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# *amnesty* *international*

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## £SOUTH KOREA

### @Further Information about Detained Publishers

11 April 1994

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On 6 April Amnesty International issued an appeal for the release of three publishers arrested in March (See: *South Korea: Appeal for the Release of three Publishers*, ASA 25/17/94). Since then the organization has learnt that one of the prisoners, Kim Byong-hak, was released shortly after his arrest. The two others, Kim Yon-in and Lee Song-woo, are now held in Seoul prison on charges under the National Security Law.

Kim Byong-hak, Managing Director of *Ilbit* Publishing Company, was released without charge on 18 March after questioning. Lee Song-woo, owner of *Ilbit* Publishing Company, and Kim Yon-in, the owner of *Heem* Publishing Company, are still held under the National Security Law. They are accused of publishing and distributing material which benefits the enemy (North Korea). Amnesty International has adopted them as prisoners of conscience and is calling for their immediate and unconditional release.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** please send further letters and faxes expressing concern that publishers Kim Yon-in and Lee Song-woo are prisoners of conscience, held for the non-violent exercise of their rights to freedom of expression and calling for their immediate and unconditional release.

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◆ and to diplomatic representatives of South Korea in your country

**KEYWORDS:** PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / PUBLISHERS / MANAGERS / RELEASE /

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