

Department of Information and Culture

Eritrean People's Party

June 6, 2009

News in Brief

Eritrean Intelligence Units Kidnaps Mr. Hassen Yassin

Members of Eritrean Intelligence units kidnapped Mr. Hassen Yassin, an Eritrean and a resident of Kassala, Sudan on Saturday, June 6, 2009. Eritrean People's Party sources confirmed that Mr. Hassen was taken immediately to Eritrea and is now being held in Tesseney town. Mr. Hassen had spent a year in prison in Eritrea before he finally fled with his family to Kassala.

31 Eritreans arrived in Northern Ethiopia

31 Eritreans fled Eritrea and arrived in Northern Ethiopia over the last two weeks, between May 25 and June 8, 2009. The list of the new arrivals includes 10 soldiers from the 11th and 16th Eritrean Army Divisions, and 21 civilians. One of the new arrivals is identified as Mr. Amanuel Girmai, reportedly a journalist. Some of the civilians are also reported to have paid 50,000 Nakfa for people who organized their escape to Ethiopia.

E Street Band expresses support for the release of Dawit Isaac

Bruce Springsteen, a renowned artist and E Street Band expressed their full support for the release of Dawit Isaac while on tour in Stockholm, Sweden last week. Bruce Springsteen and Clemons Clarence have also added their names into the list of signatures that is being organized by Amnesty International and *The Daily Expressen News* on behalf of Dawit Isaac. Expressen News is one of the newspapers published daily in Sweden.

It is believed that the "Free Dawit" campaign is slowly but surely spreading beyond Sweden and getting international recognition by renowned artists such as Bruce Springsteen and others.