

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 15/31/92

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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 15/26/92 of 22 October 1992, MDE 15/29/92 of 13 November 1992 and MDE 15/30/92 of 3 December 1992 - Torture/ill-treatment and new concern legal concern

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. 965056143), 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. Ahmad al-Batsh was released on 24 November 1992; the other two are still detained.

Ahmad Qatamesh's trial began on 3 December. During the first hearing the prosecution apparently revealed that an order for Ahmad Qatamesh's administrative detention has been issued and is currently in his file pending the outcome of the trial. The trial is due to resume on 13 December, when the judge is expected to decide whether Ahmad Qatamesh should be further remanded in custody in connection with the charges against him. Ahmad Qatamesh's health is said to be much better.

Ahmad Sa'dat had been charged on 22 November 1992 with falsification of a document issued by the security forces (an identity card). However, he was later issued with a six-month administrative detention order. It is not clear whether the charge has been dropped. He was reportedly moved from Petah Tikva detention centre on 27 November to al-Dhahirriyah detention centre, and from there was transferred to the Ketziot detention centre in southern Israel on 2 December.

Amnesty International opposes the detention without charge or trial of all political detainees including administrative detainees. It calls for their release unless they are to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence and given a fair and prompt trial. In this case, Amnesty International notes that the Israeli authorities have placed Ahmad Sa'dat under administrative detention although he had been charged with an offence. Amnesty International is therefore calling for him to be released unless he is brought speedily to trial on the charge against him. It also calls on the Israeli authorities to provide Ahmad Qatamesh with a fair trial and not to hold him in administrative

detention.

Amnesty International is also still seeking information about the allegations of torture or ill-treatment of Ahmad Qatamesh, Ahmad al-Batsh and Ahmad Sa'dat.

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 telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters in English or your own language:

- calling for Ahmad Sa'dat 'Abd al-Rasul to be released immediately if he is not to be tried for the offence with which he has been charged;

- calling for Ahmad Sulayman Musa Qatamesh to be given a fair trial and that he not be held in administrative detention;

- reiterating concern at the allegations of torture and ill-treatment of all three men;

- urging that prompt and impartial investigations be carried out into the allegations, and for anyone found responsible for torture or ill-treatment to be brought to justice. Asking to be informed of the methods and results of the investigations.

APPEALS TO:

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

Telegrams: Prime Minister Rabin, Israel

Telexes: 25279 mpres il

Faxes: + 972-2-664838

Salutation: Dear Mr 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

Telegrams: Military Commander Central Command, Tel Aviv, Israel

Telexes: 371434 mod il

Faxes: + 972-2-699851

Salutation: Dear Major-Gen. Yatom

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

Telegrams: Colonel Rosenberg, Beth-El, West Bank, Via Israel
Faxes: + 972-2-788738

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 25 January 1992.