

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 75/94 (AFR 25/08/94, 24 February 1994) and follow-up (AFR 25/15/94, 20 May) - Extrajudicial Executions / Fear for safety / Torture and Ill-treatment

ETHIOPIA: Killed: Mohamed Omer Tubeh, Regional Commissioner, Kebri Dahar
Abdullahi Ganey, Deputy Regional Commissioner, Wardheer
Deeg Mohamud Arab, Deputy Regional Commissioner, Kebri Dahar

Detained: Korad Ahmed Salal (f), OWDA official, Godey - died in custody

Goyare Aden Olhaye, Regional Police Commander, Galafo - killed in custody

Deeg Uraag, Regional Commissioner, Wardheer - killed in custody
Sheikh Musse, Wardheer district council member

Dulane Hassan Gabane, member of the Regional Assembly and Regional Commissioner, Galafo - "disappeared"

Abdinassir Hirsi Arab, Regional Police Commissioner, Kebri Dahar
Ahmed Abdullahi Agooleh, aged 55 - released

The Ethiopian government has still not replied to Amnesty International's appeals and inquiries about these killings and arbitrary and unlawful detentions by the army in eastern Ethiopia ("Region Five") between 28 January and early February 1994, except to deny the reports in general.

Latest reports indicate that Goyare Aden Olhaye and Deeg Uraag were killed after being held incommunicado for up to three months in military custody. These killings heighten Amnesty International's concern for the safety of all detainees held by the military in Region Five amidst an emerging pattern of human rights violations in the region (see UA 312/94 (AFR 25/18/94, 25 August 1994). There is no further news of Dulane Hassan Gabane, who is still "disappeared" and there are fears for his safety. Ahmed Abdullahi Agooleh has been released.

Amnesty International has learned the names of others reported to have been killed at the time of their arrests in January/February:

- in Galafo, Mohamed Osman Gured (deputy Regional Commissioner), Wasuge Hassan Gurreh and Dubad Osman Kalinle;
- in Godey, Asowe Omar Guhad, Abdi Aden Babas, Abdi Nur Farah and Abdullahi Hassan Hared;
- in Wardheer, Deeg Hassan Sirad, a district commissioner.

The body of Mohamed Hajir, arrested near Degabur in late January, was reportedly found dumped in a well three months after his arrest. The bodies of three other men arrested with him were also later discovered.

Region Five, also known as the Ogaden, and inhabited predominantly by ethnic Somalis, has been a virtually closed military zone for several months.

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

- calling again for an impartial and independent inquiry into these reports of extrajudicial executions, and in particular the killings of over 80 civilians (of whom Amnesty International has 45 names) by government soldiers in Wardheer on 22 February 1994;
- seeking assurances that those still in detention are being treated humanely in accordance with international standards;
- urging the authorities to clarify the whereabouts of Dulane Hassan Gabane;
- appealing for the immediate and unconditional release of all detainees held solely for their non-violent opinions.

APPEALS TO

1) His Excellency President Meles Zenawi
Office of the President
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: President Meles, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 511244 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Mr Seye Abraha
Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
P O Box 1373
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: Defence Minister, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 511244
Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Mr Kinfu Gebre-Medhin
Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs (head of security)
Ministry of Internal Affairs
P O Box 5721
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Telegrams: Vice-Minister Kinfu, Internal Affairs, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Faxes: + 251 1 514300 or 511244
Salutation: Dear Vice-Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Mr Hassan Shiffa
Coordinator of Police and Prison Administration
Ministry of Internal Affairs
P O Box 5721, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

2) Mr Mahteme Solomon
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
P O Box 1370, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

3) Commander Molla, EPRDF military headquarters, Godey, Ethiopia

4) Mr Ali Ugas Muhumed Qani, President of the Regional Assembly, Jijiga, Ethiopia

and to diplomatic representatives of Ethiopia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 6 October 1994.