

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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EXTRA 66/94

Imminent execution

22 November 1994

SINGAPORE

Daniel Chan Chi-pun, security guard, 38

Amnesty International has just learned that Daniel Chan Chi-pun, a Hong Kong citizen, is to be executed in Singapore early this Friday, 25 November 1994.

Daniel Chan Chi-pun was arrested at Singapore's Changi airport in 1990 on charges of carrying 464 grams of heroin. His appeal was rejected by the Court of Appeal in 1993, and his plea for clemency has also been rejected by Singapore's President, Ong Teng Cheong.

Daniel Chan Chi-pun's wife has said that she believes her husband smuggled the drugs in order to raise money to have their son's blindness treated.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The death penalty was employed during the colonial period and was retained after Singapore became an independent republic in August 1965. Anyone found in possession of more than 15 grams of heroin, 30 grams of morphine, 30 grams of cocaine or 500 grams of cannabis is charged with drug trafficking and is liable to a mandatory death sentence.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and on the grounds that it is the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams and faxes in English or your own language:

- expressing deep concern that Daniel Chan Chi-pun is scheduled to be executed on 25 November 1994;
- urging President Ong Teng Cheong to reconsider his decision not to grant Daniel Chan Chi-pun clemency, and to commute his death sentence;
- stating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

The President

His Excellency Ong Teng Cheong
Office of the President
Istana, Orchard Road
Republic of Singapore 0922

Telegrams: President Ong Teng Cheong, Singapore

Faxes: +65 732 4627 (for the attention of: President Ong Teng Cheong)

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Prime Minister

The Honourable Goh Chok Tong
Office of the Prime Minister
Istana Annexe, Istana

Republic of Singapore 0923

Faxes: +65 732 4627

Minister of Law

Professor Shanmugham Jayakumar

Ministry of Law

250 North Bridge Road

Raffles City Tower 21-00

Republic of Singapore 0617

and to diplomatic representatives of SINGAPORE accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.