

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 430/94 (MDE 12/23/94, 6 December 1994) - Death Penalty

EGYPT            **Mohammad 'Ata'-Allah 'Omar**  
                  **Rabi' Mohammad Mahmoud Hussein**

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According to *al-Ahram* newspaper of 28 December 1994, the President of the Republic has now ratified the death sentences passed on the two people named above. Although both men may submit a petition to the Military Appeals Bureau, they have no right of appeal as provided by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Their execution may be imminent.

The two men were sentenced to death on 3 December by the Supreme Military Court in Cairo. They were charged, among other things, with armed attacks on tourists in the Red Sea Resort of Hurgkada on 27 september 1994, resulting in the death of two German tourists and two Egyptian nationals, possession of automatic weapons and ammunition and membership of a banned organization (*al-Gama'a al-Islamiya*). Fourteen other defendants in this case received sentences ranging from five to 15 years' imprisonment with hard labour (five of them *in absentia*).

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters either in Arabic, French, English or in your own language: -**

- expressing concern that the death sentences passed on the above two people have been ratified, and urging that the President use his constitutional right to grant clemency and commute these and all other pending death sentences; if these men are executed, Amnesty International will consider them summary and arbitrary executions;

- expressing concern at the upsurge in the use of the death penalty in Egypt (60 death sentences have been passed by military courts since December 1992 and 41 executions carried out), and explaining Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the most extreme form of cruel and inhuman punishment;

- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Egypt is a state party.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency  
Muhammad Hosni Mubarak  
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
'Abedine Palace  
Cairo, Egypt

**Telegrams: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt**

**Telexes: 93794 WAZRA UN**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

The Human Rights Department  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Corniche al-Nil  
Cairo, Egypt

**Faxes: 202 723173**

Dr Fathi Sorour  
Speaker  
The People's Assembly  
Magles al-Shaab Street  
Cairo, Egypt

and to diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 February 1995.