

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 34/10/97

8 December 1997

Further information on UA 382/97 (AFR 34/09/97, 4 December 1997) -  
"Disappearance" / Fear for safety and new concern: Possible extrajudicial  
executions

**LIBERIA** Samuel Dokie, former deputy speaker of the dissolved Transitional  
Legislative Assembly and former Minister of Internal Affairs  
Janet Dokie (f), wife of Samuel Dokie  
two others

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On 4 December 1997 the charred bodies of Samuel and Janet Dokie were found in their burnt-out car on the outskirts of Gbarnga. Samuel Dokie had reportedly been decapitated. The bodies of two other people, believed to be Samuel Dokie's sister and a bodyguard, were found at another location near Gbarnga.

The four people had been arrested on 29 November 1997, reportedly by plain-clothes members of the Special Security Services. According to unconfirmed reports, the arrests were ordered by Benjamin Yeaten, President Taylor's chief bodyguard. The detainees were reported to have been transferred into the custody of group of men associated with Benjamin Yeaten by the Chief of Police in Gbarnga.

At least five people, including the Chief of Police in Gbarnga, have since been arrested in connection with the killings.

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

- expressing deep concern at the news of the deaths of Samuel and Janet Dokie and two other people in circumstances which suggest that they may have been extrajudicially executed;
- urging that a prompt, thorough and independent enquiry be conducted into the circumstances of their deaths, that the results be made public, and that those responsible for the killings be brought to justice;
- urging that those who have been detained in connection with the killings be treated humanely and, if charged, be given a fair trial in accordance with international standards.

**APPEALS TO:**

Charles Taylor  
President of the Republic of Liberia  
Office of the President, Executive Mansion  
PO Box 9001, Capitol Hill, Monrovia, Liberia  
**Telegrams: Charles Taylor, President, Liberia**  
**Salutation: Dear President**

Peter B. Jallah  
Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice  
Ashmun St, PO Box 9006  
Monrovia, Liberia  
**Telegrams: Minister Justice, Monrovia, Liberia**  
**Faxes: + 231 227872**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Daniel Chea

Minister of Defence, Ministry of Defence  
Benson St., PO Box 9007, Monrovia, Liberia  
**Telegrams: Minister Defence, Monrovia, Liberia**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Mr. Edward Komo Sackor  
Minister of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs  
Cnr Warren and Benson Sts, PO Box 9008, Monrovia, Liberia  
**Telegrams: Minister Internal Affairs, Monrovia, Liberia**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

*Daily Observer* (newspaper)  
**Faxes: + 231 227838**

*The Inquirer* (newspaper)  
**Faxes: + 231 227838**

and to diplomatic representatives of Liberia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 January 1998.