

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 07/92 (ASA 17/16/92, 29 January 1992; and follow-up ASA 17/17/92, 3 February 1992) - Legal concern / Health concern (Note: new concern)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: Qi Lin

Qi Lin, a journalist detained in Beijing since July 1991, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment on 8 April 1992. It is believed that Qi Lin was charged with "leaking state secrets". The trial held at the Beijing Intermediate People's Court was closed to the public. The first hearing took place on 30 January 1992 and a second hearing was to be held in February.

Amnesty International is concerned that Qi Lin is reported to be held solely for peacefully exercising fundamental human rights and that he has been tried under procedures which fall short of international standards for fair trial.

It is also concerned that Qi Lin, a diabetic, has been held incommunicado since his arrest in July 1991 and that recent reports indicate that his health has continued to deteriorate in detention.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telexes and faxes

- expressing concern that Qi Lin has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment on 8 April 1992, after being tried behind closed doors in Beijing;
- urging that if he is imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of fundamental human rights, he be released immediately and unconditionally;
- expressing concern that Qi Lin's health has continued to deteriorate and urging that he be offered proper medical care in accordance with agreed international standards for the treatment of prisoners.

APPEALS TO:

1) Minister of Justice:

CAI Cheng Buzhang

Sifabu

Xiaguangli

Beijingshi 100016

People's Republic of China

Telexes: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

(Please forward to CAI Cheng Buzhang)

Faxes: + 86 1 408 1046

[Salutation: Your Excellency]

2) Mayor of Beijing Municipality:

CHEN Xitong Shizhang

Beijingshi Renmin Zhengfu

2 Zhengyilu

Donhengqu

Beijingshi 100744

People's Republic of China

Telexes: 210217 FAOGB CN or 22476 BJVGT CN

(Please forward to CHEN Xitong Shizhang)

Faxes: + 86 1 512 1158

[Salutation: Dear Sir]

3) Chief Procurator of Beijing Municipality:

HE Fangba Jianchazhang

Beijingshi Renmin Jianchayuan

Beijingshi

People's Republic of China

Telexes: 210217 FAOGB CN or 22476 BJVGT CN

(Please forward to HE Fangba Jianchazhang)

Faxes: + 86 1 512 1158

[Salutation: Dear Procurator]

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

diplomatic representatives of the People's Republic of China in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 26 May 1992.