

# TIMOR INFORMATION SERVICE

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## DAVID SCOTT AT THE U.N. : DOES THE UDT STILL EXIST ?

David Scott, representing the Australia East Timor Association, was in New York from December 10, 1975 till February 2, 1976. His main work was that of assisting with the running of the office of the Democratic Republic of East Timor at the United Nations.

We present here a small but significant excerpt from his report.

" . . . the brief discussion that Jose Horta and Abilio Araujo had with the UDT and Apodeti were helpful in confirming that the UDT leadership was unhappy about the situation it found itself in. Carrascalao ( a UDT leader) admitted to David Scott and to Jose Horta in the presence of the Guinea-Bissau delegate, that the opting for integration was a leadership decision with the implication that it would not be supported by membership or the East Timorese. " (Our emphasis - ed.)

This is significant because Indonesian leaders and news media continue to say that four of the five "popular" parties of East Timor, UDT, Apodeti, Kota and Trabalhista have opted for integration into Indonesia. Apodeti has by all observations never been a popular party precisely because of its pro-integration policy; Kota and Trabalhista probably have 40 - 50 followers between them; the remnant UDT leadership (after the three week civil war initiated by UDT in August/September 1975, two thirds of the defeated UDT leaders had either fled to Australia or were prisoners of Fretilin in Dili) who opted for integration with Indonesia did so when they were in Indonesian territory and without consultation with party members.

The so-called "provisional government" in Dili is an Indonesian creation. It could not survive without the presence of thousands of Indonesian troops.

We will endeavour to provide more details on this aspect in the near future. It is important if an "act of self-determination" is being discussed.

J. Waddingham

## Horrrifying atrocitiy in Timor

SIR, — As a former Australian consul to Portuguese Timor, and as the leader of a team sent to Timor last October by the Australian Council of Overseas Aid, I should like to comment on your report of the death toll in East Timor ("The Age", 14/2).

The admission by the Timorese leader that 60,000 people have died in the civil war needs to be viewed in its full horrrifying perspective. Lopes da Cruz, who is deputy leader of the "provisional"

government which was set up after the Indonesian invasion, admitted that most of the victims were women and children and that "excesses" were occurring "in revenge for Fretilin's cruelty".

In fact the civil war as such ended in September and, according to the estimates of the International Red Cross and the ACFOA team, it accounted for between 2000 and 3000 deaths. In this phase of the fighting there were excesses on both sides, but

on the whole Fretilin authorities treated their captives and political opponents, including Apodeti supporters, surprisingly well.

One can only conclude therefore that the appalling casualty list mentioned by da Cruz (and one would expect him to minimise it, not exaggerate it) is nothing less than an indiscriminate killing of 10 per cent. of the entire population of East Timor by Indonesian troops. This cannot be dismissed as merely an unfortunate result of "excesses" by unruly elements of the Brawidjaja division. It must be condemned for what it is — an atrocity against a people, ranking with such crimes as the Rape of Nanking, and the wanton killings by Nazis in the occupied States of Europe during the second world war.

It is one thing to understand, and even accept, the Indonesian objective of bringing about the integration of East Timor, and perhaps, for the pragmatists, to accede to the pursuit of this objective by military means. It is another to remain silent, as compliant witnesses, while the worst atrocity in the recent history of South-East Asia is being committed.

J. S. DUNN (Canberra).

Jim Dunn was Australian Consul to East Timor, 1962 - 64. He is presently director of the Foreign Affairs group at the Parliamentary library in Canberra.

The Age (Melbourne), 20 February, 1976.

## RADIO MESSAGES FROM EAST TIMOR

We print these messages as received, occasionally adding (in brackets) possible corrections to spelling or grammar. The following messages were received by Northern Territory Overland Radio and transmitted by Telecom-Darwin to Dr. Bill Roberts Chairman of Australia East Timor Association.

D.R.E.T. - Democratic Republic of East Timor.

CST. - Central Standard Time - 1½ hours behind East Coast Summer Time.

MESSAGE 40 Received 11 a.m. CST, 13/2/76

"For over six months that the people of East Timor are fighting heroically firstly against UDT and now against Javanese expansionism. Formally the Indonesian Government tried to annex East Timor by the cheapest way to the faked party ex Apodeti. However this manoeuvre had failed, so another faked the ex UDT tried to accomplish the Javanese project through criminal armed action (presumably refers to coup attempt of August 10-11, 1975) to eliminate the Fretilin Central Committee members. However it was also total failure. (Because) of (these) failures the Javanese expansionist bourgeois decide to violate the border area but unsuccessfully. So the Javanese invaded more easily the district of Dili, with paratroopers and marines in attempts to capture members of D.R.E.T. Despite the intense bombardment over large areas of East Timor from ships planes mortars and chemical bombs from Indonesians, their troops are unable to control the Territory because the people of East Timor are with Fretilin giving generalised popular resistance to the enemy. Fretilin controls most of the depots (military posts) in all the territory. Fight still on till the last men. The people of East Timor will win.

Kindest regards, Nicolau Lobato, Prime Minister, D.R.E.T."

MESSAGE 41 Received 5.30 p.m. CST, 14/2/76

"About two weeks ago Indonesian paratroopers were dropped in Suai, in Lospalos. In Suai about 300 paratroopers have been dropped and most of them have been eliminated by Fretilin forces, so they were reinforced by marines who met strong resistance. In Lospalos fierce fighting still on with lots of deaths to the Indonesian troops who are revenging on the civil population by massacring, raping, murdering children and babies, and on the missionaries the enemy are committing violence. Wherever the Indonesian troops are the people of East Timor in generalised armed resistance are giving fierce fighting. Fretilin controls most of the Territory of the D.R.E.T. The people of East Timor will fight till the final victory.

Alarico Fernandes, Minister for Internal Affairs and Security"

MESSAGE 42 Received 9.15 a.m. CST, 17/2/76

"Whenever the Javanese soldiers meet the civil population, they are massacred, even women, children, and old ones. In Dili several villages the population are starving because the Javanese soldiers sacked everything including foodstuffs that they stripped away. The Indonesian invaders are organising parties where women, and little girls are forced to dance completely naked and (are) violated.

The invaders are having losses every day caused by Fretilin forces, so in revenging they are bombarding with mortar fire and planes, agglomerations of houses, killing mostly women and children. The longer the Javanese aggressors stay in East Timor crimes and barbarities will be great. We appeal to the world to do everything to stop the Indonesian aggression to people of East Timor fighting still on and Fretilin conquers most of the Territory.

Kindest regards, Nicolau Lobato, Prime Minister, Democratic Republic of East Timor."

"The Indonesian invasion to Dili had two main purposes - the capture of the Government and Fretilin Central Committee members and the commander of Fretilin forces. The second to conquer Dili communications centre in order to cut all information to the world about the horrific barbarities carried out by Javanese invading troops, so they shipped all telecommunications equipment to Jakarta. However all these attempts failed completely and Fretilin still informed the world about Javanese aggression and massacres to the people of East Timor. Fretilin forces are acting in the guerilla tactics to fight the enemy who are suffering heavy losses in all fronts. So the high command of the Indonesian invading forces is continuously asking for reinforcements. The border fighting in last September up to now it is estimated about 30,000 Indonesian troops invaded our country. Fighting still on. Independence or Death. We will win.

Nicolau Lobato, Prime Minister, Democratic Republic of East Timor".

MESSAGE 44 Received Melbourne from Telecom Darwin, 6.20 p.m.

"Faked provisional government of Dili under the control of Javanese is fabricating propoganda for the realization of its machiavellian plan full annexation of East Timor into Indonesia. They are contradicting themselves trying to hid the truth that escapes from Lopes Da Cruz mouth about the massacre of 60,000 Timorese mostly women and children by the Indonesian invading forces. They are saying that East Timor is completely under their control however they are afraid to allow in visitors to see the real situation. Massacres, raping taking of valuable things and foodstuffs are carried out daily by Indonesian forces. Such contradiction of the faked Provisional Government is evident. The people of East Timor stood up with firearms and traditional weapons to fight against such atrocities for its survival and liberty. The war is still on and the victory of the people of East Timor is certain.

Highest regards, Nicolau Lobato, Prime Minister, D.R.E.T."

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#### CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS : JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 27 , 1976

-as reported in the Australian press.

( The Melbourne press appear to have decided to play down news on East Timor.

Messages from Fretilin leaders have been fed to the papers as previously but they are no longer being used. - ed.)

January 26 - The Australian Government refused a request from Fretilin representatives in Australia to fly the U.N. envoy Winspeare Guicciardi to Fretilin controlled areas of East Timor. The official reason for the refusal was on the grounds of safety for any Australians involved in the flight.

( The Australian 27-1-76)

January 29 - Portugal agreed to allow Winspeare to use radio facilities on its naval vessels stationed in Darwin to make contact with Fretilin leaders in East Timor.

( Canberra Times 30-1-76)

Jose Ramos Horta, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the D.R.E.T. said Gough Whitlam carried responsibility for the war in East Timor.

January 30 - The Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union banned all mail from Australia to Indonesia as a protest against Indonesian involvement in East Timor.

China reaffirmed its support for Fretilin and strongly criticised the intensified military aggression by Indonesia in East Timor.

("intensified aggression" refers to Indonesian bombardment and invasion of south coast areas of East Timor - in particular in the Betano - Same region where the U.N. envoy was hoping to meet Fretilin leaders. - ed.)

The Victorian Trades Hall Council asked the Australian Council of Trade Unions (A.C.T.U.) to ban trade between Australia and Indonesia. (see insert)

The Australian Labour Party national executive condemned the Indonesian and Australian governments for their actions in East Timor and demanded a cessation of Australian military aid to Indonesia. (Canberra Times 31-1-76)

February 2 - Winspeare Guicciardi arrived in Darwin from Jakarta. (Canberra Times 2-2-76)

February 3 - Malcolm Fraser admits that he and Andrew Peacock were involved in the arrangements to seize the Fretilin radio in Darwin. (Financial Review, 3-2-76). (Andrew Peacock earlier denied his department had anything to do with the confiscation of the transmitter - see Canberra Times 28-1-76)

Indonesian officials observing maintenance procedures for patrol boats were withdrawn from the Cockatoo Island naval dockyard (Sydney) following a demand by workers there. (Tribune 4-2-76)

February 5 - Winspeare abandoned his plans to visit Fretilin held territory in East Timor. Winspeare made contact with Fretilin leaders in East Timor using a radio supervised by Telecom officials. (Attempts to make contact using the Portuguese naval radio were unsuccessful -ed.) Fretilin leaders told him that the only safe way to meet with them would be to fly from Darwin to one of four places- Same, Suai, Viqueque or Con. Landing by sea would be impossible because of Indonesian military activity on the south coast. However, the Australian Government had banned all flights from Australia to East Timor. (The Age 6-2-76)

Bruce Wilson, correspondent for the Melbourne Herald (who has been banned from Indonesia) reported that the so-called "provisional government" in Dili had announced the suspension of party politics. Wilson observed that this spelled the end of the UDT. (The Herald 7-2-76)

February 8 - Winspeare Guicciardi left Australia after talks with the U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in Sydney. (The Sun 9-2-76)

Kurt Waldheim with regard to his envoy reaching East Timor said, "...transport was unavailable because the Australian government was not willing to provide air transport for Mr. Winspeare until there was an assurance of security." (The Age 9-2-76)

February 9 - The A.C.T.U. executive condemned the Indonesian government for its actions on East Timor. (The Herald 9-2-76)

February 11 - Andrew Peacock accused the former Prime Minister, Gough Whitlam, of being "directly responsible" for much of the bloodshed in East Timor. He said the Labour government should have sought U.N. intervention much earlier. (The Age 12-2-76)

The Australian government withdrew permission for Fretilin representative in Darwin Tony Bello, to use a Telecom transmitter to maintain radio contact with East Timor. The withdrawal of the facility meant that Fretilin had no direct contact with the outside world. (The Age 12-2-76)

February 12 - It was revealed that Andrew Peacock had held top level talks with Indonesian officials in Bali while he was Foreign Minister in the caretaker government. This was before the Indonesian invasion of December 7. (The Sun 13-2-76)

February 13 - The vice-chairman of the so-called provisional government in Dili, Lopez da Cruz, said in an interview in Jakarta that about 60,000 people -mainly women and children had been killed in the war in Timor. (The Sun, 14-2-76). Many had been killed in "excesses" by certain Indonesian units. (Tribune 18-2-76)

(The population of East Timor was only 600,000 when Indonesia invaded. The figure of 60,000 represents 10% of the population. See J.S.Dunn Letter on p.1 -ed.)

February 15 - A group of Australians calling themselves the 'Sons and Daughters Movement' ( including people whose parents were helped by Timorese soldiers and civilians during World War 2 ) sealed the locks of over 100 suburban banks with glue. The group said their action was in retaliation against banks which they believed were lending money to Indonesian business organisations supporting the war against Timor.

( The Age 16-2-76 )

February 19 - It was announced that the A.C.T.U. president Bob Hawke would lead a trade union delegation to Indonesia to protest over Indonesian actions in East Timor. (see page 7)

( The Sun 20-2-76 )  
J. Waddingham.

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## **WEST IRIAN**

### INDONESIANS LAUNCH BIG OFFENSIVE AGAINST LIBERATED AREAS IN WEST PAPUA

Indonesian forces numbering up to 15,000 have launched the biggest offensive for eleven years against the liberated areas of West Papua (West Irian) since January 8.

This information was conveyed to the Campaign for Independent East Timor in a press release read by phone by Mr. Ben Tangahhma, Foreign Minister of the Revolutionary Provisional Government of West Papua-New Guinea, from the RPG information office in Dakar, Senegal (West Africa) early this morning.

Mr. Tangahhma said radio messages from the liberated areas monitored in Papua-New Guinea and phoned through to him in Dakar indicated that on January 8 this year four battalions of elite paratroopers and a battalion of marines, a total of 5,000 men, launched an offensive near the Papua-New Guinea border, south-west and south-east of the city of Jayapura. This was preceded by intensive bombing of the liberated areas from January 3. The troops came from the Indonesian military complex at Ambon, in the South Molluccas.

On January 15, elite forces spearheaded a second wave of attack, involving a total of 15,000 troops operating around Jayapura. Violent clashes occurred, particularly around the town of Genjem, between the Indonesians and West Papuan guerrillas. Clashes also occurred in the Lake Sentan junction of the Arso and Bewani rivers.

Since January 3, Mr. Tangahhma said that West Papuan troops had suffered 40 dead, while the Indonesians suffered moderate casualties .. 425 Indonesians had been killed, including Lt. Col. JAMARUNDIN and Captain BAJARUDIAN. 850 Indonesians had been wounded. West Papuan forces had captured two Indonesian officers, Corporal Martinez Kimbrin and 1st. Private Ali Gorah.

Between January 3 and February 10, Indonesian air strikes, including widespread use of napalm had killed 1,605 villagers, mostly burnt to death by napalm.

### PAPUA-NEW GUINEA PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIMENT AIDS INDONESIAN OFFENSIVE

Australian-officered forces of the Papua-New Guinea Pacific Islands Regiment (PIR) had sealed the border to prevent wounded villagers and guerrillas, or refugees fleeing the fighting crossing into Papua-New Guinea.

Mr. Tangahhma said that Papua-New Guinea Foreign Minister Sir Albert Maori Kiki had written to the RPG of West PNG on December 23, 1975, in a personal letter addressed to WPNG President Rumkorem saying that the

PNG government would co-operate with the Indonesians and refuse sanctuary to the rebels. He urged the RPG to "surrender" and "disband". Sir Albert warned that any "rebels" captured would be immediately handed over to the Indonesians, and the West Papuan underground in PNG would be suppressed.

The RPG radio monitored in Papua-New Guinea said that on February 8 a detachment of guerrillas of the National Liberation Army (NLA) of West PNG was evacuating 20 wounded villagers across the border when they were attacked by a PIR unit. The NLA guerrillas were forced to withdraw, but could not take the wounded with them. The villagers were captured by the PIR unit and immediately handed over to Indonesian forces stationed at the border village of UTUNG.

On February 10, the Indonesians summarily executed those handed over to them, including 12 women and five children, the RPG radio reported on February 12.

Since January 3, PIR units had inflicted 25 casualties on NLA forces in the border area, Mr. Tangahma said.

"The criminal action of the fascist Indonesian junta and its neo-colonial Papua New Guinea satellite" was strongly condemned by Mr. Tangahma.

The Revolutionary Provisional Government of West Papua-New Guinea called on peoples and nations of the world, on the Organisation for African Unity (AOAU) and the United Nations to "act immediately to aid the people of West Papua New Guinea and of East Timor in their desperate struggles against Indonesian aggression and expansionism and colonialist slaughter."

Excerpt from Press Release. C.I.E.T. Sydney. 16th February, 1976

## WAR LOANS ?

It's always interesting to see where borrowers get their money from. And when the borrower is the Indonesian Government, which is currently launching an attack on the Fretilin independence movement in Portuguese Timor, the names of the lenders are even more interesting.

The Bank of Indonesia, on behalf of the Republic of Indonesia, last week announced in London that it has just raised \$US425 million in a Euro-dollar term loan.

In view of the nature of the hostilities so close to Australia's shores, you would think it not the wisest political move for an Australian to lend it any of the money.

But no less than five Australian banks appeared on the "tombstone" advertisement in the London press last week as having been lenders on this deal.

They were the ANZ, the Commonwealth, the CBA, the Wales and the National. (Taken from The National Times, 2-7 February, 1976.

See also: Chronology, February 15.

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19TH FEBRUARY, 1976

DECISION OF A.C.T.U. EXECUTIVE  
RELATING TO TIMOR

In 1945, the Australian Trade Union Movement supported the Indonesian people in their struggle for Independence and to throw off Dutch Colonial control. That action was welcomed by the Indonesian people as the following reference would indicate:

On November 27, 1945, Indonesian National Committee (highest parliamentary institution at the time) took time in a period of critical danger when Dutch troops were relanding in Indonesia to vote a special resolution of thanks to Australia, particularly citing the workers who had gone on strike in September, 1945 in Australian ports.

The resolution ended in urging the workers to continue to help the Indonesian struggle for Independence.  
(Historical Documentation  
Osmond Ralliby. pp. 549-553 )

Consistent with that historical approach, the Executive of the A.C.T.U. expresses its strongest possible support for the right of the people of East Timor to Independence and the continuing right to determine and control their own affairs.

The Executive welcomes the decision of the United Nations Security Council in voting unanimously in condemning the military invasion of East Timor.

The Executive condemns the Indonesian Government for its aggression against East Timor and deprecates the failure of the Australian Government to take positive action to refer the matter to the appropriate International bodies in an effort to find a satisfactory solution and prevent any further loss of life.

The Executive condemns the murder of Australian journalists reporting the invasion of East Timor and the further report of the killing of Roger East.

The Executive also draws attention to the Australian Government's prevarication and delay in supplying the Special United Nations envoy with assistance required to contact Fretilin forces and to facilitate his fact finding mission to East Timor, such action can only be construed as adopting a Pro-Indonesian attitude and adopting an attitude contrary to the U.N. Resolutions.

The A.C.T.U. Executive endorses the recommendations made by the meeting of Maritime and Waterfront unions that:

1. There be a ban placed on the handling or working of any Indonesian registered vessel; and
2. There be a ban placed on the loading of any military supplies to Indonesia;

and in addition, decides to request the Australian Government to not offer training facilities to Indonesian Armed Forces personnel until the Timor question is settled.

.....  
In order to ensure that the Indonesian Government is fully aware of the position and views of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, the Executive decides to send a special mission of three representatives to Indonesia to present the A.C.T.U. views on this important question to the Indonesian Government and the Indonesian Trade Union Movement.

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Excerpted from the A.C.T.U. Decision document. Full decision available from Timor Information Service.

# Democratic Republic of East Timor

## Position of Indonesian invasion forces



as of 23 - 2 - 76

