

EAST TIMOR

CASUALTY IN THE ARMS RACE

- "... if Australian relations with Indonesia worsened it could hinder US strategy for the region", former Prime Minister Fraser was warned during discussions with Ford Administration and Pentagon officials in July 1976. (The Age 3/8/'76)
- US President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger left Jakarta less than 24 hours prior to the Indonesian invasion of East Timor.
- At least 100,000 and possibly 200,000 Timorese have died as a result of the Indonesian occupation of East Timor.



NOW IS A CRITICAL TIME

For the first time since Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 Australia now has a government with a policy strongly in favour of self-determination and independence for East Timor (see over).

All Labor Party national conferences since the invasion have adopted strong resolutions on East Timor. Since Gough Whitlam stopped attending such conferences these resolutions have been adopted unanimously.

Nothing has changed since the ALP last ammended its East Timor policy in July 1982 to make it any less valid. With Labor in office the period of Australian servility towards Indonesia should be over. Yet voices are raised inside and outside the Labor government proposing that the East Timor policy be dropped for the sake of good relations with Indonesia.

Strong pressure for uncritical 'close ties' are being exerted by the Foreign Affairs Department, sections of the Defence Department and prominent individuals in academia and the media as well as the US State Department and the Indonesian government. Mr Hawke, who in 1982 signed a petition to th UN supporting self-determination for East Timor, has avoided affirming the Labor policy and has stressed good relations with Indonesia. Reports that he and Mr Hayden told the Indonesian Ambassador that the policy was "an embarassment" have not been denied.

Concerted pressure from supporters of self-determination and independence for East Timor is needed NOW. Another shameful betrayal of the East Timorese people by a Labor government must not be allowed to happen.

The next few weeks will be critical. PLEASE ACT TODAY.

What you can do

- Write to Prime Minister Bob Hawke and Foreign Minister Bill Hayden (Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600) expressing your support for the full implementation of ALP East Timor policy. Please do not feel that you don't know enough : a letter of three lines giving your view is not too short.
- Ask any organisation (ALP branch, Trade Union, Church etc.) to which you may belong to do the same.
- Join the Australia-East Timor Association - see over.

MAKE HAWKE IMPLEMENT ALP POLICY

Federal ALP East Timor policy

The ALP recognises the inalienable right of the East Timorese to self-determination and independence and condemns and rejects the Australian government's recognition of the Indonesian annexation of East Timor.

The ALP opposes all defence aid to Indonesia until there is a complete withdrawal of Indonesian occupation forces from East Timor.

Aid to East Timor should benefit the East Timorese but should not support Indonesian Government integration processes or military strategy.

The ALP supports the principle of free migration of East Timorese, including refugees, and believes Australia has an obligation and ability to assist East Timorese to come to Australia.

The ALP will seek out and make publicly available information on all aspects of the East Timor issue.

The ALP opposes the operations of Australian companies in East Timor until self-determination has been achieved.

The ALP will continue to support United Nations resolutions which promote the rights of East Timorese.

The ALP will, further—

circulate information on East Timor to governments and political parties overseas;

campaign for the Australian government to release more information;

press for free access to East Timor for the Australian news media;

demand that FRETILIN representatives be allowed into Australia;

press for an Australian parliamentary delegation to visit East Timor on a fact-finding mission, ensuring that adequate support is available from interpreters and that unhindered access is available to all parts of the country and population; and

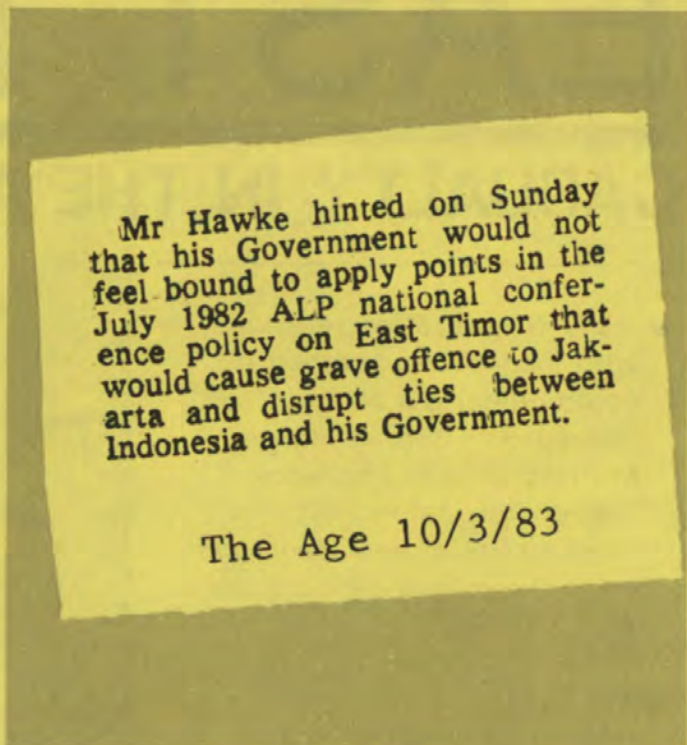
press for a Parliamentary enquiry into all aspects of the East Timor question.

The ALP will also—

press the Australian government to widen its existing programmes to include: the parents and families of isolated children in Australia;

the rest of the 2668 extended family members nominated by Timorese in Australia in 1977; and all other East Timorese who wish to come here;

press the Australian government to send an immigration team to East Timor to bring to Australia the rest of the 600 people on the



agreed list and those embraced by categories in the preceding paragraph;

seek direct talks with the Indonesian government on the matter; draw attention to the lack of free migration from East Timor in all appropriate international fora; and meet with the Timorese community in Australia to enquire into the special problems affecting them.

An ALP government will—

bring to Australia all Timorese included above;

refuse visas to all Indonesian military and government officials until the rest of the 600 people on the agreed list have been admitted to Australia; and

send an immigration team to East Timor to bring direct to Australia all East Timorese specified above.

Adopted at the ALP National Conference, Canberra, July 1982.

The Australia-East Timor Association believes the new government should take the following steps immediately.

- withdraw recognition of the Indonesian annexation of East Timor
- withdraw Australian military advisors from Indonesia
- send home Indonesian military officers training in Australia
- cease deliveries of military hardware
- take joint initiatives with Portugal at the Socialist International (in Lisbon in April), the United Nations and at other international forums
- recall the notoriously pro-Indonesian ambassador, Richard Woolcott, from the United Nations.

Join AETA now!

The most effective way of supporting the people of East Timor is through joining the Australia-East Timor Association and participating in its activities.

The Secretary
AETA
PO Box 93
Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065

* SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Individuals \$5.00
Low Income \$2.50
Organisations \$20.00

Please find enclosed cheque / money order for \$ _____ *, being one year's subscription to AETA, plus \$ _____ donation.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ POSTCODE _____
TELEPHONE _____ (Work) _____ (Home) _____