

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 235/94 (AFR 25/16/94, 16 June 1994) - "Disappearance"

ETHIOPIA Mustafa Idris, aged about 40, telecommunications worker

new name: Fatuma Idris (f) (a married sister of Mustafa Idris)

Mustafa Idris is still "disappeared" after being allegedly abducted by security officers in Addis Ababa on 31 May 1994. The Ministry of Internal Affairs has denied that he is in police or prison custody -- but there has been no reply about the suspicion that the security service (also within the Ministry of Internal Affairs) is holding him in a secret security interrogation centre.

Mustafa Idris' sister, Fatuma Idris, has also "disappeared". It is feared she was abducted by security officers on 30 July 1994 in Harar city in eastern Ethiopia, where she lives with her husband and their several children. She had reportedly been privately outspoken about her brother's "disappearance". One report suggests she might be secretly held in a military camp in Garamuleta, a small town west of Harar.

Amnesty International continues to receive reports of "disappearances" and illegal secret detentions by the security service (headed by the Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs) of members of the Oromo ethnic group (like Mustafa Idris and Fatuma Idris) on suspicion of their involvement with the armed opposition Oromo Liberation Front (OLF).

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- expressing concern that Mustafa Idris is still "disappeared" after allegedly being abducted by security officers on 31 May 1994;
- expressing fears for the safety of his sister Fatuma Idris, who "disappeared" in Harar on 30 July, possibly because she criticised the authorities over her brother's "disappearance";
- calling for an urgent impartial investigation into their whereabouts, and that if they are held in security custody they should be immediately brought to court and either charged with a recognizable criminal offence or released.

APPEALS TO

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

Telegrams: Vice-Minister Kinfe, Internal Affairs, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Telexes: 21050 (c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Faxes: + 251 1 552020 (or 514300, 511244 or 514042, via Minister of Foreign Affairs)

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
fax: + 251 1 552020 (or 514300, 511244 or 514042)

2) Mr Mahteme Solomon
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
P O Box 1370, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Faxes: +251 1 550722

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 7 November 1994