

9 November 2001

AI Index ASA 11/030/2001 - News Service Nr. 198

News Flash

Afghanistan: United Front must ensure abuses of the past are not repeated

In light of statements by the United Front that they have taken Mazar-e Sharif, Amnesty International calls on its forces to ensure respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights standards, in particular to refrain from reprisal killings and other serious abuses. Amnesty International calls on those who have supplied arms, training and other support to take all possible steps to ensure strict respect for human rights. Amnesty International calls on the international community to ensure that the situation is carefully monitored. In previous battles for control of the strategic town of Mazar-e Sharif, both the Taleban forces and those opposed to them have been responsible for grave abuses including indiscriminate killings of civilians and ethnically targeted killings.

\ENDS

public document

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566

Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW web : <http://www.amnesty.org>