

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 30/12/96

25 September 1996

Further information on UA 192/96 (AFR 30/03/96, 1 August 1996) and follow-ups (AFR 30/04/96, 15 August; AFR 30/05/96, 16 August; AFR 30/06/96, 22 August 1996; AFR 30/08/96, 28 August and AFR 30/11/96, 24 September) - Fear of refoulement / ill-treatment / fear for safety / Health concern / Possible extrajudicial execution / arbitrary arrest

GUINEA-BISSAU / SPAIN Albert Mukesha Batworo, Rwandese
and other African nationals, particularly:
Ahire Uwaifo Naruna (25), Nigerian
David Adekoro Damolekun (24), Nigerian
Cesaltina (f) (other names not known)

new names: Femi Singleton (30), Nigerian
Soulemanou Zakari (22), Cameroonian

Since issuing Urgent Action update AFR 30/11/96 on 24 September, Amnesty International has learned that most of the detainees have returned or been sent back to prison. There are rumours that the government plans to send them to a detention centre outside Bissau, possibly a military barracks in Cumere, to the north-east of Bissau on the bank of the Geba River. Conditions in Cumere are believed to be very poor.

The two men who were reported to have been severely beaten in the *Segunda Esquadra* are Femi Singleton, a Nigerian, and Soulemanou Zakari of Cameroon. According to reports their faces are bruised, they have black eyes and the skin on their faces and backs is broken. One is said to have a badly bruised and swollen hand. They are reported to have been taken to the *Simão Mendes* hospital where David Damolekun is also being treated.

Cesaltina was released on the evening of 23 September. In the *Segunda Esquadra*, reportedly on the orders or with the knowledge of senior staff at the prison, she had been ordered to undress and was then severely beaten with truncheons and kicked.

Amnesty International is deeply concerned about the killing of Ahire Naruna and the wounding of David Damolekun as it appears that the police could have restored order without resort to lethal force. It is also concerned about the arbitrary arrest of Cesaltina who appears to have been detained solely because of her concern for the detainees' welfare and by reports that she as well as Femi Singleton and Soulemanou Zakari were badly beaten. Amnesty International remains concerned that the detainees did not have adequate opportunity to present their claims for asylum in Spain before being forcibly expelled and that they have not been given the opportunity to claim asylum in Guinea-Bissau. It fears that some may be at risk of serious human rights violations if they are returned to their own countries (Appeals to the Spanish and Guinea-Bissau authorities on the asylum and refoulement issues may still be sent, as outlined in the update of 15 August 1996).

**Please continue action as specified in update of 24 September, using new names.
In relation to Cesaltina:**

- welcoming the release of Cesaltina but expressing concern that she was reportedly badly beaten after being ordered to undress and calling for an inquiry into these reports.