

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 12/029/2003

26 June 2003

Further Information on UA 104/03 (MDE 12/019/2003, 16 April 2003 and follow-up MDE 12/020/2003, 23 April 2003 and MDE 12/021/2003, 1 May 2003) - Fear of torture/ill-treatment/incommunicado detention

EGYPT Mahmud Hassan Hassan (m)
 Ramiz Gihad (m)
 Wa'el Tawfiq (m)

Amnesty International has learned that Mahmud Hassan Hassan and Wa'el Tawfiq were released on 6 June and Ramiz Gihad was released on 7 June. The men had been detained since 12 and 13 April. They were held for between seven and ten days at the headquarters of the State Security Intelligence (SSI) in Lazoghly Square, Cairo, where torture is widely practised.

Ramiz Gihad and Mahmud Hassan Hassan were reportedly tortured or ill-treated during the initial period of detention in the SSI headquarters. Wa'el Tawfiq has reported no torture or ill-treatment. They were then transferred to Borg al-Arab Prison, near Alexandria, where they were held in solitary confinement.

Throughout their detention, the men were denied contact with relatives or lawyers, including receiving visits, letters or telephone calls. On 6 June, the day before his release, Ramiz Gihad was transferred to the SSI in Gaber Ibn Hayyan, Cairo, where he was again reportedly tortured or ill-treated.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send a final round of appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Arabic, English or your own language:

- welcoming the release of Mahmud Hassan Hassan, Ramiz Gihad and Wa'el Tawfiq;
- calling for prompt, thorough, impartial and independent investigations to be opened into the allegations of torture or ill-treatment by Ramiz Gihad and Mahmud Hassan Hassan, for the results to be made public and for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- calling for an end to the practice of incommunicado detention, where detainees are at greater risk of torture and ill-treatment;
- calling for the introduction and implementation of effective safeguards to ensure that detainees will not be tortured or ill-treated in detention; and
- calling for guarantees that no one will be held in custody or charged solely on the basis of exercising his or her right to freedom of expression.

APPEALS TO:

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

Telegram: **President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt**
E-mail: **webmaster@presidency.gov.eg - (emails sent to this address may bounce)**
Fax: **+ 202 390 1998**
Telex: **93794 WAZRA UN**
Salutation: **Your Excellency**

His Excellency General Habib al-Adeli
Minister of the Interior
Ministry of the Interior

Al-Sheikh Rihan Street
Bab al-Louk, Cairo, Egypt
Telegram: Minister of Interior, Cairo, Egypt
E-mail: moi@idsc.gov.eg
Fax: + 202 579 2031
Salutation: Dear Minister

His Excellency Mr Faruq Sayf al-Nasr
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
Midan Lazoghly, Cairo, Egypt
Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Cairo, Egypt
E-mail: moheb@idsc.gov.eg (emails sent to this address may bounce)
Fax: + 202 795 8103
Salutation: Dear Minister

Counsellor Maher 'Abd al-Wahid
Public Prosecutor
Dar al-Qadha al-'Ali
Ramses Street, Cairo, Egypt
Telegrams: Public Prosecutor, Cairo, Egypt
Fax: + 202 577 4716
Salutation: Dear Public Prosecutor

COPIES 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 7 August 2003.