

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

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**27 November 1991**

Further information on UA 304/91 (AMR 51/37/91, 9 September 1991) - Prisoner of Conscience/Conscientious Objector

USA:Captain Yolanda HUET-VAUGHN (f)

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Captain Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, a reservist in the US Army Reserve Medical Corps, was sentenced to 30 months imprisonment and dishonourable dismissal from the Army on 9 August 1991. She pleaded not guilty to charges of "desertion with intent to avoid hazardous duty". Amnesty International considers her to be a prisoner of conscience imprisoned for her opposition, for reasons of conscience, to participating in war.

Captain Huet-Vaughn's case has still not been reviewed by her Commanding General, who can recommend a reduction of her sentence or grant clemency and order her release. This review may be carried out any time in the next few weeks.

In the original urgent action (UA 304/91) it was stated that Captain Huet-Vaughn failed to report when called up for active duty in December 1990. However, it is now known that she did report for duty but later went absent without leave. It is also known that she surrendered to military authorities on 2 February 1991 not on 6 February 1991 as was previously stated in UA 304/91.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- explaining that Amnesty International defines a conscientious objector as someone opposed to war for reasons of conscience or profound conviction arising from religious, ethical, moral, humanitarian, philosophical, political or similar motives. Amnesty International considers such individuals to be prisoners of conscience if, for example, the person cannot register his or her objection at a specific point in time;
- stating that Amnesty International has adopted Captain Yolanda Huet-Vaughn as a prisoner of conscience for the reasons given above;
- explaining that Amnesty International seeks the unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience;
- urging General Christman to exercise his power of clemency to this end.

**APPEALS TO:**

General Daniel Christman

**Dear General Christman**

Commanding General  
US Army Engineer Center  
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473-5000  
USA

**Telegrams:** General Daniel Christman, Fort Leonard Wood,  
MO 65473-5000, USA

**Faxes:** + (314) 563 5555

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**COPIES TO:**

Captain Hooper  
Trial Defence Counsel  
Fort Leonard Wood  
MO 65473-5000  
USA

Citizen Soldier:

*(an organization which advises conscientious objectors in the USA and which has been working on the case of Captain Huet-Vaughn)*

175 Fifth Avenue, Suite 808  
New York, NY 10010  
USA

and to diplomatic representatives of the USA in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 January 1992.