

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 54/24/92

Distr: UA/SC

30 July 1992

Further information on UA 234/92 (AFR 54/23/92, 15 July 1992) - Legal concern/Fear of torture

SUDAN: Peter Cirrilo - former governor, Equatoria region
Nicolas Aboya - commissioner of police, Juba
Alfred Taban - journalist

Amnesty International has established that reports of the arrest of Alfred Taban were incorrect. Therefore please end immediately all appeals on his behalf.

Amnesty International remains concerned about Peter Cirrilo and Nicholas Aboya, who were reportedly arrested in Juba in mid-June 1992. After their arrest they were reportedly flown to Khartoum where their whereabouts remain unknown.

The two men were reported to have been arrested after various police and paramilitary units of wildlife rangers based in Juba, the capital of Equatoria region which is besieged by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), mutinied and joined with SPLA forces in attacking army positions in Juba.

Torture and ill-treatment are routine in "ghost houses" and the security headquarters. Amnesty International has been able to confirm the torture in detention centres of more than 100 people arrested since November 1989. One of their victims, Ali Fadul, a medical doctor, is reported to have died as a result of torture on 22 April 1990 (see UA 161/90, AFR 54/22/90). More recently, over 75 civilians and former and serving army officers arrested in late August 1991 in connection with an alleged coup attempt were reportedly tortured in "ghost houses". An elderly prisoner was bound and suspended by his wrists from the walls of his cell on three consecutive nights. A civilian prisoner is reported to have had the flesh from his heels sliced off. There are reports of prisoners being whipped, of others having their testicles crushed with pliers and of yet others being burnt by hot irons.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the arrest of Peter Cirrilo and Nicholas Aboya in mid-June 1992 whom Amnesty International believes may be prisoners of conscience;
- expressing concern at their continuing incommunicado detention without charge or trial and fear that they may be being tortured;
- seeking assurances that they are being humanely treated, requesting that their whereabouts in custody are made public and that they have immediate and

regular access to their families, lawyers and any necessary medical attention;

- urging that they be immediately and unconditionally released unless they are to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence and brought promptly to a fair trial.

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APPEALS TO:

1. His Excellency Lieutenant General

Omar Hassan al-Bashir

Head of State and Chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council

People's Palace, PO Box 281

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Lt Gen Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22385 PEPLC SD or 22411 KAID SD

Salutation: Your Excellency

2. Brigadier-General al-Zubeir Mohamed Saleh

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the Interior and Deputy Chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council

People's Palace

PO Box 281

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Brig-Gen al-Zubeir Mohamed Saleh, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22842 WZARA SD or 22604 IPOL SD

Salutation: Your Excellency

3. Mr Abdullah Idris

Minister of Justice and Attorney-General

Ministry of Justice

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Minister of Justice Abdullah Idris, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22459 KHRJA SD or 22461 KHRJA SD (via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Mr Jalal Ali Lutfi

Chief Justice

Law Courts

Khartoum, Sudan.

Mr Ali Sahloul,

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PO BOX 873, Khartoum

Sudan

and to diplomatic representatives of Sudan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 September 1992.