

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 31/10/99

22 October 1999

**Further information on EXTRA 131/99 (MDE 31/08/99, 15 September 1999) -
Incommunicado detention/Fear of torture**

YEMENOmar Ibrahim Dagah

Omar Ibrahim Dagah has now been in incommunicado detention for nearly two months. He has already been seriously ill-treated, and Amnesty International is increasingly concerned that he is at risk of torture and further ill-treatment. His family are still being denied access to him.

He was arrested on 27 August 1999, reportedly by Political Security branch of the security forces, after an explosion in the Tuwahi area of Aden.

His family last saw him on 6 September, when Political Security officers brought him to his home to carry out a search. He was reportedly in shackles and handcuffs and looked weak and exhausted. Political Security officials later told the family that he had confessed to carrying out the bombing and that he would soon appear in court.

Amnesty International has documented many cases of torture in Yemen, particularly at the hands of Political Security, while people are detained incommunicado.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please continue to send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/ airmail letters in Arabic or in your own language:

- expressing concern that Omar Ibrahim Dagah has been detained incommunicado since his arrest on 27 August 1999, reportedly by Political Security, and that he has been ill-treated;
- asking for him to be given immediate access to a lawyer, his family and to medical treatment;
- expressing concern that he has reportedly been seen in shackles, which are illegal in Yemen and whose use constitutes cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment under international law;
- expressing concern that he has reportedly confessed to a crime without having spoken to a lawyer, in contravention of international human rights standards, including the Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers and the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment;
- acknowledging the government's right to bring to justice anyone found responsible for recognizably criminal offences but urging them to ensure that anyone so charged is guaranteed a fair trial, including access to a lawyer, and the right not to be compelled to confess.

APPEALS TO:

General 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh
President of the Republic of Yemen
Sana'a

The Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh, Sana'a, Yemen

Telexes: 2422 RIASAH YE

Faxes: + 967 1 274 147

Salutation: Your Excellency

Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani

Prime Minister of the Republic of Yemen
26 September Street
Sana'a
The Republic of Yemen
Telegrams: Prime Minister, Sana'a, Yemen
Faxes: + 967 1 282 686
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Interior
Hussain Muhammad 'Arab
Ministry of Interior
Al-Hasaba District
Airport Road, Sana'a
The Republic of Yemen
Telegrams: Interior Minister, Sana'a, Yemen
Faxes: + 967 1 332 511
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice
Mr Ismael Ahmad al-Wazeer
Ministry of Justice
Al-Ahdal Street, Sana'a
The Republic of Yemen
Telegrams: Justice Minister, Sana'a, Yemen
Faxes: + 967 1 225836
Salutation: Your Excellency

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

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 19 November 1999.