

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 23/07/94

Distr: UA/SC

16 November 1994

Further information on 344/94 (MDE 23/05/94, 19 September 1994) - Mass arbitrary arrests/incommunicado detention/Fear of torture or ill-treatment

SAUDI ARABIA

Sheikh Salman bin Fahd al-'Awda, aged 39, religious scholar
Sheikh Safr 'Abdul-Rahman al-Hawali, aged 40, former Head of Shari'a Department
at 'Um al-Qura University
Sheikh 'Ayedh al-Qarani, aged 39, religious scholar - released
'Abdullah al-Jalali, aged 70, businessman - released
Dr. Nasser al-Umar, aged 40, lecturer at al-Iman University- released
Sulaiman al-Rushudi, lawyer
Dr Khalid al-Duwaish, aged 40, associate professor of electronic engineering,
lecturer at al-Imam University
Dr Bishr al-Bishr, aged 37, lecturer at al-Imam University - released
Tuyan al-Tuyan, journalist at 'Akadh newspaper
Ahmad bin Saleh al-Sa'wi, student
and hundreds of others

Amnesty International has received information concerning the release of some of those named above. The rest remain in detention. In addition, Amnesty International continues to receive reports of further arrests. The organization has also learned that Shikh Safr 'Abdul-Rahman al-Hawali was hospitalized at the beginning of November, although there are no further details on his condition.

Amnesty International remains concerned that those still in detention may be subjected to torture and ill-treatment.

Sheikh 'Ayedh al-Qarani was released at the end of September and 'Abdullah al-Jalai was released 6 weeks after his detention.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- seeking assurances that those named above who remain in detention in connection with the recent arrests of Sunni Islamists are being treated humanely and urging that they be allowed access to family members, defence counsel and doctors;
- urging that they be released unless charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

His Royal Highness
Prince Naif bin 'Abdul-'Aziz

Minister of the Interior
Ministry of the Interior
PO Box 2833
Airport Road
Riyadh 11134
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: Minister of the Interior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Faxes: +966 1 4050130

Telexes: 404416

Salutations: Your Royal Highness

diplomatic representatives of Saudi Arabia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 December 1994.