



**amnesty
international**

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**URGENT
ACTION**

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 21/17/88
Distr: UA/SC

UA 263/88

Executions

17 October 1988

INDONESIA: SUKARDJO
GIYADI Wignyosuharjo
Abdullah UMAR
Bambang SISPOYO

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Two former members of the presidential guard of the Indonesian army are reported to have been executed on the night of 15-16 October 1988, more than 20 years after their arrest. Former army sergeant SUKARDJO and GIYADI Wignyosuharjo, both believed to have been about 60 years old, were taken from their cells in Cipinang Prison, Jakarta on Thursday, 13 October. The executions are said to have taken place in an undisclosed location.

The two men had been members of the elite Cakrabirawa presidential security guard unit and were accused of direct involvement in a coup attempt on 30 September 1965 in which six generals of the Indonesian army were killed. Giyadi, arrested on 4 October 1965 and sentenced to death by the Regional Military Court in Jakarta on 16 April 1968, was accused in the kidnap and murder of one of the six, General Ahmad Yani. Sukardjo, arrested on 5 October 1965 and sentenced to death by the Jakarta Regional Military Court on 5 March 1969, was accused of having killed another of the generals, General Pandjaitan. Both men had reportedly appealed to President Suharto for clemency but their appeals were denied.

The Indonesian government has refused to confirm or deny the executions, according to Agence France Presse. If the reports are accurate, the two men would be the first of the nine members of the Cakrabirawa unit under sentence of death in Cipinang Prison to be executed. Nine other prisoners accused of involvement in the coup attempt are also awaiting execution.

Amnesty International has also received unconfirmed reports that two Muslim activists accused of murder and subversion and sentenced to death in 1985 were executed earlier this year. According to these reports, Abdullah Umar was executed in April and Bambang Sispooyo in June or July. Both men had been detained in Nusakambangan Prison in central Java.

Amnesty International, which is unconditionally opposed to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, deplores these reported executions and is concerned for the safety of all those remaining under sentence of death. It urges President Suharto to halt all further executions and to commute all outstanding death sentences.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Indonesian Government has used the death penalty with increasing frequency in recent years. These four reported executions bring the total number executed since the beginning of 1985 to 21, compared with four in the previous ten years. Of the 21, 15 had been accused of involvement in the 1965 coup attempt, four were Muslim activists and two were criminal offenders accused of murder.

Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed prisoners of conscience. It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/telegrams/airmail letters:

- expressing deep concern about the reported executions of Sukardjo and Giyadi Wignyosuharjo on the night of 15 October 1988 after more than 20 years' imprisonment, and the earlier reported executions of Abdullah Umar and Bambang Sispojo;
- stating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- expressing concern for the safety of remaining prisoners under sentence of death and urging that the President show clemency and commute all outstanding death sentences.

APPEALS TO:

President Suharto
Bina Graha
Jalan Veteran 17
Jakarta, Indonesia

Telegrams: President Suharto, Jakarta, Indonesia
Telexes: 44469 deplu ia, attn: President Suharto;
44283 bigra ia

COPIES TO:

General Try Sutrisno
Commander of the Armed Forces
Jalan Medan Merdeka Barat 13
Jakarta Pusat
Indonesia

Ismail Saleh
Minister of Justice
Jalan Rasuna Said
Kav 6-7
Kuningan
Jakarta Selatan
Indonesia

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia in your country.

Note to UA coordinators: Please ensure that your country's embassy in Jakarta also receives a copy.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 December 1988.

— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

— Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."

— The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.

— Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

— In Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.

— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.