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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Update on Qi Dafeng: Prisoner of Conscience

18 MARCH 1993 AI INDEX: ASA 17/13/93

DISTR: REL CO/GR

(For further information see Shen Tong, Qi Dafeng, Qian Liyun: Prisoners of Conscience, ASA 17/53/92, dated 23 September 1992, and Update on Shen Tong, Qi Dafeng, Qian Liyun: Prisoners of Conscience, ASA 17/56/92, dated 2 November 1992.)

On 30 December 1992, Qi Dafeng was "sentenced" without trial to two years' of re-education-through-labour and sent to a labour camp in Anhui Province. Zhu Guoqiang and Mao Wenke who were detained at the same time in September 1992 were reportedly later released. Zhu Guoqiang was released in February 1993 but he is reported to be in poor health as a result of the harsh prison conditions he suffered. Mao Wenke was released on bail in September last year on medical grounds but was reportedly informed by the police that she might be tried at any time. There has been no further news about Sun Xiaobai. (All these people have been mentioned in the documents cited above.)

Please send telegrams/express and airmail letters/faxes either in English or in your own language, urging that Qi Dafeng be released quickly and unconditionally on the grounds that he is being held for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association. Express concern about the reports of Zhu Guoqiang's ill-health as a result of the harsh prison conditions he underwent and urge that all restrictions placed on Mao Wenke be lifted. Inquire about the whereabouts of Sun Xiaobai and urge that if still detained he be released quickly and unconditionally.

APPEALS CAN BE SENT UP UNTIL 30 APRIL 1993

Please send airmail letters/express letters/faxes about Zhu Guoqiang, Mao Wenke and Sun Xiaobai to:

Mayor of Beijing Municipality

Li Qiyan

Shizhang

Beijingshi Renmin Shengfu

2 Zhengyilu

Donghengqu

Beijingshi 100744

People's Republic of China

Faxes: 861 512 1158

(Please forward to Mayor Qiyan)

(Salutation: Dear Sir)

Airmail letters/express letters concerning Qi Dafeng should be sent to:

1. Governor of Anhui Province

Fu Xishou Shengzhang

Anhuisheng Renmin Zhengfu

85 Changjiang Lu

Hefeishi

Anhuisheng

People's Republic of China

(Salutation: Dear Governor)

2. Director of Re-education through Labour Department, Ministry of Justice Meng Qinchen Sizhang

Sifabu

Laodong Jiaoyang Gongzuo Guanliju

14 Donchang'anlu

Dongchengqu

Beijingshi 100741

People's Republic of China.

(Salutation: Dear Sir)

Qi Dafeng is reportedly carrying out his sentence in Anhui's Xuancheng County Baofeng labour camp, a coal mine, which produces coal at minimal wages. Re-education through labour is an administrative punishment imposed without trial by administrative bodies, mainly the police.

A recent report indicated that Qi Dafeng is trying to appeal against his sentence.

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