

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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13 January 1992

Further information on UA 425/91 (ASA 17/72/91, 5 December 1991) - Health Concern/Fear of Ill-treatment

The People's Republic of China: Sonam Wangdu

Sonam Wangdu was admitted to the People's Hospital in Lhasa in the first week of December 1991, according to unofficial sources in the capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region. He is said to be in a serious condition.

Prior to his hospitalization Sonam Wangdu, a 36-year-old Tibetan trader, was reported to be critically ill in Drapchi prison in Lhasa, where he is serving a life sentence for the alleged murder of a policeman during a demonstration in March 1988. The exact nature of his illness is not known, although reports have suggested that he may have been seriously injured when prisoners were beaten or punished for taking part in protests following the death on 15 December 1990 of a political prisoner also held in Drapchi prison. According to Tibetan sources he has been repeatedly transferred from the prison to the Public Security Hospital and back since he was first reported ill in December 1990.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/ airmail letters:

- welcoming Sonam Wangdu's transfer to the People's Hospital, but expressing concern that he did not receive suitable medical care sooner;
- urging the authorities to ensure that he continues to get all the appropriate medical attention, and to make public information about his current state of health;

APPEALS TO:

Tibet Autonomous Region President:
Gyaincain Norbu Zhuxi
Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu
Lasashi
Xizang Zangzu Zizhiqu
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear President

Regional Chief Procurator:

YANG Youcai Jianchazhang
Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Jianchayuan
Lasashi
Xizang Zangzu Zizhiqu
People's Republic of China
Telex for both: 68014 FAOLT CN or 68007 PGVMT CN

Salutation: Dear Procurator

Supreme People's Procuratorate President:

LIU Fuzhi Jianchazhang
Zuigao Renmin Jianchayuan
Beijing
People's Republic of China
Telex: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

Salutation: Dear Chief Procurator

page 2 of FU 425/91

COPIES TO:

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and to the office of the Xinhua news agency and diplomatic representatives of the PRC in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 February 1992.