

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 24/008/2003

23 June 2003

Further Information on UA 164/03 (AFR 24/006/2003, 11 June 2003) Prisoner of Conscience/"disappearance"/fear of ill-treatment

**EQUATORIAL
GUINEA**

**Felipe Ondo Obiang (m), leader of the Fuerza Demócrata Republicana (FDR),
Democratic Republican Force**

Amnesty International has learned that Felipe Ondo Obiang is currently being held at Evinayong prison, east of Bata, the main city on the mainland. To the organization's knowledge, he has not been ill-treated.

On 12 June, the authorities in Equatorial Guinea issued a press statement to "categorically deny rumours of the disappearance of Felipe Ondo Obiang". According to the statement, the authorities transferred him from Black Beach Prison in the capital Malabo because he was advocating violence and because of his "perverse attitude, which endangered the social climate... and the lives of other prisoners". The statement does not provide any further explanation and other prisoners at Black Beach Prison refute the authorities' claims.

The statement also says that Felipe Ondo Obiang is now being held at Evinayong, an open prison, where he has access to his relatives. However, neither his relatives nor his lawyer live in the Evinayong area.

Prisoner of conscience Felipe Ondo Obiang was removed from his cell at Black Beach Prison at 2am on 9 June. His whereabouts were unknown for over 30 hours following his disappearance.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the network. Amnesty International is using longer term campaigning methods on behalf of Felipe Ondo Obiang and other prisoners of conscience.