

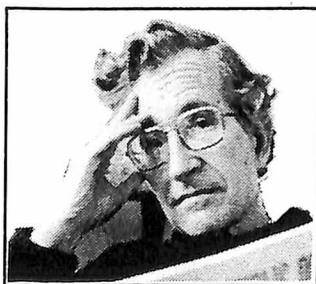


EAST TIMOR ALERT NETWORK **NEWSLETTER**

FALL 1994

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Noam Chomsky helps ETAN launch a new action campaign, Oct. 24 at the Bytown Theatre in Ottawa (1-3 p.m.) — see back pages.

Join the East Timor Alert Network! See page 11 for details.

Canada eyes Indonesia trade; blind to human rights

The Liberal government, when it was campaigning to unseat the Tories last year, didn't make a lot of promises about foreign policy. One of the promises they did make, however, was to put a higher priority on human rights considerations when considering Canada's relations with other countries.

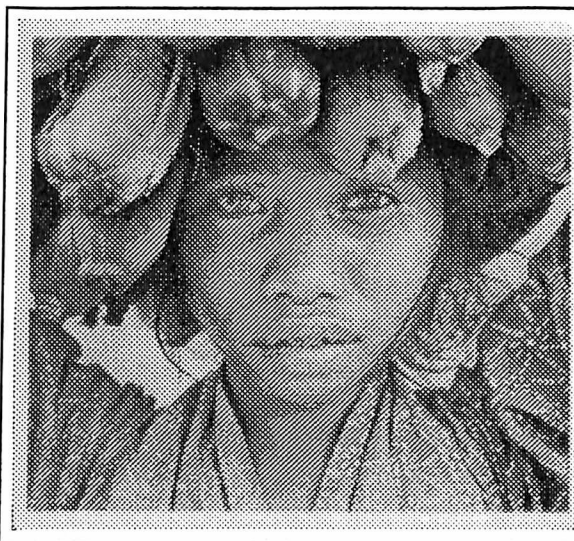
"We will support democracy and human rights worldwide and reaffirm Canada's will to help the world's poor," said the famous Liberal Red Book that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien waved at every campaign stop, promising to follow it to the letter.

The reality of Liberal policy has been far different. Under Chrétien, Foreign Minister André Ouellet and International Trade Minister Roy McLaren, Ottawa has stepped up its efforts to trade with high-growth economies, regardless of the human rights records of their governments. A special target for Canadian trade and investment is the Pacific Rim — countries like Indonesia. Prime Minister Chrétien put in bluntly in March: "We want to intensify (relations with) the Pacific nations because it's where the population and the growth is right now."

They've even coined a term for the new policy: "the Chrétien doctrine." The doctrine — first coined with reference to China but increasingly being applied throughout the world — says that Canada will not talk about human rights where it could damage Canadian trading interests. (And it's not just Chrétien — all of the premiers except Québec's Jacques Parizeau are due to join the PM on a pre-APEC trade mission to China, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Indonesia.)

During the late years of Tory government, then-External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall pushed the same policies. Even she could never reach this level of cynicism, however. McDougall was moved to denounce the Chrétien doctrine in a recent Toronto Star opinion piece.

The biggest economic rewards, the government and Canadian corporations



believe, are to be won in China. But close behind is Indonesia, the world's fourth-largest country by population, described by former U.S. President Richard Nixon as the richest prize in Asia.

Indonesia is currently Canada's largest export market in Southeast Asia. In 1994, two-way trade is expected to reach \$1 billion for the first time. That's a 40 per cent increase in the past two years. Canadian investments have been on a steady rise since the Suharto regime came to power in Indonesia in 1965, and now exceed \$3 billion.

Trade is not growing nearly fast enough for some, however. "Canada is doing all right in Indonesia, but we could be doing much better here," Jakarta-based Canadian investment adviser John Sharp told the *Financial Post* in 1993.

Today, Canadian corporations are taking aim at an increased share of the vast Indonesian market, ignoring Indonesia's appalling human rights record in East Timor and elsewhere. The Canadian Exporters' Association (CEA) in March announced a memorandum of understanding with BKPM, the Indonesian investment coordinating board. The CEA has set up an office in Jakarta, staffed by John Sharp. Funding will be provided in part by the Industrial Cooperation Division of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

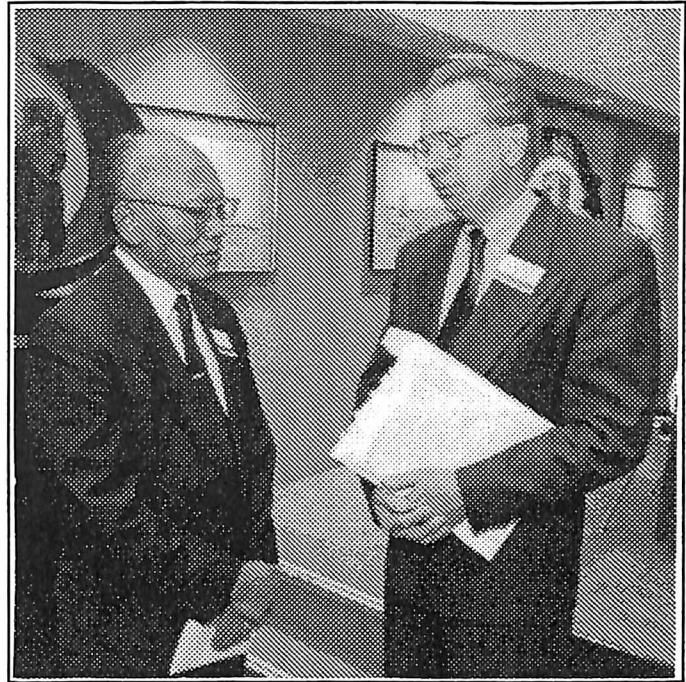
"With growth rates averaging around 7% per annum for the last decade, a population of 186 million and abundant natural resources, Indonesia is one of the most exciting emerging economies in the dynamic Asia-Pacific region" said CEA president Mark Drake.

The CEA-BKPN program is modelled on two existing CIDA Inc.-funded projects: the Canadian Association for the Private Sector in Southern Africa and the Canadian Caribbean Business Cooperation Office. It will provide institutional support for Canadian corporations wanting to invest in joint ventures with Indonesian corporations.

The Department of Foreign Affairs devoted a special section in the April issue of its monthly *CanadExport* to telling Canadian exporters how they could tap into the Indonesia market. The 12-page guide, dripping with praise of Indonesia's President Suharto, made one passing reference to human rights.

Further financial assistance for Canadian companies wanting to set up shop in the low-wage "investor's paradise" of Indonesia is provided by a number of government agencies and programs. The Export Development Corporation, for instance, spends billions of dollars a year to directly finance or guarantee export contracts, with the bulk of this cash going to large corporations. The EDC is exempt from the environmental assessment reviews that other agencies, like CIDA, have to undertake before releasing funding.

It's all music to the ears of companies like Montreal-



Benjamin Parwoto, Indonesian Ambassador to Canada, meets with Lawrence Dickinson, Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia, Winnipeg Convention Centre, July 11

based SNC-Lavalin Inc., the country's largest engineering conglomerate. Chief executive Guy Saint-Pierre says SNC-Lavalin will expand operations in Southeast Asia by "easily five or six times" their current level over the next few years. Top of the list for expanded markets: Indonesia. The company's record in Indonesia, where it has counts among its success stories a feasibility study on transmigration of ethnic Javanese Indonesians to the lands of indigenous West Papuans, does not inspire hope that such investment will be beneficial.

The *Globe and Mail* calls the Liberal policy emphasis "an unexpectedly hard-headed, fervently pro-business course that makes no bones about putting Canadian jobs and economic growth at the top of the international-relations agenda." But will kowtowing to dictatorships like Indonesia really provide jobs for Canadians?

The answer may be quite the reverse. Canadian investors like Inco Ltd. of Toronto are in fact engaged in the transfer of jobs from Canada to Indonesia. Inco has sunk about \$1.5 billion into a nickel-mining operation on the island of Sulawesi since 1968, when the Soroako open pit mine was opened in the middle of a rainforest. The project's financing was backed by guarantees from the Export Development Corp. to the tune of \$57.25 million — a solid financial guarantee from Ottawa.

("We went in just after the local rebellion had been suppressed — our first prospectors always travelled with armed soldiers from the Indonesian Army," according to James Guiry, president of PT Inco Indonesia, quoted in the *Financial Post*.)

The Inco mine, the granddaddy of Canadian overseas megaprojects (when it opened, it was the largest foreign investment project in Canadian history), is already negotiating to extend its contract beyond the 2008 expiry date. It is expected to produce about 100 million pounds of nickel matte in 1994, making it one of the largest mines in the world.

At the same time, Inco has been downsizing its Canadian operations. Unemployment figures have spiralled in Sudbury, Ont. and Thompson, Man. since Inco began laying off Canadian mineworkers. Expansion to Indonesia is just the latest chapter in Inco's history of union-busting.

Companies like Inco are not moving jobs to Indonesia out of concern for the Indonesian poor. The reason is the low-wage, resource-rich economy, where unions have to strike just to be paid the minimum wage of \$2 a day. Indonesia has been loosening up its rules on foreign investment, a move which spells opportunity to groups like the Canada-Indonesia Business Council.

International trade can be a great tool for good, but the way Canada's government and corporations are behaving towards Indonesia is doing great harm by propping up a dictatorial regime. Even in its stated objective of creating jobs for Canadians, the government's

rush to embrace Indonesia may be counterproductive.

Ottawa plans to cement its pro-Indonesia economic tilt at the annual Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) gathering, which opens on November 15 in the Indonesian city of Bogor. Prime Minister Chrétien will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Ouellet, Trade Minister McLaren, and Secretary of State (Asia Pacific) Raymond Chan — the highest-level Canadian delegation to Indonesia ever.

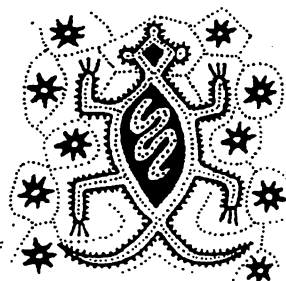
If Canada's foreign policy is to be guided by considerations of human rights rather than just blown by the trade winds, the right response to this meeting is for the Prime Minister to boycott it. We do not condemn the existence of APEC, only the fact that it is being held in Indonesia. Canada is attending as part of an immoral, profit-driven foreign policy. If Canada's words and values are to mean anything in the international arena, we must boycott the APEC meeting.

If Canadian officials go to Bogor, they must make the meeting a forum to press for human rights in Indonesia and in Indonesian-occupied East Timor. And regardless of APEC, Canada should stop spending taxpayer money to promote trade and investments in Indonesia.

TOP CANADIAN EXPORTERS TO INDONESIA

All of the following companies have exports to Indonesia in excess of \$50 million. They are listed in alphabetical order. An * indicates military weapons. (Bearing in mind that others export parts that could be used for military purposes but are not stated as such. Those companies are indicated by a [?].)

1. Algoma Steel Inc. [?]
2. Alliedsignal Aerospace Canada*
3. AT Plastics Inc. [?]
4. Atlas Specialty Steels Div. Sammi Atlas [?]
5. Babcock & Wilcox International Division
6. Blount Canada
7. Bombardier Inc., Groupe Canadair *
8. Bristol Aerospace Limited [?]
9. Canadian Forest Products Ltd.
10. Canadian Marconi Company [?]
11. Canamera Foods
12. Cargill Limited
13. Cascades Inc.
14. Chemetics International Company Ltd.
15. Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited
16. De Havilland Inc. *
17. Dreco Energy Services Ltd.
18. Electrohome Ltd.
19. FMG Timberjack Inc.
20. GE Locomotives Canada [?]
21. General Electric Canada Inc. [?]
22. General Electric Canada Inc. Ind. Motors [?]
23. General Motors of Canada Limited *
24. General Motors of Cda. Ltd. Diesel Div. *
25. Honeywell Limited
26. Imperial Oil Limited Chemicals Division
27. Ingersoll-Rand Canada Inc.
28. Interforest Ltd.
29. JM Asbestos Inc.
30. Lab Chrysotile Inc.
31. Litton Systems Canada Limited [?]
32. MacMillan Bloedel Limited
33. Matol Botanical International Ltd.
34. McCain Foods Ltd.
35. Menasco Aerospace Ltd. [?]
36. Mitsubishi Electronics Ind. Canada Inc.
37. Novacor Chemicals Ltd. Methanol Div.
38. Petromont Inc.
39. Petrosul Intl. Div. of Conagra Ltd.
40. Polysar Rubber Corporation
41. Pratt & Whitney Canada Inc. [?]
42. Quesnel River Pulp Co.
43. Sherritt Inc.
44. Sidbec-Dosco Inc. [?]
45. SR Telecom Inc. [?]
46. Sydney Steel Corporation
47. Timberwest Forest Limited
48. Trench Electric
49. W.G. Thompson & Sons Limited
50. Western Pulp Limited Partnership
51. Western Star Trucks Inc. [?]
52. Westinghouse Canada Inc. [?]
53. Westinghouse Canada Inc., Info Svcs Div. [?]
54. 3M Canada Inc.



The East Timor Alert Network is a national association working for East Timor's right to self-determination.

We are committed to: (a) reversing the Canadian government's financial, military and diplomatic support for the Indonesian occupation of East Timor. (b) pressuring the Canadian government to fulfill its obligations to East Timor under the UN charter, and to recognize its own foreign aid guidelines. (c) severing bilateral and multilateral aid to the Indonesian government. (d) raising awareness among the Canadian public about the situation in East Timor, and promoting consistent media coverage of the events there.

We support divestment from the Indonesian regime.

We support an arms embargo on Indonesia.

We are not politically affiliated and we believe it is important to network with other human rights groups.

We are non-hierarchically structured.

Every aspect of our work is carried out in accordance to a rule of non-violent action.

ETAN is open to all Canadians who agree with these goals. Memberships are \$10 annually through our Vancouver national office or your local ETAN group.

The ETAN newsletter is published quarterly from our Toronto office and sent free to all who request it, thanks to the generous assistance of Parliamentarians for East Timor. Please send newsletter correspondence to the Toronto address below, including changes of address.

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Army targets the Church, attacks protesters

Indonesian soldiers attacked a crowd of peaceful protesters on July 14 in Dili, the capital of East Timor, killing 3 people and wounding at least 19, according to reports from the Timorese NGO ETADep. The 14 July massacre, reminiscent of the November 1991 Santa Cruz massacre in which 273 were killed, was reported widely on the international wire services, but the lack of photographs kept it off the front pages.

On July 14 a peaceful group of 500 people, many of them students at the University of East Timor, assembled to protest a recent spate of anti-Catholic acts committed by Indonesian occupation forces in East Timor. The protesters were actually given a police permit to march to the "provincial" legislature building, and focused their demands on religious persecution rather than demands for independence.

The crowd was attacked by soldiers in full riot gear after marching only a short distance. Rather than guns, soldiers used tear gas, police dogs and knives, reportedly slashing the throats of at least three victims. Several others have disappeared and are feared dead, and 22 protesters were taken into custody. Religious items — a cross, icons, rosaries and a Vatican flag — were ripped from the hands of marchers and trampled. The chief of the responsible riot police said he was acting on "orders from above" to react violently.

Even the Rector of the University of East Timor — set up to promote Javanese Indonesian culture in East Timor — denounced the army's brutal response and the tame coverage of the incident in the Indonesian press.

"According to the facts and our own witnessing of the event and eye-witness accounts which we have been able to gather, it is our impression that the initiative for the physical clash started with the security forces violently attacking the demonstrators, which they did first with batons, kicks and striking people with their shields, tear-gas and attacks by two sniffer dogs.... Hopefully we will all learn to have the magnanimity to accept the facts however bitter, to be honest however bitter, to be open and honest to ourselves, to our fellow human beings and to God, before whom no-one can lie. We are confident that the truth cannot be hidden and that a time will come when everything will become clear," Javanese Rector Dr. Bratasudarma SJ said in a statement to the Indonesian press.

The atmosphere in Dili is now more tense than it has been in months, and further violence is possible.

The safety of those being held by military authorities is also in jeopardy.

The July 14 massacre took place in the context of stepped-up harassment of the Catholic Church in East Timor. Since the 1975 Indonesian invasion, the Church has become the sole independent institution in East Timor, running schools and orphanages and providing an irreplaceable space for dissent. It commands the loyalty of the bulk of the East Timorese people, with 680,000 of the 800,000 people living in East Timor registered as Catholics (the bulk of the remainder are Muslim immigrants from Indonesia). Before the invasion, most of the population was animist, following traditional religious practices. East Timor has now joined the Philippines as the only two predominantly Catholic countries in Asia.

Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo, the Apostolic Administrator of East Timor, has personally saved many lives by intervening on behalf of dissidents. After the Santa Cruz massacre, for instance, he opened his house as a sanctuary to protesters who would otherwise have been killed by the military.

Speaking on the role of religion in the lives of the East Timorese on July 15, Bishop Belo said: "You know, even as animists, the Timorese community have their

vision, their beliefs, so that even as animists, we call them here 'gentees,' they believe in one God. They believe also in the eternal life of the souls of their relatives. And when they are presented with the opportunity to become Catholics, I see that there is a similarity between the Catholic faith and the local religious beliefs. Many people feel that it is natural to become Catholics and we see that our people have a simple faith, but are very, very profound in this faith. Not intellectual, not theoretical but a kind of emotional faith, a living faith.

So yesterday when these young people went to the demonstration they told the vice governor 'we are ready to defend our religion, our faith.' During the second world war when the bishop, the priests and sisters left to seek refuge in Australia for two years, here the people by themselves organised catechisms, baptisms and brought it to the forests and mountains, and took guard of the objects of the church. This is very significant — it shows the strength of the faith of the people.

There have been death threats against Bishop Belo and many of his more outspoken priests in the past, but the military has generally hesitated to directly attack the church. However, that has begun to change. Bishop



Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo (Photo: Hugh O'Shaughnessy, from TAPOL Bulletin)

Belo warned in the spring of an "Islamicization" campaign, which also included government support for Protestant missionaries more supportive of the Indonesian occupation. The aim is to splinter the Church, dividing the people among themselves on religious grounds. The campaign has been notably unsuccessful in winning the hearts of the Timorese, however.

In the summer, the military turned to more direct intimidation. Soldiers broke into a church in Dili and trampled on the communion wafers during mass. A few days later, another group of soldiers harassed two nuns on the University of East Timor campus, the final spark that set off the July 14 demonstration.

"East Timor is like hell," Bishop Belo said on July 17, the anniversary of the formal integration of East Timor as Indonesia's 27th province in 1976. "Christians are constantly being arrested, beaten and intimidated by police." In a recent interview with journalist John Pilger, Belo described the "routine nightmare that we live under" and lashed out at Western governments in particular. "Their lies and hypocrisy are in the cause of economic interests," the Bishop said. "We ask the people of the world to understand this, and not to forget that we are here, struggling for life every day.... you must understand that we are undergoing a second colonization. If I am asked for one description, I would say we live as if under the old Soviet Union regime. For the ordinary people, there is no freedom, only a continuing nightmare."

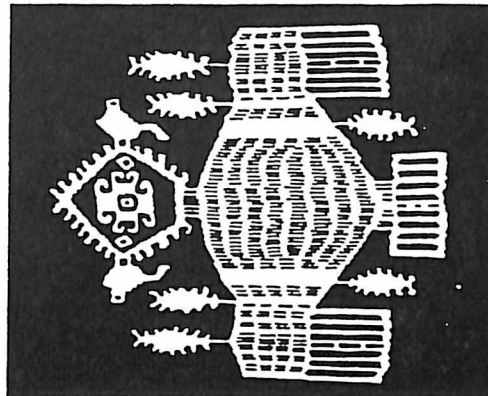
Bishop Belo did not start off as a fiery liberation theologian in the Latin American mold. He was personally appointed in 1983 by the Pope, who is officially responsible for the Diocese of Dili. A Timorese-born Sulpician who was out of the country at the time of the Indonesian invasion, his appointment was opposed by radical Timorese priests who saw him as pro-Indonesian. These priests even showed their dislike by playing basketball during Belo's inaugural ceremony.

But Bishop Belo has shown himself a strong defender of human rights and a passionate voice for justice. This year, he has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his unique role.

Bishop Belo and the Church have received strong support from the U.S. National Conference of Catholic Bishops, plus bishops in Australia (including Cardinal Clancy, Catholic Primate of the country), Japan and Portugal.

The final word on the July 14 incident goes to Manuel Carrascalão, a self-declared supporter of integration, 18-year old brother of former Indonesian-appointed governor Mario Carrascalão, and a participant in the peaceful protest: "What the Indonesian authorities did yesterday is unjustified violence. I have a

suspicion that we are seeing attempts by extremist Muslim groups to discredit the church so that they can infiltrate it. I also think that there is a pro-Indonesian group that wishes to maintain a state of unrest here so as to prolong the presence of the armed forces stationed here."



Peace talks spurned

Reacting to a proposal made in August by East Timor Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo, the CNRM armed resistance in East Timor has offered a unilateral ceasefire in exchange for talks with the Indonesian military. CNRM external leader José Ramos Horta said the talks should be under United Nations auspices. He said he was conveying the offer on behalf of Nino Konis Santana, who leads the Timorese guerrillas.

Despite an earlier claim that "we are ready and willing to open talks with anyone," the offer was rejected by Major Simbolon, spokesperson for the Indonesian armed forces in East Timor. "There will be no compromise... we reject their offer," he was quoted as saying by Reuters. "They are only a few, armed with weapons left behind by the Portuguese nearly two decades ago."

Bishop Belo called the military reaction "arrogant" and offered to mediate talks himself, if UN mediation was not acceptable.

Meanwhile, CNRM's Ramos Horta said the military was stalling. "Jakarta is playing for time," he told Reuters. "On the one hand it is trying to put across an image of moderation and flexibility, of wishing to engage in dialogue with the Timorese, but, on the other, on the ground it continues to do all kinds of damage with military

offensives and human rights violations."

He added that, on the ground, fighting continues to be fierce. "Commander Konis Santana speaks of a military operation that has been going on for several weeks, using mainly helicopters, in the central mountain region, and also in the region of Los Palos," Horta said. "There is a very strong Indonesian military presence in Baucau and east of Baucau."



November 12, 1991: East Timorese youths demonstrate for independence. When their demonstration reached the Santa Cruz cemetery, Indonesian soldiers opened fire, killing 273 people (Photo: Steve Cox)

Amnesty International issued the following news release, detailing a pattern of continuing deteriorations in East Timor, on August 2, 1994.

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR: PROTESTERS BEATEN, DETAINED AND "DISAPPEARED"

Recent beatings, detentions and "disappearances" of East Timorese pro-independence protesters contradict assurances by the Indonesian Government that the situation in East Timor is "normal" and the human rights problems resolved, Amnesty International said in a report issued today.

"While the Indonesian Government has insisted upon its commitment to human rights principles, in practice anyone who expresses even the mildest criticism of Indonesian rule in East Timor continues to be at risk of torture or arbitrary detention," the organization said.

At least three young activists were reportedly arrested on 10 July for organizing a brief demonstration during a visit to East Timor by the United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, arbitrary and

summary executions. Their current circumstances are unknown and there are serious fears for their safety.

The following week, on 14 July, security forces violently broke up what was described by eye-witnesses as a largely peaceful demonstration at the University of East Timor campus. Dozens of students were severely beaten by police, up to nine people reportedly "disappeared" and at least 22 were arrested during and after the demonstration.

Restrictions on access to police and military detention centres by independent human rights monitors have made it impossible to determine the number and fate of those arrested. Amnesty International is seriously concerned that detainees may be at risk of torture and "disappearance."

Later in July, the military command in East Timor was reported to be searching for anyone suspected of organizing or participating in the demonstration. One student organizer was reportedly captured on 23 July and subjected to a public beating for three hours before being taken away by soldiers to an unknown fate.

These developments confirm fears expressed by

Amnesty International in its annual statement before the UN Special Committee on Decolonization on 13 July. The statement documents human rights violations, including torture and killings which have occurred during the past year.

At the Committee, the human rights organization pointed out that through their inaction, member states of the UN share the blame for the continuing human rights problem in East Timor.

In its report, Amnesty International deplored the recent beatings and torture of students and other pro-independence activists and called upon the Indonesian Government to act immediately to guarantee the safety of all detainees and make public information about their whereabouts.

Amnesty International's 1994 report to the UN Decolonization Commission is one of the best overviews of the current human rights situation in East Timor, and contains exhaustive appendices with complete lists of those tried in Indonesian courts or extra-judicially executed. It also contains the following passage, a major departure for Amnesty International, which as a rule has not denounced Western governments for their role in supporting dictatorships:

"We feel compelled to break with tradition [and] to address our remarks ... to member states of the UN who share responsibility The international community has effectively turned its back on the reality of systematic human rights violations in East Timor. It has accepted uncritically Indonesian government promises of commitment to human rights and 'political openness'." All such promises, says Amnesty, are "empty."

Jailed for sending a letter

José Antonio Neves, 38, was arrested in Malang, Indonesia, on May 19. The East Timorese man's "crime" was trying to send a letter about human rights in East Timor to Germany. According to prosecutors, the letter contained material "vilifying Indonesia." Amnesty International considers Neves to be a prisoner of conscience, and fears that like other East Timorese prisoners he may be at risk of torture. To date, he has not been brought to trial.

The same fears are expressed regarding a small group of East Timorese who were given 20-month jail terms for carrying pro-independence banners through the streets of Dili during a visit by Western journalists in April. The small demonstration illustrated to the journalists, invited on a guided tour by the Indonesian military, that the climate of terror had not crushed the population.

There is not enough space in this Newsletter to describe all the human rights violations that have taken place since our last publication. Below we reprint the description of just one recent atrocity, reported by the East Timorese resistance movement CNRM, and smuggled out of East Timor in June 1994:

On 6 May 1994 in the locality of Uelau, approximately three kms west of the village of Manu Kate, a young boy named Marcelo, son of Mau Buti and Si Mau, was assassinated by the machine gun fire from an Indonesian military patrol.

Marcelo, his three brothers and other villagers, went on a food hunting expedition (sari hidup) with the permission of the local military authorities. Their dogs spotted a deer and gave chase and the brothers followed. The dogs caught the deer and killed it. The boys made a fire to cook the deer and when the smoke rose from the fire, it attracted the attention of one platoon from either battalion 745 or 717, operating in that zone.

The soldiers went in the direction of the smoke and surrounded the four boys who were unarmed civilians. In spite of knowing that, the commander of the platoon ordered his men to open fire, emptying a full magazine from AR 16 automatic rifles as if they were firing on armed guerrilla fighters in open combat.

Marcelo was shot in the stomach and could not move while the other three were able to escape. Marcelo called out identifying himself but they continued firing. The commander then ordered that they throw a hand grenade to kill Marcelo.

"As if this was not enough, the commander put Marcelo's dead body against a tree. After that the commander invited his soldiers to see what good shots they were and how they could shoot the "GPK" ("security disturbers") and their supporters, and then proceeded to empty another magazine into the dead boy's body. Marcelo's heart was expelled from his body through his back. After this inhuman crime, they threw his dead body into the river and threw rocks at his head until it broke open, wrote Commander Nino Konis Santana, head of the CNRM armed resistance wing in his report dated 16 June 1994.

Next issue

A look at labour in Indonesia, an eyewitness report from East Timor, plus updates on ETAN campaigns and much more. To receive the ETAN Newsletter, contact your local group or ETAN/Toronto.

Suharto cracks down on the press

Three of the most popular weekly publications in Indonesia have been banned for being overly critical of the government. The trio, with a combined circulation of well over half a million, had their licenses to publish revoked on June 21 after a series of articles about conflicts within the government and increased coverage about pro-democracy sentiments in Indonesia.

The magazines *Tempo* (Indonesia's equivalent to *Time* magazine) and *Editor* and the popular tabloid *DeTik* were banned without warning. Soon after, four more papers — *Media Indonesia*, *Sinar Pagi*, (English-language) *Jakarta Post* and the fortnightly *Forum Keadilan* — were warned to tone down their reporting or lose their licenses as well.

Freedom of the press in Indonesia has been sporadic at best. According to a rather chilling fax purporting to explain the press system in

Indonesia (sent to ETAN by the Indonesian Consulate in Toronto), "the press system in Indonesia, first and foremost, is a subsystem, is a subsystem of the national system. It means that the press must conform with the national system, and is dedicated to national interests.... In exercising its function, the press in Indonesia has always been led by the wisdom of deliberation and consensus as dictated by the national ideology, Pancasila."

The three weeklies had been spotty at best in their critical reporting. For instance, *Tempo* agreed to a blank page when censors demanded it remove a story about joblessness among East Timorese, and *DeTik* allowed its pages to be used as propaganda by several Indonesian army officers. But the three were the closest thing to a free press in Indonesia.

The government-controlled Indonesian Journalists Association (PWI), however, has done nothing to



Riot police beat protesters against press bans (Photo: Reuter)

address the bans, choosing instead to blame the journalists at the three weeklies for inflammatory writing. The PWI-sanctioned code of ethics promises not to publish: "A. anything that may be destructive and prejudices to the nation and state, B. anything that may create social chaos, C. anything that may offend the common standard of decency, religion, faith or belief of a person or a group protected under the law."

The ban was denounced by the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation, which called it a violation of the 1945 constitution and the 1982 press law. "This decision is a catastrophe for the process of democratization which means protecting freedom of expression, both oral and written, and is an historical blemish on the life of the national press," the institute said in a June 21 statement on the bans. "At a time when social and political conditions at home are characterized by a strong

demand for openness, while externally, there is pressure to construct a democratic political system, withdrawing these SIUPPs (publication licenses) is a setback that will need to be accounted for juridically and politically."

This is not the first time the Indonesian government has cracked down on the country's normally tame press. (The list of previously-banned publications: *Expo* (1984), *Sinar Haripan* (1986), *Prioritas* (1987) and *Monitor* (1990).) However, it comes at a time when Indonesia had all but convinced its international allies that a new era of "openness" was afoot. The newest ban puts the lie to claims that the human rights situation is improving. Taken together with recent government actions against those trying to organize free trade unions (see separate article) and the violent response to pro-democracy activists, it signals a regime desperate to hold power by crushing dissent.

The press ban sparked a demonstration of hundreds of journalists and supporters in front of the Indonesian parliament buildings, which was broken up by police wielding rattan canes. The violent suppression of dissent, part of a new crackdown by the Suharto regime, also prompted pro-democracy Indonesians to form several new organizations that will campaign for freedom of the press.

The press ban was also denounced by the International Press Institute, Article 19 (the International Centre Against Censorship), the Committee to Protect Journalists and Reporters sans Frontières.

In response to the press ban, the East Timor Alert Network joined an international chorus of protest calling on the World Bank not to release aid dollars to Indonesia at the annual meeting of donor countries and institutions in July. "By withholding these funds until the Indonesian government grants the fundamental right of freedom of the press and freedom of expression, the world community can send a clear signal and help the people, rather than government, of Indonesia," ETAN wrote. "Surely that is the goal of development aid." ETAN also asked Canada to withhold its aid dollars (Indonesia is the second-largest recipient of bilateral Canadian aid).

However, the donor meeting in Paris on July 7-8 agreed to release \$5.1 billion, even more than the \$5 billion the Indonesian government had requested. After a meeting with ETAN, Canadian officials agreed to insert a reference to the press ban into their opening statement at the meeting. However, the Canadian pledge — \$35 million — went ahead unchanged.

Indeed, no country backed their vague statements in favour of freedom of the press by action. "There was a lot of concern. They are concerned about the matter," Saleh Afiff, head of the Indonesian delegation and co-ordinating minister for economics, finance and development, told the Indonesian news agency Antara.

Indonesian group wants aid stopped

INFIGHT, the Indonesian Front for the Defence of Human Rights, has repeated its call for Western governments to link aid to Indonesia with the Indonesian government's human rights record. The clandestine group made the call in a letter to the Swedish parliament, which is now debating its aid to Indonesia.

"As the people of Indonesia, we are of the opinion that we are entitled to make this appeal, as our basic rights have been violated by the Indonesian government since long ago," the letter said. INFIGHT believes that "an enormous amount of foreign aid has been used by the Indonesian government to violate our basic rights. Therefore every foreign country giving economic aid to Indonesia, including the Swedish government, should be morally responsible."

INFIGHT pointed to a long series of political killings committed by the government of Indonesian President Suharto since he took power in a bloody military coup in 1965: Purwodadi (1965-1967), Malari (1974), Tanjung Priok (1984), Mysterious Killings (1984), Ujung Pandang (1987), Aceh (1990), Lampung (1989), East Timor (1975-1991), Haur Koneng (1993), Nipah Sampang (1993).

Canada has an extensive program of aid to Indonesia, which has varied between \$40 million and \$70 million annually. Indonesia was our second-largest bilateral aid recipient last year.

Copies of the INFIGHT letters calling for a halt to Western aid are available from ETAN.

Poetry vs. the state

On June 27, hundreds of Indonesians gathered to protest against their government's decision to revoke the publishing licenses of three weeklies. Among the protesters were members of a Yogyakarta-based theatre troupe led by W.S. Rendra, one of Indonesia's best-known poets. The troupe sat down in front of the Indonesian parliament and began to recite poetry. Alarmed at this threat to the security of the state, soldiers set upon the poets, beating them about the head with rattan canes. About 20 of the Yogyakarta troupe were arrested and many more wounded. Each of the people arrested on June 27 was hit with a small 2,000 rupiah fine. However, they are refusing to pay and have appealed to the Supreme Court.

Gifts for East Timor

T shirts

NEW! "Free East Timor" with ETAN crocodile logo. One colour on unbleached 100%cotton. \$15 each, \$10 each for 10 or more.

"Free East Timor" with flag design
100% cotton, all sizes, 3 colours on black or white T shirt. \$15 each, \$10 each for 10 or more.

Buttons

"Free East Timor!" with photo of smiling Timorese girl (union made). \$1 each, 50¢ each for 10 or more.

Books

The Indonesia Kit (second edition, 1993) by Elaine Brière and Susan Gage. \$7 plus \$2 P&P.

Join ETAN! We are moving to a membership base. Memberships cost \$10, and run for the calendar year.

Two ways to join: Send a cheque to the East Timor Alert Network local group nearest to you, and half your contribution will be retained for local organizing. Or, send it to the ETAN national office, 104—2120 West 44th, Vancouver BC, V6M 2G2.

Either way, if you join now, your membership will cover 1995, and not come up for renewal until Jan. 1, 1996.

Name _____

Address & City _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my payment of ____ \$10 for a membership ____ \$ for the following items:

Asian support for E. Timor grows

East Timor has come an Asian regional issue for the first time since the Indonesian invasion almost 20 years ago, thanks in large part to Indonesian attempts to bully its neighbours into silence. Starting with the Philippines and continuing with Malaysia and Thailand, meetings on East Timor have focused the regional spotlight for the first time on the Indonesian record in East Timor.

APCET conference

The Asia Pacific Conference on East Timor (APCET), scheduled to open in Manila on May 31, had been in the planning stages for more than a year when Indonesian authorities began putting pressure on their Philippine neighbours to ban it.

Filipino President Fidel Ramos initially responded by saying he was powerless to prevent citizens of a democracy from meeting, but changed his tune when Indonesia threatened to cancel a trade fair and an economic co-operation treaty with his country. Ramos announced that non-Filipinos would not be allowed to attend the conference because they were a threat to "national security," and sought a court injunction to prevent APCET from going ahead.

"Banning foreign participants from entry into the Philippines is a clear surrender to Indonesian pressure," said APCET organizer Renato Constantino Jr. "Certainly, the Ramos administration is acting as if the Philippines is Indonesia's 28th province."

A regional court judge who had a role in sentencing former opposition leader Ninoy Aquino to death under the Ferdinand Marcos dictatorship gave Ramos the injunction he sought, but that ruling was overturned by the Supreme Court of the Philippines. Meanwhile, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mairead Corrigan Maguire of Ireland was one of the foreigners arrested when they landed at the Manila airport that now bears Aquino's name. Also banned were Danielle Mitterand, director of the human rights lobby France-Libertes and wife of the French president, members of the Japanese parliament, three bishops (one of them deceased), Amnesty International's Hong Kong representative, and Indonesian human rights activists George Aditjondro and Haji Princen.

The ban on foreigners was denounced by the bulk of the Filipino press, and by human rights groups and scholars from Japan, Malaysia, Australia, Canada, the United States, Ireland, Britain, France, Portugal, the Netherlands, and Germany. Cardinal Jaime Sin, head of the Filipino Catholic Church, said he was "distressed that

our leaders have so easily forgotten that the best way to express to God our gratitude for a newfound freedom is to help those who are still suffering to gain theirs. As a Filipino citizen and as a brother in the faith, I apologize for the ineptitude of my political leaders to spearhead the growth of freedom and human dignity in our region," Cardinal Sin wrote in a letter to East Timor Bishop Carlos Belo.

There was even a protest delegation to the Philippine embassy in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia.

Ten foreigners eluded the ban and attended APCET's opening on May 31, with hundreds of priests and nuns guarding their way to the conference site. Arrest warrants were issued for them, but a deal between APCET lawyers and immigration authorities allowed them to stay until the conference wound up. One of the ten was ETAN's Sharon Scharfe, international secretary of Parliamentarians for East Timor, who delivered a speech denouncing Indonesia for genocide against the Timorese people through a coercive birth control program, forced abortions, and systematic rape of Timorese women.

The heavy-handed attempts by the Indonesian and Philippine governments to prevent the conference actually ended up making it a major issue in the Philippines and Southeast Asia as a whole. In the end, there were still delegates from 19 countries. APCET wound up with a ringing denunciation of Indonesia's bloody record in East Timor and pledges for action by all in attendance. Following the conference, organizers launched two new groups: the Asia Pacific Coalition for East Timor (APCET) and Philippine Solidarity for East Timor and Indonesia (PSETI).

Malaysia, Thailand and beyond

Support for East Timor is now growing throughout Southeast Asia, shattering attempts by Indonesian President Suharto to bully neighbouring countries. Indonesian threats have been effective in keeping regional governments on line, but grassroots organizations in Southeast Asia have refused to be intimidated.

Malaysia, Indonesia's closest neighbour, has been the most striking case. A year and a half after a vigil in Penang, activists in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, rallied on May 31 to denounce Indonesia's moves to stifle the Manila conference. Demonstrators came from a 15 organizations, including the Centre for Orang Asli Concerns, a support group for the indigenous peoples

of Malaysia.

The protest drew an aggressive response, with the Indonesian embassy organizing a mob of counter-protesters who hurled racist taunts at the protesters (many of whom were ethnic Chinese and Indians, sizable minorities in Malaysia. The majority of Malaysians come from Malay ethnic stock, like many Indonesians). Malaysian police may lay charges against the peaceful protesters, but are not considering charges against any of the violent counter-demonstrators.

"East Timor is Asia's Bosnia," Malaysian opposition MP James Wong Wing On said at a follow-up gathering in Kuala Lumpur sponsored by the Front of Malaysian Action, a coalition of 30 groups. "We cannot continue condemning the situation in Bosnia while looking away from what is going on in ET, on our own doorstep."

On July 20-25, the Southeast Asian Human Rights Network organized a meeting to coincide with the annual summit of heads of government of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The meeting linked the issues of Burma and East Timor, which organizers saw as the two most blatant human rights abuses going on within the region. The Thai

government issued a blacklist of 11 Timorese who it said would not be allowed to enter the country. Two Australians and a Filipino were deported from Thailand after visiting Burmese opposition groups along the border but before they could attend the conference.

Just as happened in Manila, however, the ban ended up giving more publicity to the conference, both in the Thai press and internationally. In the end, Timorese external leader José Ramos Horta was able to get into the meeting and deliver a speech to participants.

Consideration is now being given to a meeting in Hong Kong, where the economic blackmail used against the Philippines and Thailand is less likely to have an effect. In yet another regional linkage, the featured speaker may be the Dalai Lama of Tibet, whose story of genocide under Chinese occupation sounds a lot like the East Timor story.

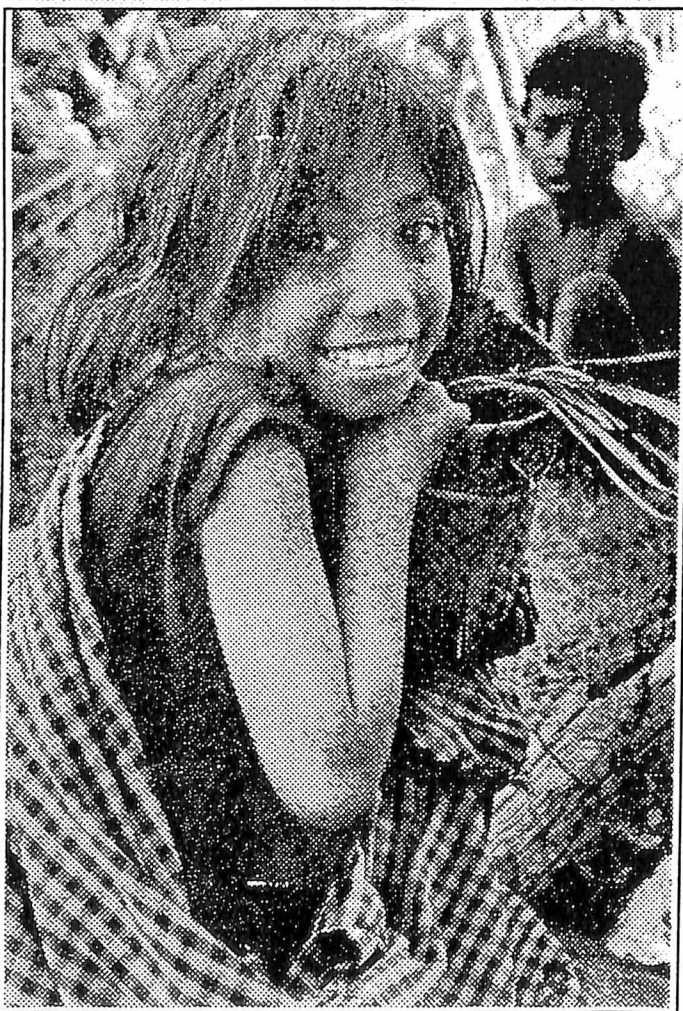
United Nations update

The UN's Commission on Human Rights has affirmed its resolution of last year, which called on Indonesia to open East Timor to international observers, investigate the Dili Massacre of November 1991 (in which 273 unarmed Timorese were killed by Indonesian soldiers), and improve its respect for human rights in the country.

On March 8, the commission passed a consensus declaration on East Timor, meaning the wording was agreed to by all 24 members of the commission, including Indonesia. The key to the declaration is its recalling of last year's motion, which Indonesia rejected as "unfair" just days after it was passed by a majority of the commission, including Canada. Since Indonesia has agreed to the terms of this year's declaration, it has effectively promised the UN to do what it refused to do a year ago. The change of heart can be put down to increasing pressure from the same Western governments that have long bankrolled the Indonesian dictatorship.

Using moderate language, this year's declaration commits Indonesia to further investigate the Dili Massacre, allow free access to Timorese prisoners for the International Committee of the Red Cross, and grant free access to East Timor to human rights observers, journalists and UN special rapporteurs. Canadian diplomats were among those pushing for the consensus.

The Human Rights Commission also debated a new report from its special rapporteur on extra-judicial executions, who found that at least 40 Timorese were



Next to the rice fields, East Timor, 1974 (Photo: Elaine Briere)

killed by Indonesian soldiers in 1992 — a number that represents just a fraction of the number likely killed, but an unprecedented finding for an official UN rapporteur in closely-controlled East Timor.

"East Timor continues to be particularly affected by violations of the right to life perpetrated by the Indonesian security forces.... The authors of these violations of human rights enjoyed virtual impunity. With very few exceptions, those responsible for the dead or disappeared were neither prosecuted nor condemned," the report commissioned by Secretary General Boutros-Ghali said.

It also noted that more than 200 people were still unaccounted for in the aftermath of the Dili Massacre, noting "many of them were feared to have been killed and buried to anonymous graves outside Dili or thrown into the sea."

In July, the human rights commission's Special Rapporteur on Extra Judicial Summary or Arbitrary Executions, Senegalese lawyer Bace Waly Ndiaye, visited East Timor and Indonesia. His conclusions are not yet available.

UN COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION (New York, July 1994)

Each summer, the UN Decolonization Committee meets. To accelerate the process of decolonization, the General Assembly in 1960 adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Declaration on Decolonization) which proclaims that the subjection of people to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental human rights. It affirms that all peoples have the right to self-determination. Under Article 73 e of the Charter, they transmit to the Secretary-General information on economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are responsible. East Timor is currently the largest territory of the seventeen remaining non-self-governing territories on the Decolonization agenda.

This year, there were over 20 petitioners, taking two days to present their briefs; of which the majority presented statements on behalf of self-determination.

ETAN/Canada was represented by Sharon Scharfe, whose brief focused on the issue of human rights violations experienced by East Timorese women. Ms. Scharfe broke the presentation into two categories, namely those women who are actively resisting (i.e., involved with armed FALINTIL guerrillas) and those who are passively resisting.

The passive resistance category was broken down into two sub-categories, the first being women who are directly affected (i.e., murdered; raped and sexually

assaulted; tortured; kidnapped; and forcibly sterilized) and the second being women indirectly affected (i.e., those whose husbands, children, parents, friends, and other relatives have been killed, tortured or disappeared; those who's sons have been taken back to Indonesia to act as servants to the Indonesian military personnel). The brief concluded by noting that what is happening to the women of East Timor is in direct contravention of many international conventions. These include the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (which Indonesia has ratified); the UN Charter; the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the International Conventions on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and, most relevant to the Special Committee, directly contravenes the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

UN Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (Geneva)

On August 25, 1994, a draft resolution condemning Indonesia for the violation of human rights in East Timor was rejected. Of the 26 experts who are members of the Sub-Commission, 11 voted in favour, 11 against with two abstentions and two persons were absent when the vote was taken. This was the first time in four years that the Sub-Commission has not produced a resolution on East Timor. The rejection came as the result of an initiative on the part of Indonesia to invite the chair of the Sub-Commission, Ms. Attah of Nigeria, to visit East Timor and report her findings to the next session of the Sub-Commission in a year's time. The announcement of the Indonesian initiative came minutes before the secret ballot on the draft resolution took place, when it was widely expected that the voting would be positive.

By contrast with the UN Human Rights Commission which also meets annually in Geneva, the Sub-Commission does not consist of government representatives but is composed of experts who are, in theory at least, independent of their governments. However, it is evident that Indonesia used its status as chair of the Non-Aligned Movement to exert pressure on the Third World members of the Sub-Commission.

Irish call for sanctions

Ireland's Foreign Affairs Minister has called for economic sanctions against Indonesia following a meeting with the East Timor Ireland Solidarity Committee, Amnesty International and Trocaire, an Irish Catholic Church agency. "One has to acknowledge that there are serious human rights abuses in East Timor," said Dick Spring, leader of the Labour party. "In the context of the human rights abuses in East Timor, I think the world should be looking for strong action against the Indonesian government. One can justify sanctions in relation to countries where there are serious abuses of human rights." President Mary Robinson has also spoken out strongly on behalf of the rights of the East Timorese.

Opposition parties, including the main opposition Fine Gael, the Progressive Democrats and Democratic Left, have called on Spring to go even further. Irish East Timor supporters plan to ask their government to step up the pressure on European Community partners for sanctions, lending Ireland's voice to that of Portugal, already a strong voice for East Timor.

US Congress looks at weapons sales

The U.S. Congress has closed a loophole that allowed Indonesian military officers to receive training in the United States. Congress voted to revoke funding and training provided to Indonesia under the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program last year, but the administration continued allowing Indonesian officers into the program if they paid their own way. The House of Representatives appropriations committee voted to close the loophole on May 23, saying it was "outraged" that the Clinton administration had been allowing Indonesian soldiers to train on a pay-as-you-go basis.

On July 14, the U.S. Senate made an unprecedented vote to ban the sale of light arms to Indonesia because of the Indonesian occupation of East Timor. On a voice vote, the Senate passed an amendment to its foreign aid bill proposed by Senators Patrick Leahy and Russell Feingold. The House of Representatives have already passed a similar bill. A House-Senate committee must now resolve the differences between the two.

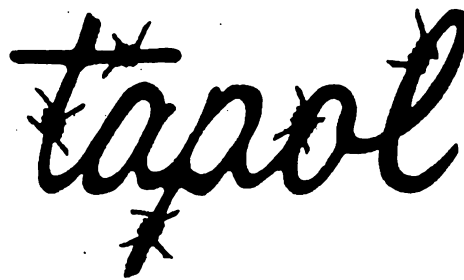
Japanese mission to Timor

Five members of the Japanese Diet (parliament) have called on Indonesia to withdraw its troops from

East Timor during an August visit to the territory. The five, representing the 66-member Diet Forum on East Timor (part of the international Parliamentarians for East Timor), carried a letter to Indonesian Foreign Minister from Diet speaker Takako Doi. Tomiko Okazaki, spokesperson for the group and a member of the ruling Socialist party, said "We think that the military should be removed from East Timor as soon as possible.... It is important to secure freedom for the people." The mission also included members of the Liberal Democrats and Japan New Party.

Timor issue hots up in New Zealand

More than half of the members of New Zealand's parliament called on their government to reverse its support for Indonesia's occupation of East Timor. A total of 51 of the 99 New Zealand MPs signed a May petition denouncing Indonesia's occupation of East Timor. The group apparently is also backed by Governor-General Dame Catherine Tizard, who made a rare foray into politics when she told the Indonesian ambassador that New Zealanders remained concerned about human rights violations in East Timor. Prime Minister Jim Bolger, however, headed to Indonesia on a trade mission and assured his hosts that New Zealand "fully recognizes" the occupation of East Timor.



The TAPOL Bulletin is one of the world's foremost sources of information and analysis on human rights, labour, the environment, and land rights in Indonesia and Indonesian-occupied territories. It has been published every two months for 120 issues by TAPOL, the Indonesian Human Rights Campaign (based in London). Now, you can buy subscriptions in Canadian or U.S. funds. Send \$30 (\$15 for students and unwaged) to "TAPOL-Canada", and mail to ETAN/Toronto, PO Box 562, Stn. P, Toronto M5S 2T1. Please include your name and full address.

ANC betrays Timor

Many anti-apartheid activists are angry at South Africa's new president, Nelson Mandela, for his refusal to back East Timor. Mandela, head of the African National Congress, visited Indonesian President Suharto in September, refusing to speak out on behalf of East Timorese or Indonesian political prisoners, saying instead he would leave that question to Suharto. South Africa and Indonesia are now in the process of establishing close diplomatic relations.

ANC members overwhelmingly support East Timor's right to self-determination, seeing it as a situation parallel to the former South African colony (now independent state) of Namibia. The Assistant Secretary General of the trade union federation COSATU, Vavi, has been quoted as saying that he is "horrified" by the visit. The ANC leadership, however, seems to have chosen friendship with the powerful Indonesian rulers rather than the powerless East Timorese. In 1990, Mandela visited Indonesia and received an award from General Suharto and a donation of \$10 million. Many observers believe he was seeking additional funds for the ANC on this year's visit.

In a letter to Mandela from Cipinang prison, East Timorese resistance leader Xanana Gusmão said: "I personally congratulate you, Mr President, on your unyielding fight for justice, your perseverance in standing up for human rights and your spiritual tenacity and lucidity which you maintained throughout your struggle, in spite of severe adversities.... Having said this, Mr President, we are also certain that the successful restoration of law, justice, freedom and peace in South Africa cannot be complete while, in other parts of the world, repression continues to create victims, and while governments of many countries contemplate with indifference the crimes being committed by the powerful. For this very reason, we are sure that your struggle, Mr President, as well as the ANC's difficult fight, and the repression experienced by the black majority of South Africa, will continue to inspire your personal support, and that of the ANC, the government and the South African people for the fight of the small, weak and defenceless People of East Timor for its right to self-determination and national independence.

Letters of protest can be sent to: African National Congress, Department of Information & Publicity, PO Box 61884, Marshalltown 2107, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa. Tel: (+27 11) 330 7096, Fax: (+27 11) 333 8870, Internet: ancdip@wn.apc.org, CompuServe: 100014,344.

An appeal.

In 1993, the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, a Montréal-based agency headed by former NDP leader Ed Broadbent, gave ETAN \$20,000 to help with the core work of the organization. This represented over half of our budget for the year, and enabled us to do many things that had previously been out of our financial reach.

Globe and Mail columnist Linda Hossie, in an article about the Centre, cited this grant as a perfect example of the good work the Centre was doing. Since directly opposing government policy would be too risky for the government-funded Centre, she wrote, the grant to ETAN meant the work got done and the Centre's funding from Ottawa was not at risk.

In 1994, however, the Centre informed us there would be no grant for this year. ETAN made several appeals, but we have been informed there will be no funding for ETAN in the future.

We have reason to believe this decision is the result of political interference from Ottawa, where officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs have put unwarranted political pressure on the Centre.

The Centre is still conducting excellent work. It is directly funding East Timor support work in the Southeast Asian region, an excellent initiative which ETAN applauds. We hope to continue to work as closely as possible with the Centre on East Timor support work in this country. However, as ETAN founder Elaine Brière wrote in a letter to Ed Broadbent, the decision not to fund the only organization in Canada that is able to influence Canadian government policy on East Timor is "unconscionable."

We are asking that Canadians concerned about East Timor write to Broadbent to protest the decision to end funding for ETAN. This appeal is one that we realize leaves us open to charges of crying over lost funding, but we feel it is important that the point be made — not just for the sake of ETAN and East Timor solidarity work, but to prevent further cases of political interference from bureaucrats in Ottawa. Evidence in the form of letters that Canadians are concerned about how this decision was taken may help to prevent it being taken in the future.

Please send letters to: Ed Broadbent, President, International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, 63 rue de Brésolles, Montréal, Québec, H2Y 1V7.

Parliamentarians for East Timor

Parliamentarians for East Timor (PET) is an international organization comprised of Members of Parliament, Senators and Representatives who, regardless of party affiliation, support the human rights and self-determination of the people of East Timor. There are currently more than 250 members from fifteen different countries. PET activities in 1994 have included a meeting with the United Nations Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Later in the year Swedish MP Ingela Martensson presented PET's brief to the UN Decolonization Committee. PET was also a co-sponsor of the recent Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor (APCET) in Manila, where Members of Parliament from the Philippines, Malaysia and Nepal added their support.

In Canada, the last federal election saw PET membership drop from 30 MPs from all three parties, to 15 MPs from the Liberal Party and New Democratic Party. Recruiting new members has been a slow task. Given the Liberal landslide, former strong Liberal PET advocates have been silenced by Cabinet or Parliamentary positions. And the NDP, who will continue to strongly support self-determination for East Timor, was decimated in the last election.

As a result, the East Timor Alert Network urges its members to bring the issue of East Timor to the attention of their federal MP. When writing letters to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, send a copy of the letter (postage free) to your MP's office in the House of

Commons. It would also be greatly appreciated if you could send a copy of the letter you write (and any response you might receive) to the International Secretariat, Parliamentarians for East Timor at P.O. Box 1031, Station B, Ottawa, ON K1P 5R1. Based on the response received, the International Secretariat would then arrange a meeting in Ottawa with your MP concerning joining PET.

Meetings with MPs in their constituencies have also proved very effective in bringing East Timor to their attention. If MPs see that their constituents are concerned about East Timor, they are more likely to give their support to PET. ETAN can offer advice in setting up a meeting with your MP, and sometimes send a representative along with you. ETAN local groups can advise you on the progress of lobbying MPs in cities where there is an ETAN group.

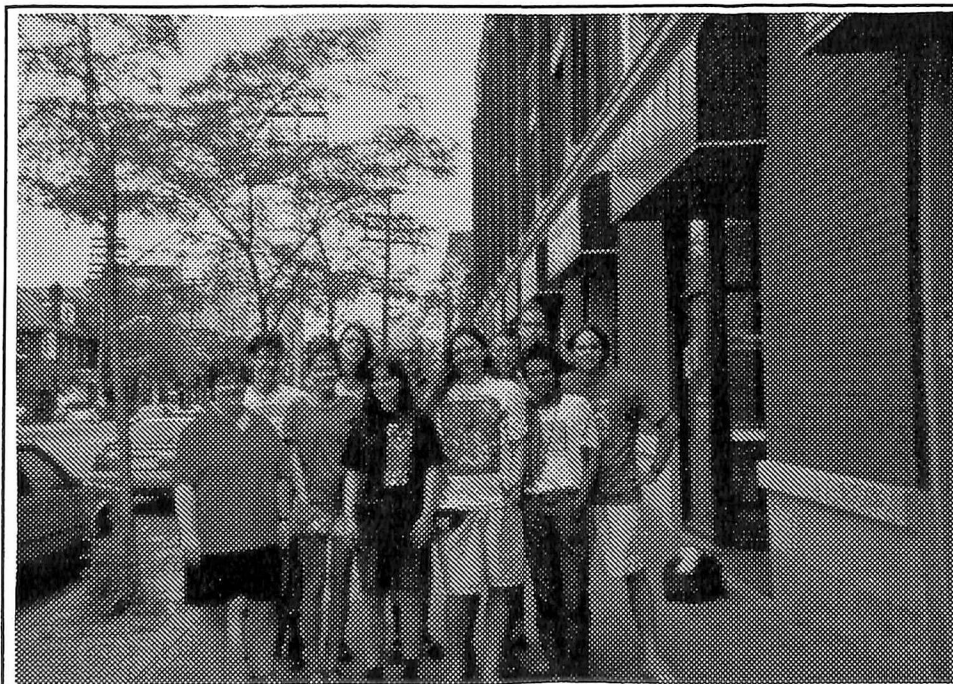
ETAN to foreign policy review

From ETAN's brief to the parliamentary committee reviewing Canada's foreign policy, delivered in Toronto on August 29.

Recommendations on Canada's Aid Program

Insofar as Indonesia remains Canada's second largest recipient of bilateral aid, ETAN notes that:

1. Given the fact that CIDA is committed to an increased linkage of official development assistance (ODA) and human rights, and in light of the fact that Indonesia is one of the worst violators of human rights in the world, Canada should suspend its bilateral aid projects with Indonesia until the people of East Timor are given the right to a free and fair vote on the issue of self-determination, a vote that would be moderated by the United Nations. Canada would not be initiating such a suspension, but rather reflect



Members of five ETAN local groups attended a regional conference in Toronto on July 16-17 at the CAW Workers' Centre

the new trend of aid suspension to Indonesia that was initiated in July, 1994 at the CGI where Austria, Norway and Denmark ended their aid program with Indonesia.

2. Canadian aid projects in East Timor must be channelled through either the Catholic Church in East Timor, through UN agencies, such as UNICEF, or through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

3. Canada must also encourage the resumption of the East Timorese exchange student programs, such as those with Canada World Youth and with Canadian Crossroads International, which were revoked by the Indonesian Government in 1993.

Recommendations With Regards to Trade

According to the Department of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia is Canada's largest trading partner in Southeast Asia; also, trade with Indonesia has grown by over 40% in the last two years and is expected to surpass \$1 billion this year. Bearing in mind that the repression in Indonesia and East Timor is also growing, ETAN notes that:

1. There must be a strong link between trade and human rights. This is one of the policies that were promised in the Liberal Red Book

2. The Canadian government must implement an arms embargo on all military goods from Canada to Indonesia in light of the gross and systematic human rights violations occurring in East Timor. To refuse a ban based on economic loss is ludicrous as the value of Canadian military exports in 1994 is negligible. Canada would have much to gain in the international community for its strong stance on human rights, as well as send a message to Indonesia that the flagrant abuses that it has been engaging in are not acceptable to the Canadian public. It is unlikely that Canada will stand alone for very long given that other countries are currently in the process of proposing similar legislation. With the domino effect of several countries, Indonesia will soon realize that it is no longer profitable to maintain its presence in East Timor.

3. Canada must boycott the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Co-Operation meeting in Jakarta in November (1994) if Canada's foreign policy is to be guided by considerations of human rights rather than just blown by the trade winds. We do not condemn the existence of APEC, only the fact that it is being held in Indonesia. Canada is attending as part of an immoral, profit-driven foreign policy. If Canada's words and values are to mean anything in the international arena, we must boycott the APEC meeting. However, if Canadian officials go to Bogor, they must make the meeting a forum to press for human rights in Indonesia and in Indonesian-occupied East Timor.

Other Diplomatic Initiatives

1. The trial and sentencing of East Timorese resistance leader, Xanana Gusmao, has been condemned as unfair by the International Commission of Jurists which has called for the trial to be annulled. Given the patent illegality of his trial, the Canadian government should request his unconditional release.

2. With regards to the ongoing UN sponsored Talks between the governments of Portugal and Indonesia, the Canadian government must press for direct Timorese representation at these Talks in order to reach a solution to the question of East Timor.

3. Given the Resolution adopted at the UNCHR in 1993 and the Consensus Statement that was agreed to by Portugal and Indonesia at the UNCHR in 1994, the Canadian government, as a member of the Commission, should ensure Indonesia's accountability through the United Nations and UN monitored agencies.

4. Finally, in September (1994) President Suharto will be awarded the UN Population Award in Cairo. The Canadian government's representatives present must object this decision. To not speak out is to give their tacit approval that genocide is the most effective means of population control.

Conclusion

As the illegal occupation of East Timor approaches its 19th year, and as the murder and repression continue, the Canadian government must take a more hard-lined stance with the Indonesian government. The diplomatic, soft-shoed approach has not worked. The Canadian government cannot continue to fund and diplomatically support the Suharto dictatorship. While in opposition, Mr. Chretien stated in a letter to a member of ETAN that:

"The Liberal Party of Canada firmly believes that we should not turn away from any area of the world where violations of human rights are taking place. Just as Canada and the world undertook measures to protect the Kurds following the Gulf war, the international community should take steps to safeguard the rights of the people of East Timor. ... we have requested that the government persuade the U.N. Security Council to fully implement Resolutions 389 and 384, calling for the withdrawal of Indonesian troops and the provision of international assistance."

Now is the time to put these words into action.

CALGARY

The following is a transcript of an Aug. 4 discussion between Brigadier General Benny Mandalika and the Indonesian community in Calgary, Canada. Unfortunately, there was limited time available, whereas the scope of discussion was very large. As a result, yesterday the discussion was merely dominated between Brig. Gen. Benny Mandalika and Paul H. Salim (an Indonesian citizen and member of the East Timor Alert Network/Calgary) and lasted approximately 30 minutes. Moreover, several questions were not answered completely.

Brig. Gen. Benny Mandalika, who was born in Sangir-Talau and has 2 sons and 1 daughter, visited Calgary to give a presentation on State Defence and Security of the Indonesian Republic. He now serves as the Defence Attaché to Canada-USA with a headquarters in Washington, DC. He has been serving in Washington since 1991, but because of his achievements (although according to regulation, his position can only be held for 3 years) he gets approval to retain it for one more year.

Mr. Mandalika visited Calgary with his wife and was also accompanied by almost all staff of Indonesian Consulate in Vancouver (such as Mr. Dharmawan with wife, Mr. Widjaja, and Ms. Trini G. Sualang). Strangely...during a coffee break before the presentation, Mr. Dharmawan approached me and asked: "Does Pak* Paul plan to go back to Indonesia?" In my mind, there was a question of how he knew my name although I had never introduced myself to him before. Also, why did he raise that question? Then, I raised a question to Mr. Dharmawan: "What is the meaning of your question?" However, when he was about to answer, a lady approached him; so that until the end of the meeting I did not receive any answers.

The event was scheduled to start at 7:00 pm at Port of Holland and was organized by Canadian Indonesian Social Club. However, due to some reasons, Mr. Mandalika's presentation could commence at 8:00. All audience had to fill out an attendance list, such as full names, positions, and signatures. Also, during the presentation, several people (especially Mr. Dharmawan) took some pictures of the audience. At about 9:30, Mr. Mandalika's presentation was over and immediately a question period was started. The following is a transcription of all conversation recorded in my audio cassette during the question period:

[Note: BM = Brig. Gen. Benny Mandalika, PS = Paul H. Salim]

BM: ... (if) you don't understand, please raise a question, ... if you don't understand, you will be in doubt.. please ask any questions...

(PS raised his hand)

BM: Pak Paul?

PS: Yes.. my name is Paul Salim. I have a question, Sir.

BM: Please

PS: First of all, a moment ago Pak Benny said that, according to Article 30 (Indonesian constitution, UUD 45),.. national defence is responsibility of all Indonesian citizens. Is it correct, Sir?

BM: Yes.

PS: Well, I want to know.. how many Indonesian troops are now stationed in East Timor? Please remember that, according to UN Security Council Resolutions number 384 and 389, all Indonesian troops must be withdrawn from East Timor since 1975? Probably Mr. Benny could say.. when will Indonesian troops be gradually withdrawn from East Timor in accordance with the UN Security Council?

BM: More (questions)?

(PS raised his hand again)

PS: can I ask two more (questions)?

BM: please.. if there are, please

PS: Thank you, I have a question.. on human rights. A moment ago it was mentioned that Indonesian Armed Forces, if oppressing people, are wrong! In fact, a report I received this morning explains that yesterday 4th August.. a demonstration conducted mainly by journalists from three weeklies DeTik, Tempo, and ... Editor took place in Jakarta in the morning from 10:00 to 11:00 and ended at 12:30. Ah.. during the demonstration, it was mentioned that situation was in order, and there was nothing that could provoke instability. However, once the demonstration was declared to be over, anti-riot police and army troops attacked the demonstrators. I think this can be called human rights violation, Sir? This is my second question.

Then, my third question, if Pak Benny does not mind ..

BM: .. no, please-please..

PS: Mr. Benny said that Indonesia had 400 ethnic groups.. so, it was mentioned that we were in quite disturbing condition. True?

BM: Yes..

PS: Well.. if we remember history,... before 1945, especially during Dutch colonialism, it was said that the Dutch could rule Indonesia because they had a policy of "divide and rule." Thus, we probably assume that we must not become divisive, so that colonialism will not come back. However, according to my view, colonialism is not always based on dominance of the white people over the non-white people, but can also mean dominance between non-white over non-white, or white over white.

For example, Napoleon in Europe wanted to unite all Europe. This is an example of colonialism. During Pacific war, Japan occupied the whole Asia... non-white over non-white. If this is used as a basis, I think Indonesia will be better, if we pay more attention to population homogeneity from territory to territory, so that clashes among 400 ethnic groups in Indonesia can be minimized. Not only that, we can reduce our defence budget, because one of the instability factors is removed. Probably Pak Benny can give your opinion.

BM: I will explain this important topic... it was the fact that in 1945, when we decided to take independence or not, we discussed the territory of Indonesia. For instance, which territory would be liberated : Java and Sumatra ? Java and Sumatra as well as Kalimantan ? However, during the PPKI (Committee to Prepare Indonesian Independence) meeting, it was agreed to liberate all territories of Netherlands Indies. It was then called Indonesian State and was based on Pancasila and UUD 45. This state which we currently own is a unified one according to Pancasila and UUD 45. We must fulfill what is written in UUD 45. Therefore, if someone thinks Indonesian population is not homogeneous, he does not have modern thought, and his thought is AGAINST Law. If all Indonesians think the same way, we will go back to the colonial era and we know that we will not achieve this current development. Why ? Because each of us will be jealous towards one another.. for example, Sulawesi or Kalimantan people will think .. ah, the Javanese have too much... ; and a split (in Indonesia) will always occur and we cannot perform national up-building. Thus, this kind of thinking should be abandoned, because since 1945 we have agreed to the Indonesian territory as it is now. As consequence, we have to defend it, because Indonesian Constitution says so. If Indonesian territory is different from the one proclaimed on Independence Day, the country can no longer be called Indonesia.

(PS raised his hand)

BM: Pak Paul...

PS: Can I comment?

BM: Please

PS: If we assume that Indonesia is equal to Europe which has numerous ethnic groups, is it that the formation of Indonesia like Europe with several independent states cannot be used as a way to make Indonesians prosperous, since homogeneous population of each state can be achieved?..

BM: in Europe, after Europeans form the current independent states, they finally realize that European Union is a harmonious thing to establish. Unified Indonesia, meanwhile, has been established since 1945! Europeans just has a union nowadays. Why do we have to go back to former Europe?

PS: I meant that the establishment of European Union was just a beginning, so that, in the history of Europe, establishment of European Union has been extremely difficult. For instance, Napoleon wanted to unite Europe but he failed. So did Hitler. If Indonesia want to do the same (to unite territory with several ethnic groups), is it not against the Law of Nature, Sir?

BM: We have been united since 1945. So, what we are doing is not to unite, but to enhance unification... Thus, if Europe started to think in 1992, we have been united since 1945... and according to Pak Paul's opinion?

PS: I would like to take Economic Tigers in Asia as examples , such as Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea... all of them are homogeneous countries, Sir. Ah.. according to this statistical data, does Indonesia not want to pursue the same

goal to achieve national prosperity?

BM: According to Law, what we mean Indonesian people is ones established on Independence Day, which cover the current territory. If what is in Pak Paul's mind comes true, the new country will no longer be called Indonesia. Thus, your idea according to ... Pancasila is called separatist thinking... and, the separatist thinking is against law... can it be accepted ?

PS: I still have more questions, but probably Pak Benny can answer two questions of mine? Especially about East Timor?

BM: East Timor according to Indonesian people .. is an integral part of Indonesia. According to Indonesian people, an act of integration on July 17, 1976, forces Indonesian people to defend East Timor as an integral part of Indonesia which cannot be separated by anyone. OK? The reduction of troops in East Timor is carried out according to priority and currently we have reduced from 9 battalions including 2 regional battalions, to 7 battalions including 2 regional ones. From the 7 battalions, all are battalions involved in development projects, that is, they are not equipped with ammunition, but equipped with hoes, saws, and other development tools in order to help the East Timorese develop their territory so that it will be equal to the other Indonesian provinces. This is what Indonesian Armed Forces do. So, if some people say that Indonesian troops must be reduced, according to Indonesian people, we have to deploy as many battalions involved in development projects as possible in East Timor, because East Timor will be developed more actively. This is according to opinion of Indonesia.

(PS raised his hand)

BM: Please..

PS: How is the relationship with UN Security Council?

BM: .. East Timor issue has been put to an end in 1983. And.. then, UN Secretary General asked Portugal and Indonesia to find a thorough solution. Both Portugal and Indonesia support efforts by the Secretary General. And foreign ministers from both countries have met several times.. in New York, in Rome, in Geneva and next month in New York. This is what is being done by the two countries.

PS: Comment, Sir?

(BM nodded)

PS: According to Law, if I am not mistaken, if a law is not annulled by another one, the former still functions. For example, UUD 45 functions because no other law annuls the former. And the UN Security Council Resolutions, which have not yet been annulled by any laws, still function, don't they, Sir?

BM: UN Resolutions are not only directed toward Indonesia. Many UN Resolutions are not implemented by some nations. Why is Indonesia required to implement UN Resolutions concerning East Timor? This is the weakness of the UN that its products are difficult to implement and that UN almost does not compel nations to implement its resolutions. And in East Timor case which is a dispute between Portugal

and Indonesia, emphasis is contributed to solution between the two countries.

PS: If I am not mistaken, a country which often violated UN Resolutions was Israel, especially regarding Palestine. However, recently there was a peace treaty between Palestine and Israel. How is the relationship with East Timor... (BM interrupted)

BM: Pak Paul, do you know how UN Security Council makes its decision? You know? How does USA influence members of the UN Security Council to be in favour of USA? What rights does USA have to peel Haiti? You know? What rights? Haiti is a sovereign state, but USA made a law through UN in order to invade Haiti. Why do we have to give our support?

PS: True.. what is the advantage for Indonesia to become a member of UN? Why not Indonesia gets out if there is no benefit of joining UN?

BM: We have experience of walking out of UN. Indonesia as a leader of Non-Aligned Movement wants to make UN function more fairly, so that UN is not only an institution of European countries, but also of Third-World countries, and voice of Third-World countries should be heard, not only those of Europeans. Thus, if Pak Paul thinks Indonesia should get out of UN, it will in turn fool Indonesian people, and is against what we are talking about tonight.

PS: OK, my third question, Sir?

BM: The third one about ..?

PS: Human rights..

BM: This one.. this one is very interesting.. what is seen is always the negative side of The Indonesian view about up-building is that Indonesian people do not want to sacrifice 190 million of population for the sake of fulfilling the demand of few people. (The) demonstration which was carried out by those demanding ... about the revocation of SIUPP (license to publish) is actually not as we heard. Its goal is far from that. Thus, what we heard has undergone distortion.. and only viewed anything which will corner Indonesian nation. Regarding demonstrations, what really happens is: we, although without the law of demonstrations, regulate demonstrations, that is, demonstration can be performed if security and order are not in jeopardy. And this is the problem of order. Why? In Indonesian view about human rights, one can pursue or demand one's rights as long as it does not disturb other people. If other people have been disturbed, implementation of one's rights should be stopped..

This is according to Indonesian view. And.. what the security forces have done is according to Indonesian view that implementation of one's rights has disturbed other people. So, this is the main difference from that in Canada/America, in which one can pursue one's rights until forever. However, in Indonesia, it can't. Let me give you an example: you want to have a party, and you want to listen to music... as long as you are home, you are OK; but if it happens in Indonesia, you are not allowed because you will disturb your neighbour.. you will be asked to disperse. It is reported as security forces violate human rights; it is not! I explained what has happened.

**For regular news of
East Timor, read
East Timor Update
in the *ACTivist*,
Ontario's monthly news-
paper of peace, ecology
& human rights.**

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**ETAN is now able to get
funds directly from
supporters to East Timorese
political prisoners being held
in Indonesian jails. These
funds pay for expenses
beyond the meagre food and
minimal daily necessities
provided by Indonesian
prisons. We appeal to our
supporters to give to the
East Timorese political pris-
oners' fund, c/o ETAN/
Toronto, PO Box 562, Sta-
tion P, Toronto, M5S 2T1.**

Pak Paul..? So, Pak Paul, please don't take without proper consideration all rumours from anti-Indonesian friends. A moment ago, I explained that Pak Paul should understand... (PS interrupted)

PS: comment, Sir?

BM: Please..

PS: Especially, this report was received from Legal Aid Foundation of Indonesia (YLBHI) which specializes in human rights violation in Indonesia. It is reported: actually the demonstration was over, and immediately anti-riot police beat up the demonstrators. I think this is human rights violation, Sir? Besides, I would like to remind you that about 200,000 East Timorese have been massacred by Indonesian armed forces since... (BM interrupted)..

BM: this is another person .. (PS interrupted)

PS: also.. in 1965/66, there were 800,000 people perished in Indonesia because they were killed by Indonesian armed forces

BM: This.. this is poison for Indonesian people. Pak Paul, that 200,000 who perished is a classic number used to corner Indonesia. What actually happened is as follows: during Portuguese colonialism for 450 years in East Timor, it has produced only one Senior High School, a small number of Junior High Schools, and no university. Does Pak Paul want to know now? How many Senior High Schools? Every district (Kabupaten) has one, there is a university, there are East Timorese who become members of Indonesian armed forces. What is mentioned as 200,000 is actually the product of negligence by Portugal, so that many were killed due to famine and civil war during integration... this is counted as victims of Indonesia. Ashamed.. ashamed.. as an Indonesian people, you assume that it is victims of... (unrecorded). You should feel ashamed; don't read it as truth.

(PS raised his hand)

BM: Please..

PS: According to Mr. Benny, how many East Timorese from 200,000 died of famine, and how many died of civil war?

BM: This becomes our weaknesses. If we take responsibility to help the East Timorese through integration, we run risk of being blamed like that. In fact, this is caused by negligence of Portugal: no infrastructure; those walking off the road, if meeting the Portuguese, should bow down. What is happening now? Even demonstration is accepted by Indonesia. And 200,000 is a result of negligence from Portugal. It is not fair if Indonesia takes the blame. The purpose is only to discredit integration of East Timor into Indonesia. Pak Paul should know that; if not, you need to visit East Timor. See how East Timor has developed. Do not read only references written by anti-Indonesian people. You will see only all black, in fact in Indonesia there is also white..

PS: I would like to get confirmation, Sir, it is interesting !.. (audience started to feel uneasy, because their dinner had been continuously postponed).. According to Pak Benny, how many East Timorese were killed.. ? Probably, this is my last question, Sir; before...

BM: I shall give the information later, because it needs accuracy. I shall give it to Pak Alam. If Pak Paul can give me your address, I shall give it to you. Just a reminder that Mr. Paul should use the information as the truth.

BM: ... any more questions, please?

(Audience were silence, because they had been waiting for dinner for 30 minutes, as a result of discussion between Paul H. Salim and Benny Mandalika)

BM: Thank you. thank you.

(Audience applauded and the question period was officially closed by Mr. Dharmawan)

* Pak is an Indonesian term denoting respect, with the meaning falling somewhere between the English words Mr. and Sir.

GUELPH & POINTS WEST

As you may have heard by now, there is an original musical project that is raising awareness for East Timor. An apparent first for North America, Abé ho Aloz officially formed during the 1993 United Nations-declared 'Year of Indigenous Peoples', to write, record and perform for their love of the people, culture and country of East Timor. This year, they released "Abé ho Aloz sing for a Free East Timor," a three-song sampler cassette. In July, a western Canadian tour helped to introduce East Timor to a broader Canadian audience, raise awareness and inspire more people through their music. Highlights of the tour:

Guelph • Pre-sold 70 tapes after two performances at the open stage of Guelph Hillside Festival.

Parry Sound • *Festival of the Sound* - two performances: **WORLD BEAT WEEKEND** 'SOUNDWALKS'...performers took placement throughout the scenic grounds of the Parry Sound museum where audience members gathered in large numbers to learn more about East Timor through the the songs of Abé ho Aloz. AhoA were then interviewed by Jeff Orchard (news director) of CKLP-FM radio.

In the grand finale of the Worldbeat Weekend of the Festival, AhoA were participants in a cross-cultural/improvisational piece, involving global musicians from China, South America, Africa, India, Spain and North America and of course...EAST TIMOR! This world premiere of "The Poet's Song", by Canadian composer Andrew P. MacDonald, was recorded by CBC radio for future broadcast.

Sudbury • Met with VIS (Village International Sudbury) hosts to arrange a return concert which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to double/over-booking. VIS and AhoA were happy to reschedule a



Abé ho Alos play in Calgary (Photo: Sue Snell)

concert for the Winter/Spring of 1995. (details T.B.A.)

Thunder Bay • Met with GAP (Global Awareness Project) hosts to finalize concert details and found our friends were so eager that they were wearing T-shirts, playing the AhoA tape and reading the "Indonesia Kit" when we arrived unannounced at the office the following day.

Winnipeg • Met with Choices (a coalition for social justice) and soon-to-become ETAN/Winnipeg hosts to discuss upcoming Winnipeg concert and gave a preview (sing-a-long gig) at the home of Louise and George Chernetez.

Calgary • Met with ETAN/Calgary hosts to finalize concert details and sold 30 tapes

Banff • Busking on Banff Ave. stopped a shop-hungry crowd dead in their tracks for a taste of East Timor.

Victoria • Met with ERA (Ecological Rights Association) and soon-to-become ETAN/Victoria hosts and performed at Clayoquot Sound Peace Camp, linking the issues of peace and environment as they prepared for a massive demonstration to be carried out during morning rush-hour in Victoria.

Vernon • Performed at benefit for newly formed ETAN/Vernon at 'Gallery Billiards and Café.' Our first gig at a pool hall, we were afraid we might not be heard above the cracking of the cues and balls (and these would really hurt if thrown), but as soon as we began to play a strange silence overcame the room and everyone

listened intently with the occasional tears shed. A younger crowd, they were extremely appreciative and curious about the issue and asked what they could do to help. Several inspired youths expressed the desire to write their own songs about East Timor for their friends to hear and learn more. They were full of good ideas for action.

Calgary • Performed at a non-smoking benefit for ETAN/Calgary at 'Folks Like Us Bistro'. The event was a sell-out performance, standing-room only, with a very appreciative crowd. The evening was hosted by Larry Grieve and Dawn Scott of ETAN/Calgary and also featured Paul Salim, an Indonesian PhD student at the University of Calgary who has been very active speaking out for a free East Timor and against the Indonesian occupation for the last three years. Bistro owners, Denise and Cheryl, generously provided their establishment and a delicious meal for us free of charge and ETAN/Calgary gained new members to help strengthen their chapter further.

Edmonton • We performed (despite Alos slamming the van door on his finger in Banff) at 'Nyonya's Corner Restaurant and Lounge' for the soon-to-become ETAN/Edmonton. This event was arranged very last minute and the audience was small but quite communicative and the evening evolved into a wonderfully intimate after-concert dinner party with authentic South East Asian cuisine exquisitely prepared by Terry & Elizabeth of Nyonya's Restaurant —

Regina • Interview with George Martin Manz (Managing Editor of Briarpatch Magazine) for future article.

Winnipeg • Performed an awareness and fundraising potluck dinner for Choices and soon-to-become ETAN/Winnipeg at home of Bev and Dale Bedford.

Thunder Bay • Performed for GAP (Global Awareness Project) at Multicultural Centre, graciously sharing the stage with feminist singer/songwriters 'That's it! That's all!' and 'Jocelyn J. Paquette' (feminist storyteller and NAC Vice-President, French division). The evening provided an opportunity for Northern Ontarians to share their activism.

Abé ho Alos (and Sue) would like to sincerely thank everyone who assisted (to whatever degree) in making this, our first x-Canada sampler tour, a success. We hope to perform for you again in the near future and we appreciate your support. The new ETAN/Winnipeg has already approached the Winnipeg Folk Festival to encourage them to have us perform there next year to bring the East Timor message to an even larger audience. Abé ho Alos would especially like to thank Sue Snell for providing her tour management skills: accounting; driving photography; information table work; etc., etc. etc... we couldn't have done it

without you. To Listen is to Win!

Contact Info. • tel: (519) 767-0313 • fax: (519) 767-1785, email: hands@web.apc.org, snailmail: P.O. Box 1302, Guelph, ON Canada N1H 6N6

WINNIPEG

EAST TIMOR: INDONESIA'S HOLOCAUST IN PARADISE!

That was the caption on a large banner that took centre stage in a protest July 11 in Winnipeg. A group of approximately 15 people representing St. Catherine's Anglican Church, the Manitoba Inter-Church Committee for World Development Education, the River Heights TEN DAYS Committee, and Choices were protesting Canadian trade with Indonesia at a breakfast sponsored by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and attended by the Indonesian Ambassador to Canada and the Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia.

The purpose of the protest was to offer Winnipeg business people the opportunity to be informed about the Indonesian government's illegal occupation of East Timor and their human rights violations. Upon being asked to leave the Convention Centre by Winnipeg Police the protesters took to the front street where they caught the eye of passing motorists and were later able to speak to those attending the meeting as they left the

breakfast. This resulted in some good dialogue as well as some public exposure for the issue. CBC aired a piece on the protest on their French channel that evening.

Folks in Winnipeg are anxious to plug into the East Timor Alert Network and have formed a local group in September. To reach the group, phone Bev Bedford at (204) 663-2688.

OTTAWA

Hello from Ottawa! With the help of other local groups we reminded the Indonesian embassy early in the spring that we would not go away. With two days notice, Ottawa's Coalition for Disarmament generously rerouted the annual "Walk for Peace" so that the first stop for 350 marchers was the Indonesian Embassy. (Special thanks to Kathryn Payne for this!) Embassy staff followed organizers around with video cameras, as marchers were led to tables where they signed 350 letters addressed to Foreign Minister André Ouellet. Protesters lay on the road in front of the embassy drawing hundreds of chalk body outlines in memory of children killed in East Timor. Local newspaper photographers were on hand for this spectacular event. Please write to the Indonesian Embassy for your video of the event!

We also decided to get a new group of people involved this year. In the past, all of our awareness efforts have been successfully targeting the 19+ crowd with awareness benefits in pubs and clubs. In the spring, ETAN went into high schools with our message. In 8 schools we managed to reach at least 900 students in classes and assemblies. Special thanks to Vicky Westcott, Becky and Sarah Abman, Devon and Joanna Kirby, Afke and Adele Benoit, Michelle Buckley, Adam Schachhuber, Natalie Wasserlaus, Dave Weber, Alison Ryan, Catherine Connelly, Dave Temple, Mika Kiesl, Paul Kaminsky, Nick Santos-Pedro, Sara Cumberbirch, and all of the other students who helped



Protest outside the Winnipeg Convention Centre, July 11, 1994



organize these talks. We will be doing this again this year.

This was followed with an all-ages benefit concert at The Pit with a high school band called "Fringe" opening for the popular Ottawa band Jimmy George. Fringe played their own beautiful song about East Timor. After 10pm this doubled as a licensed event, with both Jimmy George and the Hammerheads. We raised over \$1000 thanks to the bands and also thanks to the stores that provided raffle prizes.

We organized a phone and fax protest following the attack on East Timorese demonstrators in July. Approximately 100 people phoned the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister's office and asked difficult questions over a period of three days.

From October 4th until the 31st ETAN/Ottawa has organized a photo exhibit at the Manx pub with photos by Elaine Briere and Steve Cox. This is proving to be an effective awareness raiser, with a history of East Timor and Canadian complicity in genocide written on cards to be hung around the photos. Elaine's beautiful original prints are for sale at the pub.

ETAN/Ottawa has generated enough interest to start a group which meets on a weekly basis. We have at least 30 volunteers attending meetings, most of whom are high school students. This is a wonderful turn out. We are working hard to ensure that Chomsky's visit is as effective as possible. We are looking for ideas for an effective event in November to publicise at Chomsky's talk. Please send ideas/advice to Kerry Pither by e-mail, or give us a call for meeting locations and times.

ETAN/Ottawa's action line can be phoned at (613) 742-9141. e-mail: ad421@freenet.carleton.ca.

TORONTO

ETAN/Toronto was revitalized by hosting a summer ETAN regional conference. Members travelled from local groups in Windsor, Guelph, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal for a July 16-17 weekend gething at the downtown CAW Workers' Centre. Our thanks to the CAW for the use of the excellent meeting space!

Local members are initiating several new projects, including a Labour in Indonesia Solidarity Project (LISP), which we hope will prove to be an effective support for the independent labour movement in Indonesia, build link with the labour movement here in Canada, and provide valuable information on Canadian investments in Indonesia to unionists and other investors.

This effort kicked off when members handed out several hundred leaflets entitled "Indonesia Labour Alert" to marchers at the annual Labour Day parade. Thanks for this go out to Li-lien Gibbons, João Rolo, Abé Soares, David Szablowski, David Webster, Steve Willett and Suzan Yates. Copies of the leaflet are still available. Please get in touch with us if you can help to distribute them.

We would also like to thank those people (too many to mention here) who have been sending in petitions to Free East Timor and Boycott Bata Shoes, organizing forums and fundraising events at their high schools, and generally spreading the word.

Our major fall action will revolve around the annual Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

summit, which is being held this year in Indonesia. We are organizing, along with members of the Canada Asia Working Group, Canada Tibet Committee, Philippine Solidarity Group and Taiwanese Human Rights Association, for a counter-APEC forum on human rights to be held on Nov. 7.

ETAN/Toronto is also pushing the "Six Months for East Timor" campaign (see back pages of this newsletter). We will hold a fundraising/campaign launch party at a member's home on the evening Friday, October 28, with food and music. Tickets are available for a \$10 suggested donation through the ETAN office at 736 Bathurst St. (one block south of Bloor, downstairs from the Annex Theatre — enter through the orange door on Bathurst). Our phone/fax number is 531-5850.

We now have regular office hours, when we invite our supporters to drop by to volunteer or just to say hi. The office is open every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.

We also invite you to attend our meetings, held at the office on the second Tuesday of every month, at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendar now for Nov. 8 and Dec. 13!

ETAN/Toronto's Portuguese Committee/Comissão por la Libertação de Timor-Leste has also been busy. A recent successful fundraising dinner at the Club Arsenal do Minho was well-attended by community members and leaders, including MP Tony Ianno, the president of the association of Portuguese clubs, and Portuguese Canadian National Congress president Dr. Tomás Ferreira. The forum featured dinner, a viewing of the film "Cold Blood," and speeches by committee members Joel Danaia, Mario Lebre, Fernando Nunes, Idalina da Silva. The committee is now planning to formalize its functions and officers.

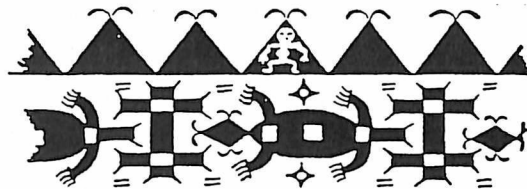
Fernando Nunes also made a presentation on behalf of the Portuguese Canadian National Congress to the parliamentary committee on Canadian foreign policy. (For copies of the brief, contact ETAN/Toronto.)

Finally, best wishes to committee member Mario Silva, seeking election as councillor in the City of Toronto's Ward 3.

WINDSOR-ESSEX

ETAN/Windsor-Essex County has moved into a new office space conveniently located near the new Casino Windsor, but continues to work with the Third World Resource Centre. The group has also organized itself into a series of committees, dealing with fundraising, education, labour, political action, awareness and friendship (church-related). The group has been very active, lobbying the three local Liberal MPs heavily, raising funds through bingo and other

activities, establishing the region's best resource centre on East Timor and Indonesia, holding education events, informing other local organizations (particularly churches and unions) about East Timor, and much more.



MEDIA WATCH

In previous issues of the ETAN Newsletter, we have run a selection of press clippings from Canadian newspapers. The increasing size of this newsletter, plus the increasing amount of coverage of East Timor in the media, make this impossible to continue. As a result, we have decided to "hive off" the media clippings section.

Media compilations will be done at the same time as the Newsletter, but will have to be ordered separately. We will publish a list of clippings in each issue of the newsletter, and readers will be able to order the package for \$5 each time. Alternatively, you can subscribe to the clippings service in advance. The cost of this service will be \$15 a year, to cover the cost of copying and postage.

The clippings available this time include Noam Chomsky's opinion piece on East Timor, printed in the Montreal Gazette, Toronto Star and others, John Stackhouse's series on Indonesia and the economic climate of Southeast Asia for the Globe and Mail Report on Business, Andrew Cohen's Indonesia business reporting for the Financial Post, Editorials in Le Devoir (Publicité inespérée pour Timor) and the Toronto Star (Snubbing Canada will cost Indonesia), coverage from The Varsity and others of the controversy over Guelph and other universities' involvement in Indonesia, a feature article in the Montreal Mirror, reporting of the top ten censored stories of the year (with East Timor ranked number three), news articles from the Globe and Mail, Montreal Gazette, Winnipeg Free Press and others, and related articles such as "Minister regrets giving women equal education" in the Vancouver Sun.

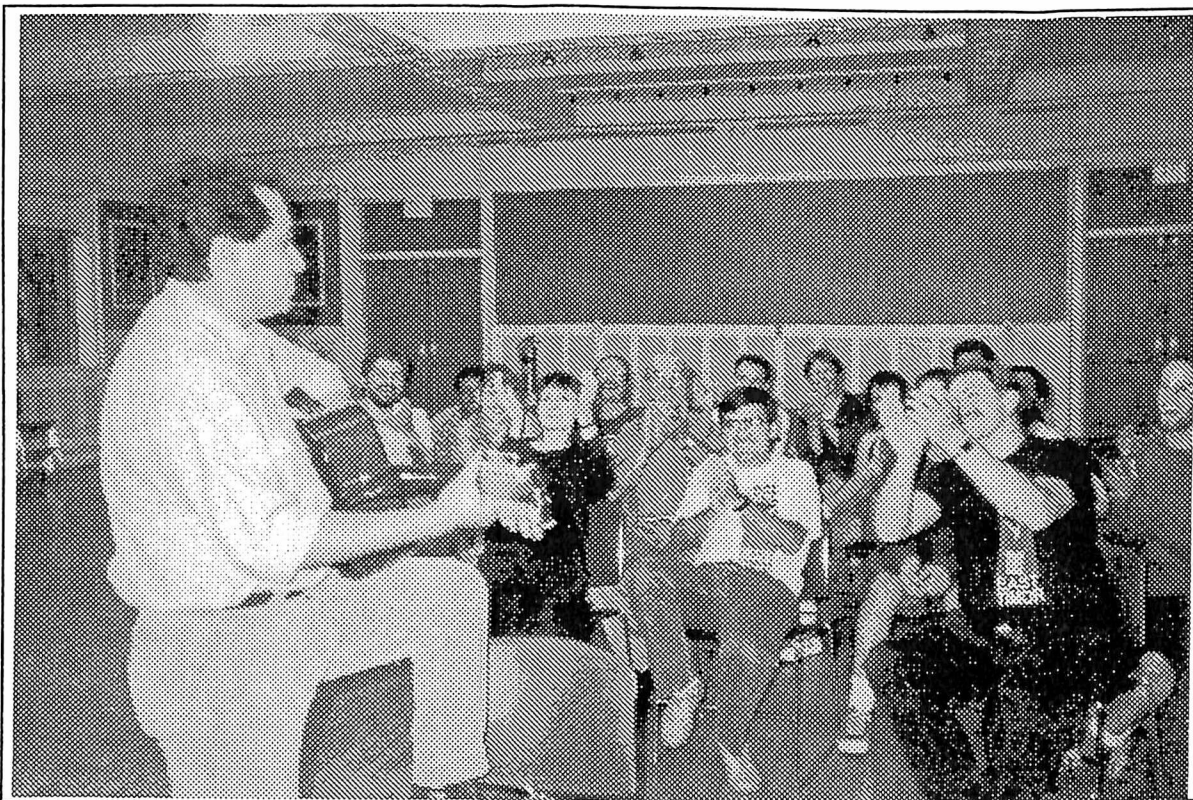
You can send a cheque for \$5 to ETAN/Toronto to receive this package. All ETAN local groups will also be sent a copy. If you would like to subscribe in advance for the calendar year 1995, please send \$20 (\$5 for this package, plus \$15 for the year 1995).

Music of East Timor

Two new musical resources on East Timor are now out. For those looking to hear a blend of Timorese and Western sounds, ETAN recommends both "All in the Family," a new compilation CD from Australia, and "Abé ho Aloz Sing for a Free East Timor," a three-song demo tape by the Timorese-Canadian duo.

- "All in the Family" (DOC8000) is a 21-song compilation, featuring songs by Timorese musicians Mr Mariano Abrantes and Agio Pereira, plus a host of Australian musicians: Midnight Oil; Frente!; Third Eye; Not Drowning, Waving; Crowded House; Things of Stone & Wood; The Killjoys; The Blackeyed Susans Trio; Tiddas; Overnight Jones; Archie Roach; Weddings, Parties Anything; Afterglow; Painters & Dockers; The Bo-Weevils; Cosmic Psycho's and new songs by Nicola Quilter & the Choir of Faith and Hope, and by Jeannie Marsh and Michael Harvey (singing the first song of an upcoming opera on East Timor).

Proceeds from the sale of this CD (distributed in Canada by Cargo) go to benefit orphanages in East Timor run by the Catholic Church. Ask for it at your local record store.



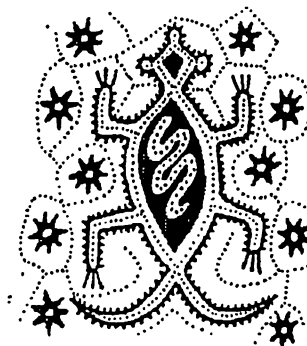
Agio Pereira sings at an ETAN fundraiser in Toronto, July 1993 (Photo: Saul Chernos)

- Abé ho Aloz have just returned from a Western Canadian tour after a summer of playing around Ontario. This summer they recorded their first tape, a three-song demo featuring a unique blend of traditional and contemporary songs, in both English and Tétum (the national language of East Timor). Featuring the songs "Mate Ka Moris," "O Matebian," and "Ina, Ina, Ina." Copies of the cassette can be ordered from ETAN/Guelph for \$5 (plus \$2 postage if applicable). Please make cheques payable to S. Snell.

- Copies are still available of Agio Pereira's full-length cassette "I'm Still Fighting." Order them from ETAN/Vancouver or ETAN/Toronto for \$10, postage included.

- There are also plans to produce a Canadian compilation CD on East Timor. Those interested are invited to contact their local ETAN group.

Action Calendar



Fall events for East Timor

Oct. 23, Ottawa

Benefit for Artists for East Timor, Grand Central. Featuring dinner, a speech by East Timorese overseas leader José Ramos Horta, and music. \$10, doors open 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 24, Ottawa

Noam Chomsky (U.S. writer/activist) and José Ramos-Horta (external representative of the East Timorese resistance movement CNRM) speak on East Timor. Bytowne Cinema, 1-3 p.m. (doors open at noon). Tickets (advance only) are \$10, or \$5 for students and unwaged, available at Octopus Books, 798 Bank St. and Shake Records, 150 Laurier Ave. W. — maximum 3 tickets per person, no reserve seating. Presented by ETAN and the Ontario Public Interest Research Group. This location is wheelchair-accessible and sign language interpretation will be provided for the hearing-impaired. Contact (613) 742-9141.

Oct. 28, Toronto

Fundraising party for Six Months for East Timor campaign, featuring food and music by Abé ho Aloz. \$10 suggested donation. For location, call (416) 531-5850.

Nov. 7, Toronto

Forum on human rights in the Asia Pacific, to coincide with the opening of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in Indonesia. Presented by human rights groups working on East Timor, Philippines, Taiwan, Tibet, China and others. Free, location TBA, 6:30-9:30 p.m. (416) 531-5850.

Nov. 12, Montreal

Benefit for East Timorese political prisoners, featuring Abé ho Aloz and other bands. La Maison de la Culture Mondiale, 3812 St-Laurent. Doors open 9 p.m. (514) 848-7443.

Nov. 12, Ottawa

Demonstration to mark the third anniversary of the Santa Cruz massacre in East Timor, with 273 white crosses in memory of the 273 known to have been killed on Nov. 12, 1991. Parliament Hill. (613) 742-9141.

Nov. 16, Hamilton

Film/speakers/music (with Abé ho Aloz) night at McMaster University, presented by Earth Action. (905) 525-9140 x. 27289.

Nov. 27, Oakville

Fundraising dinner for Six Months for East Timor, with Abé ho Aloz, presented by the Oakville Community Centre for peace, ecology & human rights. (905) 849-5501.

Dec. 7, nationwide

Events to mark the 19th anniversary of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor.

SIX MONTHS FOR EAST TIMOR

An action campaign proposal

CAMPAIGN GOALS

Since Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975, the position of the Canadian government has been to recognize the de facto incorporation of East Timor as Indonesia's 27th province, while not granting full legal recognition of the annexation and continuing to express concerns about human rights in East Timor. There have been occasional protests issued, but successive Canadian governments — both Liberal and Conservative — have viewed Indonesia as an important trading partner and friend, and played down the importance of East Timor in the interests of a strong bilateral relationship with the Suharto regime in Indonesia. In the view of the East Timor Alert Network, this position represents complicity in the genocide of the East Timorese people, who have still not been allowed to exercise their right to self-determination.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's government, while carrying out a comprehensive review of Canadian foreign policy, has already set its policy with regards to Indonesia. Trade is to be the lynch-pin. Two-trade is expected to hit \$1 billion in 1994, with Indonesia remaining our top export market in South-east Asia. Government funds, through a number of agencies, are to be spent on encouraging expended trade and investment. Indonesia is also to remain near the top of Canadian aid recipients (last year, it was the second-largest Canadian aid recipient).

When he was Opposition Leader, Jean Chrétien promised to work for the enforcement of United Nations resolutions requiring Indonesia to allow an act of self-determination in East Timor. Our campaign goals are aimed at having the Chrétien government fulfill its promises on East Timor:

FREE EAST TIMOR! We urge the Canadian government to (1) End Canadian government funding for the promotion of trade with Indonesia (2) Support an international arms embargo against Indonesia (3) Call upon the Indonesian government to free Xanana Gusmão and all East Timorese political prisoners.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

1. Campaign Launch, Oct. 24. Noam Chomsky (U.S. writer-activist) and José Ramos Horta (external representative of the East Timorese resistance movement CNRM) will speak at the Bytowne Theatre in downtown Ottawa in the afternoon and hold a news conference along with Canadian supporters in the morning. Horta and others will stay on for meetings with Canadian government officials, including cabinet minister Raymond Chan (secretary of state for Asia Pacific in the Department of Foreign Affairs).

2. National days of awareness around Dili massacre third anniversary on Nov. 12. These will include a vigil with 273 white crosses on Parliament Hill (representing the 273 unarmed women, men and children confirmed killed by Indonesian soldiers on Nov. 12, 1991). as well as educational forums and vigils in cities across Canada.

3. Actions around APEC heads of government summit, to be held Nov. 15 in Bogor, Indonesia. The Canadian delegation is the highest-ever sent to Indonesia, including Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Foreign Minister André Ouellet, Trade Minister Roy MacLaren and Asia Pacific secretary of state Raymond Chan. We will be demanding that the Prime Minister boycott the summit on human rights grounds, as an expression of Canadian concern about East Timor and human rights in the rest of Indonesia. Canadian representatives attending the APEC meetings leading up to the summit itself should use the meetings as a forum to press for human rights, rather than focusing exclusively on trade. (There is a precedent for this: last year Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed boycotted the APEC

summit in Seattle to express his preference for an Asia-only grouping that does not include APEC's North American members. Malaysian officials did, however, attend in support of their interests.) In Canada, we will use APEC-related publicity to raise the

APEC HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

As a related event, but with a wider regional focus, there will be a counter-APEC forum held in Toronto, co-sponsored by solidarity groups working on human rights in the APEC member countries. Groups will issue a joint statement on linking trade and human rights. We hope to co-sponsor this forum with groups working on Korea, China, Tibet, Taiwan, Philippines, Burma and others.

issues of human rights in East Timor and Indonesia, through an open letter to be published an advertisement in the Ottawa Citizen in early November. This ad will be financed by the groups that agree to sign the open letter (\$100 apiece).

4. Dec. 7 commemorations of 19th anniversary of invasion. Hand in petitions in Parliament. This would also be a useful time to react to the Foreign Policy Review on our specific concerns, assuming they release their report in the fall.

5. Speaking tour in February and March. We plan to invite an exiled Timorese priest and co-sponsor the tour with the Canada Asia Working Group, the Canadian churches' umbrella for human rights in Asian countries.

6. Campaign culmination events on April 22, 1995 (Six Months after launch). These would be followed by an evaluation of the campaign and hopefully provide the basis for further work in Canada by many more organizations.

WHAT ARE WE ASKING FOR?

ETAN hopes that this campaign will demonstrate a broad range of concern from many Canadian organizations about East Timor, thereby showing the government that Canadians **do** care about the issue. We are seeking, first and foremost, your organization's endorsement and co-sponsorship of the Six Months for East Timor campaign.

Since this campaign will cost money, we are asking those organizations that are able to kick in \$100 each towards the expenses of running the campaign. We also welcome donations in kind, such as photocopying and translation services. Specific events, such as the spring speaking tour, will be funded individually.

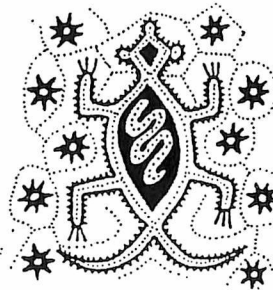
For the November open letter, we ask each group that wishes to add its name to the letter to pay \$100 each towards the cost of buying space in the Ottawa Citizen.

Finally, we ask groups to get as involved as they can in individual campaign events. For example, the South Pacific People's Foundation in Victoria has expressed an interest in hosting an event as part of the spring speaking tour, while the Ontario Public Interest Research Group at Carleton University is working closely with ETAN/Ottawa to make the public campaign launch with Noam Chomsky as successful as possible in the local community.

CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

A national petition to parliament using the three demands above (with text in English, French, Portuguese and Chinese) will be produced and circulated as broadly as possible. A series of briefing sheets will also be produced on behalf of the campaign, explaining in short form different aspects of the East Timor issue. We hope these will also be available in French and Portuguese. Fact sheets currently planned include:

- a. East Timor history/background
- b. Women in East Timor
- c. Environment in East Timor and Indonesia
- d. Labour in Indonesia
- e. Freedom of the press/human rights in Indonesia
- f. Commonly-asked questions on East Timor
- g. The National Council of Maubere Resistance (CNRM) of East Timor
- h. Xanana Gusmão and Timorese political prisoners
- i. The Church in East Timor
- j. Canadian arms sales and support for Indonesia at the United Nations
- k. Canadian corporate links to Indonesia
- l. Timor Gap oil
- m. West Papua: another Indonesian colony



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With the Compliments of

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