

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 53/80/90  
Distr: UA/SC

3 December 1990

Further information on UA 466/90 (AFR 53/76/90, 16 November 1990) - Fear of Torture/Legal Concern

SOUTH AFRICA Jomo KHASU, aged about 30, senior Regional Organizer for  
(Bophuthatswana): the African National Congress (ANC), Northern Cape,  
detained 13 November 1990

and others including:

(Maluke (second name not known), from Mafikeng  
( Mabitso PHETOANE, from Phokeng  
Detained on ( Chris MOLEFE, from Thlabane  
13 November ( Jane MAPUTSELA  
1990 ( Botho MAHILA  
( Laura TAYLOR, reportedly ill from suspected  
myeloencephalitis (M.E.)

( John LEHOBYE, from Mabopane  
( Lazarus MKHWANAZE  
( A M MAMASELA  
Detained on ( NYAMAKAZI (first name not known)  
12 November ( Manku MALEBO, from Phokeng  
1990 ( Lucy (second name not known)  
( Elizabeth LETSWITI  
( Maria DIPALE  
( MAKELENELE (first name not known), from Hammanskraal

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Widespread detentions of political activists and others in the nominally independent "homeland" of Bophuthatswana were halted as a result of a meeting between the "homeland" authorities and representatives of the African National Congress (ANC) on the weekend of 17 and 18 November 1990. Releases then occurred during the following week. Jomo Khasu was released on 22 November. Reports reaching Amnesty International indicate that all the detainees arrested since early November in the recent clampdown by the Bophuthatswana authorities have also been released. The majority of those named above were released between 21 and 23 November 1990, but there has been no confirmation yet of the date of release of Mabitso Phetoane, Chris Molefe and Manku Malebo. It is not yet clear whether any of them have been charged with any offence.

Jomo Khasu, who suffers from diabetes, is reported to be in satisfactory health. He was apparently able to receive the medication he needed while he was in custody. He was one of a number of detainees who was transferred from state of emergency detention to detention under section 25 of the Bophuthatswana Internal Security Act, which permits indefinite incommunicado detention without charge. However, he was released without charge the following day.

No further appeals are requested. Thank you to all who sent appeals.