

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 27/004/2003

30 January 2003

Further Information on UA 07/03 (AFR 27/001/2003, 09 January 2003) Incommunicado detention / Fear of torture or ill-treatment

GAMBIA "Mubarak" (m), Moroccan national

According to independent reports from Banjul, "Mubarak" was released in mid-January 2003, and given one day to leave the country. His current whereabouts are unknown.

"Mubarak" was arrested on 30 December 2002 and found to be in possession of a false passport. He was held in incommunicado detention at the headquarters of the Gambian National Intelligence agency. He was reportedly questioned by both the National Intelligence Agency and US investigators on any links he might have with al-Qa'ida. Amnesty International had expressed concern for his safety.

The order to leave the country is thought to be linked to his alleged false passport.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

- seeking confirmation of the release of Mubarak in mid-January;
- requesting confirmation of the order for him to leave the country;
- however, if Mubarak is still in detention, calling on the authorities to reveal his whereabouts and the reasons for his arrest and continued detention;
- if he is still in detention, calling for him to be given immediate access to medical care, legal counsel and humanitarian and human rights groups.

APPEALS TO:

President and Minister of Defence

Captain (retd.) Alhaji Yahya A. J. J. Jammeh

Office of the President

State House, Banjul

Republic of the Gambia

Telegrams: President Jammeh, Banjul, Gambia

Faxes: + 220 227034

Salutation: Your Excellency

USA Ambassador to Gambia

Jackson McDonald

Banjul

Republic of the Gambia

Telegrams: Ambassador, US Embassy, Banjul, Gambia

Faxes: + 220 392475

Email: ambanjul@gamtel.gm

Salutation: Dear Sir

Director of the NIA

NIA Headquarters

Banjul,
Republic of the Gambia
Telegrams: Director of the NIA, Banjul, Republic of the Gambia
Faxes: + 220 225 562
Salutation: Dear Sir

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Honourable Baboucar Blaise Jagne
Department of State for Foreign Affairs
4 Marina Parade, Banjul
Gambia
Telegrams: Secretary of State, Foreign Affairs, Banjul, Republic of the Gambia
Faxes: + 220 223 578
Salutation: Dear Secretary of State

COPIES TO:

Attorney General and Secretary of State for Justice
Joseph Joof
Department of State for Justice and Attorney General's Chambers
Marina Parade
Banjul
Republic of the Gambia
Faxes: + 220 225 352

and to diplomatic representatives of GAMBIA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 13 March 2003.