

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death Penalty

8 December 1992

USA: (State of Washington)

Westley Allan Dodd

Westley Allan Dodd is scheduled to be executed in the state of Washington, USA, on 5 January 1993. If carried out, this will be the first execution in the state for 29 years.

Westley Dodd, white, was sentenced to death in July 1990 for the murders of three children - Cole Neer, William Neer and Lee Iseli - in September/October 1989. He has chosen to give up his legal appeals and has consented to the state carrying out his execution.

Prisoners facing execution in Washington must choose between hanging or lethal injection. Westley Dodd has chosen to be executed by hanging. As of October 1992, there were 12 prisoners under sentence of death in the state of Washington.

The last person to be executed in the state of Washington, carried out by hanging, was Joseph Self on 20 June 1963.

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

- urging Governor Gardner to grant clemency to Westley Dodd by commuting his sentence of death;
- urging that, as a minimum measure, Governor Gardner grant Westley Dodd a stay of execution in view of the many avenues of appeal still open to him;
- referring to the word-wide trend to abolish the death penalty, and urging that the state of Washington not take the retrograde step of resuming executions after 29 years during which none have been carried out.

APPEALS TO:

The Honorable Booth Gardner
Governor of Washington
Legislative Bldg
Olympia, WA 98504
USA

Salutation: Dear Governor

Telegrams: Governor Gardner, WA 98504, USA
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and to diplomatic representatives of the USA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY, TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON BY 5 JANUARY 1993.