

Massacres in Timor 'like Age Pl. Nazi crimes'

Sat 13-12-75

From MICHAEL RICHARDSON in DARWIN
and HAMISH McDONALD in JAKARTA

DARWIN — Indonesian forces in East Timor are slaughtering men, women and children, the Fretilin independence movement claimed yesterday.

According to radio messages monitored in Darwin, hundreds of people over 10 years old had died in "horrificing massacres".

One message compared the killing with "the crimes of the Nazis and those in Vietnam and the former African colonies".

It also compared the massacres with the carnage that occurred in Indonesia in 1965 in the wake of the abortive coup when tens of thousands of known and suspected communists were killed or gaoled.

In the messages, Fretilin Vice-President Rogerio Lobato claimed that only militant support from "brotherly people and nations" could halt the massacre of the 650,000 Timorese and the 12,000 Chinese minority by Indonesian forces.

Mr. Lobato said that Indonesian forces still controlled only half the capital of Dili.

Indonesian planes had indiscriminately bombed areas "where the people work peacefully, causing death, casualties and a lot of damage".

He said Indonesian troops in the capital were being supported by 10 warships and six submarines.

Mr. Lobato also said Indonesian forces backed by planes and warships had attacked Bachau, the colony's second biggest town.

In **JAKARTA** yesterday, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr. Malik, admitted for the first time that Indonesian marines had landed in Dili on Sunday.

He claimed that they had been ordered in at the request of local pro-Indonesia forces to stop killing in Dili.

The marines had later returned to their ships, Mr. Malik said.

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Indonesian 'slaughter' in E. Timor

Mr. Malik, who has made a number of contradictory statements in the past few days about Indonesian involvement in East Timor, reiterated his claim that there were no Indonesian troops in the colony.

"If we had a force there, there would be no problem in withdrawing it. But there are volunteers.

In another interview, he said that the Indonesian Government would be prepared to forward to the volunteers a United Nations Security Council request — made on Thursday — for their withdrawal from Portuguese Timor.

But, he said, it was up to the people of Timor to decide "if and when" the volunteers would have to go because the Indonesian Government has nothing to do with them.

Observers say that Mr. Malik's remarks have set the stage for an Indonesian attempt to maintain strong military backing for its Timorese allies even if the UN intervenes.

The Indonesian Government is believed to be considering sharp retaliation to an Australian protest against its intervention in East Timor.

Australia's support for an UN resolution condemning Indonesia for the use of force and calling for immediate withdrawal of Indonesian troops has made it the only critic among Jakarta's close neighbors.

The Australian ban on the Indonesian airline Garuda is regarded as highly insulting in Jakarta and, if it continues, is expected to lead to retaliation — possibly by restricting Australian use of Indonesian air space on flights to Asia and Europe.

In **AUSTRALIA**, pressure is building up for nation-wide union bans against Indonesia, and two powerful unions — the Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union and the Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union — have called for a special ACTU executive meeting to discuss action in protest against Indonesian intervention in East Timor.