by the Indonesian military and the police forces and using the "militia" of pro-Indonesians that the press was talking so much about. Our president's appeal to Indonesia to see the outcome of the balloting as a vote won fair and square, has no meaning to an Indonesian military that is part of the political system as it exists in Jakarta.

I had met a few of the East Timorese in the area where our community is. We live in a small road off a secondary road about 200 meters from the main road running straight through Dili. The house is rented from a family whose extended members live in the same area. They watch out for the brothers, but in turn the brothers have to be very careful about their activities so that they do not bring the militia down on this family as a retaliation for the brothers' involvement in saving the lives of the vulnerable young East Timorese.

East night I was there, the shooting became progressively worse, especially after the announcement of the voting results on September 4th (Dili time) that the pro-Independence vote was 78.5% With 98.7% of eligible voters casting a ballot, it was clearly a mandate. The United Nations brokered ballot, was, by all indications, a clean vote. People were at the polling stations hours before they opened. Many places had 100% of the ballots cast before noon, so anxious were the people to have their say. This was all done while militia, armed with guns and machetes, were free to roam through Dili and towns and villages unhindered by special Indonesian police who were supposed to be guaranteeing security. Instead they were collaborating by supplying the weapons to the militia and often planning the strategy with

SEP-07-99 08:08 FROM: CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

ID: 0140380021

PAGE 3
Page 4 of 5

the full cooperation of the military forces stationed in East Timor. The people's thirst for independence which flickered so briefly after being declared so from Portugal, was crushed, and crushed brutally by Indonesia 24 years ago.

The United Nations never in those 24 years recognised Indonesia's right to take over East Timor. In resolution after resolution, it called for the right of the people of East Timor to have self-determination. Under the bloody campaign by the Indonesian forces, East Timor lost 2000,000 people, a third of its population through killings and starvation. The people went into the mountains in lieu of being attacked, and many starved to death or died because of disease.

It seems that Indonesia is determined to have it happen again in the same way. In the short time of my stay, internal refugees, who were seeking the sanctuary of the religious convents, churches, schools and even the bishop's residence, were being told they would have to seek safety by going to police stations, where they would be gathered into trucks and moved into West Timor. The diocesan office in Dili was set afire; the Bishops' residence was fired upon, and as we know, one American security officer was shot. He was shot by an American automatic weapon which we had sold to Indonesia.

December 7th is a day of infamy to us Americans because it is the day Pearl Harbor was attacked. It is also the day that East Timor was attacked and invaded by Indonesia: a nation of 150 million people against a national of 600,000. Two days before that attack our President (Ford) and Secretary of State (Kissinger) were wine and dined in Jakarta by Suharta. It is inconceivable that Indonesia would mount such an atrocity without getting assurances from our government that we would not oppose it. And we didn't; and we continued to pour American dollars in aid to our friend Suharta and provide the military means to create the crushing of East Timorese independence.

Another blood bath is beginning in earnest. Despite the will of the people being heard, Indonesia seems intent on doing what it wills. The UN mandate calls for the transition to an independent East Timor.

Instead the UN personnel have to stay being their headquarters fences to protect themselves and their local support personnel. And our nations sit with their hands under their seats. Nobel Laureate Jose Ramos Horta has pleaded for a peace keeping force NOW! Nobel Laureate Bishop Belo has pleaded for a peace keeping force NOW! Every agent that was working in East Timor for the past half year has been pleading for a peace keeping force NOW! Must there be another genocide before we move our governments to act.

In a little town about 80kms from Dili three American sisters lay trapped in a siege with militia. They, along with the East Timor people of the town,

have sought sanctuary. Why? They are accused of being for independence - which 78.5% of the people voted for.

Such is the escalating situation in East Timor. Bishop Belo is presumably gone with his people when they were forced to leave the grounds of his residence. And still the Indonesian Foreign Minister says that the region needs more military to control the situation. The lead story in today's Sydney Herald conveys the real truth: Military Behind Militia.

As you can see, a few days have shaken me quite a bit. I have seen evil. But I have seen good as well. From only those few days, and with a little Spanish to help along, I found people of strong faith. Their faith has led them this far, it will sustain them. But that does not remove the moral obligation we have as a world of nations to insure that true independence comes to them, and not a lifetime of intimidations, and murder and genocide.

I ask you to fax, call and write Washington and demand that pressure be placed on Indonesia to allow armed forces from willing nations such as Australia and New Zealand to monitor East Timor. We hold the power through the World Bank and the IMF to do just that.

Please pray - but even more - actively become involved in the plight of the people of East Timor as our brothers who have stayed behind are doing. In all my years as a brother I have never been part of a community discernment that was so much about life and death and was so filled with a passion and commitment to people. For those of us who left East Timor, it has bound us more closely and deeply to those men.

Thank you for reading through these comments. They were written during a quiet night without gunfire and automatic weapon fire while here in Darwin. The planned chaos of the Indonesian military is well started. Only a commitment from the United Nations to be allowed to police there with arms will save the people and the independence they so bravely voted for.

Nick Morris
September 6, 1999

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SEP-07-99 09:07 FROM: CHRISTIAN BROTHERS

ID: 0140300021

PAGE
Page 1 of 1

From: Margherita McCaughey <reception@balmain.sm.cfc.edu.au>
To: jbm@cbinstitute.org <jbm@cbinstitute.org>
Date: Tuesday, September 07, 1999 2:29 AM
Subject: Brothers in Timor

7 September 1999 : 15.30 Local Time

Message:

Pat Payne is being flown out by Australian Air Force today. Due to arrive in Darwin at 7.00 pm (local time). He is unharmed but shaken.

Dan Courtney is part of a convoy going from Dili to Kupang, West Timor. They set off 3 hours ago and so could arrive midnight (Timor time).

The group is: Fr Peter, local family, Sisters. They will stay in Claretian House tonight. The journey is very hazardous so please pray for their safety.

Nick Morris, Francis Hall and Mr Paul Toon arrived in Australia yesterday, courtesy of Australian Air Force.

From,
Francis Hall.

9/7/99

Subj:
Date: 7/31/99 11:29:35 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: s_steele68@hotmail.com (Stephen Steele)
To: ASKOHEN@aol.com

Arnold,

I'm forwarding you this rather cryptic message from a Salesian nun in Dili.
It sounds like they're under some sort of threat now, doesn't it? Anyway,
I'm sending this on to you so that you could use it as you see fit.

Take care,
steve

>From: visitm.fma@dili.wasantara.net.id (Paola)
>To: "Stephen Steele" <s_steele68@hotmail.com>
>Date: Sun, 1 Aug 1999 05:08:37 +0700 (JAVT)
>
>Dear Stephen,

>Today, a young woman with her baby came into our house. She's being
>threatened by the militia. They've come to her house 3 times now looking
>for
>her. The weird thing is what they said. The neighbors told her that they
>said they were looking for the teacher who works with the nuns who are
>supporters for independence!!! Yes, she worked with us at the school.
>There's not much we can do. I mean, who am I supposed to go to? The police?
>Even the UN people...what could they do about it? She's only one of many
>who

Donna
Catharine
New York
Archdiocese

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

350 Fifth Avenue, 34th Floor
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Telephone 212-216-1801
Facsimile 212-736-1300
E-mail hrwnyc@hrw.org

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**For immediate release:
September 3, 1999**

For more information contact:

Sidney Jones (New York)	(w) +1 212 216 1228	(h) +1 718 788 2899
Mike Jendrzeczyk (Washington)	(w) +1 202 612 4341	(h) +1 301-585-5824

Indonesian Government Must Prevent East Timor Bloodbath

(New York, September 3, 1999)—The next forty-eight hours could bring widespread death and destruction in East Timor unless world leaders exerted maximum pressure on the Indonesian government, Human Rights Watch said today. The results of last Monday's referendum will be announced at 9 p.m. EDT in New York by U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan. The pro-independence vote is expected to be more than 85 percent.

"It's too late for any international force," said Sidney Jones, Asia director of Human Rights Watch. "The slaughter's happening now." She said the Indonesian army, which created the anti-independence militias responsible for violence, was now the only force that could stop them. "And the only way the Indonesian army is going to act responsibly is for Indonesia's major donors, including the U.S., Australia, and Japan, to pull out every stop they've got—and that includes suspending aid."

She said all non-humanitarian aid, including direct budgetary support to the government, had to be stopped and resumed only when the violence was brought under control.

By Friday night in East Timor, anti-independence militias were said to have set two towns ablaze in Maliana and Ermera districts, both west of Dili, the capital. The main market in Dili was also on fire, and militia members had reportedly taken over a broadcasting station. Australian radio was reporting twenty killed in Maliana, after the United Nations Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) evacuated all staff there yesterday.

"This violence was predictable and preventable," said Jones. "It's not just a tragedy. It's a betrayal of the East Timorese who braved everything to vote."

**For Frank Monahan
From Arnold Kohen
RE Bishop Belo's Washington schedule
CC Tom Quigley**

July
1999
visit cancelled
under pressure
from

As we discussed, the main priority for the bishop's July 21-22 schedule is a meeting for Secretary of Defense Cohen or, if that is not possible, as senior a Pentagon official as possible.

World Bank: Jim Wolfensohn, Mike Marek

IMF: Managing Director Cadmessus, who is a devout Catholic: John Carr seems to know him.

Takarta
Gov't
+ PAPAL
NUNCIATURE

Senator Dasle is also a priority.

Upon reflection after hearing your views, it seems that it may be best to have a joint meeting with House members which members like Reps Hall, Wolf and McGovern would organize; in the Senate, Leahy and Feingold. I can handle this.

President Clinton

Vice President Gore

Secretary Albright or Undersecretary of State Pickering

Paul Wolfowitz, Dean, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, a key Bush adviser and former US Ambassador to Indonesia

I have already made contact with Marcia Aronoff, Bradley adviser. Will keep you posted on this and others, such as selected media.

If you have any suggestions regarding others he should see, please let me know.

Many thanks for everything.

DRAFT ACTION ALERT FOR LOS ANGELES MEETING AND BEYOND

July 1999

The situation in East Timor has sharply deteriorated in recent months, with hundreds killed in paramilitary violence aimed at disrupting United Nations-sponsored elections. As emphasized in a June 10, 1999 statement by Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick, Chairman of the USCC's International Policy Committee:

"Thus far this year, the people of East Timor have experienced a level of violence not seen since the 1970s when Indonesian forces invaded and annexed that territory. Rampaging groups of armed militias have committed numerous atrocities upon mostly unarmed, pro-independence communities and individuals...On April 6, dozens of people were shot and hacked to death at the Catholic church in Liquiça, a massacre Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo of Dili has likened to that at the Santa Cruz Cemetery in 1991...Throughout the territory, armed members of the dozen or so local militias that have sprung up in the months after B.J. Habibie became president of Indonesia a year ago have waged a relentless campaign of intimidation and violence directed at those thought to favor independence. "

Archbishop McCarrick's statement continued:

"Over 40,000 East Timorese have fled their homes and farms, raising again the spectre of hunger that devastated much of the island in the late 1970s. While some of the internally displaced persons are in centers assisted by the Church's Caritas workers, many are without any help and need the protection and relief that could be provided by the International Committee of the Red Cross, if allowed to enter in sufficient numbers."

Increased international pressure is urgently needed to address this situation, both in terms of efforts to ensure that

humanitarian assistance reaches those in dire need and pressure to end paramilitary violence and have a free and fair election under United Nations auspices. UN monitors have been attacked in recent weeks by forces seeking to derail the East Timor election, which grew out of a May 1999 agreement between Indonesian and Portuguese foreign ministers at the United Nations calling for a popular consultation in East Timor. Scheduled initially for Sunday, August 8 of this year, the people are to be given the choice of voting for autonomy or independence. The UN, which will conduct the consultation, has begun deploying its personnel that will prepare for and monitor the vote; but the violence has continued. Unless it is brought under control and the militias disbanded, the conditions essential for a fair and free vote will be seriously lacking.

SUGGESTED ACTION: The United States Senate voted 98-0 on June 30, 1999 for a measure sponsored by Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vermont), Senator Russell Feingold (D-Wisconsin) calling for intensified US pressure for the militias in East Timor to be disarmed and disbanded, and other measures such as full access to humanitarian organizations. The amendment also said that “the extent of efforts by the Indonesian government and military” to fulfill the points in the amendment should be taken into account in determining the US vote on any loan or financial assistance to Indonesia..

Additional efforts by the Senate and the House are anticipated. It is expected that a letter sponsored by Reps. Tony Hall (D-Ohio), Frank Wolf (R-Virginia) and Jim McGovern (D-Mass) will soon be circulated making similar points. Bishop Belo has pleaded for international help at this critical hour. **PLEASE WRITE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS ASKING THEM TO SUPPORT SUCH EFFORTS ON EAST TIMOR IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS AHEAD.**

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END=SEP-14 10:13

FILE NO. = 079

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-ARNOLD S. KOHEN

- *****

301 585 3288- *****

Arnold S. Kohen

Writer/Journalist

P. O. Box 32307

Washington, D.C. 20007

Phone: 301-585-3229

FAX: 301-585-3288

8 Pages
For Bispo Carlos X. BELD

URGent

Senhor Bispo

1- I am re-editing article
for Washington Post.

2- It is possible there
will be another one for
Newsweek. Ta bem??

Como está? Bem? Vou
telefonar mas logo.
Cumf.

X TK -> Send a
Fax.
How long are you in Pisana..

CONGRESSMAN

TONY HALL NEWS

Third District, Ohio

1432 Longworth House
Office BuildingWashington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6465FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 10, 1999CONTACT: Deborah DeYoung,
202/225-1217**HALL: CLINTON IS DEAD WRONG ON EAST TIMOR****U.N. shouldn't wait for Indonesia's OK before sending peacekeepers**

WASHINGTON – President Clinton has taken needed steps in response to the crisis in East Timor, but his unilateral recognition of Indonesia's sovereignty was a mistake that neither U.S. law nor international law supports, U.S. Rep. Tony Hall, D-Ohio, said today.

"After Rwanda's genocide five years ago, both the United States and the United Nations said 'never again' would we stand by while such terror reigned. Today in East Timor, both are dangerously close to forgetting that promise," Hall said. "I urge the President and Secretary General Annan to reconsider the path they are once again taking and to reverse their current position before the death toll in East Timor starts to follow the grisly course Rwanda took.

"President Clinton's move to suspend military aid to Indonesia and take other actions to pressure its leaders to do the right thing in East Timor are steps in the right direction – but his assertion that Indonesia enjoys sovereign rights over the people there is flat wrong. I urge him to correct his misstatement, and to take action in accordance with the many findings of the United Nations, with the long-time policy of the United States -- which has voted repeatedly for U.N. resolutions condemning Indonesia for its action -- and with last month's vote of East Timor's people. All declare Indonesia's self-serving claims of sovereignty to be bogus.

"Neither the U.N.'s strongest supporters, nor the voters in last month's referendum imagined the United Nations considered its job done when the voting booths closed. Finishing the job in East Timor will be critical to the U.N.'s effectiveness in future missions, and its hard-won credibility should not be squandered by abandoning ship now in this tiny nation.

“But while it is clear that the United Nations stumbled, blame must be shared by its members, and particularly by the United States. Organizations at the edge of financial ruin, as the United Nations is, are not known for their bold and wise decisions. We cannot expect peak performance when the United States is responsible for nearly two-thirds of the U.N.’s financial instability. Our failure to pay our dues makes the issue of a U.N. peacekeeping force doubly difficult, as the United States is responsible for one-quarter the cost of any such force. Because the United Nations has borrowed heavily from peacekeeping accounts to ease the burden of the U.S. debt, it is wary of further extending itself.

“If other Security Council members block it, the United States cannot prevail in creating a peacekeeping force -- but we surely can’t win if we don’t try. Indonesia has a 24-year record of letting violence and starvation kill more than 200,000 of East Timor’s people; it already has had ample opportunity to stop the recent violence. Now it is time for the international community to act.

“Finally, my thoughts and prayers are with Bishop Belo and the hundreds of thousands of people of East Timor he has devoted his life to protecting. I believe his actions in recent days in the face of these atrocities – militias even violated the sanctity of his home and church’s sanctuary – underscore the Nobel Committee’s wisdom in awarding him the Nobel Peace Prize.”

Hall has been active on behalf of East Timor independence since 1980 -- nominating Bishop Belo for the Nobel Peace Prize, introducing several bills, and regularly leading letter-writing campaigns to raise attention to the situation. His last letter, to President Clinton in August 1999, was co-signed by 99 other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Hall also has pressed for the United States to pay its U.N. dues, and last month forced a vote on the issue; the measure was narrowly defeated, 221-206.

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CAMP HILL, PA 17011-5456

September 17, 1999

Some Thoughts on the Situation in East Timor

Dear Colleague:

Twenty-two years ago, I was asked by then Chairman Lester Wolff of the House International Relations Subcommittee on International Assistance and the U.S. State Department to travel to East Timor which had just been taken over by Indonesia shortly after the Portuguese surrendered their 400 year colonial rule. As a junior Member of Congress at the time, I was privileged to be the first American to enter East Timor after its bloody civil war -- although gunfire could still be heard all over the country. I was provided the opportunity to speak with all walks of life in East Timor, including tribal chiefs, civil authorities, religious leaders, and average people who had walked more than 10 miles to greet the "American."

I commend your attention to the attached report I submitted to the Congressional Record on April 26, 1977 reflecting my observations and conclusions regarding a difficult situation which 22 years later has yet to be resolved peacefully. I hope you will keep an historical perspective in mind as Congress re-evaluates its foreign and military relations with both Indonesia and East Timor.

Sincerely,

Bill

Bill Goodling
Member of Congress

SEP 20 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD -- HOUSE

April 26, 1977

REPORT ON VISIT TO EAST TIMOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, last week I asked that my observations from a recently completed trip to Panama be included in the RECORD. Today, I ask that my observations from an equally important international trip also be included in the RECORD.

This time my remarks refer to the lesser known area of East Timor, an island in the Indonesian chain. I traveled to this remote area of the South Pacific at the request of the International Relations Committee and the State Department. I met with literally thousands of East Timorese who are trying to recover from a recent civil war. As the below report explains, I left the island with a new perspective on future United States-East Timorese relations.

I think it is important that each Member of the House take a few minutes to read my observations. I hope they shed some light on this relatively unknown part of the world:

REPORT ON VISIT TO EAST TIMOR FROM: CONGRESSMAN BILL GOODLING

After approximately 83 hours of flying time and 26 hours of sleep over a seven day period, I would offer the following summary of my findings, impressions, and conclusions of the trip I was requested to make into East Timor, which has just recently become part of Indonesia after 400 plus years of Portuguese rule.

As a way of background, two subcommittees of the International Relations Committee, under the co-chairmanship of Congressman Wolfe and Fraser, held hearings concerning the use of American arms by the Indonesians while attempting to end the civil war in East Timor. The war broke out when Portugal left East Timor before successfully arranging a peaceful takeover by the 3 major Timorese factions. Unfortunately, the one group—Fretelin—fell heir to probably as many as 15,000 weapons. After the apparent killing and torturing of many thousand Timorese, the Indonesian government moved in.

I flew from Washington to Tokyo and on to Jakarta (approximately 21 hours). Our ambassador in Jakarta "leaned on" General M. Panggabean, Commander of Indonesian forces, to permit my entering East Timor—something that has not been permitted since the fall of 1975. However, our 7 seater Air Force plane, based in Jakarta, was only permitted to go as far as Kupang in West Timor. An Indonesian bush pilot crew took me on to Dili in East Timor accompanied by Al Lehn and Chuck Green of the Embassy—two tremendous partners—as well as Col. Subiakto, Col. Damanik and Mr. Dahlan of the Indonesian government, which made it a 7 hour trip.

We were met by more than 12,000 Timorese and we traveled from Dili to Bacau to Viqueque to Bobonaro via "bush pilot," helicopter and jeep transportation. As I shook some 6,000 hands of many Timorese who never saw an American before, and who walked as much as 10 miles to greet us, the cry was the same, from tribal chiefs to civil authorities, to the Bishop, the Spanish and Italian priests, and the Spanish nuns and the masses whose education was neglected by the Portuguese: "Ficase let's put the horrible civil war with all its atrocities behind us and move ahead toward a hopefully better new life."

I listened to an elderly Portuguese gentleman who has lived in East Timor for 41 years tell of the natural death of his wife, the murder of 2 of his sons by the Fretilin and the story of how his 3rd son is the Finance Minister of these very same Fretilin. The Bishop indicated it was war and both sides were guilty—the Fretilin atrocities caused because the Fretilin leadership ordered it and the Indonesian improprieties because of the actions of individual soldiers. Young priests in Bacau expressed concern that there may be more Fretilin action yet to come than the Timorese civil authorities think—opinion somewhat shared by the Sisters in Bobonaro who, it would appear, have some contact with the Fretilin. I was entertained by a brother of Horta, a leading Fretilin, who apparently has been given a 3 month visa to come to the United States. The teenage brother is the soloist and lead guitarist in one of the Vice Governor's newly formed bands. Many Timorese believe the several shipments of guns and ammunition that came in during the war were brought by the Australian Red Cross—a view apparently shared by the Governor but not by the Vice Governor who believes they were imposters carrying Australian Red Cross flags. Many tragic tales were repeated over and over again resulting in, perhaps, 40,000 to 60,000 deaths.

The following are my conclusions:

1. Yes, the Indonesians did use American arms, although they tried, I believe, to first not enter the fray at all and then use inferior weapons of other nations including Yugoslavia, before finding it necessary to use ours.

2. Our concern should be how we can help heal the civil war wounds and get them on to some road to recovery toward hopefully better than anything they have known in the past.

3. All wars are hell but this civil war illustrates how civil wars are doubly so.

4. No way could any Independent East Timorese Government survive—their only hope is a union with Indonesia and, because the country has so little to offer, there isn't too much hope even then.

5. Their only export of any means was coffee, and these plantings must be restored as quickly as possible.

6. The Indonesians should have entered the fray much earlier and perhaps more lives could have been spared.

7. The young Timorese Vice Governor is one of the most compassionate leaders I have ever met.

8. The Bishop, priests and nuns all indicated that things have been better the last several months and all indicated if they see something wrong by the Indonesian army the Indonesian leadership listens to them and corrects the problem and the same is true of the civil authorities. They desperately need medical supplies to combat malaria and tuberculosis.

9. No one can want the area for any reason other than security for it will be a financial noose around Indonesia's neck for years to come and maybe forever. The Japanese failed on two occasions to find enough oil to make drilling profitable. There are beautiful beaches available to attract tourism—but who has billions of dollars to construct the necessary communication and transportation facilities as well as the hotels?

10. The Indonesians estimate there are still 2,000 to 2,200 Fretilin in the hills who hit and run about 3 times a week.

11. The Indonesian Commander and the young Timorese Vice Governor, Lopes da Cruz, are dedicated to making the union work for the best of all Timorese and to prevent further suffering.

12. I can only surmise that the Australian Jim Dunn must have some personal interest in trying to prevent the union; hence his travelling about trying to bring world attention to the situation.