

Indonesian President B.J. Habibie.

CARTER CENTER REPORT NO. 8 ON EAST TIMOR
CARTER CENTER STAFF EVACUATES EAST TIMOR;
CENTER JOINS CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL
INTERVENTION IF INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT
FAILS TO ACT

The Carter Center has been forced by militia attacks in East Timor to evacuate its remaining three international staff members from the territory. Their reports from Jakarta of the events they witnessed just prior to leaving the East Timor capital of Dili conclusively show complicity of Indonesian forces, both police and military, with the armed gangs terrorizing and displacing the local East Timorese populace. This includes militias' efforts to drive international observers, journalists, and U.N. staff out of East Timor.

This violent situation is not chaotic, but rather appears to follow a plan, since Indonesian forces openly tolerate or even support assaults and killing of unarmed civilians by the militias. The Indonesian government has repeatedly pledged to take steps to stop the violence and has sufficient forces in East Timor to do so, but no action to stop the rampaging militias is evident in Dili or elsewhere in East Timor. At the very least, insubordination of military forces in the territory to higher command officials is occurring. Immediate changes in command and public issuance of orders to the military to use force to stop the militias are required.

If the U.N. ambassadorial delegation determines that the Indonesian government is not prepared to reverse this situation immediately, every step should be taken to get President B.J. Habibie to agree to the introduction of armed international peacekeeping forces.

Carter Center observers, now stationed in Jakarta, have confirmed the following incidents through direct observation or reliable reports from eyewitnesses in East Timor:

Since the vote results were announced on Saturday, armed pro-integration militia members have erected roadblocks throughout Dili and control the streets of the capital at all hours of the day. Militia members are: terrorizing and murdering unarmed civilians; intimidating, threatening, and attacking international personnel; burning houses; and displacing large numbers of people. Carter Center observers have on numerous occasions witnessed militia members perpetrating acts of violence in full view of heavily-armed police and military personnel who either stand by and watch or actively assist the militias.

On Monday afternoon, Sept. 6, in Dili, reports were received that thousands of internally displaced persons were being taken from their places of refuge in Dili by police and loaded on trucks headed for West Timor.

Over the weekend, militia members attacked and burned the offices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the residence of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Bishop Carlos Belo, and other places of refuge, forcing thousands of internally displaced people sheltered in those places to flee.

Carter Center observers contacted officials at one Catholic mission in Dili that was sheltering several thousand internally displaced persons. They said armed militia had removed all young men from the compound on Monday evening. Their current whereabouts and condition is unknown.

Carter Center observers were attacked by militia at the port of Dili as they attempted to evacuate the Carter Center's local East Timorese staff on Sunday. After being pursued through the city by armed militia and by Indonesian police, the Center's inter-

national observers were evacuated to Jakarta with the help of the Australian consulate and the U.S. Embassy. Carter Center local staff are still scattered in Dili and unaccounted for.

International press and observers were forced at gunpoint by Indonesian police to evacuate their hotels and residences on Sunday and Monday and driven to the airport. A small number of international journalists refused to leave and some are now taking refuge at UNAMET headquarters.

There has been almost constant automatic weapon fire around and over UNAMET headquarters since Saturday evening. On Sunday night several thousand internally displaced persons sheltered in a school adjacent to UNAMET headquarters were forced to flee into the U.N. compound after automatic weapons with tracer bullets were fired over their heads. An estimated 2,000 people have now taken refuge in the U.N. compound.

UNAMET has been forced to evacuate all eight of their regional offices and on Monday evacuated a large number of international staff from UNAMET headquarters in Dili. U.N. vehicles carrying evacuees to the airport on Monday were fired upon.

COMMEMORATION FOR THE HOUSTON COMETS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, back to back to back. The Houston Comets are phenomenal women, and I am here this morning to congratulate them for their terrific victory against the New York Liberty. But more importantly, Mr. Speaker, I am here to congratulate outstanding sports players and women who played last Sunday at the arena in Houston before a sold-out crowd, and yes, this team has had its trials and tribulations, its ups and downs, but they took the bottom of their spirit, and they brought it to the top, and their perseverance and their strength, and they dedicated their game to Kim Perrot, the spiritual leader of their team who flew with the angels and looked down and said, "you've got to win this for Kim."

And so this crowd has shown us along with the Houston Comets what it means to be strong in one's soul and to win a game because they really won it and they deserve it. All the little girls of Houston and the Nation can now look up to this phenomenal team and these phenomenal women.

To Cynthia Cooper and Sheryl Swoopes, to Tammy Jackson, to Janeth Arcain, Cynthia Cooper, Sonja Henning, Tammy Jackson, Monica Lamb, Mila Nikolich, Jennifer Rizzotti, Sheryl Swoopes again, Tina Thompson again, Polina Tzekova, Amaya Valdermorro, and Kara Wolters and to the MVP and the dynamic public relations leader, Sarah Joseph, and, of course, to Van Chancellor, the coach who is the coach of the WNBA, and the owner, Les Alexander; they are a champion, they are phenomenal women, and we say to our spiritual leader who flies with the angels, Kim Perrot, "We'll never forget you."

Congratulations to Houston and congratulations to the WNBA.

Back to back to back.

I am pleased to address the House to congratulate the Houston Comets on their third Women's National Basketball Association title. On Sunday, the Comets beat the New York Liberty 59-47 in front of a sell-out crowd at the Compaq Center in Houston.

It was a great day for Houston, a great day for women's basketball and women's sports, and it was a great day for the Comets, a team that has overcome tragedy to make history.

The Houston Comets have now won three consecutive championship games. This is the second time that the team has faced the New York Liberty and won. And for the third consecutive season, Cynthia Cooper has been named the Most Valuable Player for the WNBA Finals.

Sunday was indeed a great day for Houston because it brought the city together. The game on Sunday was played before a sell-out crowd of 16,285 fans. It brought the best out in a team and a city that suffered the loss of Kim Perrot, the point guard who passed away one week before the play-offs.

Kim Perrot was crucial to the Comets in their two previous championship games. Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with lung cancer earlier this year, and passed away in mid-August.

Although she was not physically present, her spirit was indeed there as the team rallied to victory. The crowds chanted "Three for Kim, three for Kim," until the final buzzer, and several fans wore her jersey, number 10 in her memory.

The excitement over the Comets' win follows behind the triumphant win by the U.S. Women's Soccer Team earlier this summer. Both of these wins have ushered in a new era of respect for women's sports.

Women's sporting events have proven to be just as exciting as men's sports. We have seen an increase in sports participation by girls in school and we will soon see more women's sports in prime time. Young girls now have role models in athletics like Cynthia Cooper, Sheryl Swoopes and Tammy Jackson.

Just as we paid homage to Title IX earlier this year, I would like to again mention how important that legislation has been to women's professional sports today. The accomplishments of the Women's National Basketball League serve to remind us that only 27 years ago, there was no Title IX and women were still second class citizens. We have come a long way from the days when only men were expected to excel in sports.

In athletics, we will continue to see more opportunities for women in intercollegiate and professional sports. Institutions must ensure that there is adequate athletic financial assistance, accommodation of athletic interests and abilities of women, and that the opportunities and treatments afforded to sports participants must be equivalent. All of this is critical to ensure a solid future for women's professional sports.

The Houston Comets have now followed in the footsteps of some of the more prominent NBA teams in winning three titles in a row. The Comets are now a part of the pantheon that includes the former Minneapolis Lakers, the Boston Celtics, and the Chicago Bulls.

I salute the Houston Comets team—Janeth Arcain, Cynthia Cooper, Sonja Henning,

Tammy Jackson, Monica Lamb, Mila Nikolich, Jennifer Rizzotti, Sheryl Swoopes, Tina Thompson, Polina Tzekova, Amaya Valdemoro, and Kara Wolters for giving our children s-heroes to look up to. I also salute their coach, Van Chancellor, their owner, Les Alexander and the people of Houston for giving us another reason to celebrate women in sports.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each:

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.)

USTR PREPARING TO GIVE CHINA MEMBERSHIP IN WTO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, as incredible as it sounds, the bureaucrats from the United States Trade Representative's Office are once again preparing to give their comrades in the People's Republic of China membership in the World Trade Organization. We saw the same thing happen last April when the Chinese autocrat Zhu Rongji was here in Washington.

The USTR was feverishly working to further open our wallets to the world's largest nonmarket country; a nation that is ruled by corrupt tyrants with absolutely no respect for the rule of law or the basic human and political freedoms of its people; a nation that buys less of our goods than Belgium, one that steals our nuclear secrets, a country that proliferates weapons of mass destruction, and has the audacity to threaten the people of Taiwan for wanting the very same political freedom that lets us debate these issues in this chamber.

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I have said it before, and I will say it again. Wei Jingshang, a man who spent nearly decades in Chinese prisons for having the nerve to fight for democracy, told me that it is American business executives and their political connections that serve as the vanguard of the communist revolution of the Chinese in the United States.

As I speak, our Trade ambassador is being advised at the APEC summit in New Zealand by an individual who just 2 weeks ago was a lobbyist for Boeing, while his predecessor is now a lobbyist for a satellite manufacturer with extensive dealings in the People's Republic of China.

Think about that the next time you read or hear about a textile worker in Georgia or an assembly line worker in Detroit or Cleveland who loses her job to a flood of Chinese goods, products that are made by workers that can be arrested, tortured, even executed for trying to organize a trade union. Think about their lives and the lives of their families and the well-being of their communities because the USTR is not going to hire these workers, Microsoft is not going to employ them as computer engineers, Wall Street is not going to take care of these laid off workers by allowing them to share the wealth either.

And while we are left wondering how to help our workers and their families recover from the latest flood of prison labor imports or how we get the People's Liberation Army to back down from its threats against Taiwan, maybe we should take a closer look at how exactly our proposed World Trade Organization deal with China will affect American business and American workers.

Just last week, the International Trade Commission released a report detailing the benefits a China WTO deal would have on our economy, a report based on the false promises that Zhu made during his Washington visit last April. False promises because time and time again the communist Chinese Government has not lived up in China to a single pledge to open its market to foreign competition.

Every memorandum of understanding, every bilateral trade pact that our USTR, our Trade representative, has negotiated with the Chinese and touted as proof that China is changing has been completely ignored by the central planners in Beijing. Yet the American people, including those of us here in Congress, are not even allowed to read the Trade Commission report which was paid for by our tax dollars.

These are not nuclear weapons codes. These are not blueprints for a new generation of microprocessors. These are not top secret materials. This is merely a government report on how a World Trade Organization deal for China will affect the U.S. economy.

Yet the bureaucrats at USTR are deliberately withholding information from the American people and from this Congress. The only thing we have been able to read is a tiny summary that ominously warns that even under the best circumstances, meaning for the first time ever China actually lives up to its promises to reform, if in fact that would happen, even then, under the best circumstances, a WTO deal would barely increase our exports and

would continue to swell the record setting trade deficits that we seem to find each month in dealing with China.

Think about that because the ugly truth in this report which we are not allowed to read because it is damaging to the agenda of the Republican leadership in Congress, to the President and the administration, and to leaders in corporate America because it is damaging to them, it is admitting that the People's Republic of China into the WTO is the ultimate remedy for our burgeoning trade deficit with the world's worst abuser of human rights.

Mr. Speaker, this is absurd. The American people should demand that the report be released and we should once and for all be allowed to finally democratize our trade policies. For too long our voters, the men and women who send us here, have been shut out of this arena and they deserve to know exactly what our trade bureaucrats and their corporate allies have in store.

Mr. Speaker, say no to WTO accession to the communist government and the People's Republic of China.

STEENS MOUNTAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, last weekend I had the great fortune of visiting with the ranchers and individual citizens who live on and around Steens Mountain in Harney County.

I traveled many miles over a majestic loop road that takes in the magnificent views of the vistas overlooking the Kiger Gorge and the Alvord Desert and the Little Blitzen Gorge. I also flew over these breathtaking areas and actually got on a horse and rode to the ridgetops of the Roaring Springs Ranch to look at the Steens Mountains.

Many individuals who live on and around the mountain accompanied me as we looked at the management and multiple uses occurring on Steens Mountain. These farmers, ranchers, guides and others are the ones whose livelihoods would be significantly affected by actions of those who are thousands of miles away, those who perhaps have never seen the Steens or set foot on its soil.

Let me tell my colleagues like Steve Hammond, who is the latest generation in his family to ranch and raise his family on the Steens or Fred Otley, who works early mornings and late nights on his family's ranch taking care of the cattle while handling the politics of the mountain, all the while seeking new and improved range management techniques or Dan Nichols, a rancher and county commissioner who is involved in the tourist industry through his family's bed and breakfast and an excellent one I must say, while still trying to manage the affairs of the county; Stacey Davies, a young ranch manager who with his wife Elaine is