



THE SITUATION IN EAST TIMOR: MILITARY AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

Recent letter, written in June from East Timor says terror continues to reign in East Timor; the following is an edited version translated by Matebian News.

The message is clear: the propaganda echoed by the Indonesian generals about reduction of their forces in East Timor, and an inactive FALINTIL can not be believed.

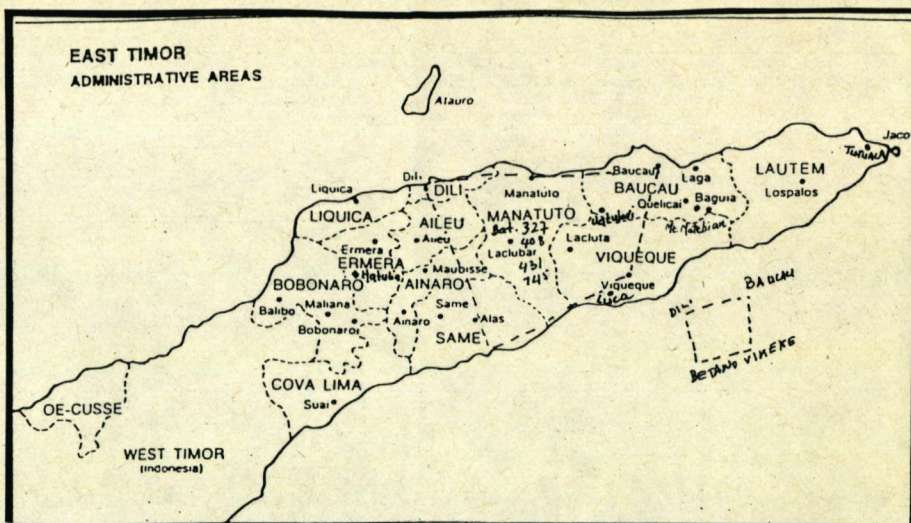
The Indonesian military authorities have been trying to launch the highly publicised propaganda of reduction of their operational troops in order to prove to the world the stability of the military situation in the territory, thus minimising the military existence of the guerilla. However, in spite of the reduced number of FALINTIL (East Timor National Liberation Armed Forces), they do actively exist and the military authorities can not ignore this fact! Their inconsistent propaganda of "50 fugitives of the Eastern Point" in 1979, five hundred in 84/85, ninety remnants in December '93 and two hundred two months later, in February '94, is only indicative that FALINTIL, although reduced in numbers, they do exist actively in the armed field and they constitute a permanent threat to the "stability" portrayed by the Indonesians. This reality forces the Indonesian generals to implement a series of military operations aiming at the total extermination of the guerilla.

As far as the military presence is concerned, in East Timor, there are currently 13 (thirteen) Indonesian battalions, without including the armed natives in the battalions 744 and 745, the RPKAD/Nangalas, the ABRI MASUK DESA - which have soldiers present in every camp whose primary role is defensive - the "militarisasi" or "tentara baru", known as "tentara tiga bulan" (Timorese recruits and trained), a total of eight to ten thousand active troops in the territory.



Falintil is active in the field

There are also those elite companies of native Timorese made up of those captured or surrendered who received training, the so-called "TIM SERA" in Baucau, "TIM ALFA" in Lospalos, "TIM SAKA" in Kelikai and "TIM MAKIKIT" in Vikeke, a total of one battalion which operate autonomously. There are also those companies of civil engineering, known as "ZIPUR"; apart from these, there are also the para-military forces, those specialised forces known as anti "Una Ura" and the police.



Major areas where battle took place in East Timor

Military operations

In the entire territory of East Timor, the invading forces continue to intensify their military operations, combining several types of actions. They attack the areas where there are guerillas and also attack in the adjacent areas where they occupy before the guerilla make its presence felt everywhere.

In the Eastern point, in the area enclosing the eastern part of Mount Matebian and Tutuala, the Indonesian armed forces launched a series of major operations from late April to the June 10, using four and a half battalions. The aim was to recapture their arsenal captured previously by the guerillas. These series of operations were in response to an operation

mounted by the Unit I of FALINTIL based in that particular region; this unit mounted an attack, against a platoon of the battalion 503, in April 16, in the jungle of Lore, which resulted in the death of 4 (four) Indonesian soldiers and the capture of four Belgium made FNC guns.

In the Central regions, in the quadrature between Dili/Betano and Baucau/Vikeke, until the beginning of June, the enemy has been implementing several military operations prior to the conference in Manila. The aim was to stop any action in support of the Manila conference. They combined simultaneous major operations with complex manoeuvres of diversion in their attacks against the positions of the guerillas that are operating in that particular region. In these operations, the battalions 327, 408 and 431 mounted attacks in the areas between Manatuto/Soibada/Natar Bora and the areas between Baucau/Vikeke, with support given by units of 745 and companies from Tim Sera, Makikit and some from Saka.

Major military operations and counter-guerilla attacks were also mounted in the western strip of the road connecting Soibada/Natar Bora and Same against the III (third) Military Unit of FALINTIL operating in that region.

Guerilla operations

In the strip of Soibada/Natar Bora and Same, several guerilla operations were mounted against the forces of occupation. Combining actions to destabilise the areas adjacent and in the rearguard of the enemy's military positions, with political consciousness work and dissemination of information in every possible places, including those where the guerilla presence was hardly felt, the guerilla managed to destabilise the enemy not only politically but also militarily. Those actions have forced the enemy to review its tactics and actions, in a desperate move to use all available arsenal to neutralise the efforts of the guerillas.

In January 31, the guerillas launched an attack against an enemy's position located in Bandarime/Luca, about eleven kilometres in the western part of Vikeke, resulting in the death of one soldier of the battalion 408 and another wounded. In the same day, another guerilla unit destroyed another enemy's position in Leulua, in the vicinity of Luka, about 10 kilometres in the west of Vikeke, resulting in four Indonesian soldiers from the battalion 408 killed.

In this issue.....

1. Situation in East Timor.
2. Editorial - Demilitarisation
3. Konis appeals for support
4. Bishop Belo: more films
5. Etra's activities
6. What's on..

In February 2, a guerilla unit destroyed an enemy's post in Tula Asu, in the west of Vikeke, in the road to Bicarín, resulting in the death of two Indonesian soldiers and three wounded, from the battalion 408.

In March 5, a team of the Unit II of FALINTIL attacked a vehicle of the enemy's forces in the outskirts of Laleia, but the number of people wounded could not be confirmed. One day after, the same team eliminated an enemy's soldier and captured his SP-2 including its accessories. In March 17, another team attacked an enemy's forefront force in the surroundings of the Camp of Uato Lari/Vemassi resulting in the death of an enemy's soldier of the battalion 431.

In the evening of April 24, the Unit III mounted a surprise attack, in mass, over a position of the enemy in the area of Natar Bora. However, due to the darkness and the reinforcement received by the enemy, it was not possible to capture weapons. Only eight enemy soldiers were killed and four wounded. The combat lasted one hour. Two guerillas were also killed.

Currently, the battalions 712 and

124 and one company of battalion 745 are operating in the areas of Kailaku, Hatolia, Marobo of Bobonaro and Fatu Besi. Two companies of the battalion 503 are currently operating in the areas of Liquisa, Maubara and Bazartete.

In the South, the battalions 727 and 512 operate in the areas of Ainaro, west of Same and Zumalai.

On 31 May, in a massive attack in the area of Fatu Naru/Zumalai, the guerillas killed two soldiers of the battalion 727 and wounded three. On June 10, at Luli, south of Atsabe, in a counter-attack against an attack mounted by the enemy, the guerillas of the Unit IV of FALINTIL, chased the enemy out of their positions under intense shootings, until the suco (area) of Laclo. Three soldiers of battalion 712 were wounded.

Indonesian military use terror to control the population. One example of a recent crime committed by the Indonesian military mirrors the terror in East Timor.

In Hato Lia, in "Kampung" of Manu Kate of the suco/Desa of Koliato Leo Telo, a cruel event took place recently. In May 6, in Uelau, in the west

of Kampung of Manu Kate, some three kilometres away, a young man of 17 years old, known as Marcelo, son of Mau Buti and of Si Mau, was assassinated with gun blasts. He was with three of his brothers and many other members of local population who were authorised by the local authorities to do the "Sari Hidup" (food hunting). It happened that when they went into the bush, the dogs of the four brothers chased a deer and they went after their dogs.

In a place called Welau, the dogs caught a deer and the dogs owners killed it, set up a fire to cook the meat. Due to the smoke, a platoon of one of the companies of the battalions 745 and 717 operating in that zone, approached the fire and encircled the four members of the population. The platoon commander, even though he recognised the four as members of the local population, he gave orders to shoot the four, emptying the loaders of AR-16, as if they were having an armed battle with guerillas.

Marcelo was wounded in the abdomen and could not escape but his three brothers managed to get away from the scene of the tragedy. Wounded, Marcelo screamed in an attempt to identify himself to the soldiers but the latter did not stop shooting. And, to put an end to the feat, the commander ordered the launch of a hand grenade which finally put an end to the life of the poor boy. As if all these were not sufficient, to reveal the monstrous nature of the crimes which the Indonesian soldiers perform professionally, the Indonesian commander ordered his soldiers to lean the dead body against a trunk and he blasted the dead body with his gun, emptying two loaders, blasting the boy's heart off his body. He did this to show to his soldiers how to shoot a "GPK" and their supporters. Afterwards, they threw the body into a creek, and stoned it until the skull was broken. They then informed the Koramil that they



Thirteen battalions in East Timor

East Timor:

To Resist is to Win

(cont. on pg 5)

June '94

Ano 2. Vol 2. No.2

EDITORIAL

Demilitarisation a must for Peace in East Timor

The news that Indonesian military offensives continue to take place in several regions of East Timor must be taken seriously. Indonesian government has been propagating the line that its operational troops or Kopassus have been withdrawn from East Timor and that the Timorese resistance are no longer a problem. Such information must be taken for what it is: an obscene lie which, as usual, Jakarta wants to force the international community to accept. The facts stand in total contradiction with what Jakarta is saying.

Thirteen battalions without including the paramilitary forces are anything but forces for construction of roads. In East Timor there are no signs that so many roads have been built to the point where, at least ten thousand troops are needed. It is obviously a presence which reflects the strength of the Timorese resistance itself, both the armed wing - FALINTIL - and the political wing - the underground and the diplomatic fronts.

However, the fact that little is reported in the media is an indication that the Indonesian government may have successfully put a lid in the news from East Timor, specially those related to the activities of the military. This is bad news, because whilst the Indonesian military is stationed in East Timor there will never be peace; the military presence, is unquestionably, the very root of the human rights abuse. Since the Secretary-General of the

UN, Dr Boutros-Ghali has stated in the General Assembly that improvement on Human Rights in East Timor is *sine qua non* to finding a peaceful solution, demilitarisation must, therefore, be the very first step taken by the Indonesian government to prove its good will.

Regarding the latest abuse of human rights inside East Timor as described in the third page of this issue, Jose Ramos-Horta, CNRM special representative said in Lisbon on the 30 June:

"This very serious report must be investigated by the UN Special Rapporteur on summary and arbitrary executions, who will be visiting East Timor and Indonesia July 3-13 1994. Terror is pervasive in East Timor. This new crime and the worsening human rights situation had better stop. It makes a mockery of Foreign Minister Ali Alatas' solemn commitments to the UN Secretary General to end human rights violations in East Timor."

The visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, Mr Bacre Waly Ndiaya, will be, indeed, a unique opportunity for the UN to put all these ugly developments on the official record so that the Secretary-General of UN can use it as a mean to force the Indonesian government to honour its promises. Mr Bacre will investigate the killings in East Timor with special focus on the circumstances surrounding the infamous massacre of Sta. Cruz cemetery, in November 12, 1991. His visit is not only a victory for the Timorese people but also for the International community. The Timorese

Resistance has stated time and time again its willingness to obey the rules, but they are also - rightly so - sceptical about Jakarta's honesty to follow the international norm. It is up to Jakarta to now make the right move to convince the UN and the Timorese resistance that it is able to stand for what it says: withdrawal of the Indonesian troops. This is a must for Peace in East Timor. There is no other way.

*Sussar tebe tebes
Ba ami iha Rai Timor
Fila ba karuk klot
Fila ba kuana klot
Hateke ba Lalehan as
Hakiduk ba kotuk
Inimigo sira tebe
Ami terus tebe tebes!*

Anon.

A poem from East Timor

*great is the suffering
for all of us in East
Timor
if we turn to the left,
it is tight if we turn to
the right,
it is tight
if we look to the sky,
it is our of reach
if we turn back the enemy
will get us
great is our suffering*

Anon.

*(from Eden to Paradise & Paradise
lost by M. K. Boyes)*

East Timor:

To Resist is to Win

NADA MUDOU EM TIMOR LESTE

Em Junho do corrente ano foi entregue ao Matebian News para publicação uma carta feita sair de Timor Leste. Devido à extensão da mesma, somente os extratos mais importantes irão ser utilizados neste suplemento.



Desembarque de mais tropas indonésias em Timor Leste

A carta começa por descrever a situação militar no Território: "As autoridades militares indonésias têm procurado, inconsistentemente lançar a tão propalada propaganda da redução dos seus efectivos militares para provar ao mundo a estabilidade da situação militar no Território, minimizando com isso a presença militar da guerrilha. Estão actualmente operando em Timor Leste cerca de 13 (treze) batalhões indonésios, sem contar os batalhões de naturais armados, os 744 e 745, os RPKAD/Nanggalas, os ABRI MASUK DESA, que têm os efectivos espalhados por todos os campos com importância militar de defesa, os 'militarizasi' ou 'tentara baru' conhecidos por 'tentara tiga bulan' que são timorenses recrutados e treinados, totalizando, em todo o Território, entre 8 (oito) a 10 (dez) mil efectivos, as companhias de elite dos Timorenses, maioritariamente formados por ex-guerrilheiros capturados ou rendidos, os chamado "TIM SERA" em Baucau, "TIM ALFA" em Lospalos, "TIM SAKA" em Kelikai e

"TIM MAKIKIT" em Vikeke, totalizando um batalhão que actuam com certa autonomia. Existem também as companhias de engenharia de construção, conhecidas por "ZIPUR". Além disso, há as forças paramilitares, as forças especiais anti "UNA URA" e as forças policiais.

Em represália a uma operação militar das forças da I Unidade das FALINTIL destacada na Ponta Leste contra um pelotão do batalhão 503, em 16 de Abril, nas matas de Loré onde resultou na extinção de 4 soldados indonésios e a captura de 4 armas FNC de fabricação Belga, as forças indonésias desencadearam, desde fins de Abril até 10 de Junho, uma grande operação de envigadura, com a aplicação de 4 batalhões e mais cujo objectivo era capturar o seu material capturado pelos guerrilheiros.

Nas Regiões Centrais o inimigo veio realizando até princípios de Junho, melhor dito, até à realização

da Conferência de Manila, diversas modalidades de operações militares, respondendo às acções militares em todo o Território da região e como objectivo também de impedir qualquer acção de apoio à Conferência de Manila sobre Timor Leste.

Na faixa Oeste também foram desencadeadas operações militares de envergadura e de contra-guerrilha contra a III Unidade das FALINTIL nessa Região!

=====
*"...a paz é o anseio mais
supremo do Povo de Timor Leste
para edificar o seu futuro!"*
=====

Várias acções de guerrilha foram realizadas contra as forças de ocupação. A combinação das acções militares de desestabilização nas zonas da guerrilha, nas linhas periféricas e nas linhas da retaguarda inimiga com a intensificação da propaganda política de consciencialização, esclarecimento e informação em todas as direcções mesmo nas zonas onde a presença da guerrilha nunca se fazia sentir, com objectivo de desestabilizar política e militarmente o inimigo, complicam cada vez mais a situação política e militar do país em detrimento do adversário, tem obrigado o inimigo a rever as suas tácticas e formas de acção, utilizando desesperadamente os meios que dispõe no plano militar para neutralizar em vão os esforços da guerrilha".

De Janeiro a Maio os guerrilheiros realizaram uma acção de flagelação ao inimigo tendo causado a morte de 19 soldados indonésios e capturado armas e munições. As localidades atacadas foram: Tula Asu (Oeste de Vikeke), Laleia, Uato Lari, Vemassi, Natar Bora, Kailaku, Hatolia, Marobo, Fatu Bessi, Likisa, Mau-bara, Bazartete Ainaro, Same e Zumalai.

Sobre o abuso e violação sistemática dos Direitos Humanos, a carta informa que: "o clima de terror, prisões arbitrárias e matanças indiscriminadas continua. Elementos da população são assassinados e expostos publicamente para infundir terror na população e instigá-los a não apoiar os guerrilheiros". E continua apelando para que se "divulgue ainda mais pelo mundo fora a ferocidade monstruosa do regime indonésio em Timor Leste, para convencer a Comunidade Internacional e os Governos Demo-

cráticos que apoiam financeiramente a Indonésia de que é falsa a propaganda indonésia de melhoria dos Direitos mais fundamentais do Homem em Timor Leste, que a vida das populações indefesas continuam suspensas por um fio e que por isso mesmo devem, doravante, tomar posturas mais correctas e coerentes de defesa dos Princípios Universais que se comprometeram defender".

O autor da carta declara que: "a paz é o anseio mais supremo do Povo de Timor Leste para edificar o seu futuro! Contudo, a Indonésia tem jogado de má-fé na procura de uma solução para o conflito. A cancelada visita da DPP (Delegação Parlamentar Portuguesa); o não cumprimento dos compromissos assumidos na Comissão dos Direitos Humanos da ONU; as recentes pressões sobre o Governo das Filipinas para impedir a realização da Conferência Internacional da Asia/Pacífico de Solidariedade por Timor Leste, são uma prática flagrante que se confrontam com a sua disposição de diálogo.

=====
*"O Plano de Paz do CNRM
de três fases é, quanto a nós,
a alternativa mais eficaz."*
=====

O CNRM - Conselho Nacional de Resistência Maubere, está pronto a negociar, a levar para a mesa das negociações todas as soluções possíveis para o problema de Timor Leste, devolvendo a Paz para o seu mártir Povo.

É na mesa do diálogo, é através das negociações francas e abertas é que se pode ar limar as arestas das diferenças e encontrar finalmente a solução aceitável por todas as partes.

O Plano de Paz do CNRM de três fases é, quanto a nós, a alternativa mais eficaz."

Para terminar o autor propoe que: "para melhoria do respeito pelos Direitos Humanos nós pensamos que o estabelecimento de uma Agência da Comissão dos Direitos Humanos da ONU em Timor Leste permitiria efectivamente que se acabasse de vez com as perseguições arbitrárias, detenções, prisões, fusilamentos extra-judiciais e outras formas de barbaridade e vandalismo atroz sobre o Povo de Timor Leste".

The situation of East Timor : how can it be solved?

East Timor was invaded on December 7, 1975 by the Indonesian military. Under the operation named "Operasi Komodo", which was devised to destabilize East Timor so that a full scale invasion could be "justified", Indonesian army mounted the full scale invasion to take over East Timor forever. Several operations were later developed as offsprings of Komodo, but it is the same *operasi komodo* which operates today.

But, can Operasi Komodo be fully accomplished? The answer depends on the level of activities developed by the Timorese resistance in close co-ordination with the broad solidarity movement around the world. If this is accomplished with certain degree of success, East Timor will ultimately defeat the expansionist ambition of the generals of Jakarta; however, if it fails, Operasi Komodo will ultimately succeed.

Stages of operasi Komodo

What stage is operasi Komodo today? Militarily, operasi Komodo managed to suppress the FALINTIL (the Armed Forces for the National Liberation of East Timor) to the point where the leadership of the Timorese resistance recognises today that, militarily, it can not defeat the Indonesian forces occupying East Timor. Politically, Operasi Komodo has been operating in every front. It tries to infest East Timor with transmigrants from several parts

of Indonesia in order to gradually destroy the Timorese political power. It also uses the strategy of infiltration in the Timorese Catholic Church, which is seen as the platform of independence for East Timor under occupation. This is done by infiltrating the Church with priests from Indonesia and Phillipines and other part of the world with the aim of destroying the power of the Timorese and portuguese priests - known as actively supporting the Timorese Resistance. The Indonesian generals believe that they can destabilise the balance of power within the catholic church through infiltration of priests that, culturally, do not feel any relationship to East Timor. This is why some Jesuit priests in East timor are regarded as *persona non grata* by the Timorese people, whilst others are highly regarded as guardians of freedom for Timorese.

The monopolies

Economically, the generals of Jakarta have been trying all they can to hold on to their monopoly in East Timor. With advisors like Lopes da Cruz, they managed to silence certain sectors of the Timorese *assimilados* by maintaining a continuous flow of portuguese wine, bacalau and other portuguese food in order to make them feel "at home". At the same time, the generals developed their own strategy to control coffee, import of portuguese wine, japanese cars, industry of sea

weed to Japan, catering, marbles, tourism and other major industries in East Timor. On top of these, the port of Dili has been declared a tax free port to facilitate import of goods from Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan, and take them to Jakarta and Bali tax free.

Therefore, through economic and political monopolies, the generals of Jakarta desperately continues to implement the final stages of Operasi Komodo.

Existing barriers

What are the existing barriers against Operasi Komodo? As the Timorese National Leader, Xanana Gusmão said in May 93, "Indonesian Government must now accept that it lost the battle in the political field". What Xanana Gusmão means is that Indonesia can not expect to conquer the hearts and minds of the people of East Timor in spite of the so-called development of roads, TV station, schools and churches. The church has been one of the main issue which Indonesia has been trying to capitalise on; on one hand, Jakarta argues in favour of freedom of religion, but on the other hand, it tries to use this argument to introduce moslem faith in East Timor. With less than fifty thousand moslems in East Timor introduced from Indonesia, the genearls already built sixteen mosques in the entire territory of East Timor. The moslems are also those with better living conditions and financial power, and, as expected in Indonesia, those with natural political power to take advantage of whatever social and economic means may be available.

Solution

Having said that, to tackle the question of a real solution for East Timor, one needs to add the fact that it is only through diplomatic means that a solution can be found. In that sense, East Timor needs a diplomatic tool which meets, both, the notion of realism in the current diplomatic climate and the assurance of the fundamental interests of the people of East Timor. For the tool to be realist, it must be implemented through several stages. For it to assure the fundamental interests of the people of East Timor, all the stages must be developed under the auspices of the United Nations. The Peace Plan devised by the Leadership of the Timorese Resistance - Xanana Gusmao, Konis Santana and Jose Ramos-Horta - on behalf of the entire resistance of the people of East Timor, offers these measures of realism and assurance of the fundamental rights of the Timorese people.

The Peace Plan

A Peace Plan is nothing else but a tool to solve the conflict. It is devised because once one defends the view that there must be a negotiated settlement for East Timor, one also must develop the necessary mechanism to achieve this aim. Firstly, one must accept that in a negotiated settlement there will not be such a thing as a "victory" for either camp. There will only be agreements. And, whatever agreement is

possible will depend on whatever each side perceives as its best available alternative to this agreement. Each side will be constantly conscious of (what the experts call) its BATNA - best alternative to a negotiated agreement. For the case of East Timor, Indonesia is gradually perceiving that it may be better for Indonesia to let the Timorese have their own tiny country, and leave Indonesia alone; a continuous occupation of East Timor may affect Indonesia negatively in the near future. Therefore, withdrawal from East Timor does respond to the BATNA of Jakarta. What the solidarity and the Timorese resistance as a whole must do is to keep on campaigning on this line until this reality sinks into the minds of those in Jakarta that hold the monopoly of political power.

The steps

What would be the steps? - A first step is to carefully study the Peace Plan of CNRM and to understand why certain governments and members of parliament have conceded as the best way to solve the conflict. Here are some aspects of the CNRM to take into account:

1. No confrontation

The plan is presented in a way which does not reflect the spirit of confrontation, a characteristic which is vital for a political settlement; analogous to the process of Namibia, the CNRM peace plan does not ostracise

the Indonesian occupationist. The phases, in fact, includes Indonesian government in the process.

2. Internationalisation

It reiterates the fundamental rights of the Timorese people in the sense that every step is under the auspices of the United Nations and with East Timor fully internationalised.

3. It is up to the people to decide.

The people's participation in the process is quite well defined. A referendum will be held after a transitional period, whereby the options will be open to the people, including independence.

Through campaigning on this basis around the world, East Timor will be implementing an offensive diplomacy without projecting the image of radicals and utopians - (which Jakarta desperately tries to baptise the Timorese resistance with). Sooner, rather than later, East Timor conflict will be solved...

**Inform yourself
about East Timor.
Subscribe to Matebian
News**

Konis Santana makes an appeal to the solidarity: support the Peace Plan

During the Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor (APCET), Konis Santana appealed to the organisers and participants to support the Peace Plan presented by CNRM (National Council of Maubere Resistance). This Peace Plan which includes three specific phases has been used as a diplomatic tool to break the quagmire due to the fact that a solution based on military offensives has become unrealistic.

But, for the Peace Plan of CNRM to become the instrument to finding a just, comprehensive and an internationally acceptable solution, it must be echoed by all the main solidarity groups so that the inflexibility of Jakarta can be widely exposed. The ultimate aim will be (as a first and critical step) to accept the Timorese direct involvement in the negotiations under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General and a referendum in East Timor under the full supervision of the United Nations.

In May last, just prior to the negotiations of May 6 in Geneva, the Secretary-General of the UN, Dr Boutros-Ghali, received a letter from Konis Santana, on behalf of CNRM. In this letter, Konis asked Dr Boutros-Ghali to adopt the CNRM Peace Plan presented by Jose Ramos-Horta.

Who already supports the Peace Plan?

According to Jose Ramos-Horta, CNRM Special Representative, Portugal, Ireland, Spaniards, Luxemburg and all the European Union members agree that it is the best approach to the problem; the US House of Appropriations sub-committee has adopted the language of the Peace Plan in its report to the Congress.

Ramos-Horta added: "the whole UN

strategy to solve the problem of East Timor is based on this Peace Plan, if you look at the last two years at how the issue has been handled by Portugal and the UN you can see that it follows the script of the Peace Plan".

"Even the Indonesians, publicly they do not admit it, but they are in dialogue over the issue and in the next round of talks scheduled for January 95, they will discuss the substance of the issue - the political aspects of the problem to find a solution."

The CNRM Peace Plan was presented to the European Council in Brussels in April 92, and the US Council on Foreign Relations in New York in May 92. As a result, one can say that there is wide general support for the essence of the Peace Plan. ■

Keep Timor alive says Bishop Belo

Outspoken critic of Indonesian occupation in East Timor, Catholic Bishop Dr. Carlos Belo has sent warm wishes to those people expressing solidarity with the Timorese and urged them, including the dedicated campaigners in Ireland, to keep the issue of East Timor alive.

In response to a question from journalist and film-maker, John Pilger, Bishop Belo said, "more films please, keep the issue alive". John Pilger was in Ireland to 're-launch' his book *Distant Voices*, which carries a new section on East Timor, the island he entered under the cover of a travel agent, Adventure Tours, to film sections of the documentary shown recently on RTE, *Death of a Nation: The Timor Conspiracy*. "Bishop Belo sounds in good heart, his voice sounds strong," John Pilger told the Irish Catholic.

Since the Indonesian invasion in 1975, the Catholic Church a refuge for East Timorese coming to terms with the brutal Jakarta regime. From

being only a fraction of the population during centuries of Portuguese colonialism, registered Catholics make up about 90% of the islands 750,000 people. The growth has been attributed largely to the Catholic Church's vocal leadership that has spoken out in defence of the ordinary people.

During his time in East Timor John Pilger was assisted by the clergy. It is impossible to travel in East Timor without getting some help from the Church which has become the open centre of resistance, he said.

Mr. Pilger told The Irish Catholic that he was very encouraged by his visit to Ireland, "a country which has a caring tradition, network of concern for a whole variety of human rights issues".

Irish people must encourage their government to break ranks with its European partners, speak about arms supplies to Indonesia and I think that it will do so, he said. ■

*Source: The Irish Catholic, June 23
(reproduced by Pactok)*

(from page 3)

Situation in East Timor

killed a guerilla and ordered the population to collect the body to be buried. But the boy's brothers and other members of the population that were near by, informed the authorities of the "Kampung" and "Desa" about the incident - as a practice of TNI.

The population was furious and demanded justice but the Indonesian authorities ignored the demand. The scene was planned well ahead. The Indonesian authorities wanted to use this kind of terror in order to force the population not to support the guerillas. The local Indonesian authorities coned the population into doing "Sari hidup" in order to terrorise the population. ■

News-in-brief

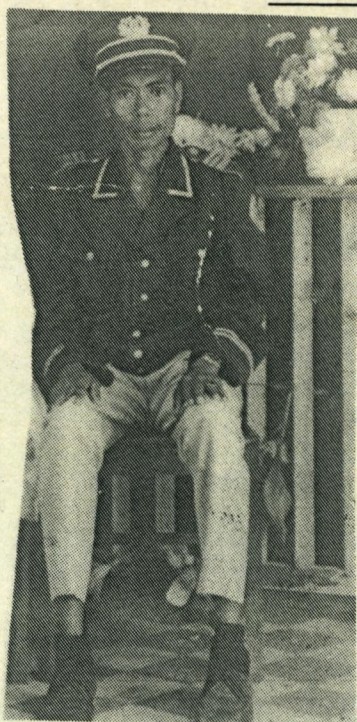
. New Zealand journalists visiting East Timor after the shock wave caused by the film *Death of a Nation* were classified by the Indonesian generals as "*the most polite journalists ever to have visited East Timor*". Such remark may reflect how upset the generals might have been with those Jakarta-based foreign journalists that tour East Timor in February. They were reported to be very insentive. However, the reports filed by these NZ journalists did not match the Indonesian rhetoric. New Zealand Herald of May 30 (1994) published the article "*Tongues Stilled in Territory Ruled by Fear*" which highlighted how the Indonesian military control the situation in East Timor and how fear and terror reigns in East Timor.

. Emilia Gusmao and her two children visited Xanana Gusmao in Cipinang prison on Thursday and Friday (30/6 and 1/7/94). It was the first time Xanana Gusmao saw again his family in almost twenty years. The visit was made possible by the ICRC.

. Bishop Belo appealed for "more films" on East Timor to keep the issue alive. He made this appeal in an interview given to a journalist in Ireland. (see pg. 5)

. Xanana Gusmao, during the conversation he had with Fr Constancio Gusmao and Jose Belo, the two envoys allowed by Indonesia to see Xanana in an attempt to lure Xanana to support Suharto's daughter Tutu "reconciliation saga", he made a statement claiming to be the author of the CNRM Peace Plan which is promoted abroad by his Special Representative, Jose Ramos-Horta. The conversation held between Xanana and these two Timorese, was fully recorded by Indonesia. Constancio and Belo later received a copy from the Indonesian generals. ■

A special request from East Timor



Manuel Fernandes (Baucau)

News publishes this photo and a brief history of Manuel Fernandes.

Manuel Fernandes is originally from Baucau and a resident of Buruma. He was killed by the Indonesian soldiers in 1975 when they mounted the first attack against Baucau. Manuel Fernandes was killed because the invaders believed he was the principal organiser of the resistance in Baucau. At the time of his assassination he was 48 years of age.

Manuel Fernandes was married and left three children: Elca Fernandes, Francisca Fernandes and Elvira Fernandes. He is now considered a martyr and M. Zebra requested Matebian News to register his name "in the History of (East Timor) Heroes".

Matebian News received a very special request from its readers in East Timor. In a letter signed by M. Zebra, the author requested that Matebian

Artists join forces to highlight the plight of the Maubere People

The month of June was marked with an historical event for East Timor. It took place in Melbourne. Paul Stewart, the brother of one of the five Australian journalists killed in Balibo by the Indonesian armed forces on October 16 1975, joined forces with

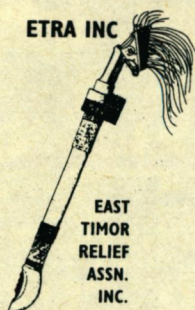
Louise Byrne, several well known artists and musical groups in Australia, and the Timorese community in Melbourne, to launch a CD titled "All in the Family". The money raised from this CD will be channeled to East Timor to create scholarships for Timorese orphans.

According to Patsy Thatcher, a Melbourne based anthropologist and long time supporter of East Timor, the

(cont. on page 7)



Catholic orphanage, East Timor
photo: Martha Kumar



A brief activity report

ETRA has been campaigning for East Timor in several fronts. At one level, there was the Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor/Manila which two delegates from ETRA attended with great success. It is still occupying ETRA's activities in Sydney. Due to the need to carefully follow-up with all the major decisions taken. In that sense, ETRA has been supplying crucial information to the international supporters via Pactok and Matebian News. The preparation of all the printing media coverage of the conference in Manila, including media in Australia, both printing and TV to be made available to the solidarity movement and to those organisations and individuals who supported the expenses incurred from the conference.

Other activities include interviews given to radio 2SER in Sydney, meeting with the general public organised by AKSI, Timorese Community radio in Melbourne (Radio Lemorai) and Darwin (Radio Timor Lian), and written reports about Manila Conference published in the Portuguese newspapers "Voz de Portugal" and "O Correio Portugues".

Harold Park Hotel in Sydney also organised an evening talk on East Timor. Agio Pereira was the guest speaker and the meeting was well attended. Matebian News, postcards the Secretary-General of UN, ETRA brochures and other information relevant to East Timor were distributed in the meeting.

ETRA also liaised with Ciset - East Timor:
To Resist is to Win

Catholics in Solidarity with East Timor - and other active groups in Australia in order to work better with the broad solidarity movement to better serve the cause of the Timorese people. In that sense, Agio Pereira met CIET in Adelaide, spoke to Trades and Labour Council in Adelaide and met the Ciset group in the same city. He also met with activists of Uniting Church in the field of Human Rights to exchange information and look into future activities.

ABC Radio/Adelaide also interviewed Agio Pereira about the comments made by the Foreign Minister Gareth Evans prior to Prime Minister Paul Keating's visit to Jakarta. Gareth Evans said that independence for East Timor is unrealistic because it would affect other parts of Indonesia. Agio responded to Gareth Evans by outlining the facts surrounding the situation of East Timor, a reality which Gareth Evans wish it can become fiction.

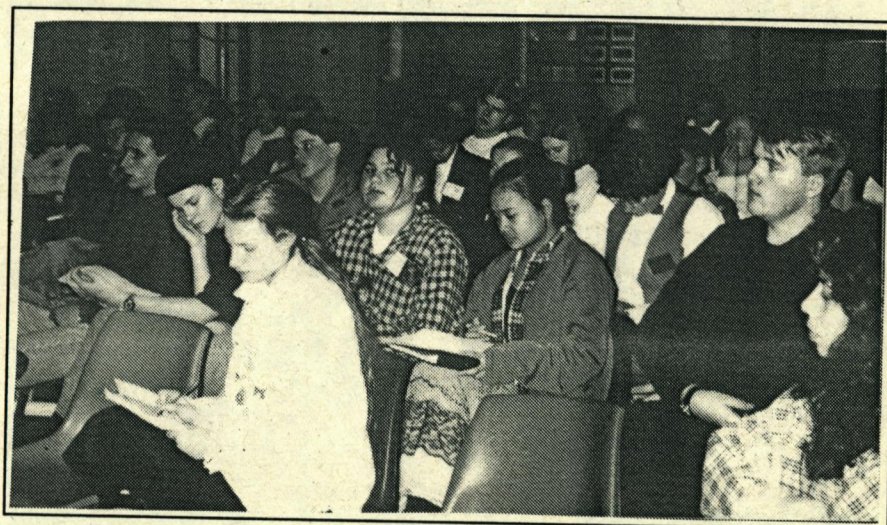
In Melbourne, ETRA has been in-

volved in preparing an appeal for the screening of John Pilger's film "Death of a Nation" which will be on July 8, Channel 9, at 11 PM. The appeal will encourage viewers to send donations to support East Timor.

On July 5, Agio Pereira addressed the United Nations Youth Association National Conference in the University of Sydney. His talk lasted almost one hour. Matebian News, ETRA's leaflets, UN postcards and UN reports on East Timor were distributed to eighty participants.

On Thursday, July 7, in a radio program addressing the question of women role in politics, Ines Almeida was interviewed. She spoke about her role in campaigning for East Timor and the events surrounding the Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor in Manila.

Large part of the month of June, as usual, has been filled with processing and distributing information.



Students participating the UN National Youth Conference, Sydney University

(from page 6)

Artists join forces to highlight the plight of the Maubere people

existence of orphans in East Timor is a new phenomenon; it is a product of the destruction of the extended family fabric of the Timorese traditional society. In the past, if children became orphans, their closest relatives will take care of them immediately. Among the artists that contributed to the "All in the Family" CD, there are such famous names as Midnight Oil and Crowded House. From Sydney, Nicola Quilter with "Cry Freedom" and Agio Pereira with "I'm Still Fighting". The CD costs only \$29.95. If you buy one, you are already supporting the scholarship scheme for the orphans of East Timor...

RESOURCES...

"Dili Massacre Lies Exposed"

A book by
Dr George J. Aditjondro, an
Indonesian university lecturer.
He speaks against the official
Indonesian propaganda.

This book is published by the
Australian Council for Over-
seas Aid (ACFOA). Please
contact ACFOA on 03 - 417
7505 for further information.

What's on....

Book Launch and Seminar

The Timor Gap
"Conspiracy Cabaret".

A benefit nite for East
Timor...
featuring....Agio Pereira,
Nicola Quilter, Alistair
Hewlett, Jeannie Lewis, Peter
Hicks, Jean Kitson

Venue:

Harold Park Hotel
Sunday 17 July
6PM-10PM

For further info please contact:
AETA 716 6354/552 1142.

EDEN TO PARADISE PARADISE LOST

Margaret King Boyes



The Australasian Research Foundation for
Pacific, Oriental and Western Studies Inc.
in association with
Blackwood Press

"EDEN TO PARADISE" and "PARADISE LOST",

a book by Margaret King Boyes,
published by The Australasian
Research Foundation for Pacific,
Oriental and Western Studies Inc.
in , association
with Blackwood Press.

It is about East Timor during the
Portuguese colonial era and about
the paradise lost -
the Indonesian occupaiton.

Please ring (02) 8915861 or
7287395; fax (02) 891 2876; 726
6319 or write to PO Box 23,
FAIRFIELD, NSW 2165 for more
information.

Matebian News is a
publication of East Timor
Information & Documentation Centre/
CNRM

supported by ETRA
Co-Ordinator: Ines Almeida
Working team: Ceu Brites, Lola Reis,
Geraldo Magno, Bernardo Reis, Neca
Brites, Agio Pereira & Mize Lemos.

P.O. Box 481
Fairfield NSW Australia 2165
ph: (02) 728 7395; fax: (02) 726 6319

Matebian News Subscription Form

I wish to subscribe to Matebian News.

Name.....

Address.....

.....
State.....P/code.....

I enclose a cheque/money order for:

AUD\$20 per annum (Australia)

AUD\$35 per annum (USA, Canada,
Africa & Europe)

AUD\$30 per annum (NZ, Asia &
Pacific)

*Foreign subscriptions should
be paid by bank draft in Australian
dollars on an Australian bank.*

*Cheques in foreign currency
must add \$10.00 to cover
bank charges.*

Please post this form with
your remittance to:

Matebian News

P.O. Box 481

Fairfield NSW 2165

Australia