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LETTER DATED 6 AUGUST 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA ADDRESSED
TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Pursuant to my letter of 27 February 1976 ^{1/} concerning the question of the 23 Portuguese soldiers detained in East Timor (as referred to in document E/CN.4/1203), I have the pleasure to inform you that an amicable and satisfactory solution has now been found to the problem.

On 25 July 1976 an agreement was reached in Bangkok between a delegation of the people of East Timor and the special representative of the President of Portugal to inter alia hand over the 23 Portuguese military personnel to the special representative of the President of Portugal afore-mentioned.

Subsequently, on 27 July 1976 a document of transfer was signed between the special representative of the President of Portugal and the Indonesian Red Cross, which was the agency requested to arrange for the transfer of said military personnel to Portuguese custody.

It is also important to note that in addition to the 23 Portuguese military personnel, on the same occasion 136 Portuguese refugees from East Timor were repatriated.

Following is the full text of the transfer document I have referred to above:

Document of transfer of Portuguese nationals signed in Denpasar, Bali, on 27 July 1976

I. The Indonesian Red Cross, as:

1. The Agency requested by the former Provisional Government of East Timor to transfer 23 Portuguese military personnel from East Timor to Portugal;
2. The Agency entrusted by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia with the task of taking care of refugees from East Timor: hereby transfers:
 - (a) 23 Portuguese military personnel, as listed in the manifest of passengers enclosed;

^{1/} Issued in document E/CN.4/1208.

- (b) 136 Portuguese refugees from East Timor as listed in the manifest of passengers enclosed, with their belongings; to the special representative of the President of Portugal who has come to Ngurah Rai Airport, Denpasar, Bali, in order to receive and transport them to Portugal by means of the aircraft Boeing 707-c, registration Nr. PAF-8801.

- II. The special representative of the President of Portugal hereby acknowledges having received all of the above mentioned Portuguese nationals from the Indonesian Red Cross, and will transport them by means of the above mentioned aircraft from Ngurah Rai Airport, Denpasar, Bali, to Portugal.
- III. The two above mentioned parties appreciate each other's effort to accomplish the humanitarian task of repatriating the above mentioned Portuguese nationals.
- IV. This document of transfer is signed in Denpasar, Bali, on 27 July 1976.

Special Representative of the
President of the Republic of
Portugal

sd.

General Jose Alberto Morais
da Silva

Chairman of the Indonesian
Red Cross

sd.

Prof. dr. Satrio

It is my sincere hope that you may be able to circulate this letter to all Members of the United Nations, in particular to the Members of the Commission on Human Rights, so as to apprise them of these latest developments on the question.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Ali ALATAS