

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 25/002/2001

16 March 2001

Further information on EXTRA 18/01 (MDE 25/001/2001, 1 March 2001) - Fear of torture/death penalty

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES/SAUDI ARABIA Gary Dixon, British national, aged 55

According to unconfirmed reports, Gary Dixon was extradited to Saudi Arabia on 15 March, and is currently held incommunicado at the Ministry of the Interior in Riyadh. Amnesty International fears that he could face torture or be sentenced to death.

Amnesty International had urged the government of the United Arab Emirates not to extradite Gary Dixon without unequivocal assurances from the Saudi Arabian government that he would not be subjected to torture or face the death penalty. The organization has not received any response to suggest that the government of the United Arab Emirates has obtained such assurances.

Gary Dixon's extradition is said to be connected with some car-bombings that took place in Saudi Arabia in late 2000. A number of people have been detained in connection with the bombings. Some of the detainees were recently shown on Saudi Arabian television "confessing" to the bombings. Such confessions, however obtained, may be sufficient for a prisoner to be sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia.

Amnesty International recognizes the right of governments to try suspected offenders, but opposes torture and the death penalty in all cases.

APPEALS TO AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:

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

- seeking clarification of whether the government of the United Arab Emirates had received assurances from the Saudi Arabian authority that Gary Dixon will not be subjected to torture or face execution.

Prime Minister

His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al-Maktoum
Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai
Office of the Prime Minister
POB 12848, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Faxes: + 971 4 435 3333

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

APPEALS TO SAUDI ARABIAN AUTHORITIES:

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

- expressing concern that Gary Dixon is being held incommunicado, and seeking assurances that he is safe from torture and will not face the death penalty;

-urging that he be given prompt and regular access to a lawyer and to the British Consulate.

King and Prime Minister

The Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines

His Majesty King Fahd bin'Abdul'Aziz Al-Saud,
Office of H.M The King, Royal Court,
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegram: King Fahd, Rihad , Saudi Arabia

Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of Interior

His Royal Highness Prince Naif bin'Abdul'Aziz,
Minister of Interior, Ministry of the Interior,
P.O. Box 2933, Airport Road,
Riyadh 11134, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegram: Minister of Interior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Fax: + 966 1 403 1185

Telex: 404416

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Royal Highness Prince saud al-Faisal bin'Abdul'Aziz Al-Saud,
Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Nasseriya Street,
Riyadh 111244, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegram: Foreign Affairs Minister, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Fax: + 966 1 403 0159

Telex: 405000

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Justice

His Excellency Dr.'Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh
Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice
University Street,
Riyadh 11137, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia_

Telegram: Minister of Jusice, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Saudi Arabia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 29 April 2001.