

12 September 2000

Further information on UA 245/00 (MDE 21/21/00, 17 August 2000) and follow-up (MDE 21/24/00, 31 August 2000) Incommunicado detention / Unacknowledged detention / Legal concern / Fear of torture or ill-treatment

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY Nayef Hamadneh, student - released
'Ala Shuli - released
Iyad Hamadneh
Hani Rawabjeh
Fallah Taher Nada, aged 45
'Ala Rimawi
Maher 'Awdeh, merchant

Nayef Hamadneh and 'Ala Shuli were released without charge on 8 September, but the other men named above remain in custody.

Iyad Hamadneh and Hani Rawabjeh are reportedly held incommunicado at the Preventive Security Service (PSS) detention centre in Baytunia, where they are thought to be under interrogation.

Fallah Taher Nada, 'Ala Rimawi and Maher 'Awdeh are detained at the Junayd prison, where they are being interrogated again. They have been allowed one visit from their lawyer and from family members under the age of 10, but the PSS has prohibited further visits.

These men were among a dozen Islamist activists arrested in the West Bank in mid-July. Some were reportedly tortured or ill-treated on arrest and in custody.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals on behalf of Nayef Hamadneh and 'Ala Shuli. No further action is required on their behalf.

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

- seeking assurances that Iyad Hamadneh, Hani Rawabjeh, Fallah Taher Nada, 'Ala Rimawi and Maher 'Awdeh will not be tortured or ill-treated in detention;
- calling for them to be released immediately unless they are promptly charged with recognizably criminal offences and tried according to international standards for fair trial;
- asking that they are all given immediate and continuing access to their families and their lawyers;
- calling for an end to the use of incommunicado detention by all branches of the Palestinian security forces.

APPEALS TO (please note that two of the fax numbers provided are telephone lines and may be difficult to get through to):

President Yasser Arafat
Palestinian Authority
Office of the President
The Beach Forum
Gaza City

Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: President Arafat, Palestinian Authority, Gaza

Faxes: + 972 7 282 2366

Salutation: Dear President Arafat

Colonel Jibril al-Rajub
Head of the Preventive Security Service (West Bank)
Jericho

Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: Colonel al-Rajub, Palestinian Authority, Jericho

Faxes: + 972 2 290 1801 (when voice answers, please ask for fax tone)

Salutation: Dear Colonel al-Rajub

Zakaria Musleh
Director of Interrogation Centres in the West Bank
Preventive Security Service Detention Centre
Baytunia

Palestinian Authority

Faxes: + 972 2 290 1801 (when voice answers, please ask for fax tone)

Salutation: Dear Mr Musleh

COPIES TO:

Qadura Fares
Chairman of the Human Rights and Monitoring Committee
Palestinian Legislative Council
PO Box 1930 Ramallah
Palestinian Authority

and to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)
accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 October 2000.