

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 15/30/92
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This is a limited action - please organize up to ten appeals per section.

Further information on UA 288/92 (MDE 15/22/92, 11 September 1992) - and follow-ups MDE 15/24/92 of 25 September 1992, MDE 15/25/92 of 9 October 1992, MDE 15/25/92 of 22 October 1992 and MDE 15/29/92 of 13 November 1992 - Torture/ill-treatment

Israel and the Occupied Territories: Ahmad Sulayman Musa Qatamesh
Ahmad al-Batsh
Ahmad Sa'dat 'Abd al-Rasul

Ahmad Sulayman Musa Qatamesh (ID card no. 98370264), from Ramallah, Ahmad al-Batsh (ID card no. 080639040), 45, from Jerusalem and Ahmad Sa'dat 'Abd al-Rasul (ID card no. 96505613), 42, from al-Bireh, were arrested between 27 August and 9 September 1992. They have all alleged that they were tortured or ill-treated while under interrogation.

At court hearings on 22 November 1992 Ahmad Qatamesh and Ahmad Sa'dat were both formally charged, and further remanded in custody.

Ahmad Qatamesh was charged on four counts: providing services for an illegal organization (possession of materials relating to operations carried out by the PFLP); possession of hostile material; refusal to give fingerprints; and forgery of documents issued by the military authorities (an ID card). He was transferred on 19 November from the interrogation section of Ramallah Prison to the ordinary section where he received his first family visit on 22 November. His trial is due to begin on 3 December. According to his wife he is still suffering from a severe headache although in general his health is better. He has still not been allowed to see a doctor of his choice.

Ahmad Sa'dat was charged with falsification of a document issued by the security forces (also an ID card). His lawyer has applied for his release on bail during the trial proceedings on the grounds that the time he has already spent in prison is likely to be longer than any sentence he might receive.

Ahmad al-Batsh, arrested on 9 September, was brought before a judge on 19 November for a hearing on the extension of his detention. A representative from the General Security Service apparently asked for a 15 day extension, but the judge granted an extension of seven days. At a further court hearing on 24 November, the judge decided to release Ahmad al-Batsh for lack of evidence.

Amnesty International is still seeking information from the Israeli authorities about the allegations of torture or ill-treatment of these three men. It continues to call for prompt and independent investigations to be carried out

into these and any other such allegations, and for the methods and findings of the investigations to be made public.

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FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send airmail letters in English or your own language:

- noting Ahmad al-Batsh's release;
- expressing concern at the allegations of torture and ill-treatment of all three men;
- urging that a prompt and impartial investigation be carried out into the allegations, and for anyone found responsible be brought to justice. Asking to be informed of the methods and results of the investigation;

APPEALS TO:

1. Mr Yitzhak Rabin
Prime Minister & Minister of Defence
Office of the Prime Minister
3 Kaplan Street
Jerusalem 91919
State of Israel

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

2. Major-General Dani Yatom
Military Commander for the
Central Command
c/o Ministry of Defence
7 "A" Street, Hakirya
Tel Aviv 64734
State of Israel

Salutation: Dear Major-Gen. Yatom

3. Colonel Moshe Rosenberg
Legal Adviser for the Central Command
Beth-El
West Bank
Via Israel

Salutation: Dear Colonel Rosenberg

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Judge Yosef Harish
Attorney General

P.O. Box 1087
Jerusalem
State of Israel

and to diplomatic representatives of Israel and the Occupied Territories
accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 January 1993.