

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 25/15/94
Distr: UA/SC

20 May 1994

Further information on UA 75/94 (AFR 25/08/94, 24 February 1994) -
Extrajudicial Executions/Fear for safety/Torture and Ill-treatment

ETHIOPIA:

Killed: Mohamed Omer Tubeh, Regional Commissioner, Kebri Dahar
Abdullahi Ganey, Deputy Regional Commissioner, Wardheer
Deeg Mohamud Arab, Deputy Regional Commissioner, Kebri Dahar

Detained: Hajio Dama (f), 65, chair of Ogadenian Women's Democratic Alliance
(OWDA), Godey
Korad Ahmed Salal (f), OWDA official, Godey
Goyare Aden Olhaye, Regional Police Commander, Galafo
Deeg Uraag, Regional Commissioner, Wardheer
Sheikh Musse, Wardheer district council member

Dulane Hassan Gabane, member of the Regional Assembly and Regional Commissioner,
Galafo Abdinassir Hirsi Arab, Regional Police Commissioner, Kebri Dahar

new name: Ahmed Abdullahi Agooleh, aged 55

- and many others

The Ethiopian government has not replied to Amnesty International's appeals and inquiries about the killings and arrests reported in UA 75/94, nor has it issued any statements about them. Amnesty International has, however, received further information.

Reports indicate that **Korad Ahmed Salal** has died in custody and that **Hajio Dama** has been released but is mentally ill on account of torture or ill-treatment. **Dulane Hassan Gabane** has reportedly "disappeared" in detention and there are fears for his safety.

There have been further reports of extrajudicial executions of government opponents in the Ogaden. On 22 February in Wardheer town, government soldiers seeking unsuccessfully to arrest the ONLF general secretary, Sheikh Ibrahim Mohamed Abdallah, shot dead a regional police officer and fired on a crowd of pro-ONLF demonstrators. Troops shot dead some 50 people and injured over 20 others, several of whom later died too, bringing the reported death toll to over 80. Among those listed as dead were **Ahmed Ibrahim Nur**, ONLF regional assembly representative for Wardheer, **Abshir Ali Dhuh**, mayor of Qorilleh, and **Hakin Hersi Abdulleh**, mayor of Addo.

Subsequently there were further mass arrests of ONLF members and supporters in different parts of the region. These included **Ahmed Abdullahi Agooleh**, project manager of the Ministry of Agriculture's South East Rangeland Project (SERP), who was arrested in Godey on 6 April. A former governor of the region who had lost a leg in an assassination attempt against him, he is apparently detained in Jijiga, accused of using his radio to pass out news of the Wardheer killings on 22 February.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:

- calling for an impartial and independent inquiry into these reports of

extrajudicial executions, and in particular the reports of killings of over 50 civilians by government soldiers in Wardheer on 22 February 1994: the inquiry should take evidence in public, assess whether soldiers used lethal force unlawfully, and report its findings and recommendations publicly;

- calling for guarantees of the safety of those detained, including Ahmed Abdullahi Agooleh and Dulane Hassan Gabane, and investigation into allegations of torture or ill-treatment of detainees and the reported death of Korad Ahmed Salal;

- urging that all detainees be immediately released if they are not promptly taken to a court to be charged with recognizably criminal offences and given fair and early trials;

- appealing for detainees to be humanely treated and given immediate and regular access to their families, lawyers and medical treatment where needed.

APPEALS TO:

1) His Excellency President Meles Zenawi

Office of the President

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: President Meles, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 51124 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Mr Seye Abraha

Minister of Defence

Ministry of Defence

P O Box 1373

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: Defence Minister, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 51124

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Mr Kinfu Gebre-Medhin

Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs (head of security)

Ministry of Internal Affairs

P O Box 5721

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: Vice-Minister Kinfu, Internal Affairs, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 51124

Salutation: Dear Vice-Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Mr Hassan Shiffa

Coordinator of Police and Prison Administration

Ministry of Internal Affairs

P O Box 5721, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

2) Mr Meheteme Solomon

Minister of Justice

Ministry of Justice

P O Box 1370, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

and to diplomatic representatives of Ethiopia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 1 July 1994.