

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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**Further information on UA 28/92 (ASA 17/11/92, 24 January 1992) - and follow-up
ASA 17/39/92, 7 July 1992 - Legal/medical concern**

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:BAO Tong

GAO Shan

WU Jiaxiang

Bao Tong, the most senior official arrested in connection with the 1989 pro-democracy demonstrations, was sentenced on 21 July 1992 to seven years' imprisonment.

Bao Tong's trial was held behind closed doors at the Beijing People's Intermediate Court on 21 July 1992. The trial lasted four or five hours. Bao Tong was represented by two lawyers who had reportedly met their client only twice in the past several weeks. His family was refused entry to the closed trial but they were reportedly allowed to hear the ten minute sentencing from a panel of three judges. Bao's wife, Jiang Zongcao, told reporters that her husband had the right to appeal and that he might appeal. No official information has so far been made public about the proceedings at the trial or the evidence on which the charges against Bao Tong are based.

Bao Tong was charged with "counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement" and "leaking state secrets". The combined sentence for these two charges amounted to nine years' imprisonment. However a court official announced that the judges had exercised a discretionary right and ruled that Bao Tong would have to serve a prison sentence of seven years instead of nine. The court official also said that the three years spent in detention before his trial would be counted towards his seven-year sentence.

Bao Tong had been detained without trial for over three years and his health has reportedly deteriorated during his period of detention.

Amnesty International has received no further news about Gao Shan and Wu Jiaxiang, both senior intellectuals, who have also been detained without charge for three years, and who have had the same charges brought against them as Bao Tong.

Amnesty International believes that all three men are prisoners of conscience.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/airmail letters

- expressing concern that Bao Tong has been sentenced to seven years'

imprisonment following a closed trial;

- urging the authorities to make public full details of the trial proceedings and the evidence on which the charges are based;

- expressing concern that trials in China fail to meet international standards for fair trial;

- reiterating Amnesty International's concern that Bao Tong, Gao Shan and Wu Jiayang are prisoners of conscience and should therefore be immediately and unconditionally released.

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APPEALS TO:

1) Prime Minister Li Peng:

Li Peng Zongli

Guowuyuan

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People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Prime Minister Li Peng, Beijing, China

Telexes: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) President Yang Shangkun:

Yang Shangkun Guojia Zhuxi

Beijingshi

People's Republic of China

Telegrams: President Yang Shangkun, Beijing, China

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) Chairman Wan Li, National People's Congress:

Wan Li Weiyuanzhang

Quanguo Renmin Daibiao Dahui

Great Hall of the People

Beijingshi

People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Chairman of National People's Congress, Beijing, China

Salutation: Dear Chairman

4) President Ren Jianxin, Supreme People's Court:

Ren Jianxin Yuanzhang

Zuigao Renmin Fayuan

Dongjiao Min Xiang

Beijingshi

People's Republic of China

Telegrams: President Supreme People's Court, Beijing, China

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

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and to diplomatic representatives of China accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 September 1992.