

SERIOUS CRIMES UNIT: INFORMATION RELEASE 28 January 2004

DEPUTY PROSECUTOR GENERAL REQUESTS PUBLIC HEARING AT SPECIAL PANEL FOR SERIOUS CRIMES ON THE ISSUE OF WIRANTO ARREST WARRANT

On 28 January 2004, the Deputy General Prosecutor for Serious Crimes in Timor Leste filed a motion with the Special Panel of Judges for Serious Crimes requesting a public hearing regarding the pending application for an arrest warrant against General Wiranto.

The indictment against General Wiranto was filed on 24 February 2003 and was accompanied by an application for a warrant of arrest. To date, no decision has been made on the application and the matter is still pending before the Special Panels for Serious Crimes.

The indictment alleges that under international law, General Wiranto, at the time Minister of Defense and Head of the Indonesian Armed Forces, was responsible for Crimes Against Humanity, including murder and Persecution, for failing to punish or prevent crimes committed by his subordinates or those acting under his effective control in the period before and after the 1999 popular consultation in East Timor.

The full text of the motion requesting an oral public hearing is attached.

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