

June 22, 2003

The Honorable Michael McNulty
U.S. House of Representatives
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-3221

Dear Representative McNulty:

I emphatically urge you to sign a Dear Colleague letter, being circulated by Representatives Tom Lantos and Christopher Smith, exhorting Secretary of State Powell to demand that Indonesia discontinue the use of U.S. equipment in Aceh, to move towards a ceasefire quickly, and to bring attention of the human rights abuses to the U.N. Security Council (to sign the letter, contact Carol Doherty at 225-2480 by **Wednesday, June 25**). I also urge you to sign a letter being circulated by Representative Tammy Baldwin that encourages President Bush to cooperate with East Timor's Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation by releasing U.S. documents it has requested and to support an extension of the mandate of the joint UN-East Timor Serious Crimes Unit and Special Panels beyond May 2004, as trials will be prematurely halted otherwise. To sign this letter, contact David Stacy at 225-2906 by **Wednesday, June 25**.

The people of East Timor endured an invasion and occupation by Indonesia from 1975 until 1999 that killed over 200,000 East Timorese. The United States supported this action and even furnished ninety percent of the weapons used. In 1999, following a referendum in which most of the East Timorese voted for independence from Indonesia, militia violence, actively supported by the Indonesian military, resulted in thousands of deaths. An international tribunal is needed to ensure justice for the East Timorese. We must also prevent future atrocities in Aceh by coercing Indonesia to end its intimidation and attacks against civilians in the region.

After backing Indonesian atrocities for decades, the United States should now support the victims of Indonesian military violence. I therefore urge you to sign the two abovementioned letters to advance justice for the people of East Timor and Aceh.

Thank you for consideration of this letter.

Please send me your response.

Sincerely,

Brian Tomasik