



## Friendship Operation: Re-integrate or Threats?

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## Introduction

In the beginning of 2014, the State of Timor-Leste issued the two important resolutions. The first is resolution of the National Parliament No. 05/3/2014 called "Operation 66" that authorizes the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL) to act against Group of Maubere Revolution Council (MRC) and the Popular Council Defense of the Republic Democratic of Timor-Leste (CPD-RDTL).<sup>1</sup> And the other two is resolution from the Council Minister No. 08/2014<sup>2</sup> that authorizes the FALINTIL-Defense Force of Timor-Leste (F-FDTL) to support PNTL involved in the "Friendship Operation".<sup>3</sup>

Based on the Council Minister's resolution, the government established the Conjoint Operation Command (COC) as the continuation of the "Operation 66". The purpose of this "Friendship Operation" is to re-integrate the security situation for the communities, regarding the "Operation 66" conflict has occurred between members of MRC and the CPD-CPD-RDTL groups with the Institution of the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL),<sup>4</sup> where made majority of the communities there traumatized and some group members of MRC and CPD-RDTL escaped away to Matebian Mountain.<sup>5</sup>

In fact, the implementation of the "Friendship Operation" in the field has not re-integrated the communities but has used the military action so the community becomes traumatized and some members of MRC and CPD-RDTL group got the physical aggressive during the operation process.<sup>6</sup> Because of this operation have become concerns for people in Timor-Leste regarding the issued resolutions that allowed the government to establish the "Friendship Operation".<sup>7</sup>

This Fundasaun Mahein report is going to discuss the impact of both resolutions (National Parliament and the Council Minister) by implementing the two operations such

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<sup>1</sup> The National Parliament. (2014). To Repudiate Tentatives for the Instability and Threats against the State of Right. Rezolution No. 05/3/2014.pdf.

<sup>2</sup> May. (08 May 2014). FM considers the resotion of NP is full of political "Game". Diariu Nasional Newspaper. Can be access in this link; <http://opinitimor.blogspot.com/2014/05/fm-konsidera-rezolusaun-pn-nakon-u-ho.html>

<sup>3</sup>Fundasaun Mahein. (16 May 2014). CONJOINT OPERATION: Friendship or Threats?. <http://www.fundasaunmahein.org/2014/05/16/operasaun-konjunta-habelun-ka-hatauk/>

<sup>4</sup> Moniz, Armandina & Ximenes, Lucia. (11 March 2014). Operated against MRC and CPD-RDTL in Laga, 2 of PNTL members wounded. <http://jornal.suara-timor-lorosae.com/operasaun-ba-crm-ho-cpd-rdtl-iha-laga-membru-pntl-2-kanek/>

<sup>5</sup> Tempo Semanal. (02 April 2014). Lere asks MRC not to use bad guns to try the F-FDTL.

<http://www.temposemanal.com/seguransa-defesa/leru-husu-krm-lalika-uza-kilat-a-at-koko-f-dtl>

<sup>6</sup> Fundasaun Mahein. (16 May 2014). CONJOINT OPERATION: Friendship or Threats?. <http://www.fundasaunmahein.org/2014/05/16/operasaun-konjunta-habelun-ka-hatauk/>

<sup>7</sup> Sequiera, J & Santos, J. (23 April 2014). The Conjoint Operation against the MRC and CPD-RDTL groups, Fongtil Urges PNTL and F-FDTL to be more Professional. <http://jornal.suara-timor-lorosae.com/husi-operasaun-konjunta-ba-crm-no-cpd-rdtl-fongtil-husu-pntl-no-f-dtl-hatudu-nafatin-profesionalismu/>

as “Operation 66” and “Friendship Operation” including tactics and outcomes of the referred operations, finally FM’s recommendations to the National Parliament and the Government.

## **Methodology**

This report analysis used Discussion and the Security Sector Discussion-SSD methods, interviewed the community, members of MRC and CPD-RDTL, legal expert and documents of the National Parliament and The Council Minister resolutions, National media releases, the Constitution of RDTL, penal code and the Human Rights’ report from Local and International Organizations over the “Friendship Operation”, and immediately observed at the operated area in Laga sub-district-Baguaia and Quelicai of Baucau district.

This report does not challenge the State’s policy which will ensure the internal stability through the establishment of the operation, but it is going to analyze impacts of the “Friendship Operation” for national security and intends to create a public debate regarding the policy of the operation itself.

## **Tactics of the Command Operation and their Posts Operation**

After the “Operation 66”, executed by the PNTL to act against the MRC and CPD-RDTL groups on 05 March 2014, the government through the Council Minister approved a resolution, authorizes the F-FDTL to support the PNTL through “Friendship Operation”. This “Friendship Operation” held the launched ceremony at the F-FDTL, Component Quarter of Baucau on 09 April 2014.<sup>8</sup>

FM identified that during the “Friendship Operation” is ongoing, COC established one post in Laga sub-district of Lalulai village, 2 posts in Baguia sub-district, Oosso-Huna and Samalari villages, and one post in Quelicai sub-district, Laculiu village.<sup>9</sup> Look at on the following map (on the red sign).

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<sup>8</sup> Tempo Semanal. (10 April 2014). Longuinhas asks the F-FDTL and PNTL to force people obey the Law. <http://www.temposemanal.com/nasional/longuinhas-husu-fdtl-ho-pntl-obriga-ema-kumpri-lei>

<sup>9</sup> Fundasaun Mahein hard to get total of KOK members, composed of F-FDTL and PNTL in these posts and FM hard to get data from KOK.



88” in 2011, “Operation Rasa and Social Cycle Operation” in Welaluhu in 2013.<sup>15</sup> These all operations are from the resolutions policies which have left the red notes for the communities regarding with current actions of COC members that used the military forces.<sup>16</sup>

Many people became traumatized and felt unsecure during the “Operation Ninja” in Covalima because members of COC hold a check point inside the community’s house at night and did physical aggression against the communities.<sup>17</sup> Another operatin called “Operation 88” where members of COC captured 38 people, yet some of them were innocent people.<sup>18</sup> Therefore, this operation itself was criticized by the civil societies during and after the operation.<sup>19</sup>

Those situations continuous taking place to the “Friendship Operation” and the “Operation 66” that become concerns by public at this day, because through these two resolutions, the National Parliament and the Council Minister authorized the F-FDTL and PNTL to hold operation in the field have made the communities in the field traumatized and felt their life unsecur. Some people who were involved in MRC and CPD-RDTL groups did not back home yet so far at present and still hide in Matebian Mountain because they were afraid and felt threatened.<sup>20</sup>

Based on the past experience operations, FM concluded that operation is not a better solution for the National Security or any threatens people, and with these operations mechanism just makes security pressure for the people of this nation. This will appear a bad precedent in the future if any small and big issues, the state always use the operation to restore the security situation which is consider identical with authoritarian or militarily approaches.<sup>21</sup>

### **Legality of the Resolutions**

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<sup>15</sup> Tempo Semanal. (04 April 2014). Operation 66 successes to stop the illegal groups.

<http://www.temposemanal.com/seguransa-defesa/operasaun-66-susesu-hapara-grupu-ilegais>

<sup>16</sup> Lariwa. (2011, May 2011). FM Critisize the Operation Policy of PNTL.

<http://cjitlnoticias.sapo.tl/nasional/fm-kritika-politika-operasaun--81707>

<sup>17</sup> Viana, Rui. (15 February 2010). Condition of Human Rigths in Covalima and Bobonaro. Report of HAK. Can access in the following link;

<http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/HAKHRCovaBoboFev10Te.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> Fundasaun Mahein. (10 August 2010). What is the Operation Ualu-Ualu (88)?

<http://fundasaunmahein.wordpress.com/2011/08/10/saida-mak-operasaun-ualu-ualu-88/>

<sup>19</sup> Viana, Rui. (15 February 2010). Condition of Human Rigths in Covalima and Bobonaro. Report of HAK. Can access in the following link; <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/HAKHRCovaBoboFev10Te.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> Gari, Francisco. (09 May 2014). Executive Director of TLMDC. Discussion of Peace Building Networking at BELUN

<sup>21</sup> Monteiro, Manuel. (09 June 2014). Executive Director of HAK. Discussion of Peace Building Networking at NGO BELUN



On 03 March 2014, it was an important moment of the National Parliament (NP) approved a project resolution by the government for further authorizing military and police to act against the MRC and CPD-RDTL as illegal groups, and considering have threaten the state's sovereignty regarding statements that made by the leaders of these two groups on the National media. Such statement urged to dissolve the National Parliament, demit the government and make suspension for the constitution of RDTL.<sup>22</sup> These two project resolutions approved unanimity by members of the NP, 66 approved, against 0 and 0 abstain.<sup>23</sup>

Legal base of these resolutions used by the National Parliament to condemn MRC and CPD-RDTL groups are the penal code on article 202, 188, 194 and 195, as well as the Constitution of RDTL article 43 part 3 and article 146, including the Organic law of the F-FDTL that has been approved on the decree law No. 7/2004 on the 05<sup>th</sup> May, and on the National Security Law that been approved on the law No. 02/2010 on the 21<sup>st</sup> April,<sup>24</sup> where the National Parliament as the sovereignty organ, representing the people has the constitutional power to make political decision for the internal security in this nation.<sup>25</sup>

However, raised a pro-contra ideas regarding these two resolutions that established by the National Parliament and the Council Minister. Considering these two resolutions are unconstitutional because such resolutions as a purpose to declare the State of Siege and emergency by using military and police forces for doing the operation, such competency made by the Republic President as the Supreme Commander of the Army Force and the Head of State, including to remove the illegal organizations. However, such competency should be made by court based on the law orders and not by the National Parliament or government.<sup>26</sup>

However, the National Parliament draft declaration through the resolutions and the government executes such resolutions.<sup>27</sup> This means such resolutions are full of the political tendency and it is not for common interest.<sup>28</sup> Considering these resolutions as a

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<sup>22</sup> The National Parliament. (2014). To Repudiate Tentatives for the Instability and Threats against the State of Right. pdf.p2

<sup>23</sup> Alm. (04 March 2014). The NP Approves Resolution, Capturing Mauk Moruk. Diariu Nasional Newspaper. <http://www.jndiario.com/2014/03/04/pn-aprova-rezolutaun-kaptura-mauk-moruk/>

<sup>24</sup> The National Parliament. (2014). To Repudiate Tentatives for the Instability and Threats against the State of Right. pdf.p2

<sup>25</sup> Assembly Constituent. (22 March 2002). Definition of Article 92 line 1, Constitution of RDTL.p94

<sup>26</sup> Oliveira, Jose. (06 April 2014). Executive Director of NGO AJAR. Private Interview.

<sup>27</sup> Oliveira, Jose. (06 April 2014). Executive Director of NGO AJAR. Private Interview.

<sup>28</sup> May. (08 May 2014). FM considers the resolution of NP is full of political "Game". Diariu Nasional Newspaper. Can be access in this link; <http://opinitimor.blogspot.com/2014/05/fm-konsidera-rezolutaun-pn-nakon-ho.html>

popular court to condemn the existence of these two groups for the national stability, even these two groups existence did not give the impact yet for the national security so far.<sup>29</sup>

Those concerns from leaders of MRC and CPD-RDTL are still on Democracy's strip where insist the Republic President use his competency to dismiss the government regarding the current governance process, social and economy situations for people of this nation because majority people in this nation still life under the poverty, even the allocation of the State General Budget increases every year but the corruption also increases as well in this current governance.<sup>30</sup>

The policies of establishing these two operations (operation 66 and Friendship operation) that based on the resolutions of the National Parliament and the Council Minister do not for the security threat but considering as the political threat between the old leaders,<sup>31</sup> which means still related with the past problems of Timor-Leste with those important figures as well as the present problem over the social and economy situations of this nation.

### **Impact of the “Friendship Operation” Resolution**

After the Council Minister-CM approved the resolution No.08/2014, on 31 March 2014 by involving the F-FDTL with COC, to act against members of MRC and CPD-RRDTL who did not surrender yet and still wearing the military attributes, based on the resolution of the National Parliament-NP No.05/3/2014. Therefore, the government launched the “Friendship Operation” on 09 April 2014.<sup>32</sup>

The aim of the “Friendship Operation” is to restore the security situation after implementating the “Operation 66” by capturing leaders of MRC and CPD-RDTL, executed by the PNTL after two days the National Parliament made approval.<sup>33</sup> During the operation there was gunfire between MRC with CPD-RDTL against the PNTL and

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<sup>29</sup> Oliveira, Jose. (06 April 2014). Executive Director of NGO AJAR. Private Interview.

<sup>30</sup> Beb. (24 March 2014). Mauk Moruk challenge authors of justice to detain corruptors. <http://timorexpose.tl/?p=1292>

<sup>31</sup> Oliveira, Jose. (06 April 2014). Executive Director of NGO AJAR. Private Interview

<sup>32</sup> Tempo Semanal. (10 April 2014). Longuinhos asks the F-FDTL and PNTL to force people obey the Law. <http://www.temposemanal.com/nasional/longuinhos-husu-fdtl-ho-pntl-obriga-ema-kumpri-lei>

<sup>33</sup> STL Editorial Staff. (05 March 2014). PNTL Acts against CPD-RDTL Headquarter in Balide. <http://jornal.suara-timor-lorosae.com/pntl-halo-atuasaun-ba-sede-cpd-rdtl-balide/>



caused a member of PNTL-BOP (Batalion Ordem Publiku) wounded in Lalulai area, Samalari village Laga sub-district of Baucau district.<sup>34</sup>

In reality this “Friendship Operation” could not re-integrated the communities and not made the situation calm, but made the communities become more pressure and traumatized regarding with COC’s presence in that area with the military uniforms. Some people got pressure and physical aggressive by members of COC during the operation.<sup>35</sup> Therefore, FM concludes that the “Friendship Operation” has caused security to people in base.

a. Members of MRC and CPD-RDTL

Target of the “Friendship Operation” is to search and capture members of MRC and CPD-RDTL who did not surrender yet so far, including still wearing the military uniforms, COC tried to approach and convince the communities to re-integrate to the societies, and searching for weapon that suspiciously still used by members of MRC and CPD-RDTL groups who still stayed in Matebian Mountain thus far.<sup>36</sup>

However, this operation practical has out of the communitarian police’s order, because members of COC shown their brutality and did physical aggression against members of MRC and CPD-RDTL,<sup>37</sup> and COC presence with the complete military arms have made the people there particularly members of MRC and CPD-RDTL should left their house and hide in the forest because they got pressure by the operation team.<sup>38</sup>

FM’s monitoring identified that a member of CPD-RDTL and MRC, Jacinto Ramos decided to stab himself when he saw members of COC, composed of the F-FDTL and PNTL trapped his hidden area in Samalari village, Baguia sub-district. Ramos tried to stab himself because he did feel secure including his private problem that he faced

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<sup>34</sup> Res & May. (11 March 2014). Operated to KRM and CPD-RDTL base, A member of PNTL get serious injury. Diariu Nasional Nespaper. <http://www.jndiario.com/2014/03/11/operasaun-ba-baze-krm-ho-cpd-rdtl-membru-pntl-ida-kanek-todan/>

<sup>35</sup> THD. (24 April 2014). Operation of the FDTL and PNTL Against CPD and MRC are failed and the Populations become Victims. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/04/operasaun-fdtl-no-pntl-hasoru-cpd-no.html>

<sup>36</sup> May. (03 April 2014). Suspiciously members of MRC and CPD- RDTL posses gun, the RP Taur orients the Commander of the F-FDTL to looking for. Diariu Nasional Newspaper. <http://www.jndiario.com/2014/04/03/deskonfia-membrus-krm-cpd-rdtl-iha-kilat-pr-taur-orienta-komando-f-fdtl-buka-tuir/>

<sup>37</sup> Fundasaun Mahein. (16 May 2014). CONJOINT OPERATION: Friendship or Threats?. <http://www.fundasaunmahein.org/2014/05/16/operasaun-konjunta-habelun-ka-hatauk/>

<sup>38</sup> The Monitoring outcomes of FM Team for a week in Baucau District, particularly in Laga, Baguia and Quelicai sub-districts.

since he involved in CPD-RDTL group.<sup>39</sup> According to media release that this victim wants to kill himself because of “stress” and made himself as a crazy man,<sup>40</sup> this release news considered impartial as well because the journalist got transport from COC and asked to write positive points of such operation in order to contribute for the state’s policy.<sup>41</sup>

And a parent from Osso-Huna village (Husband, wife and children) who did not surrender yet so far at present, they felt afraid with COC’s presence.<sup>42</sup> The communitarian leaders have known over the issue and have made effort through the communitarian campaign which will facilitate for the re-integrating process.<sup>43</sup>

On the other side, members of COC who stayed in a post of Baguia Sub-district, Osso-Huna village, hit with riffle against Julio Dos Reis, the commander section of CPD-RDTL at Namkari headquarter, members of COC also cut his hair with bayonet when captured him in his house on 16 April 2014.<sup>44</sup> These bad actions of COC were recognized by the communitarian leader of Ossu-Huna village.<sup>45</sup>

#### **Victim of the CPD-RDTL member in Osso-Huna Village-Baguaia**



Source: Photo – FM – 2014

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<sup>39</sup> This information is recollected by FM during conducting the monitoring at the scene on the 007<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

<sup>40</sup> MJ6. (23 April 2014). Member of CPD-RDTL-KRM self-stabbed in Baguia. STL Newspaper. <http://jornal.suara-timor-lorosae.com/membru-cpd-rdtl-crm-sona-an-iha-baguaia/>

<sup>41</sup> Gari, Francisco. (09 May 2014). Executive Director of TLMDC. Discussion of Peace Building Networkingat BELUN

<sup>42</sup> Dos Reis, Julio. (07 May 2014). Commander of CPD-RDTL section of Namkari headquarter. Private Interview.

<sup>43</sup> Aparicio Guterres, Antonio. (07 May 2014). Chief village of Ossu-Huna – Baguia. Private Interview.

<sup>44</sup> Dos Reis, Julio. (07 May 2014). Commander of CPD-RDTL section of Namkari headquarter. Private Interview.

<sup>45</sup> Aparicio Guterres, Antonio. (07 May 2014). Chief village of Ossu-Huna – Baguia. Private Interview.

Another physical aggression that did by member of COC is taking place as well at the operation post of Lakuliu-Quelical sub-district against Adelino Soares (Laukasa'a), Laukasa'a is a leader of CPD-RDTL at Katikarsu headquarter of Lelalai, Quelical sub-district, he was hit by COC member at the PNTL station of Quelical.<sup>46</sup>

### **Victim of CPD-RDTL member in Lelalai - Quilecai**



Source: Photo FM – 2014

Those pressures and persecutions did by members of COC do not only against individual who are active inside the MRC and CPD-RDTL organizations, but their parents become victims of COC operation as well,<sup>47</sup> regarding COC's actions that using military forces, those victims of MRC and CPD-RDTL urge to process their case at court for further justice.<sup>48</sup>

Because the National Parliament and the Council Ministers with the resolutions condemned these two groups are illegal organizations and have captured some members, but not further process them at court based on the law. Those captured members will only be investigated and just ready to hear any insulted words by members of COC while investigating them.<sup>49</sup> It means that COC only made judgment at

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<sup>46</sup> Soares, Adelino. (08 May 2014) the Secretary of CPD-RDTL, Zone Sub-Region of Ketikarso. Private Interview

<sup>47</sup> THD. (24 April 2014). Operation of the FDTL and PNTL Against CPD-RDTL and MRC are failed and the Populations become Victims. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/04/operasaun-fdtl-no-pntl-hasoru-cpd-no.html>

<sup>48</sup> Dos Reis, Julio. (07 May 2014). Commander of CPD-RDTL section of Namkari headquarter. Private Interview.

<sup>49</sup> THD. (24 April 2014). Operation of the FDTL and PNTL against CPD-RDTL and MRC are failed and the Populations become Victims. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/04/operasaun-fdtl-no-pntl-hasoru-cpd-no.html>

the scene. Actually after capturing COC should investigate and process them at court based on the resolution order.

A Fundamental reason of the communities who involve in these two groups (KRM-CPD-RDTL) is because the state has made discrimination for their participation in struggle as veterans and did not recognize them yet thus far.<sup>50</sup>

b. Veterans and militants of the Political Party

Purpose of the two resolutions that issued by the National Parliament No 05/3/2014 and the Council Ministers No.08/2014 are to act against these two illegal (MRC-CPD-RDTL) groups. However, the implementing of these two resolutions have not been based on what mentioned on the resolutions, because lots of veteran and militant of the political parties members became victims of the executing resolutions, eventhough the Association of Veterans and the Political Party Organizations are legal as cited on the law.<sup>51</sup>

Information that FM received during the operation have been lamented by veterans organizations where they concerns about the operation itself which has out of the resolution strip, and such action has against those innocent members of veterans and political parties. At the time, the Association of the Old Combatants and Veterans of FALINTIL, lead by Bernardo Oliveira “Maukiak Lemorai” sent a letter (No.03/AACVF/IV/2014 to the Public Ministry regarding COC’s action against his members in Baucau, Viqueque, Aileu and Ermera districts.<sup>52</sup>

Such similar case took place in Viqueque district, Uatucarbau sub-district where the police with the past revenge acted against some members of AACVF during the operation by destroying their headquarter, Involved in that incident immediately by some communitarian leaders and the police insulted, pressure them forcely to move from their headquarter. Another similar case also took place in Baucau district particularly Baguia sub-district in Haekoni and Ossu-Huna villages, where the communitarian leaders together with COC forced the communities to declare out from these two groups (MRC and CPD-RDTL), eventhough some people do not involve in these groups.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> Such information at least the FM Team faces and got by members of MRC and CPD-RDTL while monitoring in Lelalai-Quilecai, Osso-Huna-Baguaia, Lalulai-Laga.

<sup>51</sup> Assembly Constituent. (22 March 2002). Right to Participate in Politic. Article 46 part 1-3. Constituion of RDTL.p78.

<sup>52</sup> de Oliveira, Bernardo. (20 April 2014). President of AACVF. Private Interview

<sup>53</sup> de Oliveira, Bernardo. (20 April 2014). President of AACVF. Private Interview

### Victim of the Political Party militants



Source: Special Photo

Another case took place as well in Manatuto, Aileu and Liquica districts, some veteran members became victims of the operation because the communitarian leaders with COC using their private problems acted against those veterans, which means COC acted did not be based on the resolution rules. These cases become attention by those organizations resistance in order to present case to the Republic President regarding the operation system that is full of the military actions.<sup>54</sup>

On the other side, militants of some political parties become target of the COC operation, an incident took place in Uaimori-Tula village, Viqueque district, and at least 10 of the RETILIN militants became victims of COC operation. This case they finally presented to the National Parliament for further discussion because they traumatized and insecure with the presence of KOK.<sup>55</sup> Apart from that, members of COC also broke down the Fretilin's flagpole and hit some militants of political party militants who suspiciously members of MRC and CPD-RDTL.<sup>56</sup>

Such similar case also took place in Lelalai village sub-district of Quelicai, where member of KOK captured Mario S. Boavida, a Fretilin militant, further hit and got psychology pressure by the COC member.<sup>57</sup> Another case took place in Aileu district as

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<sup>54</sup> Tempo Semanal. (13 June 2014). Represent of Former Resistance notifies P NTL to TMR. [http://www.temposemanal.com/seguransa-defesa/representante-eis-resistencia-keixa-pntl-ba-tmr#.U529bD7KH\\_o.facebook](http://www.temposemanal.com/seguransa-defesa/representante-eis-resistencia-keixa-pntl-ba-tmr#.U529bD7KH_o.facebook)

<sup>55</sup> Tempo Semanal. (30 May 2014). Militants of Fretilin become victim of the Conjoint Operation. <http://www.temposemanal.com/vikeke/militantes-fretilin-sai-vitima-operasaun-konjunta>

<sup>56</sup> Ximenes, Carme. (06 May 2014). PNTL of Viqueque breaks down the Fretilin flagpole, the NP ready to confirm in base. STL Newspaper. <http://jornal.suara-timor-lorosae.com/pntl-viqueque-silu-tohar-rin-bandeira-fretilin-pn-prontu-konfirma-ih-a-terenu/>

<sup>57</sup> Boavida, Mario. (08 May 2014). Fretilin militants from Lelalai village, Sub-Distritu of Quelicai. Private Interview.

well where member of KOK did hapzard action during the operation and captured some of ASDT party members including destroyed the party's flag and things.<sup>58</sup>

c. Communities (women and children)

Outcomes of the COC operation has given impact for the common people, children including women in rural areas particularly COC's operation areas such as; Laga, Bagui and Quilecai sub-districts. Regarding the presence of COC that complete with the military uniforms and arms including use the military forces during the operation which is considering as a threat for them.<sup>59</sup>

A case faced by a woman, Alexandrina da Costa with her two children in Lalulai village sub-district of Quilecai, she felt trauma with COC's operation against his husband because her husband was a member of MRC and CPD-RDTL groups, he was hit and kicked till injured before throwing into the car.<sup>60</sup>

Another case took place as well in Laga sub-district where member of KOK insulted and blamed an old woman that, this old woman was hiding gun and granate inside her house.<sup>61</sup> In fact that there were no gun and granate found inside her house at the time and member of COC also hit gun to her two kids. Regarding actions of COC, the victims have presented their case to the Republic President Office to inform their brutalism in the field.<sup>62</sup>

### **Victim of the old Woman by COC**

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<sup>58</sup> de Oliveira, Bernardo. (20 April 2014). President of AACVF. Notifying Documents from Victims.

<sup>59</sup> THD. (24 April 2014). Operation of the FDTL and PNTL against CPD-RDTL and MRC are failed and the Populations become Victims. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/04/operasaun-fdtl-no-pntl-hasoru-cpd-no.html>

<sup>60</sup> She clarifies to FM while intervied her, including her husband who got physical aggressive by members of KOK.

<sup>61</sup> THD. (24 April 2014). Operation of the FDTL and PNTL against CPD-RDTL and MRC are failed and the Populations become Victims. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/04/operasaun-fdtl-no-pntl-hasoru-cpd-no.html>

<sup>62</sup> THD. (07 May 2014). Victims of PNTL and F-FDTL meet Adviser of the Republic President to inform Brutalities that they are facing. <http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2014/05/vitima-pntl-no-f-fdtl-nian-hasoru.html>





Source: Special Photo of 2014

During FM monitoring identified that majority community who live in the operation areas such as; Laga, Baguia and Quelicai sub-districts feel afraid to provide information over the operations. as taking place to people in Lalulai hamlet, Samalari village, they felt afraid to provide the information to other people regarding COC's presence and operation with the military arms in their area,<sup>63</sup> as well as people from Sagadate village, the border line with Lalulai hamlet (base of MRC and CPD-RDTL) who were afraid to go far away from their house even they are not members of these two groups.<sup>64</sup>

By seeing preoccupations from the communities over COC's presence and brutality actions shows that the "Friendship Operation" does not success to re-integrate the communities, just make the innocent people become victims of this operation. FM considers this operation is like a project tendency, because it has appeared misunderstanding between members of COC regarding the perdiem payment during assigning their task.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> Fundasaun Mahein's observation at Lalulai hamlet which is base of the MRC and CPD-RDTL Groups.

<sup>64</sup> Pereira, Jose. (07 May 2014). Common People from Sagadate Village. Private Interview

<sup>65</sup> Tempo Semanal. (28 March 2014). The state pays PNTL of Lalulai to appear tension Between PNTL of Baucau. <http://www.temposemanal.com/seguransa-defesa/estadu-selu-pntl-lalulai-hamosu-tensaun-entre-pntl-baukau>



## **Conclusion**

This report makes the conclusion that the two resolutions (Operation 66 and Friendship Operation), issued by the National Parliament and the Council Minister and have further implementing in base not successful, just make the situation for communities insecurely, including some weapons that were suspiciously hidden by members of MRC and CPD-RDTL. Considering such information are only rumours and no credible proves from the intelligence team. Even worse that many innocent people become victims of the operation and this operation itself has out of rules.

Members of MRC and CPD-RDTL unable re-integrated people who suspiciously involved inside these two groups to the society. Therefore, to re-integrate the people should not use the operation alternative by using military and police forces but better use peace and dialogue. It needs an integrated threatment by the government in various aspects for the complicated problems whether social, economy or veterans issues.

Finally, content of the issued resolutions consider as a threat for the national stability and state sovereignty, and the operation itself is like a political trick which has relation with the past problem between figures of those National leaders. Therefore, FM considers that the politic of the resolution and the establishment of COC through the "Friendship Operation" is the political threat not the security threat.

## **Recommendations**

1. Recommends to the Republic President as symbol of the National Unity to organize a dialogue with communities especially victims and those who suspiciously involve inside the MRC and CPD-RDTL groups, and coordinate with the government to re-integrate the communities in a peacefull and integrated ways, because the operation is not a peaceful solution for communities.
2. Recommends to the National Parliament to invite the Ministry of Defense and Security to clarify publicly regarding the outcomes, process and solution of COC operation against groups of MRC and CPD-RDTL thus far.
3. Recommends to the government to pay attention for veteran's issue and to resolve all the existed problems including the state's honour for the people's participation during struggle fairly.

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