EXTERNAL AI Index: MDE 30/04/97

13 January 1997

Further information on UA 03/97 (MDE 30/03/97, 7 January 1997) - "disappearance"/fear of torture/possible prisoner of conscience

TUNISIAMoncef ZIDI

Amnesty International has now received confirmation that Moncef Zidi, who had "disappeared" after his arrest on 30 December 1996, was released on 9 January 1997. According to the information received by Amnesty International, he was detained in a police station in Nabeul and was tortured and ill-treated during the first days of his detention. His family and lawyers had contacted Nabeul police station seeking information on his whereabouts, but the police had denied all knowledge of him.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send letters or faxes in French, Arabic, English or your own language:

welcoming the release of Moncef Zidi, but expressing concern that he was allegedly tortured and ill-treated while held in unacknowledged detention;
 urging that a full and impartial investigation be promptly carried out into the allegations of torture and ill-treatment, and that anyone found responsible be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Justice
M. Sadok Chaâbane
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice
Boulevard Bab Benat
Tunis, Tunisia

Fax: +216 1 568 106

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

Minister of the Interior
M. Mohamed Jegham
Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de l'Intérieur
Av. Habib Bourguiba
Tunis, Tunisia

Fax: +216 1 340 888

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

<u>Tunisian Human Rights League</u> Me Taoufik Bouderbala, Président

Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme, LTDH

7 Rue Pierre Curie Tunis, Tunisia

Fax: + 216 1 336 338

and to diplomatic representatives of Tunisia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 February 1997.