



FRENTE REVOLUCIONÁRIA DO TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE FRETILIN

Dear Editor,

An unnamed Australian “senior officer” claims there is a lot of anti-Australian feeling in East Timor’s governing party FRETILIN (“Crisis Looms in Dili as Wet Season Approaches” November 22). This allegation appears to be part of an effort to link FRETILIN with the orchestrated violence in Dili.

The current violence is a continuation of a campaign to destabilise the democratically elected FRETILIN government. The campaign began in 2002 with the burning of the house of FRETILIN general secretary and former Prime Minister, Mari Alkatiri.

FRETILIN members have borne the brunt of the violence during the current crisis. Most of the internal refugees are members and supporters of FRETILIN. Our leaders have been regularly targeted with death threats and have had their houses burnt down or looted (Jose Reis and Filomeno Aleixo to name two).

FRETILIN’s entirely peaceful mass rally in June this year showed the party is committed to peace, the rule of law and the constitution.

It may be worth asking the identity of the unnamed “senior officer” and why, with all Australia’s extraordinary electronic intelligence capability, its officials and Ministers continue to claim they do not know who is behind the violence?

Kind regards

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22 November 2006