

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 164/93 (ASA 17/20/93, 19 May 1993) - and follow-ups: ASA 17/21/93, 25 May 1993, ASA 17/24/93, 17 June 1993 and ASA 17/35/93, 13 August 1993 - Mass arrest/Fear of ill-treatment

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: Damchoe Pemo
(TIBET AUTONOMOUS REGION): Lobsang Yonten
 Gendun Rinchen
 Lobsang Gyaltzen
 Tashi Topgyal
 and an unknown number of other Tibetans

According to official sources, Damchoe Pemo has been released. She was arrested in Lhasa on 20 May 1993 and miscarried after being forced to stand for 12 hours and beaten during interrogation. The date of her release was not disclosed and there is no information as to her present whereabouts or state of health.

European Ambassadors were told of her release on 29 October during a meeting in Beijing with the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister, Jiang Enzhu. However, no news was given about Gendun Rinchen and Lobsang Yonten, the Tibetan human rights monitors arrested at their homes in Lhasa shortly before a visit to Tibet by European Community diplomats on a human rights fact finding tour in May. There is also no news about Lobsang Gyaltzen and Tashi Topgyal.

Gendun Rinchen and Lobsang Yonten are reportedly being held in solitary confinement in Seitru Detention Centre, north of Lhasa, and have not been allowed any visitors. According to unofficial sources in Lhasa, the main interrogation of the two prisoners has been completed and the authorities are about to announce the formal charges for which they will be tried. They have already been accused by the government of "stealing state secrets" and engaging in "separatist activities".

In an unprecedented move, over one hundred Tibetans inside Tibet, including members of the Communist Party and government officials, have sent petitions to the United Nations (UN) asking it to ensure the release of Gendun Rinchen and Lobsang Yonten. This is believed to be the first time that so many Tibetans have dared to put their names to such a petition from within Tibet.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

According to unofficial sources, at least 160 Tibetans have been arrested in Tibet since April this year for activities in support of Tibetan independence or monitoring human rights. Of these around 120 named individuals are known to still be detained most held without charge or trial. The authorities so far have confirmed the detention of only three Tibetans: Damchoe Pemo, Gendun Rinchen and Lobsang Yonten.

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

- welcoming the release of Damchoe Pemo and urging that she receive both medical care as necessary and financial compensation for the abuse inflicted on her and the damages she suffered;

- urging the authorities to launch an impartial and public investigation into the allegations that Damchoe Pemo was ill-treated during interrogation and as a result miscarried, and urging that the perpetrators of this ill-treatment be brought to justice.

- urging that Gendun Rinchen and Lobsang Yonten be released from solitary confinement and given immediate access to relatives and lawyers of their choice;
 - urging the authorities to release unconditionally any Tibetans held for the peaceful exercise of fundamental human rights and to account for all those detained in connection with recent demonstrations and disclose the charges against them.

APPEALS TO:

1) Procurator-General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate:

ZHANG Siqi Jianchazhang
 Zuigao Renmin Jianchayuan
 147 Beiheyuan Dajie
 Donganmen, Dongchengqu
 Beijingshi 100726
 People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Zhang Siqi, Jianchayuanzhang, Beijing, P.R. China

Telexes: 210070 FMPC CN or 22478 MFERT CN

(please forward to Zhang Siqi Jianchayuanzhang)

Faxes: + 861 512 6655 ext. 1053

Salutation: Dear Procurator-General

2) President of the Xizang Autonomous Regional People's Government:

GYALTSEN Norbu Zhuxi
 Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Zhengfu
 1 Kang'andonglu
 Lasashi 850000
 Xizang Zizhiqu
 People's Republic of China

Telegrams: President Gyaltzen Norbu, Lasa, Tibet Autonomous Region, China

Telexes: 68014 FAOLT CN or 68007 PGVMT CN

Salutation: Dear President

3) Director of the Xizang Autonomous Regional Department of Public Security:

BAIMA Doji Tingzhang
 Gong'anting
 Linkuodonglu
 Lasashi 850000
 Xizang Zizhiqu
 People's Republic of China

Telegrams: Baima Doji, Gong'antingzhang, Lasa, Xizang Zizhiqu, P.R. China

No Telex or fax numbers available

Salutation: Dear Director

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Secretary of the Xizang
 Autonomous Regional Party Committee:

CHEN Kuiyuan Shuji
 Zhonggong Xizang Zizhiqu Weiyuanhui
 Lasashi
 Xizang Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

2) Chairman of the Xizang Autonomous Regional People's Congress Standing Committee:

RAIDI Zhuren

Xizang Zizhiqu Renmin Daibiao Dahui

Changwu Weiyuanhui

Lasashi

Xizang Zizhiqu

People's Republic of China

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 20 January 1994.