

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/17/00

13 July 2000

Further information on 133/99 (MDE 13/11/99, 8 June 1999) and follow-up (MDE 13/03/00, 3 February 2000) - Legal concern/Possible death penalty

IRANImprisoned: Farhad Seleh, 30  
Shahrokh Paknahad, 29  
Ramin Farzam, 35  
Farzad Kashi, 30  
Faramarz Kashi, 34 (brother of above)  
Nasser Yaghoub Levy Haim (Leveeim), 45  
Javeed Beit Yaghoub, 40  
Ramin Nemati, possibly 22  
Aasher Zadmehr (aka Shekasteh Band), 48  
Danny Tefileen, possibly 28

Acquitted: Omid Tefileen, possibly 25 (brother of above)  
Navid Balazadeh, 16  
Nejat Beroukhim, 35

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Ten of the thirteen people named above have been convicted of establishing a "spy network", and sentenced to between four and 13 years in prison. All had been arrested in March 1999, accused of spying for Israel and the USA.

They were tried in secret by the Fars Revolutionary court in Shiraz. Proceedings fell far short of international standards for fair trial, despite repeated assurances from the authorities. (See News Service 88, MDE 13/009/2000, 12 May 2000).

The men's lawyer, Esmail Nasserri, is reportedly preparing an appeal, to be submitted by 21 July.

The three others were acquitted, together with two Muslim defendants. Two other Muslim defendants received two-year sentences.

The chief of the judiciary in Shiraz, Hossein-Ali Amiri, was quoted in the press as saying that those sentenced were part of a spy ring formed over 20 years ago, which collected information about the defence industry and military equipment made in Iran, oil refineries and the electronics industry. Most of the accused were acquitted of passing "classified" information to Israel.

**We will keep the UA network informed of any developments. No further action is required at this time. Thank you to all who sent appeals.**