

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 17/04/93

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Further information on UA 180/93 (MDE 17/02/93, 4 June 1993) - Fear of Death  
Penalty/Fear of Torture and new concern legal concern

KUWAIT: Ra'ad 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbud al-Asadi: Iraqi, aged 33  
Wali 'Abd al-Hadi 'Abd al-Hassan al-Ghazali: Iraqi, aged 36  
Salem Nasser Subaih Rumi al-Shummari: Iraqi, aged 34  
Bandar 'Ujail Jaber al-Shummari: Iraqi, aged 24  
'Adel Isma'il 'Issa al-'Utaibi: Iraqi, aged 44  
Hadi 'Odeh Harjan al-Shummari: Iraqi, aged 42  
'Ali Khdair Bday 'Abed al-Majidi: Iraqi, aged 65  
Jabbar Nasser 'Inad: Iraqi, aged 43  
Daydan 'Atiyya al-Khalidi: Iraqi, aged 38  
Jabbar Habib Muhammad al-Kan'ani: Iraqi, aged 56  
Badr Jiyad Thamer Mutlaq al-Shummari: Kuwaiti, aged 30  
Ahmad Jabbar Habib Muhammad al-Kan'ani: Iraqi, aged 21  
Nasser 'Abd al-Ridha Hussain al-Mil: Kuwaiti, aged 43  
Salem Jiyad Thamer Mutlaq al-Shummari: Kuwaiti, aged 22

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On 5 June 1993, at the opening session of the trial before the State Security Court of the above 14 men charged with involvement in an alleged plot to assassinate the former United States president George Bush, the prosecution asked for the death penalty to be imposed. If convicted, 12 of the defendants accused of plotting the assassination or for acting as accomplices could be sentenced to death.

The Kuwaiti authorities have stated that the defendants were acting on behalf of the Iraqi government. According to reports received by Amnesty International, one of the defendants, Wali 'Abd al-Hadi al-Ghazali, stated that he had been commissioned by Iraq to carry out the assassination; another defendant, Ra'ad 'Abd al-Amir al-Asadi, stated that he had had contacts with Iraqi intelligence but denied knowledge of an assassination plot.

The 14 defendants are being represented by seven Kuwaiti lawyers, all appointed by the court. Following the statements made by the two above-mentioned defendants, one of the defence lawyers intervened by requesting that these statements be struck from the court records. He stated that they were not admissible evidence since none of the defendants had been allowed access to their lawyers before the trial. At that point, a half-hour recess was granted by the court to allow the defendants to consult with their lawyers. At the end of the afternoon session, the trial was adjourned until 26 June 1993. The trial is expected to last some two months.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life, and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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

- urging that the defendants receive a fair trial in accordance with international standards;
- asking for assurances that the defendants are humanely treated and protected from any form of ill-treatment while in custody;

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- requesting that defendants are given prompt and regular access to defence counsel and relatives;
- reiterating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty;
- appealing for the commutation of any death sentences which may be imposed by the State Security Court in these cases.

**APPEALS TO**

1) His Highness Shaikh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah  
Crown Prince and Prime Minister  
Al-Diwan al-Amiri  
Al-Safat  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

**Salutation: Your Highness**

**Telegrams: His Highness Shaikh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, Kuwait City, Kuwait**  
**Faxes: + 965 243 0121**

2) His Excellency Mshari al-'Anjari  
Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs  
Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs  
P O Box 6  
Al-Safat  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**Telegrams: His Excellency Mshari al-'Anjari, Kuwait City, Kuwait**  
**Faxes: +965 246 6957**

3) Mr Muhammad 'Abd al-Hay al-Bannay  
Public Prosecutor  
Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs  
P O Box 6  
Al-Safat  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**Telegrams: Mr Muhammad 'Abd al-Hay al-Bannay, Ministry of Justice, Kuwait City, Kuwait**  
**Faxes: + 965 246 6957**

4) Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad al-Fahed  
International Organizations Liaison Office  
Ministry of Interior  
Al-Safat  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

**Salutation: Dear Lieutenant Colonel**

**Telegrams: Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad al-Fahed, Ministry of Interior, Kuwait City, Kuwait**

**Faxes:** + 965 257 0880

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1) Local human rights groups:

(a) Kuwait Association for the Defence  
of War Victims

P O Box 2211, Al-Salmiyya 22023

Kuwait

**Faxes:** +965 5332233

2) Newspaper:

Al-Qabas

P O Box 21800

Kuwait City 13078, Kuwait

**Faxes:** +965 4834355

(b) Committee for the Defence of Human  
Rights

The National Assembly (Parliament)

Kuwait City, Kuwait

**Faxes:** +965 2416538

and to diplomatic representatives of Kuwait accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 July 1993.