

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

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**22 July 1993**

**Further information on UA 232/93 (ASA 25/27/93, 15 July 1993) - Fear of Ill-Treatment/Legal Concern**

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA): NOH Tae-hun, human rights activist**

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Since his arrest on 15 July 1993, Noh Tae-hun has been subjected to excessive and exhausting interrogation. He has apparently been interrogated each day from around 9 am until around 10 pm and sometimes later into the night. Amnesty International is concerned that undue pressure may be exerted on him to make a confession and that he is not being allowed to exercise his right to remain silent. Although his lawyers have been given access to him for a short 15-minute period each day, they are not permitted complete confidentiality during their meetings with him and have themselves been threatened and abused by police officials.

Shortly after the arrest of Noh Tae-hun the National Police Administration is reported to have said that he is held under Article 7 of the National Security Law for his association with a group which "benefits" North Korea. He has been questioned about his associations with former long-term political prisoners, some of whom are now living abroad and are themselves involved in human rights work. Amnesty International considers Noh Tae-hun's association with former long-term political prisoners to be part of his legitimate human rights work. It believes that on the basis of the reported accusations, Noh Tae-hun is a prisoner of conscience and that he should be released immediately and unconditionally.

On 22 July Amnesty International wrote to the South Korean Government expressing these concerns and noting the following statement made by Minister of Foreign Affairs Han Sung-joo at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in June 1993 in Austria: "As we gather here at the World Conference on Human Rights, I am happy to report to you that human rights have finally come of age in Korea. I stand before you representing a nation and a people who can proudly say that truth, freedom and democracy have at last triumphed in their country". Amnesty International is concerned that the South Korean Government is not living up to its stated commitment to the protection of human rights or its obligations under international and domestic law.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:**

- urging the authorities to release Noh Tae-hun immediately and unconditionally;
- expressing concern that Noh Tae-hun is being subjected to excessively long

hours of interrogation and that he is not being allowed to exercise his right to remain silent;

- expressing concern that Noh Tae-hun has been denied the right to confidential meetings with his lawyers and that his lawyers have been threatened and abused by police officials.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President Kim Young-sam  
The Blue House  
1 Sejong-no  
Chongno-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

**Telegrams: President Kim, Seoul, Republic of Korea**

**Telexes: 24651 or 24652 or 24653 WOIMUBU K**

**Faxes: + 822 720 2686**

**Salutation: Dear President Kim**

2) Mr KIM Doo-hee  
Minister of Justice  
1 Chungang-dong  
Kwachon-myon, Shihung-gun  
Kyonggi Province, Republic of Korea

**Telegrams: Justice Minister Kim, Shihung-gun, Kyongi Province, Republic of Korea**

**Telexes: 24757 MOJUST K**

**Faxes: + 822 504 3337**

**Salutation: Dear Minister Kim**

3) Mr KIM Hyo-un  
Director  
National Police Administration  
209 Mi Kun-dong  
Sudaemoon-gu, Chongno-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

**Telegrams: Director National Police Kim, Seoul, Republic of Korea**

**Faxes: + 82 2 720 2686**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Editor, Hankyoreh Daily  
1-2 Yangpyeong-dong 2-ga  
Seoul, Republic of Korea  
**Faxes: + 822 710 0310, + 822 671 7797**

Human Rights Group:  
Minkahyop  
2F1, 592-7  
Changsin-2-dong  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

and to diplomatic representatives of South Korea accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 September 1993.