

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 25/09/93

Distr: UA/SC

11 August 1993

Further information on UA 147/93 (AFR 25/06/93, 30 April 1993) - Fear of ill-treatment/Legal concern

ETHIOPIA:

Dr Alemayehu Teferra, former President of Addis Ababa University and 18 university students, arrested two weeks later:

Anteneh Aregaw (psychology student)	Marye Aberra (management)
Anteneh Ownetu	Tadesse Zemamem (economics)
Bahru Temesgen	Teshome Bimerew (languages)
Berhanu Mulunesh	Tesfaye (second name not known)
Gite (second name not known)	Yehualeshet Girma (electrical engineering)
Getaneh Aberra (law)	Yohannes Negash (library science)
Habtamu Alebachew (political science)	Yohannes Seifu (law)
Haile Berke	Zelalem Mulatu
Hizbadam Gela (languages)	and one other

Dr Alemayehu Teferra, who was arrested on 6 April 1993, is still detained in the Central Prison (Alem Bekagne, "End of the World" section) in Addis Ababa. Contrary to the information previously received by Amnesty International, he was not ill-treated or refused family visits, neither when held in the police Central Investigation prison after his arrest nor since his transfer to the Central Prison. He is held under a court order and apparently on the basis of documentary evidence of ordering executions of alleged anti-revolutionaries when he was an urban-dwellers association (*kebele*) chairman during the government's "Red Terror" campaign against its opponents in 1977-1978. However, neither he nor hundreds of other former officials detained for alleged "Red Terror" crimes have yet been formally charged. Further information about the documentary evidence and consideration of the fact that he was exonerated from human rights crimes in 1991 are needed before deciding whether further action is appropriate. Please do not send further appeals on this case.

Of the 18 students detained on 22 April 1993 for demonstrating against the university dismissals, some have been released but about eight are believed to be still detained. They include Teshome Bimerew, who is held in the police Central Investigation prison and apparently accused of possessing a leaflet of the All-Amhara People's Organization (AAPO), an opposition party formed in January 1992. He has not been charged and to Amnesty International's knowledge the AAPO leaflets did not advocate violence. Other students are reportedly accused of involvement in the explosion of a grenade on the university campus at the time of the protests. The grenade caused no injuries and there is no clear evidence who might have planted it or for what purpose. None of them have been charged.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS. Please send express and airmail letters either in English or your own language:

- expressing concern that some of the university students arrested in April 1993 are still detained without charge or trial;
- appealing for their immediate and unconditional release if they are held solely for their peaceful protests at the university;
- urging that if they are suspected of a recognizable criminal offence they be formally charged and given a fair trial within a reasonable period, and if not that they be released without further delay.

APPEALS TO:

1) Mr Meheteme Solomon
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 1370
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Salutation: Dear Minister

2) Mr Mohamed Siraj
Attorney General
Central Attorney General's office
PO Box 4467
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

3) Hassen Shiffa
Head of Police and Prison Administration
Ministry of Internal Affairs
PO Box 5121
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Salutation: Dear Sir

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Dr Duri Mohamed
University President
Addis Ababa University
PO Box 1176
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

2) Ms Genet Zewde
Minister of Education
Ministry of Education
PO Box 1367
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

3) Kemal Bedri
President of the Supreme Court
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 6166
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

and diplomatic representatives of Ethiopia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the Internatinal Secretariat, or your section

office, if sending appeals after 22 September 1993.