

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 19/03/95

Further information on UA 113/94 (MDE 19/03/94, 18 March 1994) -

Fear of E

LIBYACol. Miftah Qarrum al-Wirfali
Major Ramadhan al-'Ayhuri
Major Khalil Salam al-Jidiq
Major Miftah Bahr
Lt-Col 'Abdallah al-Waa'ir
Lt.Col Daw al-Salihin al-Jidiq
Lt.Col Shtiwi Miftah al-Mabruk
Lt.Col Mohammad al-Ghul
Sa'ad Misbah al-Zubaydi

Amnesty International has received reports that the nine people named above may be at imminent risk of execution. According to these reports, at the end of August 1995 members of the Revolutionary Committees held a meeting in Bani Walid, eastern Libya, during which the population was reportedly forced to attend and to sign a petition calling for the execution of the nine people named above, most of whom are from Bani Walid. It is not known whether the nine have been tried or not and their whereabouts remain unknown.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The nine people named above were among dozens arrested and detained in the aftermath of a rebellion by army units around the city of Misrata in October 1993. They have reportedly been held incommunicado in unknown locations. Three of those arrested appeared on television confessing to being American 'spies' in early March 1994. They said they were recruited as American intelligence agents by members of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya, the country's main opposition group operating in exile. It is believed that they were tortured into making such 'confessions'. In Libya, spying is punishable by death.

Amnesty International opposes the use of the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, French, Arabic or your own language:

- urging that the nine people named above should not be executed and reiterating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty;
- seeking information as to the exact charges levelled against them and asking whether or not they have been tried;
- urging that they be treated humanely and be given access to lawyers, family members and medical care;
- seeking information as to their exact whereabouts.

APPEALS TO:

1) His Excellency Mu'ammr al-Gaddafi
Leader of the Revolution
Office of the Leader of the Revolution
Tripoli
Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Telegrams: colonel al-Gaddafi, Tripoli, Libya
Telexes: 70 0901 20162 ALKHASU LY
Salutation: Your Excellency

2) His Excellency

'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir

Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
and International Cooperation
Tripoli

Great Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriya

Telegrams: Foreign Secretary 'Umar Mustafa al-Muntasir, Tripoli, Libya

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) His Excellency

Zanati Mohammad al-Zanati

Secretary of the General People's Congress
Secretariat of the General People's Congress
Tripoli, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Telegrams: Excellency al-Zanati, General People's Congress, Tripoli, Libya.

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Libya accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 November 1995.