

Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA) Human Rights Office, Melbourne

Santa Cruz Massacre materials: Partial listing

The ACFOA Human Rights Office operated in Melbourne for 20 years until it closed in 2000. Directed by Pat Walsh, the office produced and collected a large volume of material in the course of its advocacy work on East Timor.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Santa Cruz massacre in Dili (12 November 1991), we produce here a partial listing of the contents of relevant folders in the ACFOA Human Rights office archive. This includes materials leading up to the massacre and subsequent events such as Indonesia trials of Timorese participants in Santa Cruz demonstrations.

The archive will be subject to an extensive digitisation program during 2012 to make some of these materials accessible to researchers and especially interested historians and educators in Timor-Leste.

This list was produced by Cecily Gilbert for CHART. 12 November 2011

Note: Folder or file name in bold followed by location and other information in [square brackets]. The list of items for each folder is not exhaustive but indicates the range of significant content.

Portuguese Parliamentary visit to ET [Box 19 1991-1991 2cm.]

Press release from Portuguese Embassy in Canberra 13 Nov 1991 responding to news of the massacre at Santa Cruz.

Details of the planned Portuguese Parliamentary delegation to East Timor 4-15 Nov 1991, including names of parliamentarians, proposed media reps, views of Bishop Belo about the visit.

Appeal letter from ET international support groups via CDPM 14 October 1991, expressing serious concern about heightened Indonesian military activity in East Timor in the lead-up to the planned Portuguese delegation visit.

Letter from Catholic bishops worldwide to UN Secretary-General 24 October 1991, stating concern for safety of population during and after visit of Portuguese delegation.

Summary by ACFOA Human Rights office of events surrounding killings in Dili 28 October 1991.

CDPM response 29 October 1991 to the suspension of the Portuguese delegation visit, including details of Indonesia's reasons for veto.

Excerpts from letters by Xanana Gusmao describing Indonesian military preparations for delegation visit.

Timorese Trials [Box 79 1991-1993 3cm]

ACFOA press release 14 March 1992 on obstruction of justice in trial of Francisco Branco following 12 November 1991 protest in Dili. Includes names of 13 Timorese facing charges of either subversion or spreading hatred, to be trialled in Jakarta.

ACFOA listing 18 Dec 1991 of East Timorese detained since Dili massacre. 32 were held in Dili following the Santa Cruz massacre, 21 were detained in Jakarta after attending a demonstration on 19 November. Includes details of charges and penalties against other participants in both events.

Indonesian-language booklets with details of subversion indictments against Joao Freitas da Camara, Fernando de Araujo La Sama (March 1992); and defence statements from both.

Detailed summary of trials and sentences in Jakarta, March 1992, of Fernando La Sama, Joao da Camara, Virgilio Guterres, Agapito Cardoso, and Dominggos Bareto; details of convictions and sentences for 7 East Timorese in Dili.

Statements by Portuguese Embassy Canberra and Indonesian Legal Aid Institute (LBH) criticising trial processes and outcomes.

Asia Watch analysis June 1992 of trials of Indonesian soldiers and police following Santa Cruz massacre.

Covering letter to ACFOA HR Office from Kirsty Sword 26 May 1993, includes news of East Timorese political prisoners in Cipinang prison.

Student Trials [Box 81 1992 3cm.]

Defence papers for Joao Freitas da Camara, Jacinto Alves, Virgilio Guterres, Agapito Cardoso, Gregorio Da Cunha Saldanha (with English translation), Francisco Branco, and Juvencio de Jesus Martins, May-June 1992.

Human Rights (1) [Box 88 1991-1992. 1.5cm]

Compilation of press items on Santa Cruz massacre, prepared by East Timor Talks Campaign, Dec. 1991. 120 pages, spiral bound.

Human Rights (3) [Box 88 1991-1992]

Interim legal report on observation of trials of Branco and Saldanha, Dili, March 1992. Observer was Rodney Lewis, convenor Indonesian Sub-Committee, ASICJ.

Santa Cruz Massacre: Students Trials [Box 80 1989-1992 2cm]

Press reports, ACFOA media releases on trials of East Timorese in Jakarta and Dili, March 1992, following the Santa Cruz massacre.

Lobbying letters from ACFOA Human Rights Office to fund Australian legal observers at the trials.

Media items on seven East Timorese students who sought asylum at the Japanese and Vatican embassies in Jakarta in June 1989.

Various. Martinho [Box 80 1992 1.0 cm]

Amnesty International profile of Fernando de Araujo (Prisoner of Conscience) May 1992.

Martinho letter in Portuguese to Pat Walsh, + copy.

Camara Documents [Box 80]

Petition to Portuguese Parliamentary Delegation visiting Timor-Leste, signed by approx. 270 Timorese student representatives in Indonesia (two copies).

Declaration and requirement of students and young deportees in Indonesia, addressed to the Portuguese Parliamentary Delegation. Signed by approx. 560 Timorese student representatives in Indonesia (two copies).

Two audio cassettes (1991) containing a) witness reports of treatment of young Timorese detained by Indonesian military, b) statements from students in Motael church.

Filing Cabinet Set [Boxes 99-100]

The ACFOA Human Rights Office also devoted one filing cabinet drawer to Santa Cruz materials. The folder titles are provided here; the contents of the folders have yet to be examined by CHART.

[Box 99/100]

Assorted other responses
Assorted press clippings
Indonesian responses / Inquiry
The Missing peace
Foreign news on East Timor
Newsclips
Catholic Weekly and other clippings
Santa Cruz dossier – Original
Santa Cruz dossier – s/side master

CHART: CLEARING HOUSE for ARCHIVAL RECORDS on TIMOR (Inc). 2011
timorarchives.wordpress.com

[Box 100]

ACFOA/INGI response
Support groups
Leaflets
Letter to Bush
Letter to Evans
Churches
NGO responses
Union responses
Funding appeal
Student delegation to Indonesia Feb 1992
Juan Federer Jakarta visit Jan/Feb 1992
Student trials
Berita / Timor Timur
Australian MPs
International responses
Australian government
United Nations
Eyewitness accounts

[ENDS]