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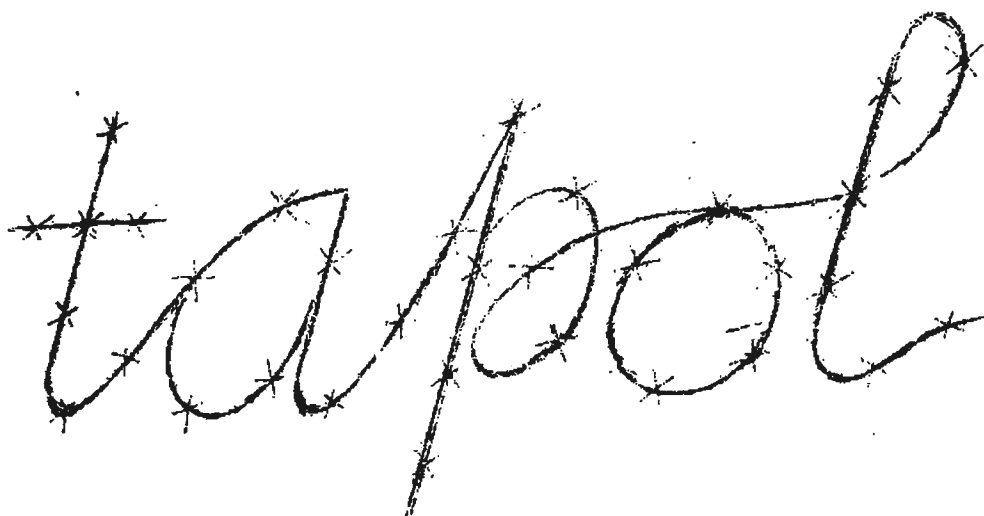
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Bulletin No. 2.

November 1973

C O N T E N T S

CAMPAIGN NEWS:

Question in the House of Commons	2
Vigil Outside the Indonesian Embassy	2
MPs Visit Indonesian Embassy in London	3
Two More Signatories to Early Day Motion on Indonesian Political Prisoners	3

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

Indonesia now on Human Rights Blacklist	3
Selected Works of Imprisoned Poet Published	4
Ambassador 'Briefs' Indonesian Students in the Netherlands	4

NEWS FROM INDONESIA:

The Numbers Game Continues	5
Conditions on Buru	6
Arrests in Bandung	7
Malnutrition in Ambarawa Prison	7
Arrests in Jakarta on Independence Day	7
Prison Labour for Tourist Project	8
The Fate of an Ex-Detainee	8
Tapol Question Causes Embarrassment for Indonesian Observer	9
Trials Take Their Steady Toll, Eight Years After the Event	10
Tapols' Attitudes Must Change, Says General	11
Amnesty Groups Petition Visiting General	11

THE TAPOLS - CASE NOTES:

Rivai Apin, poet	11
Mrs Njono, housewife	12
Martojo, computer engineer	12

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## CAMPAIGN BEWS

### Questions in the House of Commons

On July 27th in reply to a question in the House from M.P. Mr. Hugh Jenkins, it was stated by Mr. Anthony Royle, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs that Britain supplied about £6.8 million in aid to Indonesia in 1972.

Mr. Jenkins went on to ask if the British Government were aware of the 55,000 tapols held by the Indonesian Government.

"What action," he asked, "are the Government taking to ensure that aid is not used to uphold the regime and enable it to pursue its repressive policies most efficiently?"

Mr. Royle stated that the Indonesian Government had recently confirmed that there were only 18,000 tapols (see - Numbers Game, page 5).

"We," he said, "do not think we are justified in any way in raising with the Indonesian Government the question of political detainees. It is a matter relating to the internal affairs of Indonesia".

(News of this question was received one day too late for inclusion in the last bulletin.)

- \* \* \* \*

### Vigil outside the Indonesian Embassy

August 17 is Indonesia's National Independence Day, and we held a vigil outside the Indonesian Embassy, intended to remind the Indonesians that 55,000 or more of them wouldn't be celebrating anything, but mostly of course to bring the situation to the attention of people in this country. This was our second vigil, the first being the two-day one held at the time of the Inter-Government Group for Indonesia meeting in May.

During the vigil many diplomatic representatives of other countries visited the Embassy, and saw our placards. Some of them were given our leaflets. A reception was taking place inside the Embassy during the vigil. Among those who took part in the vigil were Lady Fleming (herself a former Greek political prisoner), several representatives of Amnesty groups, and trade union organiser May Hobbs.

Apart from the Press photographers who came to photograph us in the street, there were some less straightforward Indonesian photographers who recorded the faces of each of the vigil participants for posterity from the vantage-point of the second floor windows of the Embassy, with the assistance of a telephoto lens.

Placards held by the vigilliers said:

- \* Free Indonesian Political Prisoners!
- \* 55,000 held in Political Detention!
- \* 7½ years in prison without trial!
- \* They are Our Concern!
- \* Remember them as U.K. Aid Increases!
- \* Abide by UN Human Rights Declaration!

\* \* \* \*

### M.P.s Visit Indonesian Embassy in London

Mr. Peter Archer, QC, MP, and Lord Avebury visited the Indonesian Ambassador in London, Mr. Rusmin Nurjadin on 30th August to express the deep concern felt by themselves and many Members of Parliament in both Houses over the plight of Indonesia's tapols. They were told by the Ambassador that the Indonesian authorities faced considerable difficulties in obtaining accurate statistics about the number of tapols but he thought the total of 36,221 mentioned in the Times Supplement (17th August, 1973) was correct (see Numbers Game, p. 5). The figure tended to fluctuate considerably because arrests continued to be made and the figure excluded some C category tapols still in detention.

Only 130 detainees had been tried, he said; 98% had been found guilty but no details of sentences could be given by the Ambassador. It was hoped to speed up the trial rate to between 200-500 a year. Mr. Archer pointed out that even at this rate (if it was ever achieved), many tapols who had been in prison for seven or eight years already would not be tried for many years to come. This situation was deplorable and a prisoner might find himself facing a sentence shorter than the period already served.

Lord Avebury expressed concern about intolerable prison conditions and specifically cited Ambarawa Prison in Central Java where TB and malnutrition were reported to be rife. The Ambassador stated that foreign journalists and the International Red Cross would be permitted to visit any prisons they wished to investigate conditions at first hand.

The Ambassador regretted his inability to answer several of the questions but assured the MPs that any specific questions raised by them would be answered by the Indonesian authorities.

### Two More Signatories to Early Day Motion on Indonesian Political Prisoners

Two more MPs, Graham Tope and Arthur Latham, respectively of the Liberal and Labour Parties, have signed the Early Day Motion placed on the Commons Order Papers for the first time on 11th July (see Tapol Bulletin, August 1973, p. 2). The Motion expresses deep concern over the Indonesian political prisoner situation. Altogether, it appeared on the Order Papers eleven times up to the end of the last Session.

\* \* \* \* \*

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Indonesia Now on UN Human Rights Blacklist

The UN Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities, a Sub-Commission of the UN Commission on Human Rights, has accepted as admissible a complaint submitted to the UN Secretary-General about the detention of tens of thousands of tapols in Indonesia. The decision was taken in August this year at a meeting in Geneva after recommendations by a panel of five jurists which sifted thousands of submissions. The Human Rights Commission is empowered to consider complaints establishing 'consistent patterns of gross violations of human rights'.

It is now for the Indonesian Government to answer the charges at a forthcoming meeting of the Human Rights Commission. Other

countries blacklisted are Great Britain, Portugal, Iran, Tanzania, Burundi, Brazil and Guyana.

In February this year, Amnesty International submitted a complaint to the UN Secretary-General about tapols in Indonesia. It requests the Human Rights Commission to intercede with the Indonesian Government to ensure the immediate trial or release of all untried political prisoners. This is the submission which the Sub-Commission is believed to have accepted.

#### Selected Works of Imprisoned Poet Published

An anthology of poems written before 1965 by the imprisoned Indonesian poet, Rivai Apin, has been published in Malaysia by Harry Aveling, the Australian literary critic who has made a special study of modern Indonesian poetry and is one of the most noted translators of Indonesian poetry. The anthology is entitled Dari Dua Dunia Belum Sudah (Between Two Unfinished Worlds), the title of Apin's best known poem.

Rivai Apin certainly knows nothing about the publication of his works for he has spent the last eight years as a tapol and has been in Buru for the past few years (see page 11).

#### Ambassador 'Briefs' Indonesian Students in the Netherlands

It was recently reported by the Indonesian newspaper, Berita Yudha that the Indonesian Ambassador in the Netherlands, General Alamsya, held a 'briefing' session in August for Indonesian students there in which he appears to have warned them of the issues on which Indonesia is at present criticised and to have suggested how they should react.

He is reported as saying that the issues on which most criticism arises are corruption, militarism, PKI tapols, the state oil company Pertamina, the state financial agency Pekung and the 5th August incident in Bandung when rioting took place (see page 7).

The argument suggested by the Ambassador to combat criticisms of militarism was that if leadership was in the hands of a 'military person' this did not necessarily mean militarism especially when "the programme being carried out at the present time was not only for military purposes".

On tapols, the Ambassador said that Amnesty members in the Netherlands sent scores of letters to the Indonesian Embassy about the problem. "Indonesia supports humanitarian undertakings" he said, "and has even permitted the International Red Cross to enter Indonesia, something which has not been done by many countries that have political prisoners". (The last time an International Red Cross mission was allowed to investigate the conditions of tapols in Indonesia was in early 1970, nearly four years ago.)

\* \* \* \*

#### Did You know?

A certificate of non-involvement in the September 1965 affair is still a requirement for almost any employment in Indonesia whether state or private. Notices of vacancies appearing in the press almost always mention this as a condition for applying. This automatically excludes ex-detainees and detainees wives unless they can get a certificate ... at a price!

NEWS FROM INDONESIA

The Numbers Game Continues

The Indonesian Government continues to give conflicting and confused estimates of the number of tapols detained in prisons and detention centres in Indonesia. Recent requests for information, prompted by international concern for the tapols, have received conflicting answers. Eight different pronouncements on the subject have been reported since 1971, and these cannot be accounted for by variations in the prison population.

Two of the most recent official estimates, for example, were made by President Suharto himself. First, on 12th March 1973, he said in the course of a public speech that there were a total of 2,000 A tapols, 13,117 B Tapols and "some" not yet classified. Only five months later he was reported to have told the Times correspondent Stewart Harris ("No Trial Yet for Political Prisoners" The Times 17th August 1973) that the total tapol population was 36,000 (already classified as A or B category) and that there were nearly 10,000 on Buru; whether they are included in the 36,000 or the total estimate is 46,000 is not clear. These figures do not include those not yet classified. Amnesty's estimate of upwards of 55,000 still seems the most reliable.

It is a strange but invariable feature of official pronouncements on this subject that there is no reference to earlier statements, nor any attempt to explain the contradictions. One example of this is the statement by President Suharto in the same speech as the one referred to above to the effect that "at the end of 1971 and the beginning of 1972", 80,000 "C" category prisoners were released. This is an incredible statement in view of the fact that the figure is almost twice the figure given by government spokesmen in 1971 for the total number of prisoners detained. The attitude of the authorities is illustrated by the remarks reportedly made by the Attorney General, Sugih Arto, to a group of foreign journalists in September 1971 when he said that the number of political prisoners was a floating rate, like that of the yen against the dollar.

Following the article by Stewart Harris in The Times on 17th August the following letter from the secretary of TAPOL was published in The Times on 31 August:

Sir, In an article on Indonesian political prisoners published in your special supplement on Indonesia (August 17), your correspondent, Stewart Harris, quotes figures given to him by President Suharto's office in July, adding up to a total of 36,221 political detainees, or 46,119 if the prisoners on Buru are not included in the figure given for "B" category prisoners (Mr. Harris is ambiguous on this point.)

As even the lower of these two figures is more than double that given by President Suharto in March this year, Mr. Harris concludes that the big increase suggests a significant stepping up of communist activity leading to many arrests. This conclusion does not tally with the facts.



Although there is a constant trickle of new arrests, nothing has been reported in the Indonesian press recently to suggest that nearly 20,000 people have been arrested in the past five months.

The huge discrepancy between the March and July figures, both supplied by President Suharto, is only indicative of the utter confusion that has consistently characterized Indonesian official pronouncements on this subject. A publication issued in March this year by Amnesty International contains no fewer than eight conflicting sets of figures announced by the Indonesian authorities over a period of only 15 months.

The Indonesian Government has throughout displayed an alarming disregard for the need to keep itself and others accurately informed on a matter which concerns the lives and rights of so many people. Perhaps the most sinister reflection of this disregard was the statement made by the former Indonesian Attorney General who jokingly compared the figure with the floating rate of the yen vis-a-vis the dollar.

The lesson surely is that little credence can be placed in Indonesian official pronouncements about the number of political prisoners in detention. There is, we believe, no reason to doubt that the estimate of 55,000 made by Amnesty International in March still holds good and may in fact understate the problem. It is abominable that nearly eight years after the 1965 events, so many people are still being held without trial.

In view of this continued violation of human rights on such an enormous scale, we were amazed to hear that the Queen has announced that she will be making an eight-day state visit to Indonesia early next year. Clearly this will be construed as condonation at the very least of the continued detention without trial of so many people.

#### Conditions on Buru

The Indonesian authorities began sending tapols to the remote island of Buru in 1969 and altogether 10,000 have been sent there. Up to mid 1973, more than one hundred had died there despite government assertions that only able-bodied tapols under 45 years were included among those sent.

Technically, Buru is a resettlement area but actually it is a forced labour camp where detainees are kept under conditions of rigorous isolation. About 90 tapols have their families with them but most of them do not wish to inflict such a desperately hard life on their wives and children. No food or clothing is provided by the authorities and tapols live on whatever they manage to produce and are allowed to keep. The military commanders of the units handle the sale of agricultural produce and wats produced during sessions of work at night. Out of the proceeds, the tapols receive only occasional bits of clothing such as a singlet or pair of pants. Most have so little clothing that they do not have pants to work in and wear only a scrap of loincloth. Some are lucky enough to receive clothes and food from families outside but most do not. Many do not even have a mat to sleep on or mosquito nets in an island renowned for the mosquito menace, or soap to wash their tattered clothes. The tapols work ten or more hours a day, seven days a week and return home exhausted, 'too tired even to think' as one prisoner put it.

### Arrests in Bandung

A large number of people (reports varying from 284 to 442) were arrested following riots in Bandung, West Java, on 5th August. The disturbances occurred after an incident involving a collision between a man driving a cart and some young Chinese in a car. A fight developed in which the cart-driver was injured. Following rumours that he had died, rioting broke out; 900 Chinese shops are reported to have been burnt, and cars and other property belonging to Chinese people damaged.

The first reports of the disturbances indicate that they were regarded as spontaneous and caused by "disparities in the social structure", as one observer put it, but on 15th August, reports began to appear which indicate that members of the Indonesian Communist Party were being blamed. Mrs. S.L., wife of a PKI tapol, Subagio Sumodidjojo, who had a few days before been to visit her husband in prison, was accused of inciting people to riot and was arrested. There were several hundred other arrests, many of them people who were politically suspect; they included four found in the home of an ex-C category tapol. According to the latest reports, about one hundred of these people still remain in detention.

On 31st August, the Commander of the Vth Siliwangi Military Command, whose headquarters are in Bandung, was reported as saying at a press conference that the public "would always increase its vigilance against the hidden danger from remnants of the PKI" (so many of whom have of course been in prison since the attempted coup in 1965). One inference to be drawn from these reports is that the authorities welcome any opportunity to justify their continued detention without trial of so many thousands of PKI members by blaming them for any breaches of law and order which may occur.

### Malnutrition in Ambarawa Prison

Alarming reports have appeared about malnutrition in the Ambarawa Prison in Ambarawa, Central Java. According to these reports, disease is widespread in the prison and the conditions in which the prisoners are held are atrocious. Ambarawa, where many hundreds are being held, is reputed to be one of the worst prisons in the country. These conditions are thought to be the result of the attitude of the prison commander who corrupts the already meagre funds intended for the prisoners' upkeep.

### Arrests in Jakarta on Indonesia's Independence Day

Several people were reported to have been arrested on 17th August, Indonesia's Independence Day. One of these was a woman who tried to read out to President Suharto a document entitled "World Peace". It is reported that the police would not allow the full contents of the document to be made known. Several other people were arrested because, it is reported, they aroused suspicion by pushing forward in crowded places. An official spokesman was reported as saying that "it is better that we take suspicious people into custody rather than have undesirable things happen on this historic day".



### Prison Labour for Tourist Project

Tourism is an increasingly high priority in the eyes of the Indonesian authorities, and tapols are by far the cheapest form of labour. One example of their use is that the road to the Tangkubanprahu volcanic crater about sixteen miles from Bandung in West Java is being maintained by tapols from the Kebun Waru Prison in Bandung. PATA, the Pacific area association of tourist agencies is holding a conference in Indonesia next year and the crater is being upgraded as a major tourist asset. The surrounding country is very mountainous and the road difficult and normally expensive to maintain as it tends to get washed down from the hillside during the wet season. The prisoners are inadequately fed and clothed and, of course, unpaid. Political prisoner labour is commonly used for government contracts for roads and bridges, usually, it appears, to the financial advantage of the local commanders.

### The Fate of an ex-Detainee

The problems of a political detainee do not come to an end with release. Many suffer great difficulty in re-establishing themselves in their locality because of prejudices that have been instilled in the people and the fear of displaying signs of friendship towards an ex-tapol. These prejudices are repeatedly cited as the reason why releases must be delayed or halted altogether. The only way for such prejudices to be eliminated would be for the authorities themselves to offer assistance and protection to released detainees. But the contrary is generally true, as the following incident, reported recently in a Jakarta weekly, Tempo, (11th August, 1973) shows:

When the military commander in the village of Jatiroto, in East Java, summoned the peasants to a meeting and ordered them to hand over their land for sugar cultivation, many of the peasants were reluctant to do so. In sugar producing areas, land is used for sugar only once every five or six years, frequently incurring losses for the peasants who rent their land to the sugar companies; and Jatiroto had only just recently completed a sugar harvest. Those peasants who submitted were confronted with a contract worth only Rp. 90,000, less than one-fifth of the earnings they could earn per hectare from the three harvests they could get in the same period of time.

The peasants who refused to relinquish their land were sent to the military unit and placed under detention by the local commander, Sub-Lieutenant Mungin. During the days that followed, some gave in to pressure but others held out, preferring to remain in detention than hand over their land under such disadvantageous terms.

After a week, Lieut. Mungin was getting impatient and decided to resort to different methods. There was one ex-tapol in the district, a peasant named Munewi who had returned to the village after several years detention. He had attended the first meeting and had been among the first to hand over his land; it would have been asking for trouble for him to have done otherwise. So, when he was called a week later by the commander, he must have thought that he was going to be taken as a shining example of how to respond to orders. When he arrived at the unit, he was taken to a

courtyard and told to stand in front of a row of 25 peasants, the men who were still in detention. No sooner had he entered than Lieut. Fungin took up an iron rod and began to beat him ferociously about the face and head. Within moments, several of his teeth had fallen out and his jaw was broken.

As Munewi screamed with pain, the detainees watched in fear and the lieutenant turned to them and yelled: "If you take it into your heads to follow Munewi's lead, you'll have the same coming to you, too." The message was quickly driven home: refusal to acquiesce would mean that they would be accused of being ex-PKI, terlibat ('involved') and they would suffer all the injustices that are the lot of allegedly pro-PKI people in Indonesia today: imprisonment, loss of jobs, ostracism, and brutal maltreatment such as Munewi had been subjected to before their very eyes.

The response was inevitable: all the peasants, without exception, submitted, put their fingerprints to the documents relinquishing their land for sugar, and were then allowed to go home.

#### Tapol Question Causes Embarrassment for Indonesian Observer in Holland

Ruslan

... Abdulgani, who was until 1970 Indonesia's Ambassador to the United Nations, recently made a long visit to Europe, spending six months in the Netherlands. On his return home, he was interviewed by the Jakarta newspaper, Kompas and made some interesting remarks about the attitude of young people in the Netherlands towards the present regime in Indonesia.

The young people in the Netherlands, he said, regard Indonesia as just another foreign country and consequently view its regime in much the same light as those of other countries governed by military regimes. He found them antipathetic to strict militarism, saying that in the Netherlands today, a soldier does not have to salute a superior officer but can simply say 'hello and have a polite attitude'.

Most countries in the West, he said, are reducing their armed forces and as a result the younger generation in Holland regard military countries as 'something queer... all the more so if they read about there being political detainees and artists who are detained.' He found that they could understand the need to take action to prevent insurrection but could not understand why artists had to be detained. Wherever he gave a lecture, he was asked where the well-known Indonesian writers, Sitor Situmorang and Pranudya Ananta Tur were.\*) It even happened that he was greeted with people reciting Sitor's poems which had been published by a magazine on the same day!

The paper reported that Ruslan Abdulgani said that the protests over tapols which he saw in the Netherlands were made in general not by communist groups "but by church and humanitarian groups, Amnesty International and 'the like'".

\*) Sitor Situmorang is a political prisoner in Salerba Prison, Jakarta, and Pranudya Ananta Tur is a political prisoner in Buru.

### Trials Take Their Steady Toll, Eight Years After the Event

Since the first political trial held early in 1966, when the communist leader Njono was sentenced to death, there has been a slow trickle of trials for alleged involvement in the October 1965 events. Only A category prisoners can be brought to trial and these, according to the government, amount to about 2,500, a mere fraction of the total number of political detainees. So far in the eight years since the 1965 events, about 400 prisoners have been tried. There have been many death sentences: of the approximately 150 trials about which some details are known roughly one-third have resulted in death sentences whereas the rate of acquittals is about 2 percent.

During September this year, three trials took place, one involving eleven persons and the other two involving one person each. Most publicity was given to the trial of Police Brig.Gen. Sugeng Sutarto, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency prior to the 1965 events, who was tried before the Extraordinary Military Tribunal. He was found guilty and sentenced to death for 'entering into criminal agreement to overthrow the lawful government'. Among the witnesses called by the prosecution was Dr. Subandrio, formerly First Deputy Prime Minister of Indonesia, himself now under sentence of death. Dr. Subandrio's appeal for clemency is still under consideration by the Indonesian President.

The specific accusations against Brig.Gen. Sutarto were that he had been responsible for the falsification of the 'Gilchrist document', a letter said to have been sent by the then British Ambassador in Jakarta which had been used to incite people against the Army leadership and was allegedly part of the preparations for the coup. He was also accused of not reporting the training of volunteers, mostly PKI followers, at the Lubang Buaya training ground where the coup conspirators subsequently established their headquarters; another accusation was that his name had been included in the Revolutionary Council which was to come into being after the coup and he had done nothing to reject inclusion of his name.

Sutarto strongly denied allegations that he was a PKI member and declared that he was a Sukarnoist who had sought, as head of the Intelligence Agency, to safeguard the state philosophy, Panca Sila and to support the President, Sukarno. After sentence was passed, he gave notice that he would appeal to President Sukarto for clemency, the only recourse to appeal open to him after sentence by the Extraordinary Military Tribunal.

The eleven persons being tried together by a District Court in Jakarta are accused of giving material assistance in the form of clothing and logistics during the coup; they were all found guilty and sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from 12 to 18 years. The only woman among them, Mrs. Marsian, was accused of having made coloured armbands for troops and others supporting the coup and participating in other ways in coup preparations. She was sentenced to 12 years; she has been in prison 8 years already.

The third trial is of Djadi Wirosubroto, member of the PKI Central Committee and Deputy Chairman of the now banned peasants' organisation, BPI. The accused is over 70. The verdict and sentence passed in this trial is not yet known.

### Tapols' Attitudes Must Change, Says General Sunitro

A 'change in mental attitudes' is the condition for solving the problem of the political detainees, said General Sunitro, Commander of the Command for the Restoration of Security and Order, during a visit to the Buru detention camp in October. The solution to which he referred was 'social integration' of the tapols on the island of Buru; he did not clarify what he meant by social integration nor did he explain with whom this integration was to take place.

During the visit, General Sunitro was accompanied by the chief editors of several leading Jakarta newspapers; coverage of the visit in the English-language press consisted of impressive pictures of conditions on the island and showed well-dressed detainees welcoming the visitors with musical entertainment and smiling faces. In a speech to the tapols just before leaving the island, Sunitro said: "We love you all, we think of you continuously and we love you more than any foreigner."

Observers in Jakarta feel that the visit was timed to create a favourable impression upon the Dutch Minister for Overseas Development Aid who is to visit Indonesia during the course of November. The Indonesian authorities are known to be very worried about increased attention to the tapol issue in Holland and other West European countries, and also in Australia.

### Amnesty Groups Petition Visiting Indonesian General in Australia

When General Ali Murtopo, head of BAKIN, Indonesia's Coordinating Agency of Intelligence Services, and Personal Assistant to the President, visited Australia in October on a trade mission, he was approached on a number of occasions by Amnesty groups demanding immediate action by the Indonesian Government to release the 55,000 untried political prisoners. Several Australian newspapers published pictures of Gen. Ali Murtopo being petitioned, on one occasion at the airport in Hobart just moments prior to the General's departure. /Mr. Don Chipp,

A few weeks before the visit, a leading Australian politician, Liberal Party MP and Minister of Excise and Customs in the previous Australian Government, wrote a series of articles in The Melbourne Age, strongly criticising the military regime in Indonesia for a number of reasons, particularly the corruption of foreign aid funds and the continued detention of tens of thousands of political prisoners. The articles were all the more striking as Mr. Chipp, who has visited Indonesia a number of times since the Army came to power, has been known in the past for his favourable analysis of the political and economic situation in Indonesia.

\* \* \* \* \*

### THE TAPOLS - CASE NOTES

\* Rivai Apin, poet. Born in Padang Panjang, Sumatra, in 1927, he became one of the best-known Indonesian poets of the post-independence (1945) generation. Though never a prolific writer, he exerted a strong influence over that entire generation of poets by his exceptional style and his strong sense of commitment to social issues.

During the fifties, he joined the leftwing association of cultural workers, LEKRA, became a member of its Central Board and editor of its literary journal, Zaman Baru. When the abortive coup was crushed in October 1965, LEKRA was one of the many mass organisations outlawed and its leaders and members flung into jail. Rivali was among those arrested in the very first days after the 1965 events. After four years in prison in Jakarta, he was transferred to Buru. There he spends the entire day working on the fields; he is not permitted access to writing materials or literature. He is classified as a B category detainee; he cannot be tried for lack of evidence but will not be released because he is regarded as a 'danger to state security'.

Earlier this year, an anthology of Rivali's poems was published in Malaysia by the Australian literary critic and translator, Harry Aveling. (See page 4.)

\* Mrs Njono, housewife. Over 60 years old, she is the widow of Njono, at one time Secretary General of the leftwing trade union federation, SOBSI, and subsequently Secretary of the Jakarta Committee of the PKI. Njono was the first person to be tried after the 1965 events. He was found guilty and sentenced to death in February, 1966; the sentence was executed in October, 1969.

Mrs Njono was arrested because she was his wife and it was assumed that she knew the people with whom he kept company and the meetings he attended prior to the 1965 events. She herself was never active in political affairs. She was detained in October 1965 and remained in Bukit Duri Prison, Jakarta for several years; in April 1971, she was transferred to Plantungan Detention Camp in Central Java, a camp for B category women prisoners. She is illiterate and is very poor health.

From the time of her arrest up to a few days before her husband's execution, she was never permitted to meet him, nor was she officially informed that he had been tried and sentenced to death. In October, 1969, she was taken to meet him, and then he told her of his impending execution. Every word of their conversation was taped and followed by guards.

\* Martojo, computer engineer. About 38 years old. Excelling in maths and physics, he was given a scholarship to study at the Lomonosov University in Moscow, where he took up computer science. He graduated with first-class grades and returned to Indonesia in mid 1965, Indonesia's first graduate in computer science. When the wave of arrests took place after the 1965 events, he was not affected, having had no connection during his student days in Moscow with any political organisation. /site

He got a job as planning calculator on a major construction in Jakarta; there he met and later married a girl who had studied in Bulgaria. In 1968, his wife was arrested for alleged associations with the underground movement in Jakarta. A few days later, Martojo was arrested, it being assumed that he must have known about his wife's activities. His wife was released about a year later but Martojo remained in detention. In 1971, he was transferred to Buru where he is still being held. He is permitted to correspond with his wife only once a month but these communications frequently fail to get through.

(Source for Tapol Case Notes: Amnesty International.)

TAPOL

British Campaign for the Release of Indonesian  
Political Prisoners

The Ad Hoc Committee for Indonesian political prisoners was formed for a short term purpose; to mount an intensive campaign lasting about six weeks and culminating in the Vigil outside the Indonesian Embassy on 7th - 8th May. Some of us felt that we should not be able to cease activities on behalf of the prisoners while the dreadful situation in Indonesia continues and we are therefore forming a permanent campaign body to continue the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on a more regular basis.

We decided to call the permanent campaign body TAPOL (pronounced tarpol) which is the Indonesian word for political prisoner (it is in fact an acronym of the expression 'tahanan politik') with the sub-title: British Campaign for the Release of Indonesian political prisoners.

Tapol is concerned solely with the humanitarian aspect of the prisoners' situation; we hope to go on enjoying the support of people from all political parties and all sections of society. As well as actively campaigning for the release of the prisoners, Tapol collects information about their situation and publicises it in regular bulletins. If you would like to receive these bulletins regularly, please send us some money to cover the cost of production and postage.

We need your support; if you would like to join Tapol, please complete the slip below and return it to: Tapol, 103, Tilehurst Road, Wandsworth Common, London S.W.18.

You can help by passing on the information we give you about the prisoners to other people with whom you come into contact; by giving us some money if you can spare any; by interesting yourself in the cases of individual prisoners and pressing for their release, and in many other ways.

Sarah Leigh, Secretary.

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I would like to join Tapol

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

I enclose a donation of .....

..... to help with campaign expenses.