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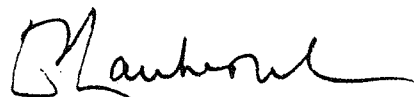
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Conclusion

There can be little doubt that the Australian Government would be justified in a decision to take the matter no further on the ground that the uncertainty of the facts does not warrant the political disadvantage in relations with Indonesia to which further pressure might lead.

However, if for other political reasons the Government does decide to make a claim, such claim should be presented on behalf of specifically identified dependents, stressing the situation of hardship which confronts them. The facts should, of course, be fully set out with a clear indication of the evidence showing Indonesian involvement and the deliberateness of the shooting. Emphasis should be placed on the subsequent incorporation of East Timor into Indonesia with the implied acceptance by Indonesia of responsibility.

Should the matter be taken any further I would be glad to look at any draft that may be prepared in implementation of the suggestions set out above.



(E. Lauterpacht)  
Legal Adviser

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