

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 382/92 (MDE 13/22/92, 3 December 1992) - and follow-up
MDE/13/03/93, 12 March 1993 - Fear of torture/death penalty/
unfair trial

IRAN: Abdollah Bagheri

Amnesty International has just received reports that Abdollah Bagheri's video taped "confessions" were broadcast on television in Iran at the beginning of 1993. Detailed information regarding his "confessions" is not available to Amnesty International but the organization fears that they may have been extracted under pressure, as a result of torture or ill-treatment.

Abdollah Bagheri was arrested at the beginning of November 1992 but it is not known whether he has yet been charged and there is no information regarding the date or place of his trial.

According to reports received over the years political trials in the Islamic Republic of Iran are grossly unfair, and Amnesty International fears that, if the reports of televised confessions are true, they will have undermined the possibility of his receiving a fair trial even further.

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

- expressing serious concern that the reported televised "confessions" of Abdollah Bagheri may have been extracted under pressure, as a result of torture or ill-treatment;
- urging that he not be subjected to torture or any other form of ill-treatment;
- referring to Article 14.3 (g) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a state party, which guarantees every defendant the right "not to be compelled to testify against himself or to confess guilt" and expressing concern that Abdollah Bagheri's televised "confessions" may seriously undermine the possibilities of his receiving a fair trial;
- requesting information about his precise place of detention, the charges against him and the date of his trial;
- urging that he be given immediate access to a lawyer of his own choosing, his family members, and independent medical care if necessary.

APPEALS TO:

1) His Excellency Hojatoleslam
Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Telegrams: President Rafsanjani, Tehran, Iran
Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR
(marked for the attention of President Rafsanjani)

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) His Excellency Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi
Head of the Judiciary
Ministry of Justice
Park-e Shahr
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran
Telegrams: Justice Minister, Tehran, Iran
Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR
(marked for the attention of the Interior Minister)

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) His Excellency
Hojatoleslam Abdollah Noori
Minister of Interior
Ministry of Interior
Dr Fatemi Avenue
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran
Telegrams: Interior Minister Noori, Tehran, Iran
Telexes: 214231 MITI IR, 213113 PRIM IR
(marked for the attention of the Interior Minister)

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Dr Ali Akbar Velayati
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

and to diplomatic representatives of IRAN in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 7 June 1993.