

URGENT ACTION

FORMER GOVERNOR RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE

Elias Waya Nyipuch, former governor of Wau state, was released without charge on 14 March. He had been detained by the South Sudanese military since 26 June 2016.

During an address on the occasion of a National Day of Prayer on 10 March, President Salva Kiir announced the “pardon” of **Elias Waya Nyipuch**. President Kiir also promised to release “all other political detainees.”

Elias Waya Nyipuch was transferred from detention at the Bilpam Military headquarters to a hotel in Juba on 11 March. He met with President Kiir on the evening of 13 March and was released on 14 March.

Elias Waya Nyipuch was detained on 26 June 2016. He was initially held at the Giyada Military Barracks and transferred to the Bilpam Military headquarters in October 2016. He was never informed of the reasons for his arrest, charged with any offence, or presented in court. He spent over eight months in arbitrary detention.

No further action is requested of the UA network. Many thanks to those who sent appeals.

This is the second update of UA 224/16. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr65/5523/2017/en/>

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