

OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY FRETILIN (REVOLUTIONARY FRONT OF INDEPENDENT EAST TIMOR. Phoned through from Dili, East Timor, 2.15pm, Wedn. Feb. 26 to the Campaign for Independent East Timor, Sydney by Mr. Ramos O Horta, FRETILIN secretary-General

The situation here is very calm. The Indonesians are taking very provocative action, particularly the Indonesian Consul in Dili, Mr. Tomadok, who displayed photos of Indonesian war machines outside the Consulate here.

Last night someone broke the screen and destroyed all the photos contained in it. The Indonesian Radio Kupang (in Indonesian Timor) continues to attack FRETILIN, UDT (Timorese Democratic Union) and the Portuguese Government. It says that even if the Timorese people do not want to join Indonesia, APODETI will win even without the support of the people.

The government banned APODETI's radio program because it called for violence, asking the Timorese people to fight against FRETILIN, UDT and the Portuguese Government. But there is no reaction at all from the people to support this call and the situation is very calm. FRETILIN and the Portuguese Government's armed forces are in complete control of the situation. We Timorese are not afraid of any Indonesian invasion. We will give them a warm reception if they decide on this adventure.

published by CIET, first floor, 232 Castlereagh St., Sydney phone: 26-1701

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PRESS RELEASE

The Campaign for Independent East Timor will hold a press conference at its office (see above address) tomorrow (Wednesday February 26) at 3pm . The CIET will provide detailed background information on the danger of an Indonesian invasion of East Timor, direct from sources in East Timor itself.

The CIET will announce plans for a large Australian delegation to visit East Timor within the next two weeks, to study the situation for themselves and to support the East Timorese right to self-determination. A protest demonstration on Thursday March 6 will also be announced.

The CIET is calling for the immediate suspension of military and economic aid to Indonesia by the Australian Government, until all warlike preparations by Indonesia end. They are urging immediate restoration of the air link between Darwin and Baucau (East Timor). If that link is not restored by the time the delegation is due to leave, the CIET will ask the Australian Government to provide the delegation with alternative air transport.

The CIET is also urging the Australian Government to immediately restore the Australian Consulate in Dili, the East Timor capital. It wants a strong, public statement opposing the Indonesian threats and the Australian government to raise the issue at the UN Security Council.

A wealth of factual material on the current situation in East Timor will be presented at the press conference, including detailed denial of Indonesian press claims of intimidation of pro-Indonesian forces.