

# *Bitter Paradise: The Sell-out of East Timor* fonds

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University of British Columbia Archives



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# Fonds Description

*Bitter Paradise: The Sell-Out of East Timor* fonds. – 1985-1997.

178 video cassettes.

6 audio cassettes.

## Administrative History

*Bitter Paradise: The Sell-Out of East Timor* began as a film project with Elaine Briere's working trip to the former Portuguese colony in 1975: she was the last independent photographer permitted to enter East Timor before the Indonesian invasion in that year. Through a series of filmed interviews and seminars and speeches involving Canadian businessmen, politicians, public servants and activists, Briere uncovers Canadian participation with Indonesian companies in business activities taking place in East Timor during the period, 1975-1990. In addition, the documentary reveals the lives of East Timorese families and individuals who engage in the liberation struggle in East Timor, Europe and in Canada. Finally, the documentary engages members of western organizations (TAPOL, the East Timor Alert Network) that seek to bring awareness of the Indonesian occupation of East Timor to the world. Briere films rallies in Canada in support of the liberation struggle, attempts (unsuccessfully) to publicly question Canadian and Indonesian political and government leaders on the occupation, and sympathetically portrays young Timorese who employ stories and song, along with public speaking, to enlighten Canadian audiences (including labour organizations) regarding the occupation and destruction of the island nation, its peoples and cultures

Elaine Briere is a Vancouver documentary-maker, photographer, journalist and social justice activist. Her documentary, *Bitter Paradise: The Sell-Out of East Timor*, won the best political documentary award at the Hot Docs Festival, North America's preeminent documentary film showcase, in 1997. In addition to her work on East Timor, which includes a published collection of photographs (*Testimony: Photographs of East Timor, Between the Lines*, 2004), Briere has directed a documentary on Canadian merchant seamen, *Betrayed: The Story of Canadian Merchant Seamen* (1997), and has produced photo-journalism and print articles for *The Tyee*, *Briarpatch*, *Our Times* and other publications dedicated to labour and social justice issues. Briere's photographs have appeared in many publications including, *Carte Blanche Photography 1* (2004); *The Other Mexico: The North American Triangle Completed* (1996), *South East Asia Tribal Groups and Ethnic Minorities* (1987) and *The Family of Women* (1979). Her photographs have been featured in exhibits in Canada, Japan, Sweden and the United States.

## Scope and Content

The fonds consists primarily of video recordings of interviews, meetings, seminars, performances, and local footage shot in Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States, East Timor and Indonesia. It consists of 178 video recordings including 97 beta tapes (large and small), 80 VHS tapes and a broadcast DVD and 6 audio recordings. Many of the video elements include both a beta and VHS copy. The fonds is divided into three series. The largest consists of beta and VHS tapes of raw footage and background research shot or collected by Briere from Canada, the United Kingdom, Indonesia and East Timor. This series also includes six audio recordings. There is a separate series of video recordings of lectures and interviews with Noam Chomsky regarding East Timor recorded during his visit to Vancouver in March 1996. The third series consists of beta masters of the finished documentary, including video in NTSC and PAL formats, and English, French and Swedish language versions.

Much of the content of *Bitter Paradise* consists of interviews with Canadian and foreign individuals engaged in the events in East Timor, either as businessmen, bureaucrats or politicians working with the Indonesian government on trade and development projects in East Timor, or as activists, dissidents, and supporters of the liberation movements within the island nation. In Canada, interviews with Warren Allmand, David Kilgour and Sven Robinson (federal Members of Parliament), David Webster of the East Timor Alert Network, Geoffrey Robinson (Amnesty International, now UCLA History Department), portray the interests of those supporting the resistance, while Colin Baker (Simons Engineering), David Mundy (Kilbourn Engineering) and Ron Richardson (Asia Pacific Foundation) identify business and development opportunities in East Timor and Indonesia for Canadian companies. There are insights on East Timor supplied through interviews with local and international actors including Noam Chomsky, Carmel Budiardjo (an Indonesian dissident and founder of TAPOL) an Amnesty International prisoner of conscience, Constancio Pinto (former guerilla fighter and currently Timor Leste Ambassador to Washington) and Muchtar Pakpahan, a labour leader jailed repeatedly in Indonesia who, in 2011, resigned as head of the Indonesian Labour Party. The documentary also includes live footage from international broadcasters (BBC, Australian Broadcasting Corp.) of the Dili Massacre (Santa Cruz Cemetery) in November 1991, when more than 260 protesters were killed by Indonesian troops. The broadcast filming of that event, first shown on ITV, UK in 1992, was pivotal in the campaign to bring western nations to apply pressure for independence, achieved a decade later.

The fonds also contains archival film footage from the Portuguese era of East Timor, film on projects being undertaken in the country by the Roman Catholic Church, smuggled footage of the East Timorese resistance movement in countryside, footage of

Indonesian troops being trained in Australia and of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor.

## Series Descriptions

**Raw footage/background research series.** – 1985-1996.

151 video cassettes.

6 audio cassettes.

Series consists primarily of video recordings of interviews, speeches and events shot or collected by Briere for use in “Bitter Paradise”.

**Noam Chomsky series.** – 1996.

19 video cassettes.

Series consists of video recordings of lectures and discussions involving Noam Chomsky during his visit to Vancouver and includes an interview with Briere.

**Finished masters series.** – 1997.

7 video cassettes.

1 DVD.

Series consists of various formats for the final masters of the production of “Bitter Paradise”.

# File List

## RAW FOOTAGE/BACKGROUND RESEARCH SERIES

- VT 2254.001 Warren Allmand Liberal M.P. Ottawa [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.002 Colin Baker, businessman H.A. Simons Engineering [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.003 Bella Gallhos, Timorese refugee [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.004 Bella Gallhos, Timorese refugee [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.004a Bella painting [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.005 Carmel Budiardjo, TAPOL, U.K. (human rights group) [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.006 Continuation of tape 5 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.007 Continuation of tape 6 plus John Taylor (author) [VHS]
- VT 2254.007a John Taylor continued [Large Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.008 Constancio Pinto, Timorese refugee ( now Timor Ambassador to US)  
[Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.009 Continuation of tape 8 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.010 Continuation of tape 9 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.011 Donald Gutstein (professor SFU on Project Censored) [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.012 Continuation of tape 11 (plus Fedoni CIDA engineer on West Timor)  
[VHS]
- VT 2254.013 David Kilgour (Liberal M.P. Ottawa) [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.014 Dave Mundy, (businessman in Indonesia) [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.015 Dave Mundy & Bruce Langarius (real estate in Indonesia) [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.016 Bruce Langarius continued. [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.017 Ron Richardson Asia Pacific Foundation, Vancouver Convention  
Center [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.018 Continuation of tape 17 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.019 Continuation of tape 18 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.020 Geoffery Robinson, Indonesia expert, Amnesty Inter., UBC interview  
[Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.021 Continuation of tape 20 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.022 Continuation of tape 21 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.023 Svend Robinson M.P. N.D.P. Burnaby, B.C. [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.024 Continuation of tape 23 [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.025 Parliamentary tour & interview with Sharon Scharfe [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.026 David Webster, East Timor Alert Network activist [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.027 John Wigle, Kilborn Engineering (mining in Indonesia) [Beta/VHS]
  
- VT 2254.030 Muchtar Pakpahan labour union activist, Indonesia [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.031 Continuation of tape 30 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.032 Contancio Pinto, Timorese refugee, talk at Kits Comm. House, [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.033 Continuation of tape 32 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.034 Continuation of tape 33 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.035 Constancio and Bella at Kitsilano beach [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.036 Ottawa nightclub, Aze singing Timorese songs [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.037 Bella Gallhos speaking at Concordia University, Montreal [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.038 Continuation of tape 37 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.039 Tour of Parliament, carrying of the Mace [VHS] (Note: See tape 25 for Beta copy)

  

VT 2254.042 Poverty in Indonesia, CBC-SFU [Beta]

VT 2254.043 Indonesian Embassy Ottawa, ceremony for Museum of Civilization [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.044 Elaine at home in office [Beta]

VT 2254.045 Elaine at home in office [Beta]

VT 2254.046 Aze Guterres, Timorese refugee, story of massacre on Mt. Matebian [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.047 Continuation of tape 46 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.048 Aze Guterres and Abe Soares, Timorese refugees interview [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.049 Catholic Church tape donated footage of projects in E. Timor [VHS]

VT 2254.049a/b Catholic Church tape donated footage of projects in E. Timor [Beta (2)]

  

VT 2254.051 Indonesian Business Seminar, Pan Pacific Hotel, Vancouver [VHS]

VT 2254.052 Indonesian Consulate demo/ talk Abbotsford College [VHS]

VT 2254.053 Candlelight demonstration VAG, plus B&W stills [Beta]

VT 2254.054 John Taylor, wild sound, plus Abbotsford Air show [Large Beta]

VT 2254.055 B- roll, Jakarta Indonesia, Armed Forces Day parade shot by Celine Rumalean [VHS]

VT 2254.056 B- roll, Jakarta Indonesia, Armed Forces Day parade shot by Celine Rumalean [VHS]

VT 2254.057 Parliamentary debates on policy in East Timor [Large Beta/VHS (2)]

  

VT 2254.060 Free East Timor demo, Ottawa. [Beta]

VT 2254.061 Free East Timor demo, Ottawa. [Beta]

VT 2254.062 Canadian Labour Congress Convention 1996 [Beta/VHS]

VT 2254.063 Muchtar Pakpahan address to CLC 1996 [Beta/VHS]



- VT 2254.066 Protest at Garuda Airlines office in Vancouver; Elaine speaks, others, but no sound recording, 52:36 – 58:21 [VHS]
- VT 2254.066a \*\*\* Copies of tapes 66, 67, 68, 69 73 all appear on one Large Beta tape. Unfortunately there may be some discrepancies in the content or the numbering between what appears on the beta tape and the VHS version] [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.067 Hunger strike at Kim Campbell's constituency office / Indonesian Day – Vancouver Museum [VHS]
- VT 2254.068 SFU Panel on Indonesia Project 00:00 – 1:33:00 / Elaine meeting Timor refugee (Isabel Galhos?) at Van. airport 1:33:00 – 1:55:00 / Still images of E. Timor 37:36 – 41:38 / Photos of Elaine with travelers perhaps in Timor, 41:38 – 44:27 (no sound for remainder of tape) / Night scene at a vigil with Elaine talking to unidentified male about E. Timor of 1986, 44:27 – 47:42 / Film footage taken at an air show / Vancouver, highways, construction, then UBC campus at Main Library 58:41 – 1:03:00 / Air show return, 1:03:00 – 1:06:00 / Protest at Garuda Airlines office, 1:06:00 – 1:31:00 / UBC campus, 1:31:00 – 1:34:00 / Horses, farm shoots, family gathering, art gallery, perhaps an Indian Reserve, totem poles, 1:34:00 – 2:00:00 [VHS]
- VT 2254.069 Vancouver Art Gallery Lilien speech 0:00:01 – 0:27:40 / Canadian-Indonesian Business Council, Vancouver Chapter, Pan Pacific Hotel, 0:27:41 – 2:00:00 [VHS]
- VT 2254.070/071 70/71 together on one tape – (70) – ASEAN F.M. Conference/Indo Investment seminar and (71) TEAM Canada [Large beta, VHS]
- VT 2254.073 Elaine giving a lecture on E. Timor; then attending a seminar at SFU on the Indonesia Project, 28:22 – 38:21 (see VT 2254.066a)
- VT 2254.074 Elaine interviews Foreign Affairs [VHS]
- VT 2254.076 Australian Broadcasting Corp. ABC on E. Timor issue [Beta]
- VT 2254.078 ABC Archives, Indonesian troops training in Australia. [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.079 Media File CBC with Jim Nunn [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.082 Philips Petroleum offshore rig, South China Sea [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.083a Indo TV – Abri, Suharto's speech [VHS]
- VT 2254.083b Indo TV – Armed Forces Day- flag worship, Suharto music video [VHS]
- VT 2254.085 TV: APEC '94 [VHS]

- VT 2254.086 APEC – BBC & CBC November 13, 1994 [VHS]
- VT 2254.090 Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia Laurence Dickenson CPAC [Beta]
- VT 2254.092 INCO in Indonesia [Beta]
- VT 2254.095 Indonesian invasion of Timor footage [Beta]
- VT 2254.100 Motion Control [Large Beta] B&W stills
- VT 2254.101 Archival footage of tribals in East Timor, Lisbon National Archives Portugal & B&W stills, [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.102 Animation of stills [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.103 Motion control pick up shots [Beta]
- VT 2254.104 “There is Only One Word – Resist” (1996) Produced and Directed by Jill Hickson [VHS]
- VT 2254.105 Dili Massacre footage BBC, Max Stahl [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.106a Irian Jaya Asmat donated by Ian MacKenzie [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.106b Second tape
- VT 2254.107a Smuggled footage of Timorese guerillas in the bush during the Indonesian occupation [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.107b Smuggled footage of Timorese guerillas in the bush during the Indonesian occupation [Beta/VHS]
- VT 2254.108 Film “Death of a Nation” (1994) by John Pilger [VHS]
- VT 2254.109 “In Cold Blood” (CBC The Journal) – Dili Massacre 1992 [VHS]
- VT 2254.110 “Massacre in Timor – The Journal February 5, 1992 [VHS]
- VT 2254.111 Max Stahl footage British journalist who filmed Dili Massacre [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.112 Max Stahl footage [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.113a Riots – Indo TV 1996 [VHS]
- VT 2254.113b TEAM Canada – January ’96 [VHS]
- VT 2254.113c Freeport-Moran/Bre-x Venture [VHS]
- VT 2254.113d Tape #2 – Peace Mission in East Timor – Genevieve Appleton [VHS]

(continued)

NOAM CHOMSKY SERIES (talks given on March 5, 1996)

- VT 2254.114 Noam Chomsky with UBC students tape [Large Beta]
- VT 2254.115 UBC - Press panel [Beta]

- VT 2254.116a Ridge Theatre talk – “Peace in the Middle East” [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.116b Ridge Theatre talk – “Peace in the Middle East” [Large Beta]  
[Note: Also 5 small betas listed as 116]  
VT 2254.117a A&B Queen Elizabeth Theatre – “Bringing the Third World Home”  
[Large Beta]  
VT 2254.117b A&B Queen Elizabeth Theatre – “Bringing the Third World Home”  
[Large Beta]  
[Note: Also 5 small betas listed as 117]  
VT 2254.118a Elaine Briere’s interview with Noam Chomsky [Beta/VHS]  
VT 2254.118b Elaine Briere’s interview with Noam Chomsky [Beta/VHS]

#### RAW FOOTAGE/BACKGROUND RESEARCH SERIES (cont.)

##### Archival Footage Pre-Invasion Portugal

- VT 2254.119 Large PAL format footage taken by Catholic priest in Timor pre-  
invasion. [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.120 A&B Portugese National Archives, Lisbon. [Beta(2)/VHS].

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#### FINISHED MASTERS SERIES

- VT 2254.121 3/4 inch tape [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.122 Long Version NTSC format [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.123 Long Version PAL format [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.124 Superless Master, (no subtitles) [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.125 47-minute version of film for commercial television [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.126 French language version for Radio Quebec [Large Beta]  
VT 2254.127 Swedish language version for Swedish National television [Large  
Beta]  
VT 2254.128 DVD copy (1997)

RAW FOOTAGE/BACKGROUND RESEARCH SERIES (cont.)

Audio Recordings (Cassettes)

- AT 3789 "Sunday Morning" CBC Radio report on East Timor (December 8/85)  
Prof. Noam Chomsky speaks on "Benign Terror: Why the West  
Ignores East Timor" at U. of Toronto (December 13/85)
- AT 3790 David Kilgour (Can. MP)/Tamako Nakanishi (Amnesty Int.)/Anny  
Clwyd (Wales MP)/Michael Robert-Sobornne
- AT 3791 "East Timor" on "Morningside" CBC (November 21, 1991)/ Lillian "As  
It Happens"/Pat Walsh/Megan Brownstone
- AT 3792 Rui Auartin Santos/Agus Tammidzi/Jose Luis Gutteres/Sydney Jones  
(Asia Watch)/Vidigal Amaro (Port. Parliamentarian)
- AT 3793/4 M & E stereo recordings for Bitter Paradise long and short version.  
[DAT (2)]  
(Note: Originally labeled as 113a/b by Briere)