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Indonesia Human Rights Committee

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## Stolen rainforest timber – time to ban it

IHRC is engaged in an ongoing correspondence with the Minister of Forestry, Jim Anderton, about the import of illegally logged kwila from West Papua. As summer approaches, we are deeply concerned that kwila deck chairs and tables are once again being heavily promoted in New Zealand outdoor furniture shops.

This is despite the fact that kwila (or merbau as it is known in Indonesia) trees are under such threat that Greenpeace and others are calling for the species (*intsia spp.*) to be internationally registered as an endangered species. Greenpeace believes this tall tree with its spreading canopy faces extinction in 30 years if the logging continues.

The government agrees with us that the issue of illegal logging is a “critical global problem” but it is not willing to regulate to stop the flow of illegally logged timber into this country. The barrier to effective regulation is mainly about the government’s support for free trade and its perception that it is not possible to distinguish between illegally and legally produced timber. According to Mr Anderton, “any attempt to address illegal logging through regulatory action risks being challenged as inconsistent with the WTO Technical Barrier to Trade Agreement” (11 September 2007).



Rachmat Witoelar

Deforestation is estimated to be responsible for up to 25% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and Indonesia is considered to be the world’s third highest contributor to global emissions. The Indonesian authorities are not oblivious

to the problem. Indonesia’s Environment Minister Rachmat Witoelar has declared he wants western help to preserve what remains of Papua’s forests but he is up against rampant illegal logging. He conceded in a Radio New Zealand interview that the trade in illegal timber is hard to stop given that Indonesia has ‘so many islands and so many exits’.

Barnabas Suebu, Governor of Papua, is negotiating to protect as much as he can of the forest lands already scheduled by Jakarta for conversion into profitable palm

oil plantations. He is looking to finance this project by way of some form of carbon trading or “avoided deforestation funds”.

However, it is the free market trading system that gives rapacious illegal loggers their opportunity in West Papua because tropical hardwood is so highly valued in the prosperous West. Democratic reform is being strangled by the failure to address corruption and effective regulation is not in place. Ironically the problem is worse than it was under “Suharto Inc.” when the regime controlled the distribution of logging concessions to key supporters or “cronies”. The military and its business foundations remain heavily implicated in every aspect of the logging trade including the suppression of any local opposition.



Barnabas Suebu

The loggers take few precautions to protect water sources or to minimise the destruction caused by their access roads, while the indigenous people are alienated from their ancestral lands for payment that amounts to a tiny fraction of the amount that the wood is marketed for in the west.

Greenpeace has been working with the major retail chains to persuade them to stock only products which can be certified as legal and sourced from “correctly managed” forests. However, the kwila used to manufacture furniture for the Auckland market is almost all sourced from West Papua where reliable independent certification is not on offer.

Rather than worrying about upsetting the WTO, New Zealand should ponder on the irreversibility of deforestation, its impact on impoverished people who depend on the forest for their livelihood, and do its bit to stop the wholesale destruction of tropical old growth forest.

We should revive the adage from the anti-nuclear campaign “if in doubt keep it out” and use only plantation harvested wood for our decks and leisure furniture.

– Maire Leadbeater

# West Papua advertisement in Australia

Melbourne businessman Ian Melrose, the proprietor of the Optical Superstore chains, is working to raise the profile of human rights abuses in West Papua. Following the precedent he set in 2004 over the issue of Australia's unjust dealings with the East Timorese over the Timor Gap oil, Mr Melrose is sponsoring a series of highly effective TV ads.

As the Australian federal election campaign heats up the advertisements on West Papua are beginning to appear several times in an hour, especially in areas where there are marginal seats. The ads call for human rights monitors and access for foreign journalists, while pointing out Australia's past betrayal of the West Papuan cause. One advertisement

features Clemens Runaway, who along with Willem Zonggonau, was designated to carry the Papuan protest to the United Nations in 1969. They never made it as the Australian authorities arrested them both on Manus Island (at the time under Australian control)

Melrose believes that his East Timor campaign of TV radio and newspaper ads caused Australia to act more fairly in its oil negotiations with East Timor and that a deal resulted which was better than would otherwise have been achieved.

Now he is using his resources to help the West Papuans while emphasising "it is not the Indonesian people, it never was the Indonesian people, it is the Indonesian military."

## Text of Ian Melrose ad in Australian

### **APEC LEADERS, BE AWARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S WRONG AND IMMORAL ACTIONS - APEC 2007**

**In 1969 the Australian Government stopped 2 West Papuans going to the UN to tell the world the West Papuan Independence vote was corrupted by the Indonesian Military. Since the Indonesian military invasion in 1962 over 100,000 West Papuans have been KILLED by the Indonesian Military and more are KILLED daily.**

**The Indonesian military also KILLED 183,000 innocent East Timorese during 24 years of occupation and no Indonesian Military have been found guilty.**

**Our 'Balibo 5' were KILLED and no Indonesian Military have been found guilty.**

**George Bush & John Howard, WHY have your governments supplied weapons and training to the Indonesian Military who KILL innocent people?**

**WEST PAPUA NEEDS ACCESS FOR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS.**

**Will the Howard Government, or if elected the Rudd Government, do anything to correct the past wrong acts by the Australian Government?**

**Not likely! Only the Greens, Democrats and a few Independents have tried to help.**

**It is NOT the Indonesian people. It was never the Indonesian people.**

**It is the Indonesian Military.**

**Our Balibo 5 KILLED**

**Greg Shackleton KILLED**

**Brian Peters KILLED**

**Malcolm Rennie KILLED**

**Tony Stewart KILLED**

**Gary Cunningham KILLED**

**We did not have room for the photos of the 183,000 East Timorese and the 100,000 West Papuans KILLED.**

*Written & Authorised by Ian Melrose, Booragoon*

*Source: <http://www.freewestpapua.com.au>>[www.freewestpapua.com.au](http://www.freewestpapua.com.au)*

# The 'see no evil' Super Fund

The New Zealand Superannuation Fund has a so-called responsible investment policy that is supposed to filter out investments that would prejudice New Zealand's reputation in the eyes of the world community. But it is a very porous filter which scarcely seems to be slowing the flow of investments in giant corporations whose operations are leading us to the nuclear brink, polluting the planet, or helping to fund dictatorial regimes.

Despite nearly a year of controversy, the Super Fund has yet to divest of the 'sin funds' that have incensed peace and human rights organisations. There may however, be a glimmer of hope as the Super Fund has recently announced (23 October 2007) that it will now divest from \$37.6 million held in tobacco stocks. The media release stated that the fund's investment in this sector was inconsistent with New Zealand's commitment to international conventions such as the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Recently a representative delegation of eight NGOs met with the Super Fund's top executives and Board of Guardians member Glen Saunders.

The Aotearoa Lawyers for Peace pointed out to the Super Fund team that the 1987 New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone Disarmament and Arms Control Act is binding on the Superannuation Fund because it a Crown entity. The legislation prohibits government and its agencies from aiding and abetting the manufacture and acquisition of nuclear weapons.

Undeterred, the Super Fund invests in the United States' "big three" weapons makers: Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman. Lockheed Martin is the world's number one military contractor, as well as the world's largest arms exporter. The company is involved with the nuclear weapons production chain from research and design to the production of delivery systems such as the Trident D5 missile which carries eight warheads each with the power of 29 Hiroshimas. The company is also heavily involved in the development of interceptor missiles, the 'star wars' technology that helps to fuel the arms race in space.

Another company making fabulous wealth is Freeport McMoran, whose chairman James Moffat makes recently retired Theresa Gattung seem underprivileged. With bonuses, stock options and other extras, he raked in over \$US30 million in 2006 according to the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Freeport owes its wealth to the world's largest gold and copper mine at Timika in West Papua.

The New Zealand Super Fund invests (as at June 30

2006) \$954,608 in Freeport McMoran. Much larger funds are invested in Rio Tinto Australia and Rio Tinto United Kingdom. Rio Tinto has a large joint venture interest in Freeport amounting to 40% of the reserves discovered since 1994.

Freeport secured its highly favourable contract with Indonesia in 1967, not long before Jakarta cemented its control over West Papua, in a since discredited "Act of Free Choice". The mine has created a 230 sq km barren wasteland know as the tailings deposition area. Imagine a swathe of barren land five km wide stretching half way from Auckland to Hamilton.



The Super Fund also invests \$18 million in the French oil giant Total which is accused by the Burmese pro-democracy movement of propping up one of the most brutal military dictatorships in the world. The regime which bizarrely titles itself the State Peace and

Development Council has provided the "security" for the gas pipeline from the Andaman Sea to Thailand. However, reports say that "security" has meant sending in the troops to force villagers off their lands and using them as slave labour to clear landmines from the pipeline route. There are also significant investments in several other companies that have major oil and gas projects in Burma. The fund has invested over \$28 million in all these oil firms, based on figures available on the Super Fund website.



Adrian Orr

Adrian Orr, Super Fund CEO wrote recently to IHRC that the fund was monitoring the situation in Burma (Myanmar) but would not divest given "the absence of internationally applied sanctions".

However, the Burmese pro-democracy movement and its international supporters including the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation) say that only tough oil and gas sanctions can help to end the military junta's campaign of terror, since the military controls the economy and oil revenue is its lifeblood.

Moreover, the European Union, Australia and the United States are now debating and planning to implement stronger sanctions. So New Zealand must not continue to turn its back on the brave monks and activists who have risked all to stand up for democracy.



# Terrorism suppression amendment bill

IHRC has made both verbal and oral (video conference) submissions to this proposed legislation.

A person can be considered to be a terrorist if he or she, for political reasons, causes "serious disruption to an infrastructure facility, if likely to endanger human life". IHRC submitted that this definition could fit those involved in actions such as strikes and stop-works undertaken by employees of a hospital or fire service.

We submitted that the definition takes no account of the legitimate resistance by people subjected to extreme repression. The East Timorese people were subject to an illegal and brutal occupation by Indonesia for 24 years, but their liberation movement and their New

Zealanders supporters would have probably have been guilty of "terrorism" if this law had existed then.

We also expressed concern that the United Nations list of terrorist designations will be accepted uncritically if this amendment is passed. Governments supply names to the UN and are likely to make decisions based on political considerations and will be tempted to suggest names of their political adversaries for inclusion in the list of terrorists.

This latest post-September 11 bill adds to the growing list of new laws which serve to further reduce hard-won civil liberties, and under certain circumstance to make acts of peaceful resistance and solidarity actions subject to the charge of "terrorism".

# IHRC calls for suspension of defence ties

IHRC continues to urge the suspension of defence ties with Indonesia, in the light of the evidence of ongoing military repression in West Papua as well as the issue of impunity for historic human rights crimes.

In August we wrote to the Minister of Defence, Phil Goff, relating recent reports of so called "mysterious killings" in West Papua. The deaths of Matius Bunai (August 7) and Ones Keiya (July 23) in Nabire are feared to be a return to style of political repression carried out by the security forces during the Suharto era. We detailed the threats and intimidation meted out to outspoken church leaders and human rights defenders, including Rev Sofyan Yoman who was threatened at gun point immediately after a July church service.

We also noted the belligerent comments of military officers such as the provincial Commander Lt General Zamroni and Colonel Burhanuddin Siagian, who openly support the repression of political dissent by violence. Col Siagian, has stated "What is absolutely certain is that anyone who tends towards separatism will be crushed by TNI (the Indonesian military)." In the interests of the Republic of Indonesia, we are not afraid of human rights." Col Siagian, head of the Jayapura sub-regional military command has been indicted by UN investigators for murder and torture when he was based in East Timor in the run-up to the 1999 independence referendum.

However, West Papuan leaders continue to voice their aspirations for a greater say in their own future. A West Papua National Coalition for Liberation was recently formed after a meeting of organizations working for human rights, democracy and self-determination. The

coalition's first media release called for government of Indonesia to meet with its representatives in an external (international) setting under the auspices of an internationally recognised mediator. The WPNCL is also calling for the international community to endorse and support such an internationally mediated process.

Regrettably the New Zealand government is silent about such initiatives. The Second Secretary of the New Zealand Embassy in Jakarta visited West Papua in December 2006. A censored copy of his report has been released to IHRC under the Official Information Act.

The report stresses that "New Zealand's objectives in Papua are to support the full implementation of the Special Autonomy Law on Papua (OTSUS) in the context of our commitment to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI) and to do what we can to encourage stronger adherence to basic human rights standards in the province."

Although there are major parts of the report which have been withheld, it is clear that the embassy official was anxious to make it very clear that the Government distanced itself from "some" NGOs. "We fully appreciate that in a free society New Zealand NGOs have every right to make their views known and that some will continue to support the Papuan separatist cause and inevitably irritate the Indonesian authorities. At the same time care is needed to ensure that there is no justification for accusations that NZAID funding is being channeled to NGO activities that support Papuan separatism and thus undermine New Zealand Government policy."

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# Munir Said Thalib

Further charges have now been laid in the still unresolved case of the death of the renowned human rights activist Munir Said Thalib in 2004.



Indra Setiawan

It has long been suspected that the State Intelligence Agency BIN was implicated in the events leading to Munir's fatal poisoning as he traveled by air to the Netherlands.

Now, former Garuda Airlines director Indra Setiawan, is to face charges that he issued an assignment letter to pilot Polycarpus Budihari Priyanto on the orders of BIN. Polycarpus was the first defendant in the case to be brought to trial and he was initially sentenced to 14 years in prison for poisoning Munir. He was later acquitted of the murder charges by the Supreme Court. The panel of justices reduced his sentence to 24 months in prison for falsifying flight documents and he was released in 2006.



Polycarpus



Munir

The fact that the Indonesian justice system has agreed to a case review is testament to the strength of the Indonesian and international campaign for justice for Munir. The jigsaw puzzle is not yet complete, and questions remain about the mastermind(s) behind the killing.

## Pasuruan killings

On May 30, 2007, four villagers were killed and eight wounded when Indonesian Navy officers opened fire after a land claim dispute in Alas Tlogo village, Pasuruan, Java. The 13 navy officers who were originally detained following the shooting spree have since been released and have not been brought to trial.

The Indonesian Human Rights group, Imparsial says the shooting was a gross violation of human rights and is calling on the Human Rights Commission to take strict measures against the 13 navy officials by conducting a thorough investigation and bringing the case to the ad hoc rights court.

## CALLS FOR THE RELEASE OF IWANGGIN

Carmel Budiardjo of TAPOL says: "The arrest of Iwanggin sends a message to human rights activists in West Papua that their activities are being closely monitored and is intended as a warning to them to refrain from exercising their democratic rights."

On October 18, members of the anti-terrorist squad Detachment 88 arrested Iwanggin Sabar Olif, a human rights activist in Jayapura. A few days later, he was moved to Jakarta. Iwanggin Sabar Olif is a respected lawyer who works for the well-known human rights organization, ELSHAM in West Papua.

Although there has been no explanation about whether he will be charged, it is understood that he was taken into custody for having sent an SMS text message to several contacts and to his brother. Moreover, since

### continued from p.4 Defence ties

New Zealand has recently embarked on a programme of training the police in West Papua in "community policing" and "conflict management". This is somewhat ironical at the time of writing as a large campaign is building to oppose heavy handed police tactics here, including dawn raids, arrests at gunpoint, and the threat to use new terrorism laws against activists.

the SMS message made reference to the Indonesian president, press reports suggest that he may even face the charge of defamation of the head of state, although the crime of defamation was removed from Criminal Code last December by a decision of the Constitution Court.

The events leading to his arrest suggest that the authorities are intercepting SMS communications between human rights activists which is a worrisome indication of censorship.

His arrest is in a violation of his freedom of expression and his freedom to engage in communication with friends and relatives. It comes at a time when human rights activists in West Papua have been subjected to insidious intimidation and the arrest appears to be intended to reinforce the atmosphere of intimidation and fear, conveying a warning to other human rights activists involved in legitimate activities in West Papua.

Source: *Tapol* 30 October 2007

IHRC has made representations to Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters calling on him to advocate for Iwanggin Sabar Olif .

# PIF overlooks West Papua – again

The 2007 Pacific Islands Forum communique included only a brief, ambiguous and totally unsatisfactory reference to West Papua: “Leaders noted the intention of the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea to convey the Forum discussions on Papua to the President of Indonesia.”



This contrasts with the statement in the 2006 communique which called on all parties to protect and uphold the rights of all West Papuan people and to seek to address the root causes of violence by peaceful means. The Communiqué also urged the Indonesian authorities to bring to justice the perpetrators of serious crimes in the Province of Papua.

As IHRC pointed out in a letter to all 16 Forum leaders: “There is little indication that the Indonesian authorities have heeded these representations... United Nations Special Representative Hina Jilani visited West Papua last June. In her report she expressed concern about reports of incidents that involve arbitrary detention, torture, harassment through surveillance, interference with freedom of movement and in defenders’ efforts to monitor and investigate human rights violations. She was also informed of cases where human rights

defenders were threatened with prosecution by members of the police and the military.

This year there was a strong call for West Papua to be granted observer status at the PIF. It came from the Pacific Regional Civil Society Forum which met

just prior to the governmental Forum, and from the international West Papua solidarity network, including IHRC.

But this time the Forum chose instead to invite the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission to become a Forum observer and Italy to be a Post Forum Dialogue partner.

Speaking at a Swedish Institute in October Foreign Minister Winston Peters waxed lyrical about New Zealand’s aid programmes and support for ‘human rights capacity building in the Pacific’ and talked about the need for Pacific peoples to attend regional and international forums.

But apparently these fine intentions do not include the people of West Papua, who have again been cruelly sidelined. New Zealand and all Forum leaders are guilty of wanton neglect.

## UN rights official criticises Indonesia over access

Despite being a member of the UN Human Rights Council, Indonesia is among those countries that continue to refuse a visit by a UN official responsible for investigating extrajudicial killings.

Philip Alston has expressed frustration over the lack of response to his request for access from countries (including Indonesia), who needs to face up to allegations about extra-judicial killings,

“From the perspective of my mandate to respond to alleged killings, the majority of governments are failing the basic test of accountability,” Alston said.

“If a country has problems of extrajudicial executions and doesn’t let (me) in, that should be of concern to the General Assembly and Human Rights Council, but none of those countries are ever really challenged for their failure.”

He said this was especially serious for the Human Rights Council members that have failed to respond to his requests — Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia — “because the council

members are supposed to have said, ‘We promise to cooperate fully with the council’ as part of being elected.”

Many domestic and international parties have accused Indonesia of extrajudicial killings during its contemporary history, including the “mysterious killings” of criminals in the 1980s, the disappearance of political activists in the 1980s and ’90s, the Tanjung Priok massacre, Timor-Leste killings and the more recent murders of Trisakti university students in 1998 and noted right activist Munir Said Thalib in 2004.

While acknowledging Alston’s request for access, the Foreign Ministry’s director general for multilateral affairs, Rezlan Izhar Jenie, said Indonesia saw no need for the special rapporteur to visit. He said Indonesia had received numerous UN special rapporteurs on various human rights issues.



Rezlan Izhar Jenie

Source: Abdul Khalik, *The Jakarta Post*

# Fairness and wellbeing in Papua discussed

Delegates to the Sydney “Paths to Justice and Prosperity conference” organised by Indonesian Solidarity and the Centre for Conflict Studies at Sydney University ( 9-10 August, 2007) heard contrasting points of view about the way forward for greater fairness and economic wellbeing in Papua. The August Conference brought together a wide range of academics and activists including Australians, West Papuans, Indonesians and a couple of Kiwis—including me.

The Special Autonomy Law promised to the West Papuan people a greater share of revenue from resource extraction and more political representation, but has instead brought widespread disillusionment and the controversial partition of the province. The general view of Special Autonomy was far from favourable. Budi Hernawen director of the Jayapura-based Office for Justice and Peace, said that the financial benefits do not filter down to the grassroots where money is desperately needed for education, health and HIV/Aids programmes. Agus Alua, Chairman of the Papua Peoples Assembly (MRP) confirmed that numbers of military troops have increased since the law was passed in 2001.

The dissenting voices came from the Indonesian Embassy representative and from Franz Albert Joku, chairman of IGSSARPRI (Independent Group Supporting the Special Autonomous Region of Papua within the Republic of Indonesia). He said Papuans should take the opportunity to work within the current framework, even though Jakarta still needed to implement aspects of Special Autonomy. He maintains Papuans must work within the current framework. It was not a popular viewpoint with an audience that included a number of West Papuan refugees!

An uncontested theme at the conference was the escalating military presence and the total absence of any genuine indication of military reform. Several speakers stressed ongoing military intimidation – some referred to evidence of new militia formations and the presence of the military at every level down to the villages.

There was considerable discussion about economic issues-and the deep poverty experienced – “41% earn less than US\$1 a day”.The ongoing problem of migration from other areas in Indonesia: in 2000 35% of the population were non-Papuans and in urban areas it was as high as 60%.

Delegates endorsed a culture of transparency and called for open access for journalists, humanitarian workers and tourists – as many as possible as soon as possible!

– Maire Leadbeater

*Clinton Fernandes (author of Reluctant Indonesians: Australia, Indonesia, and the Future of West Papua 2006 and senior lecturer in strategic studies at the University of New South Wales. An extract from his presentation concerning the Australia-Indonesia relationship and debt:*

“Once again, there are official pieties, and a historical and documentary record, and they don’t have anything to do with each other.

The official pieties run as follows: “In addition to the direct assistance that Australia provides to Indonesia through its development cooperation program, Australia has assisted Indonesia’s progress towards economic recovery through other means including debt relief.”

However, the record is at odds with these claims. During the Asian financial crisis, Indonesia went from having virtually no domestic public debt to 22.9 percent of GDP in FY1996-97, 61.5 percent of GDP in FY1997-98 and 100.3 percent of GDP in FY2000. It has declined to 66.9 percent of GDP at the end of 2003, 48% in 2005, and 42% in 2006. The proportional reduction has been at the expense of spending on basic services and development (the development budget has been cut for four years in a row).

Indonesia’s debt crisis is not an economic question but an ideological one. If one adopts the principle that the borrower of a loan should pay it back and the lender lends at his/her own risk, much of the debt crisis takes on a different light. The Indonesian people did not participate in the decision to incur the debt, and in fact were prevented by the Suharto regime from having any say in the matter. The borrowers were the now-notorious crony capitalists associated with the Suharto regime.

Of course, they are not paying for the debts they incurred. Instead the Indonesian people are being made to pay for it by sacrificing funds they could instead be spending on health and education. The lenders were First World banks, which are protected from the consequences of their bad loans by the International Monetary Fund. The IMF, which is funded by Western taxpayers, takes on the bad loans made by the banks and makes the Indonesian people pay for them by way of ‘structural adjustment policies’.

A growing number of voices both inside and outside Indonesia are calling for the cancellation of Indonesia’s debt not only as a question of charity or meeting human needs, but as a question of justice.

# Barbel Rehfeld

10 November 1952 - 16 August 2007

Our valued friend and core group member Barbel Rehfeld died in Hamburg, Germany.

Barbel is greatly missed – while her work was often behind the scenes it was quite crucial to the success of many of our projects. We greatly valued her judgment and her thoughtful contributions to all our discussions. She was deeply committed to our committee and to its central purpose, and her hard work, encouragement and enthusiasm gave us all extra strength and confidence.

She did not want us to make a fuss and so said little about her health problems, and she was determined to carry on as normal even when she knew her personal future was very uncertain. Last year Barbel, with partner Marcus and son Niklas, who are also innovative IHRC volunteers, moved to Wellington. Barbel quickly found ways to promote our issues to a new audience and enlisted our help to ensure that resources and videos were available.



Barbel at Huka Falls

When her health took a clear turn for the worse Barbel was on holiday in Germany. She faced this directly and honestly and encouraged us to do the same. In a poignant email she told us she was ready to leave and sent us “all my love and the peace I found in my self after I accepted the situation.”

Since we could not say goodbye in person, her Auckland friends gathered together to send thoughts

and wishes to her. She responded to our messages and the photo of the get-together, saying that she felt privileged to have been part of our struggle.

“I have had a wonderful time in Aotearoa, the country I choose to live in, and I think it has had lots to do with the great people, like you I meet there, even if it was only a short time in my life.”

Jim Gladwin who worked with Barbel in housing and other struggles, wrote of his appreciation for her modest background, work and her love of her adopted country’s wild places. He said she was always ready to express her views especially when ‘principles are at stake.’ She had “such a rich life of working, meetings, socialising, marches, campaigns ...!”

Marcus told us he believes Barbel was politicised years ago when she visited an alleged terrorist (the brother of a school friend) in prison. “I am sure that’s exactly what she would be doing right now as well.”

Thanks for everything Barbel!

IHRC extends its condolences and love to Marcus and Niklas.

– Maire Leadbeater

## President ready to go to war



Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

President said that as Head of State and Head of Government, he is ready to go to war if any country infringes the sovereignty of the NKRI (Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia).

“In addition to being President, I am also Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces (TNI). We

will never permit an inch of our land to be relinquished,” he said at a Youth Forum for the children of retired military personnel. (31 October, 2007)

The President said it was not true that he was soft towards other countries and he emphasised that he made a pledge from the moment that he joined the armed forces to defend Indonesia’s sovereignty.

The President went on to say that he would use negotiation methods first, but that did little to blunt the impact of his belligerent words which were widely circulated.



**Subscription:** We welcome new members.

For further information or to join our e-group, please contact Maire

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