

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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EXTRA 22/92 Death Penalty

28 February 1992

USA: (Texas)

Edward ELLIS

Raymond KINNAMON

Edward Ellis and Raymond Kinnamon are scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas, USA, within a day of each other on 2 and 3 March 1992.

Edward Ellis, white, aged 47, is facing his fourth execution date in two years.

He was convicted of the murder of an elderly white woman and sentenced to death in September 1983 (see UA 69/90 AMR 51/02/90, 16 February 1990 and follow ups AMR 51/04/90, 28 February 1990, AMR 51/07/90, 23 March 1990, AMR 51/15/90, 1 May 1990 and correction 17 May 1990, AMR 51/22/90 19 June 1990 and AMR 51/30/90, 27 July 1990). He is due to be executed on 3 March 1992.

Raymond Kinnamon, white, sentenced to death in July 1985, is scheduled to be executed on 2 March 1992.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As of December 1991, there were 345 prisoners under sentence of death in Texas.

The last person to be executed in the state was Johnny Frank Garrett, an extremely mentally impaired, chronically psychotic and brain-damaged juvenile offender, on 11 February 1992 (see UA 444/91 AMR 51/69/91, 17 December 1991, FU AMR 51/04/92 8 January 1992, AMR 51/07/92, 10 January 1992, AMR 51/18/92, 6 February 1992 and AMR 51/21/92, 12 February 1992). Execution in Texas is carried out by lethal injection. Forty-four prisoners have been executed in Texas since 1976, when a US Supreme Court ruling permitted individual states to reinstate the death penalty for murder.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/telephone calls:

- urging the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to recommend that the Governor grant clemency to Edward Ellis and Raymond Kinnamon by commuting their death

sentences;

- stating your opposition to the death penalty.

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APPEALS TO:

1) Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
8610 Shoal Creek Boulevard, PO Box 13401
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78578-6887
USA

Telegrams: Texas Board Pardons/Paroles, Austin TX 78758-6887, USA

Telephone: + 1 512 459 2782

Faxes: + 1 512 459 2790

Salutation: Dear Board Members

2) Mr Jack D Kyle
Chairman
Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
2503 Lake Road, Ste 9
Huntsville, TX 77340-5737
USA

Telegrams: Mr Kyle, Huntsville TX 77340-5737, USA

Telephone: + 1 409 291 2161

Faxes: + 1 409 291 6852

Salutation: Dear Mr Kyle

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Honourable Ann Richards
Governor of Texas
Office of the Governor
PO Box 12428, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711

Faxes: + 512 463 1849

Newspaper:

Austin American-Statesman
Cox Newspapers
Box 670, Austin, TX 78767
USA

Faxes: + 1 512 445 3679

and to diplomatic representatives of the USA in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Please check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 March 1992.