

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 48/92 (AFR 17/03/92, 13 February 1992) - Fear of torture/ill-treatment/legal concern

**CAMEROON: Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru, head of the Cameroon Anglophone Movement (CAM)
Stephen Ndi, aged in his 70s, CAM Chairman, Bamenda section
Blaise Berinyuy, CAM Secretary, Bamenda section
Gilbert Azeh, student
and some 40 others**

Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru, Stephen Ndi and Blaise Berinyuy, who were arrested in Bamenda on 11 February 1992, were released on bail by the beginning of March 1992. All three were charged with organizing an unauthorized public meeting after a peaceful demonstration in Bamenda on 11 February 1992, an offence punishable by up to six months' imprisonment. On 18 May 1992, their trial, previously adjourned on 15 April 1992, was again adjourned because the prosecution's main witnesses - three gendarmes - did not appear in court, for the second time.

Amnesty International considers that, if convicted and sentenced to prison terms, they would be prisoners of conscience, detained for exercising their basic human right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of expression.

Amnesty International is also concerned that no investigation appears to have been ordered into allegations that, at the time of their arrest, Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru and Blaise Berinyuy were beaten and trampled on by at least 10 military police officers in the presence of the local Gendarme commander before being taken to the Gendarmerie where they sustained further beatings. All 40 detainees were reportedly stripped, detained with approximately 30 other prisoners in cramped and filthy cells, and denied adequate food and water. When Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru requested medical attention, he was beaten again and drenched with cold water. After his release, he required hospital treatment.

Gilbert Azeh and most of the 40 others also arrested in Bamenda on 11 February 1992 are thought to have been released without charge after short periods of detention. However, Amnesty International is concerned at reports that four teenage boys - two brothers, Sulemanu Paul Tata, aged 13, and Ibrahim Pendap Tata, aged 17, their close relative Kasimo Lemamo, aged 14, and their friend known as "Che" - who were also arrested in Bamenda on 11 February 1992 whilst working in their father's compound, may have "disappeared" in custody (see UA 172/92, AFR 17/09/92, 26 May 1992, for further details).

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

airmail letters:

- requesting clarification of the legal situation of Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru, Stephen Ndi and Blaise Berinyuy, who appear to have been charged with organizing an unauthorized public meeting as a result of their involvement in a peaceful demonstration in Bamenda on 11 February 1992;
- expressing concern at reports that Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru and Blaise Berinyuy were brutally and systematically beaten and ill-treated whilst in detention;

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- calling on the government to carry out a full and independent investigation into allegations of torture and ill-treatment of Dr Zama Kimbi Ndefru and Blaise Berinyuy in police custody with a view to bringing those responsible to justice.

APPEALS TO:

1. President

Son Excellence Monsieur Paul Biya

Président de la République
Palais de l'Unité

Yaoundé, Cameroon

**Telegrams: President Biya,
Yaounde, Cameroon**

Faxes: + 237 221699

**Telexes: 8207 PRESID KN
(Secretariat général); 8595 PRESID B
KN (Cabinet civil)**

**[Salutation: Monsieur le Président de
la République/Dear President**

2. Minister of Internal Affairs

M. Gilbert Andzé Tsoungui

Ministre de l'Administration
territoriale

Ministère de l'Administration
territoriale

1000 Yaoundé 4, Cameroon

**Telegrams: Ministre Tsoungui,
Yaounde, Cameroon**

**Telexes: 8503 MINAT KN; 8268 MINAT
KU**

**[Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre/
Dear Minister]**

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

M. Jacques-Roger Booh Booh

Ministre des Affaires étrangères

Ministère des Affaires étrangères

1000 Yaoundé 4, Cameroon

3. Minister of Justice

M. Douala Moutome

Ministre de Justice

Ministere de Justice

1000 Yaoundé 4

République du Cameroun

**Telegrams: Ministre Moutome,
Yaounde, Cameroon**

**[Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre/
Dear Minister]**

4. Governor of North West Province

Mr John Ebong Ngolle

Governor's Office

5000 Bamenda, Cameroon

**Telegrams: Governor Ngolle,
Bamenda, Cameroon**

[Salutation: Dear Governor

Postwatch

PO Box 235

Bamenda, Cameroon

Cameroon Post

BP 1981

Yaoundé, Cameroon

Le Messenger

BP 5925

Douala, Cameroon

Challenge Hebdo

BP 13088

Douala, Cameroon

La Nouvelle Expression

BP 5646

Douala, Cameroon

and to diplomatic representatives of Cameroon in your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 7 July 1992.