

7 December 2001

**Further information on EXTRA 76/01 (AMR 51/169/2001, 21 November 2001) -  
Death penalty**

**USA (Oklahoma)      Lois Nadean Smith (f), white/Native American, aged 61  
                              Sahib al-Mosawi (m), Iraqi national, aged 53**

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Lois Nadean Smith and Sahib al-Mosawi were executed in Oklahoma on 4 and 6 December respectively.

The state Pardon and Parole Board, which had voted 3-2 against clemency for Lois Nadean Smith on 7 November 2001, rejected a request by her lawyers to reconsider their decision. The lawyers based their request on two unsolicited letters from people who had been helped by Lois Nadean Smith in the past. One of the lawyers wrote to the Board: "You recall our opponents [at the 7 November hearing] portrayed Nadean Smith as 'mean Nadean' - an uncaring, malignant, evil individual. These letters paint a very different and, we believe, much more accurate picture of Ms. Smith."

The Oklahoma Attorney General's Office opposed reconsideration of the clemency decision, saying that there was no legal basis for a second hearing, and noting that Governor Keating had denied a stay of execution.

On the day of the execution, eight women were arrested at the prison where Lois Nadean Smith was held, after they went into the prison grounds with a banner that read "What part of Thou Shalt Not Kill do you not understand?".

Nine more death penalty opponents were arrested two days later, when they crossed a police line during a protest against the imminent execution of Sahib al-Mosawi, outside a building which houses offices of the state Attorney General in Oklahoma City. There have now been 108 such arrests this year during the ongoing non-violent civil disobedience campaign against executions in Oklahoma.

There have been 18 executions in Oklahoma this year, the most in any year since records began in 1915. Oklahoma has executed more prisoners than any other US state in 2001.

Lois Nadean Smith and Sahib al-Mosawi were the 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> prisoners to be executed in the United States this year, and the 746<sup>th</sup> and 747<sup>th</sup> to be put to death since the country resumed executions in 1977.

**No further action by the UA Network is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**