

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 36/08/93

Distr: UA/SC

UA 421/93 Death Penalty

30 November 1993

SINGAPORE

Fung Yuk Shing, aged 22

Fung Yuk Shing, a 22-year-old man from Hong Kong is under sentence of death in Singapore. Amnesty International has just learned that his appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal was rejected on 27 August 1993. His last hope for clemency now resides with President Ong Teng Cheong.

Fung Yuk Shing was arrested on 21 November 1990 at Changi airport with 16 slabs of diamorphine weighing 2.78 kilograms strapped to his body. He was sentenced to death on 5 December 1992 for drug trafficking although he claimed that he did not know the exact nature of the substance he was carrying. He also claimed that another Hong Kong citizen had threatened his life and the life of his family if Fung Yuk Shing did not carry this substance.

Fung Yuk Shing worked as a casual labourer and his family lives in Hong Kong.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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

- expressing concern at the imposition of the death penalty on Fung Yuk Shing and urging that his sentence be commuted;
- stating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty, and urging that all existing and pending death sentences be commuted and that no more be imposed.

APPEALS TO

1) The President:

His Excellency Ong Teng Cheong
Office of the President

Istana

Orchard Road

Republic of Singapore 0922

Telegrams: President Ong Teng Cheong, Singapore

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Prime Minister:

The Honourable Goh Chok Tong
Office of the Prime Minister
Istana Annexe
Istana, Republic of Singapore 0923
Faxes: +65 732 4627

Minister of Law:
Professor Shanmugham Jayakumar
Ministry of Law
250 North Bridge Road
Raffles City Tower 21-00
Republic of Singapore 0617

and to diplomatic representatives of Singapore accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 11 January 1994.