
1977 Federal ALP Policy on East Timor

"Conference condemns the Indonesian invasion of East Timor which was in direct violation of the assurances given to the Labor Government that force would not be used; and

- a) calls on Indonesia to withdraw from East Timor immediately in conformity with United Nations resolutions;
- b) notes the establishment of the Democratic Republic of East Timor on 28th November, 1975;
- c) calls for an international endeavour to resume humanitarian aid to all parts of East Timor through the International Committee of the Red Cross;
- d) calls for free and unimpeded communications with the national independence forces of East Timor.

A future Labor Government will -

- 1) suspend Australian military aid to Indonesia until all troops are withdrawn from East Timor;
- ii) recognise a Government of East Timor if independence is shown to be the choice of the East Timorese people after a genuine act of self-determination; and
- iii) re-establish radio transmitter to communicate with the National Independence Forces of East Timor."

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"The ALP condemns, in the strongest terms, the Australian Government's recognition of Indonesia's annexation of East Timor and undertakes, on becoming the Government of Australia, to reverse the decision. Government action will entail -

- a. setting the example for a UN embargo on military aid to Indonesia; and
- b. actively press for the entry into East Timor of a UN fact-finding mission whose function shall include the monitoring of contraventions of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights."