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**URGENT  
ACTION**

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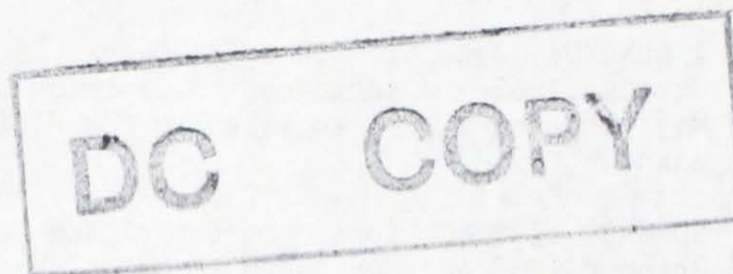
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Fear of Executions

1 November 1988

INDONESIA: RUSLAN Wijayasastra  
SUKATNO  
Iskandar SUBEKTI  
Asep SURYAMAN  
SATAR Suryanto  
I BUNGKUS  
SURONO  
Athanasius BUANG  
Simon Petrus SOLEIMAN  
MARSUDI  
Norbertus ROHAYAN



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Two prisoners accused of involvement in a coup attempt in 1965 in Indonesia were executed on the night of 15-16 October 1988, and Amnesty International is gravely concerned that other prisoners sentenced to death on similar charges may be in danger of imminent execution.

The following prisoners, all of whom are detained in Cipinang Prison, Jakarta, may be at risk:

RUSLAN Wijayasastra, aged 71, former member of the Central Committee of the Partai Komunis Indonesia (PKI), Indonesian Communist Party, and deputy chairman of the PKI-affiliated peasants union, Barisan Tani Indonesia. He was arrested in February 1969 and accused of subversive activities in connection with the coup attempt and a subsequent armed underground movement in Blitar, East Java which, according to the Indonesian authorities, was aimed at planning a "people's armed struggle" against the government. He was sentenced to death in March 1972 by a special military court in which there was no possibility of judicial appeal.

SUKATNO, aged 60, former chairman of the PKI youth organization, Pemuda Rakyat. Trained as an electrician, he had been a fighter in the Indonesian war of independence, 1945-49, and was elected to parliament in 1955. He was on the Central Committee of the PKI at the time of the coup attempt. He was arrested in East Java in July 1968 and sentenced to death by a district court in Jakarta in March 1971. His appeal to the Supreme Court is believed to have been rejected.

Iskandar SUBEKTI, aged 67, former member of the Central Committee of the PKI and member of its foreign affairs section. A former journalist and translator, he was arrested in July 1968 in South Blitar, East Java and was detained for four years before being brought to trial. He was sentenced to death by the Central Jakarta District Court in 1972. He has appealed against his sentence to the High Court in Jakarta but it is not known whether his appeal has reached the Supreme Court. He is believed to suffer from hypertension, heart trouble and chronic bronchitis.

**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.**

Asep SURYAMAN, aged 62, former member of the PKI "Special Bureau" (which the Indonesian authorities claim was responsible for infiltrating the Indonesian military) and head of the Education Department of the PKI Secretariat. He joined forces briefly with the PKI members in Blitar, then fled to West Java. He was arrested there in September 1971 while working in Bandung as a rag-dealer. He was sentenced to death by a district court in Jakarta four years later. He appealed to the High Court, but the outcome is not known.

SATAR Suryanto, aged 57, former member of the elite presidential security guard of the Indonesian army, the Cakrabirawa unit. Members of that unit were said to be responsible for the kidnapping and killing of six army generals on the night of the attempted coup. Satar was arrested on 4 October 1965 and sentenced to death by a regional military court in Jakarta on 19 April 1971.

I BUNGKUS, aged 61, former sergeant, Cakrabirawa Unit, arrested on 8 October 1965 and sentenced to death on 30 July 1971 by the Jakarta Regional Military Court. He appealed to the Military High Court but the outcome is unknown.

SURONO, aged 60, former member of the Cakrabirawa Unit, arrested on 8 October 1965 and sentenced to death by the Jakarta Regional Military Court on 29 October 1970. His appeal reached the Supreme Court but the outcome is not known.

Athanasius BUANG, aged 49, former sergeant in the Cakrabirawa Unit, arrested on 5 October 1965 and sentenced to death on 8 November 1969 by the Jakarta Regional Military Court. Both he and another Cakrabirawa member, Simon Petrus Soleiman (below), appealed to the High Military Court on the same day their sentences were handed down. They received no news about the status of their appeals until 1987, 18 years later, when they were told that both their first and second appeals had been rejected. They were not aware of having made a second appeal.

Simon Petrus SOLEIMAN, aged 60, arrested on 5 October 1965 and sentenced to death on 8 November 1969 (see above).

MARSUDI, aged 53, former sergeant major in the Indonesian Air Force. Probably arrested shortly after the coup attempt, he was tried in 1976 by a military court in Jakarta and accused of the murder of four of the army generals killed on the night of the coup attempt. He was sentenced to death and appealed to the Military High Court; the outcome is not known.

Norbertus ROHAYAN, aged 49, former Cakrabirawa member, arrested on 5 October 1965, tried by the Jakarta Regional Military Court and sentenced to death on 8 November 1969. The results of his appeal to the Military High Court are not known.

— 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.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1985 the Indonesian Government, after more than a decade when no executions had taken place, began to execute those long-term prisoners who had been sentenced to death for suspected involvement in the 1965 coup attempt. Four executions of such prisoners took place in 1985; nine in 1986; one in 1987; and two on the night of 15-16 October 1988. The 1986 executions also took place in late September-October around the anniversary of the coup attempt. Amnesty International is therefore concerned that further executions may be imminent.

Amnesty International 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. It calls on the Indonesian Government to halt all impending executions and commute all death sentences.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- expressing concern that the men named above (please list all their names) may be in danger of execution, following the execution of two prisoners on 15-16 October;
- 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;
- urging President Suharto to show clemency and commute all 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: Press contacts and Members of Parliament in your country who are interested in Indonesia; embassies of your country in Jakarta.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 6 December 1988.