

FRENTE REVOLUCIONÁRIA DO TIMOR-LESTE INDEPENDENTE FRETILIN

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Renegade Rai'los terrorises people, only 30 kms west of Dili

Vicente Rai'los terrorised people in Timor-Leste, just a week before the expected release of the report of the United Nations investigation into who was behind the violent events of April and May this year, which displaced thousands of Timorese.

According to a signed statement by Felix da Costa, the Administrator of sub-district Maubara, 30 kms west of Dili, at dawn on September 29, an armed Rai'los, accompanied by local police, threatened to rape a local citizen, unless she and her husband Mariano cooperated.

A fearful Mariano was forced by Railos and his group to knock at the door of Felix da Costa, under the pretext that there were people needing his help. Using his pistol Railos then violently entered Mr da Costa's house, and accused him and other local authorities of distributing weapons with the intention of killing him and the petitioning soldiers. When Mr da Costa's wife denied Railos' accusation, he hit her in the head with his pistol.

According to da Costa's statement, Railos screamed that if Mari Alkatiri doesn't go to prison when the UN report is released, he would return to kill both the district administrator of Liquiçá and the sub-district administrator, Mr da Costa. Looking at Mr da Costa's wife, he told her he would also return to rape her and burn her house.

According to Mr da Costa's report, a defiant Rai'los said, "You can complain to your ministers. I am not afraid because I have the *number one* behind me and I have the local Liquica police in my hands". He then threatened that a new wave of violent conflict would begin and would continue for at least ten months, if Alkatiri isn't punished.

Administrator Felix da Costa has called for Rai'los and his group to be disarmed. He wants to know if any of the nation's leaders have authorized Rai'los' actions, and he wants UN police to protect his district and for this protection to be effective before the publication of the international findings."

The report by the UN investigators regarding the violent events of April and May is now expected by the end of October. The report was originally expected to be made on October 7. Dr Alkatiri was forced to resign in June following allegations by Rai'los on ABC TV program 4 Corners. Mr da Costa wrote his statement on October 2 and Timorese authorities had it by October 6.

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