

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 227/90 (AFR 43/02/90, 1 June) and follow-up
AFR 43/03/90 (2 July) - Torture/Extrajudicial Killings 2 October 1990

NIGER:

Attoua ag Egour
Karimoun ag Matachi

and other members of the Touareg ethnic
group including:

Abdoulhatif Mohamed
Mohamed Ahmoudou
Taher Abdoulmounine

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Around 400 people, mainly members of the Touareg ethnic group and including the above-named, were arrested in April 1990. Karimoun ag Matachi and Attoua ag Egour were reported as being released without charge or trial (see UA 227/90 follow-up as above). Amnesty International was concerned that those still in custody were being detained on account of their ethnic origin and non-violent political activities, and were in danger of torture or extrajudicial execution.

In August the government of Niger announced the release of seven people of the Touareg ethnic group, including the rest of those named above. No further action is required for them. Thank you to all those who sent appeals on their behalf.

However at the same time the government also announced that 45 other people, whose names are not known, remain in custody awaiting trial. Participants are therefore asked to send further appeals on behalf of these other, less prominent, people of the Touareg group.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send airmail letters:

- asking for clarification of the legal status of these detainees;
- seeking assurances that they are not being subjected to ill-treatment while in custody;
- asking that, if they have been arrested solely on account of their ethnic origin, they should be immediately and unconditionally released.

APPEALS TO:

Son Excellence
Monsieur le Général de Brigade Ali Saïbou
Président de la République du Niger
La Présidence
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur Ali Bandiaré
Ministre de la Justice et Garde des sceaux
Ministère de la Justice
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur le Lieutenant Colonel Mamadou Tanja
Ministre de l'Intérieur
Ministère de l'Intérieur
622 BP
Niamey, Niger

Monsieur Mahamane Sani Bako
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
Ministère des Affaires Etrangères
Niamey Niger

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Niger in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 12 November 1990.