

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 21/007/2001

7 June 2001

Further information on UA 115/01 (MDE 21/006/2001, 10 May 2001) -
"Disappearance"/Fear for safety/medical concern

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITYYusuf Samir, journalist, aged 63

Yusuf Samir was found at an Israeli army checkpoint late on the night of 6 June. Reuters reported that Yusuf Samir, who has a heart problem, was taken to a hospital in Jerusalem where officials said he was in good health.

He had been arrested by Palestinian Police on 4 April. The Palestinian authorities reportedly claimed to have released him later that day, but he had not been seen since. The checkpoint where he was found is near Bethlehem, a city under Palestinian Authority control.

Yusuf Samir, himself a former Israel Radio correspondent, apparently told Israeli radio today that he had been held hostage by Palestinian General Intelligence Services (*mukhabarat*) and feared he would be killed if he did not escape.

No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network. Many thanks to all of you who sent appeals.