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LETTER DATED 5 APRIL 1976 FROM THE DEPUTY PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the text of a communication from the Head of the Special Team of the Indonesian Red Cross. I would be grateful if Your Excellency would arrange for it to be circulated as an official document of the Security Council under the item "The situation in Timor".

(Signed) August MARPAUNG
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

Annex

Governing Board of the Indonesian Red Cross

Special team of the Indonesian Red Cross for East Timor
stationed in Dili

No. : 079/Tesus PMI/76
Encl. : 1 copy
Re : Tracing people taken
by the Fretilin

Dili, 19 February 1976

To the Chief Executive
of the Provisional
Government of East Timor in
Dili

In reference to your note dated 3 January 1976 No. 48/1976 addressed to the Head of the Indonesian Red Cross in Jakarta of which we received a copy, we herewith submit a report on the outcome of the efforts to trace the missing people which have been carried out by the following members of the Indonesian Red Cross:

1. Mr. M. Mushadi, M.D.
2. Mr. M. Sabaroellah, M.D.

Enclosed is a report for your attention.

Head of the Special Team
of the Indonesian Red Cross

Wadyono

Copies sent to:

1. H.E. The President
of the Republic of Indonesia
2. Governing Board of the Indonesian
Red Cross in Jakarta

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Enclosure

Report on the tracing of missing persons

On request of the Chief Executive of the Provisional Government of East Timor in his letter of 3 January 1976 No. 48/1976, we, the members of the Indonesian Red Cross, Mr. M. Mushadi, M.D. who resides at Jl. Cipinang Jaya II/H 16 Jakarta and Mr. M. Sabaroellah, M.D. who resides at Jl. Cipinang Jaya II/H 16 Jakarta, in order to fulfil the request, have undertaken the tracing and investigating of the missing persons, in accordance with the local situation and conditions.

From our investigation, we have uncovered the following data:

1. Periods of tracing: 15 February 1976 in Aileu
16 February 1976 in Aileu
17 February 1976 in Same;
2. Hardships and difficulties faced:
 - (a) Insufficient means of transportation
 - (b) Insufficient manpower willing to undertake the excavation;
3. The main source of information came from the local inhabitants;
4. Procedure of tracing:

First day in Aileu

We have investigated two grave sites. The first site was located east of the town of Aileu on the bank of the river. The size of the grave cavity was 3 x 3 metres. At a depth of 80 centimetres, the corpses were found. We could see a pile of bodies, one on top of the other with their hands tied behind their backs. No traces of bullet wounds were found. The bodies were scattered with one tied to the other at the limbs, making it difficult to untie the corpses from each other. Very likely, before the victims were buried, they were still alive. The conditions of the corpses indicated a great degree of decomposition, making it difficult to recognize them because their faces were badly damaged. One of the inhabitants, Francisco Paraisa from the village of Maulau Rita, who was present at that time, knew about the killings and he also knew some of the people who were in that grave. These people were the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Antoni Fatima | 5. Gasparo Tuscain |
| 2. Luis Cosemedo | 6. Bereman |
| 3. Domingus Rimalu | 7. E. Peter Santa (Deputy Regent of Dili) |
| 4. Benyamin Mendosa | 8. Liongsi Ribelro |

/...

This mass grave contained, mainly, members of the UDT Party. The body of Lionsi Ribelro could be recognized because of the wallet that was found in his remains. The first grave contained about 40-50 victims. Because of the lack of sufficient manpower, the bodies were left in the grave and sand was placed to cover the bodies again.

The second site was located about 1.5 kilometres east of the first grave and was also found on the river bank at a distance of 2 1/2 kilometres from Aileu. The size of the grave cavity was 6 x 9 metres. At a depth of 75 centimetres, one could see the bodies placed one on top of the other in random positions. Each corpse was tied up with its hands behind its back. The bodies were unrecognizable because they were decaying. In this grave cavity, there were about 60 corpses of members of the APODETI Party. A bag was found which contained a Bible, a crucifix, Bayer aspirin pills, a razor, a comb, a mirror, a medallion, books/documents, a diary and a notebook with pages of legible handwriting. These items belonged to Casimiro Assuncao de Araujo. On another body, an identification paper was found with the name of Sose Batista Pinto. According to information we received from the people who were present, all those victims were formerly detainees of the Fretilin. Because of the lack of manpower, the grave cavity was filled up again.

Second day in Aileu

The third grave site was located 2 1/2 kilometres south of Aileu and west of the main road of Aileu-Maubesi. The size of the mass grave was 5 x 6 metres. At a depth of 60 centimetres, we uncovered a pile of bodies which were already decomposing; only the bones remained of part of the corpses. Therefore it was very difficult to recognize the victims. In this grave cavity, there were about 45 bodies. An automatic Seiko watch was found on one of the corpses. The watch had stopped on the 7th, so we concluded that the victims died the day before. On another corpse, a wallet was found containing an identification paper of Januari de Costa Gusmao with pictures of his wife and family. The grave cavity was covered again.

Third day in Same

The fourth grave site was located near a gorge behind a school building on the upper part of the town of Same. The size of the grave cavity was about 1 1/2 x 15 metres. At a depth of 30 centimetres, we found the remains of decaying bodies. They were disjointed and bones were scattered around the grave site. According to the information given by the local inhabitants who were present at the time of the investigation, the killings occurred on 29 January 1976. A witness, who escaped from his captors and was also present at the time of the investigation, said that he knew some of the victims by name. They were:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Cristova Perai Santeo | 8. Fernando Costa |
| 2. Jorquin Fernandes | 9. Fiales |
| 3. Muriano Soares | 10. Mario Franco |
| 4. Sebastian Soares | 11. Francisco da Costa |
| 5. Carlos Lemas | 12. Antonio Roberto |
| 6. Aniceta | 13. Evaristo |
| 7. Filipe da Costa | 14. Enrique Simoes |

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In this mass grave cavity, there were about 40 bodies. According to the information given by the people, all the corpses were detainees held by the Fretilin. The grave was filled up.

Conclusion

1. The corpses in the mass graves probably include those of the missing persons sought by the Provisional Government of East Timor;

2. From the information given by the local inhabitants, it is very probable that among those corpses are the following:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Antonio Fatima | 14. Muriano Soares |
| 2. Gasparo Tusicain | 15. Sebastian Soares |
| 3. Luis Cosemedo | 16. Carlos Lemas |
| 4. Domingus Rumalu | 17. Aniceta |
| 5. Benyamin Mendosa | 18. Filipe da Costa |
| 6. Bereman | 19. Fernando Costa |
| 7. E. Peter Santa (Deputy Regent of Dili) | 20. Fiales |
| 8. Liongsi Riberlo | 21. Mario Franco |
| 9. Casimiro Assuncao de Araujo | 22. Francisco Roberto da Costa |
| 10. Sose Batista Pinto | 23. Antonio Roberto |
| 11. Januari da Costa Gusmao | 24. Evaristo |
| 12. Cristova Perai Santeo | 25. Enrique Simoes; |
| 13. Jorquin Fernandes | |

3. Among the corpses, there were about 195 which were in advanced stage of decomposition and whose faces were beyond recognition.

This report has been made for your information.

Dili, 17 February 1976

Investigator II

Mr. M. Sabaroellah, M.D.

Investigator I

Mr. M. Mushadi, M.D.
