

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 15/082/2003

4 September 2003

Further Information on UA 202/03 (MDE 15/059/2003, 10 July 2003) and follow-up (MDE 15/060/2003, 21 July 2003) - Torture and ill-treatment / detention without charge

ISRAEL/OCCUPIED TERRITORIES 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar (m), aged 30, farmer

At a military court hearing on 10 August, 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar was charged with carrying weapons and involvement in attacks against Israelis. He apparently confessed to these charges, but it is feared that he may have been coerced into making the confessions.

'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar, from the village of Izbat Salman in the West Bank, was arrested by Israeli soldiers on 16 June. In a sworn affidavit to his lawyer, 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar stated that he was physically and psychologically tortured and ill-treated by members of the Israeli General Security Services (GSS) during lengthy interrogation sessions at the Petah Tikva detention centre. His interrogation lasted for a period of about six weeks.

He will continue to be detained until the conclusion of his trial. He is no longer being interrogated, and is therefore not at risk of further torture or ill-treatment. His family is still unable to visit him in detention, as he is detained in Israel, and Palestinians living in the West Bank do not have permission to travel there.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. Amnesty International will continue to monitor this case. Please send a final round of appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English, Hebrew or your own language:

- urging that 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar be tried in a proper court of law in accordance with international standards for fair trial;
- expressing concern at 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar's claims that he has been subjected to torture and ill-treatment during lengthy interrogation sessions at Petah Tikva detention centre;
- calling for the Israeli authorities to investigate the torture allegations, to make the results of the investigation public, and to bring to justice anyone who has ordered or carried out torture or ill-treatment;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that all detainees are humanely treated in detention, in accordance with international standards;
- expressing concern that the family of 'Abd al-Nasser Quzmar is unable to visit him, and asking the Israeli authorities to ensure that all detainees have access to their families.

APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon,
Office of the Prime Minister
3 Kaplan Street, P O Box 187
Jerusalem 91919, Israel

Telegram: Prime Minister, Jerusalem, Israel

Fax: + 972 2 6512631 / 6705475

Telex: 25279 MPRES IL

E-mail: rohm@pmo.gov.il / pm_eng@pmo.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

Minister of Justice Yosef Lapid
Ministry of Justice
29 Salah al-Din Street

Jerusalem 91010, Israel

Telegram: Justice Minister, Jerusalem, Israel

Fax: + 972 2 6285438

E-mail: sar@justice.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Minister

Major General Menachem Finkelstein

Judge Advocate General

Israeli Defence Forces

6 David Elazar Street

Hakirya

Tel Aviv, Israel

Telegram: Judge Advocate General, Tel Aviv, Israel

Fax: + 972 3 5694370

Salutation: Dear Major General

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Israel/Occupied Territories accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 October 2003.