



Office of the  
Deputy General Prosecutor  
for Serious Crimes  
Timor Leste

SERIOUS CRIMES UNIT INFORMATION RELEASE

10 December 2004

## FORMER DISTRICT POLICE CHIEF INDICTED

**On 10 December 2004 the Serious Crimes Unit filed an indictment charging Lieutenant Colonel Hulman Gultom, the former Dili District Police Chief [KAPOLRES] with the Crimes Against Humanity charges of Murder, Deportation or Forcible Transfer of the Population and Persecution. The accused is at large and believed to be in Indonesia.**

Hulman Gultom was the District Police Chief of Dili between June 1998 and September 1999. The indictment alleges that during this period he exercised command and control over all police officers [POLRI] stationed in the district and that he failed to prevent or to punish those responsible for the violence that happened before and after the popular consultation.

Hulman Gultom is charged with superior criminal responsibility for the murder of 15 people as well as superior *and* individual criminal responsibility for the deportation or forcible transfer of the population from Dili District between 5 and 9 September 1999. Gultom is also charged with superior *and* individual criminal responsibility for persecutory acts against independence supporters in Dili district.

The 5 May 1999 agreement between Indonesia, the UN and Portugal provided in part: *“The police [would] be solely responsible for the maintenance of law and order.”* Despite this obligation, the indictment describes a number of incidents in which the Dili police under Gultom’s command failed to take any necessary or reasonable measures to prevent violence. It is alleged that Hulman Gultom participated in the *Aitarak* militia inauguration ceremony held outside the Governor’s office in Dili that led up to the attack on the Carrascalão house on 17 April 1999. Other crimes described in the indictment include the attack on the Dili Diocese and on Bishop Belo’s residence in September 1999. It is further alleged that for a number of the crimes, POLRI officers were either the direct perpetrators or facilitated crimes committed by militia forces.

**To date, the Serious Crimes Unit has filed 91 indictments charging 378 individuals with some accused charged in multiple indictments. Cases have been completed through trial for 76 accused persons, with 74 convicted of one or more charges.**