

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 21/16/98

30 June 1998

Further information on UA 180/98 (21/15/98, 19 June 1998) - Health Concern/Legal Concern

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY' Attiya Abu Nuqayreh, aged 28
'Ala' 'Akel, aged 25

'Attiya Abu Nuqayreh and 'Ala' 'Akel decided to end their open hunger strike on 28 June after a colonel from the Military Intelligence visited them in hospital. He informed them that the Military Intelligence would be recommending to the President of the Palestinian Authority, Yasser 'Arafat, that the two prisoners should be released.

Amnesty International has been informed that the large numbers of letters and faxes received by President 'Arafat, and the Minister of Justice, Freih Abu Meddein, contributed to these developments.

'Attiya Abu Nuqayreh and 'Ala' 'Akel have been transferred to a military hospital in Khan Yunes in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. They are now in the custody of the Military Intelligence. Their health is reported to be fair.

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

- welcoming the decision of the Military Intelligence to recommend that 'Attiya Abu Nuqayreh and Ala' 'Akel be released;
- asking the Palestinian Authority to ensure that 'Attiya Abu Nuqayreh and Ala' 'Akel continue to have access to any medical care they request;
- asking that 'Attiya Abu Nuqayreh and Ala' 'Akel, be promptly retried before a normal criminal court according to international fair trial standards or released.

APPEALS TO:

President Yasser Arafat

Palestinian Authority

Al-Muntada

Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: President Arafat, Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: + 972-7-822365 (ask to send a fax)

Salutation: Dear President Arafat

Mr Freih Abu Meddein

Minister of Justice

Ministry of Justice

Abu Khadra Building

Omar al-Mukhtar Street

Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: + 972-7-867109

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights

P.O.Box 1204, Gaza

Palestinian Authority

Fax: +972 7 824776 (ask to send a fax)

Solidarity International for Human Rights

P.O.Box 1188, Gaza

Palestinian Authority

Fax: + 972 7 821 443 (ask to send a fax)

and to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 11 August 1998.