Australia West Papua Association (Sydney)

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The following military personal have received training in Australia. One of the difficulties of research into human rights abuses committed by the TNI is that areas of military operations are closed off to the media and human rights monitors and this occurs in West Papua at the present time.

Note. Dr Clinton Fernandes covers the military personal below in more detail in his Supplementary submission, 13.3.

Lieutenant General Hendropriyono

Trained at School of Military Intelligence, Canungra Involved in military operations in East Timor

On 7 February 1989, Hendropriyono, then a colonel, led an attack against a local community of about 550 people in Talangsari, Lampung. His heavily-armed men literally butchered the defenceless villagers. At least 200 villagers were killed and many were imprisoned for years. The official version was that the local community belonged to an extreme Muslim sect but in fact the issue was a land conflict. From this time on, the human rights community began to call him the 'butcher of Lampung'. (TAPOL The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign)

Major General Sutiyoso

Received training at the Army Command Staff College in Australia. Involved in military operations in both East Timor and Aceh and was one of the people responsible during the attack on the PDI (People Democratis Party) headquarters in Jakarta on July 27 1996.

Brigadier General Nur Muis

Received training in Australia Involved in military operations in East Timor

From Peace Journaliam Independent Magazine http://peacejournalism.com/ReadArticle.asp?ArticleID=19864

On February 24, 2003, Muis was indicted with other senior officers by the UNbacked serious crimes process in East Timor. The indictment states that Muis "failed to take necessary and reasonable measures to prevent the crimes being committed by his subordinates and he failed to take necessary and reasonable measures to punish perpetrators of those crimes," despite being "repeatedly informed" of those crimes. At least 1400 people died, hundreds of thousands were forcibly displaced, and most of East Timor's infrastructure was destroyed as the Indonesian military punished East Timor for its pro-independence vote.

Major General Syafrie Syamsoeddin

Received training with the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) Perth. Involved in Military operations in East Timor and also West Papua.

Lieutenant Colonel Bambang Heru Sukmadi

Attended the Royal Military College, Duntroon on a Cadet exchange program and also the Australian Defence Force Warfare Centre. Involved in operations in East Timor.

Major General Syahrir

Trained at the Joint Services College, Weston Creek Canberra. Involved in operations in East Timor. Commander of Kopassus from 1998 –2000

Major General George Toisutta

Received training in Australia. Involved in operations in East Timor, Aceh and West Papua.

From the West Papua report July 2005

http://72.14.253.104/search?q=cache:8txScuQ0uasJ:www.rfkmemorial.org/human_rights/1993_Bambang/WP_Re port_July_05.pdf+Major+General+George+Toisutta+tni&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=3&client=safari

New Notorious Military Commander in West Papua

The oldest and most prestigious international human rights organization focusing on Indonesia, TAPOL, on 30 June presented a profile, developed by an Indonesian human rights organization, of Major General George Toisutta, who on 21 June was promoted to Commander of Papua Regional Military Command. The profile of the new West Papua military commander reveals the new chief as having been involved in some of the worst of the TNI's recent military operations. His role in East Timor, Aceh, and a command position in parts of Jakarta where student demonstrators were killed in 1998 arouse deep concerns about his conduct in West Papua. From 1995 to 1996, he was deputy commander of Korem Wiradharma in East Timor where he was responsible for mobilizing the infamous East Timor militias. Toisutta subsequently was part of the Jakarta military command with responsibility for East and South Jakarta. He had command during the "Semangi" incident in which at least 16 students were killed in a bloody clash between student demonstrators and military personnel at the Semanggi toll road ramp adjacent to Atma Jaya University on 13 October 1998.

A member of the RFK Memorial Center's West Papua Advocacy Team who was present at the demonstrations recalls TNI and police forces firing on peaceful students demonstrators, some from sniper positions atop nearby buildings. He says, "we could not hear the shots and thought the students were dropping from heat exhaustion, until we saw their wounds." No TNI officer has been held accountable for those murders. Toisutta also served as commander for military operations in Aceh during the second phase of martial law. During that tour,

Toisutta increased the number of military posts in Aceh and gave military personnel civilian functions such as appointments as sub-district chiefs. He increased intelligence functions and aggressively monitored activities of journalists. He also hunted down and arrested human rights defenders, especially students and NGO activitists. Numerous human rights abuses were committed by the military in Aceh during the time of his command.