

so that he be allowed to die. Around this time doctors warned his lawyers that despite the force-feeding Fawzi al-Odah was in imminent danger of death or permanent organ damage.

Amnesty International neither opposes nor recommends forcible feeding of prisoners on hunger strike. However, if forcible feeding is done in such a way as deliberately to cause suffering, Amnesty International considers that this would constitute torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. The UN Special Rapporteur on torture has declared that if the reports about the force-feeding methods being used at Guantánamo are true, then it would amount to cruel treatment.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

- expressing concern for the wellbeing of the detainees at Guantánamo Bay, and the fact that they are still unable to challenge the legality of their detention;
- stating that detainees on hunger strike must not be forcibly fed in a manner that deliberately causes pain, and must not be subjected to torture or other ill-treatment;
- calling on the US authorities to investigate all allegations that detainees on hunger strike have been subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and for all those responsible for such acts to be brought to justice; - calling on the authorities to ensure that Guantánamo detainees are seen by independent medical experts;
- calling on the US authorities to close the detention facility at Guantánamo and either release the detainees or charge them with a recognizably criminal offence and try them in accordance with international standards of fairness in a court which will not impose the death penalty

APPEALS TO:

President George W. Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500, USA

E-mail: comments@whitehouse.gov

Fax: +1 202 456 2461

Salutation: Dear President Bush

Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, The Pentagon, Washington DC 20301, USA

Fax: + 1 703 697 8339

Salutation: Dear Secretary of Defense

Charles Stimson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Detainee Affairs

2500 Defense Pentagon 5E420, Washington, DC 20301, USA

Fax: +1 703 697 6166

Salutation: Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense

COPIES TO:

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State, Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington DC 20520, USA.

Fax: + 1 202 261 8577

and to diplomatic representatives of the USA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 13 July 2006.

Cruel. Inhuman. Degrades us all. Stop torture and ill-treatment in the "war on terror". For more information on AI's campaign see <http://web.amnesty.org/pages/stoptorture-index-eng>