

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 17/01/92
Distrib: PG/SC

To: Medical professionals
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Middle East
Date: 4 March 1992

MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

**@Jamil Ra'uf Hashim al-Kadhimi
£Kuwait**

Keywords

Theme: disappearance/ incommunicado detention/ medical care/ ill-health

Amnesty International is concerned that an Iraqi national who "disappeared" in Kuwait is seriously ill and in need of urgent medical attention. Jamil Ra'uf Hashim al-Kadhimi was arrested on or about 10 March 1991 by armed Kuwaiti civilians at his home in al-Jabiriyya and subsequently "disappeared" in custody. Nothing had been heard about his fate and whereabouts until February of this year when reports were received that he was detained at al-Doha prison in Kuwait City and is currently in hospital. Although he is said to be extremely ill it is not known whether this is due to previous medical conditions or to torture. Jamil al-Kadhimi is a 60-year-old businessman, married with two children, and is said to have been suffering from a heart disorder and hypertension at the time of his arrest. As far as Amnesty International is aware he has not been charged with any recognisable criminal offence and the organisation is gravely concerned that he has been held continuously in incommunicado detention since his "disappearance" last March.

Background

Since the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait on 26 February 1991, scores of Iraqis, Palestinians and others suspected of having "collaborated" with the Iraqi army during its seven month occupation of Kuwait have "disappeared" in Kuwait. The "disappearances" were carried out by Kuwaiti government forces or armed Kuwaiti civilians. Amnesty International has received reports that some of these "disappearance" victims have been tortured or killed. The organisation is calling on the Kuwaiti government to account for the fate and whereabouts of all those who "disappeared" since last February and to bring to justice those found guilty of perpetrating "disappearances" and other human rights violations.

Recommended Actions

Letters from medical professionals, should be sent to the addresses below:

- noting that you are writing about Jamil Ra'uf Hashim al-Kadhimi who was arrested in al-Jabiriyya on 10 March 1991
- seeking the reasons for his detention

- expressing concern about his well-being in view of reports that he has heart problems
- expressing deep concern about reports that he has been held incommunicado since March 1991 and seeking assurances that he will be given all necessary medical care
- urging that he be released unless he is to be charged with a recognisably criminal offence and given a fair trial

Addresses

Lt Colonel Mohammad al-Fahed
Ministry of Interior
International Organizations Liaison Office
Dahiyat 'Abdallah al-Salem Police Station
Block 3
Sanaa Street
Kuwait City
Kuwait

Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dakhil
Under-Secretary
Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs
PO Box 6
Al-Safat 13001
Kuwait