

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 374/94 (EUR 44/116/94, 11 October 1994) and follow-up (EUR 44/10/95, 12 January 1995) - Possible extrajudicial executions / Fear for safety

TURKEY: Killed: Mehmet Salih Sabuttekin, HADEP official in Yüre_ir
Rebih Çabuk, HADEP president in Yüre_ir, father of five
Sefer Cerf, HADEP Yüre_ir board member, father of eight
Hac_ Sait Macir, HADEP member in Yüre_ir

At risk: Samet Yaman, HADEP president in Adana
Ma_allah Kasaphan, HADEP board member in Adana
Hakk_ Kuru, HADEP board member in Seyhan
Abdurrahman Yakut, former HADEP president in Yüre_ir
_ehmuz Özgün, HADEP board member in Seyhan
Mehmet Turmu_, HADEP board member in Seyhan

new name: Ahmet Karatekin, HADEP board member in Seyhan

There is serious concern for the safety of Ahmet Karatekin, who has been subjected to police harassment, including repeated detention, insults, threats and ill-treatment, since the beginning of this year. Other HADEP officials in Adana have been subjected to similar harassment before being attacked and killed.

Ahmet Karatekin was detained on 16 February 1995. Reportedly members of the Anti-Terror Branch of Adana Police Headquarters came to his shop in the Hürriyet district of Adana at about 9pm. They insulted him and threatened him for having sold the pro-Kurdish newspaper *Özgür Ülke* and similar publications, claiming that sale of these newspapers was forbidden. In fact, *Özgür Ülke* (New Land) was an authorized publication until its closure in February this year.

After his arrest Ahmet Karatekin was taken to the police headquarters in Adana where he was kept until the next morning. Ahmet Karatekin stated: "I found eight persons from my neighbourhood also being held there. For three hours they [the police] beat us severely. They hit my head against the walls."

After he was released Ahmet Karatekin went to the State Prosecutor's Office in Adana where he gave a written complaint about the ill-treatment he had been subjected to, and requested to be examined by a forensic physician. The report of the Adana Forensic Medicine Office from 17 February 1995 describes injuries on the front of his left shin.

On 5 March 1995 Ahmet Karatekin was one of five members of the local branch of HADEP in the Seyhan district of Adana who were taken into police custody. Two of the five were released the same day, but Ahmet Karatekin, together with Hakk_ Kuru and _ehmuz Özgün were held overnight. There is serious concern particularly for the safety of Hakk_ Kuru, _ehmuz Özgün and Ahmet Karatekin, who continue to receive frequent death threats by telephone.

Officials and members of HADEP continue to face grave risks. By the end of

1994 more than 100 officials and members of HADEP and its predecessors HEP and DEP (both closed by the Constitutional Court for "separatism") had been killed. This year there have been further killings. In January two HADEP officials were shot dead in Batman by unidentified gunmen. Zeki Atl__ was killed on 17 January, and Vasif Çetin on 30 January.

Commenting on the increasing killings of his party members HADEP chairmen, Murat Bozlak stated on 3 February: "If the offenses do not stop, we will ask help from the international community."

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

- expressing grave concern for the safety of Ahmet Karatekin, who is being subjected police harassment similar to that experienced by other HADEP officials in Adana [named above] who were later killed;
- urging that all necessary steps are taken to prevent further political killings of HADEP members and officials.

APPEALS TO

1) President Süleyman Demirel

Office of the President

Cumhur Ba_kanl____

06100 Ankara

Telegrams: President Demirel, Ankara

Telex: 42303 kosk tr

Faxes: +90 312 468 50 12 (via Press Office)

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Minister of Interior

Mr Nahit Mente_e

_çi_leri Bakanl____

06644 Ankara

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 418 1066

418 1795

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights:

Mr Azimet Köylüo_lu

Office of the Prime Minister

Ba_bakanl_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 417 0476

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Sabri Yavuz

nsan Haklar Ara_t_rma Komisyonu Ba_kan_

TBMM

Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 420 5394

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 April 1995.