

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 65/94 (MDE 12/03/94, 21 February 1994) - Death
Penalty / Legal Concern

EGYPT:Medhat TAHHAWI

Mohammad Ahmed Sa'id SALIH

Hammada Mohammad LUFTI

Medhat Tahhawi and Mohammad Ahmed Sa'id Salih were executed on 17 March in Alexandria. They were tried in secret by a military court at the military barracks in Sidi Barrani in mid-February 1994 and sentenced to death. Both were believed to be members of the armed forces. Hammada Mohammad Lutfi, a civilian, was sentenced to death in absentia. Three others reportedly received prison sentences. They were reportedly charged with planning the assassination of President Mubarak.

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

-expressing grave concern at these two executions, which Amnesty International considers as summary and arbitrary executions;

-expressing concern at the sudden upsurge in the use of the death penalty in Egypt (42 death sentences have been passed by military courts since December 1992 and 30 executions have now taken place), and explaining Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty as a violation of the right to life and the most extreme form of cruel and inhuman punishment;

-drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Egypt is a state party.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Muhammad Hosni Mubarak
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt
'Abedine Palace
Cairo, Egypt
Telegram: President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt
Telexes: 93794 WAZRA UN
Faxes: 202 260 54 17
Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Human Rights Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Corniche al-Nil
Cairo, Egypt
Faxes: 202 723173

Dr Fathi Sorour
Speaker
The People's Assembly
Magles al-Shaab Street
Cairo, Egypt

and to diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 28 April 1994.