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## PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

### @Wang Juntao, Ren Wanding and Bao Tong -- New Health Concerns

3 June 1993

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According to relatives and unofficial sources the health of Wang Juntao, Ren Wanding and Bao Tong, three prisoners of conscience jailed in Beijing for their involvement in the 1989 1989 pro-democracy protests, has continued to deteriorate.

Since September 1991 Wang Juntao has been serving his 13-year prison sentence in Yanqing Prison hospital in the northeast of Beijing. In addition to suffering from chronic hepatitis B, doctors have recently informed his wife that he has also developed coronary heart disease. He also reportedly suffers from diabetes and other unspecified minor illnesses.

Wang Juntao has been allowed several visits to specialist hospitals in Beijing, although each time he has stayed less than a day. According to his wife, Hou Xiaotian, the prison doctors have recommended that Wang Juntao be released on bail for specialist medical treatment. The authorities at Beijing Prison No. 2, where Wang was previously held, apparently passed this recommendation on to the higher authorities, but received a negative response. One doctor at Yanqing was reported to have told Wang that he would not have accepted him into the prison hospital had he known the seriousness of his physical condition.

In a public statement Wang managed to hand to his wife recently, he declared "I demand to have an answer before 3 June to my right of appeal and receive release on bail for medical treatment as provided by the law. Since all legal channels do not work, I can only appeal to the conscience and will seriously prepare to take the action of a hunger strike for social justice and human dignity." Hou Xiaotian is very concerned that her husband is too weak to cope with a hunger strike. She has reportedly announced her intention to go on hunger strike herself.

According to family sources, in April 1993 Bao Tong underwent surgery for the fifth time since 1989 for the removal of a rectal polyp, a potentially dangerous condition which can lead to cancer. He has in addition been suffering from a reduced white blood cell count for the past two years. 60-year-old Bao Tong is still being held in solitary confinement in Qincheng Prison in Beijing where he is serving a seven-year sentence. Doctors have told his family that he should be released for medical treatment, but letters of appeal to the authorities written by his wife and

daughter asking for leniency on grounds of ailing health have met with no response. The only concession officials have made is to increase family visits from once every two months to once per month as of March 1993.

Meanwhile according to unofficial sources, Ren Wanding's medical condition is getting increasingly serious. Ren, who is serving his seven-year sentence in Beijing Prison No 2, is reportedly suffering from acute gastritis, as well as chronic chest infections and is losing his eyesight. He has apparently not received any appropriate medical treatment.

Amnesty International has published a number of Urgent Actions on the cases of these three prisoners over the past few years.

*Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:*

***◆ urging that Wang Juntao, Bao Tong and Ren Wanding be granted immediate and proper medical care appropriate to their state of health in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, or that they be released to seek medical treatment at home.***

*Please send appeals to:*

**Minister of Justice  
Cai Cheng Buzhang**  
Safabu  
Xiaguangli  
Beijingshi 100016  
People's Republic of China

*Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Cai Cheng, Beijing, China*

*Telexes: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MRERT CN*

*Faxes: +86 1408 1046*

*Salutation: Your Excellency*

**Beijing Municipal Procurator**

**He Fangba Jianchazhang**

Beijingshi Renmin Jianchayuan

39 Dongjiaominxiang

Dongchengqu

Beijingshi 100006

People's Republic of China

*Telegrams: Beijing Municipal Procurator, He Fangba, Beijing, China*

*Telexes: 210217 FAOGB CN or 22476 BJGVT CN*

*Faxes: +86 1512 1158*

*Salutation: Dear Municipal Procurator*

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the China Research Team at the International Secretariat if sending appeals after 1 July 1993.

This document is being sent to China and CHIRAN Co-ordinators for action by groups. It is being sent to Sections for information only.

**KEYWORDS:** PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / ILL-HEALTH / HUNGER-STRIKE / LONG-TERM  
IMPRISONMENT / SOLITARY CONFINEMENT / MEDICAL TREATMENT /

**INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT, 1 EASTON STREET, LONDON WC1X 8DJ, UNITED KINGDOM**