

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

**AI Index: ASA 17/39/93  
Distr: UA/SC**

**EXTRA 96/93      Legal Concern**

**5 November 1993**

**PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA      Fu Shenqi, aged 39, prisoner of conscience,  
veteran pro-democracy campaigner**

---

Amnesty International has just learnt that Fu Shenqi's appeal against his detention will be heard in court on 9 November, but that it will reportedly be held in secret and that Fu Shenqi himself may not be allowed to attend. It would be his first chance to defend himself before a court. Amnesty International considers Fu Shenqi to be a prisoner of conscience who is arbitrarily detained on several counts. He was administratively sentenced without trial in July 1993 to three years of "re-education through labour". Li Liping, the wife of Fu Shenqi, has been told by the authorities that she will not be allowed to attend the hearing and was given no guarantee that even Fu Shenqi would be present. The two lawyers hired to make her husband's case, who will be the only outsiders admitted, have complained that they have not been given access to enough documentation to prepare an appeal. The hearing will apparently take place at the law court attached to the Dafeng "Re-education Through Labour" camp in Jiangsu Province where Fu Shenqi is held.

Li Liping is reportedly allowed to see her husband in the camp for one hour every three months. When she visited him last month she found that he was undergoing "a very harsh regime". He apparently does not have enough to eat and fellow prisoners are not allowed to speak to him.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Fu Shenqi was arrested on the street in Shanghai on 26 June 1993 and reportedly accused of "inciting trouble" for allegedly encouraging political activists to write letters to the government and stage a hunger-strike in protest against the detention of two dissidents in Shanghai earlier this year. Li Liping, however, denies that he was involved in these activities and other dissidents have since testified that he had nothing to do with the planned hunger-strike. Fu Shenqi was also accused of speaking to foreign journalists about the activities of pro-democracy supporters in Shanghai.

Fu Shenqi's three-year sentence is a form of administrative detention given without charge or trial. In October 1993 the Shanghai "Re-education Through Labour" Management Committee responsible for this type of case turned down Fu Shenqi's application for an administrative review. Following this procedure, under the law, detainees can then appeal to a court for a review of their detention. On her husband's authorization Li Liping sent a letter to the authorities calling for his case to be heard by the law courts at "an open trial".

Fu Shenqi was imprisoned twice before for publishing independent magazines

and his association with other pro-democracy activists. He was last released from jail in February 1993, having spent a total of seven and a half years in prison since his first arrest in 1981.

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

- expressing concern that Fu Shenqi is arbitrarily detained for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and association and urge the authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally.

- expressing concern that the 9 November court hearing will reportedly be held in secret and calling for it to be open to the public and for Fu Shenqi's lawyers to be given all necessary facilities to properly prepare the appeal and present his case.

**APPEALS TO:**

Mayor of the Shanghai Municipal People's Government

**HUANG Ju** Shizhang

Shanghaishi Renmin Zhengfu

30 Fuzhoulu

Shanghaishi 200002

People's Republic of China

**Telexes: 33315 SMERT (Please forward to Huang Ju Shizhang)**

**Telegram: Mayor Huang Ju, Shanghai, China**

**Salutation: Dear Mayor**

Director of the Shanghai Bureau of Justice

**XUE Mingren** Juzhang

Sifaju

225 Wuxinglu

Shanghaishi 200030

People's Republic of China

**Faxes: + 86 21 2552102**

**Telegram: Director of the Bureau of Justice Xue Mingren, Shanghai, China**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

Director of the Reeducation-Through-Labour Administration of the Ministry of Justice

**MENG Qingchen** Sizhang

Sifabu

Laodong Jiaoyang Gongzuo Guanliju

14 Dongchang'anlu

Dongchengqu

Beijingshi 100741

People's Republic of China

**Telegram: Director of the Reeducation-Through-Labour Administration of the Ministry of Justice Meng Qingchen, Beijing, China**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Editor of the Wen Hui Bao newspaper:

Zongbianji

Wen Hui Bao

149 Yuanmingyuan Lu  
Shanghaishi  
People's Republic of China

and to diplomatic representatives of the People's Republic of China accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 December 1993.