

# 37 foreign Fishermen get 2 years hard labor

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Newly arrested Indo fishermen.

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**11 MORE ARE CAUGHT FISHING ILLEGALLY**

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In Criminal Case No. 00-30, Chief Justice Arthur Ngiraklson on March 1<sup>st</sup> sentenced the 37 foreign fishermen to two years' hard labor imprisonment, fined them \$100 each and ordered not to return to Palau without approval by the government. All the defendants except the captains of the four fishing vessels



**LED ASTRAY.** Standing are the captain and crew of the Indonesian ship caught fishing illegally in Palau last Saturday, March 17.

are eligible for repatriation to their country after nine months of serving their sentence at no expense to Palau. The four captains are eligible for repatriation only after serving 15 months of their sentence. One of the fishermen, Usman Hussein, died of tuberculosis in November 2000.

Last Saturday, Ian Tervet, cap-

tain of patrol boat *PSS H. I. Remeliik*, and his men arrested 11 foreigners aboard an Indonesian-registered ship fishing with a long line inside Palau's exclusive economic zone. The ship's log indicated that the group had also fished in the country's EZZ on March 8 and 16. The foreign fishermen were charged with three



**AFTER HARD LABOR.** Some of the 37 foreign fishermen who were sentenced to two years' hard labor imprisonment for illegal fishing in Palau last year.

counts of unlawful fishing filed by the Attorney General.#