

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 18/02 (AMR 51/043/2002, 4 March 2002) - Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Georgia) Tracy Lee Housel (m), British national, white, aged 43

Tracy Housel was executed in Georgia on 12 March 2002. He had been on death row for over 16 years, having been sentenced to death in February 1986 for the murder of Jeanne Drew in April 1985. In his final statement, Tracy Housel expressed his remorse for the murder.

The UK government, the European Union and the Council of Europe all appealed for clemency, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights issued "precautionary measures" calling for a stay so that it could examine Housel's claim of unfair sentencing. Despite this, the Board of Pardons and Paroles refused to halt the execution.

This was the 15th execution in the USA this year, and the 764th in the USA since it resumed judicial killing in 1977. Twenty-nine of these executions have taken place in Georgia.

No further action is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.