



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

CONFESSED JAKARTA RIOT ARSONIST ORDERED DEPORTED

Was offered money to help start blaze that killed at least 200

YORK, Pa.—An Indonesian man who admitted to Homeland Security officials that he took part in setting a fire that killed more than 200 people in a 1998 Jakarta riot was ordered removed from the United States by an immigration judge here Tuesday.

Herry Marice, a 24-year-old citizen of Indonesia, was arrested Sept. 13 following an immigration benefits interview for remaining in the United States after the B-2 visitor visa issued to him July 15, 2001 had expired.

He also failed to tell officials his role in the fire when he first entered the country, a criminal activity that would have prevented him from being allowed into the United States in the first place.

Marice admitted that he purchased gasoline and doused it throughout a supermarket, and that others ignited it. He said also that he was offered money to help start the fire.

“It’s a violation of law to hide past arrests, charges or convictions when applying for a benefit,” said Special Agent-in-Charge Bill Reid of ICE’s office here when Marice was first arrested. “This is a very serious matter. By his own admission he was instrumental in the fire.”

Marice is detained at the York County Prison here until the date he is actually removed. Deportation dates and methods are not announced for security and safety reasons.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE seeks to prevent acts of terrorism by targeting the people, money and materials that support terror and criminal networks.