

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 46/06/95  
Distr: UA/SC

13 March 1995

Further information on UA 446/94 (EUR 46/03/94, 15 December 1994) and follow-ups (EUR 46/01/95, 4 January 1995, EUR 46/02/95, 25 January, EUR 46/03/95, 1 February) - Appeal for the respect of humanitarian law

**RUSSIA: Further deaths reported after Russian troops fire on people leaving the Chechen Republic-Ichkeriya**

---

Amnesty International has received further reports that people seeking to flee the continuing armed conflict in the self-proclaimed Chechen Republic-Ichkeriya have been shot dead by Russian troops.

Seven people, including five women and a three-month-old baby girl, were reportedly shot dead on 7 March 1995 by Russian troops who opened fire on a convoy of two vehicles, a car and a bus, containing people seeking to leave the conflict zone. According to Lidiya Mushayeva, a survivor of this incident, the vehicles contained mostly women and children who were trying to escape from the village of Achkhoy-Martan (south-east of the Chechen capital Grozny), which was being shelled by Russian forces.

Lidiya Mushayeva recounted that the convoy had checked to see whether the road to the neighbouring republic of Ingushetiya was safe before setting off and local leaders had given the go-ahead. However, soon after the car and bus left Achkhoy-Martan they were fired on by Russian troops.

According to Lidiya Mushayeva the troops were only 25-30 metres away from the vehicles when they started firing. The driver of the car, Lidiya Mushayeva's 22-year-old nephew, was killed instantly. So was her three-month old baby daughter, who had been placed in the back of the car. Her sixteen-year old daughter (the oldest of her four children) was badly wounded and died later in hospital. Four women in the bus were also killed. Survivors left the vehicles and continued to come under fire as they ran for cover. Lidiya Mushayeva herself received bullet wounds to her chest and is recovering in hospital.

The self-proclaimed Chechen Republic-Ichkeriya declared independence in 1991, a move not recognized by Russia or internationally. Thousands of people, including many civilians, are reported to have died in the armed conflict which began after Russian troops entered the territory on 11 December 1994.

Amnesty International takes no position on territorial disputes, but is urging all parties to the conflict to protect non-combatants in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law. Amnesty International has already appealed to the Russian authorities concerning an incident on 17 December 1994 in which a convoy of vehicles reportedly containing people seeking to flee the fighting was fired upon by Russian troops. It is urging the Russian authorities to ensure that comprehensive and impartial investigations are conducted into all incidents in which Russian troops are alleged to have opened fire on people fleeing the fighting in the Chechen Republic-Ichkeriya; that the results are made public; and that any persons found responsible for violations are brought to justice within the bounds of international law.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters**

- urging the Russian authorities to hold a comprehensive and impartial investigation into the incident described above, with the results made public and any persons found responsible for violations brought to justice within the bounds of international law;
- urging that all necessary steps are taken to ensure that non-combatants are protected in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law.

**APPEALS TO:**

The President of the Russian Federation, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin  
 Rossiyskaya Federatsiya  
 g. Moskva  
 Kreml  
 Prezidentu Rossiyskoy Federatsii YELTSINU B.N.  
**Telegrams: Rossiya, Moskva, Kreml, Prezidentu Yeltsinu**  
**Faxes: + 7 095 206 51 73**  
**Salutation: Dear President**

The Minister of Defence, General Pavel Sergeyevich Grachev  
 Rossiyskaya Federatsiya  
 103175 Moskva  
 ul. Myasnitskaya, 37  
 Ministerstvo oborony  
 Ministru GRACHEVU P.S.  
**Telegrams: Rossiya, 103175 Moskva, Ministru oborony Grachevu**  
**Faxes: +7 095 296 08 64**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

The Minister of Internal Affairs, Viktor Pavlovich Yerin  
 Rossiyskaya Federatsiya  
 117049 Moskva  
 ul. Zhitnaya, 16  
 Ministerstvo vnutrennykh del  
 Ministru YERINU V.P.  
**Telegrams: Rossiya, 117049 Moskva, Ministru vnutrennykh del Yerinu**  
**Faxes: +7 095 230 25 80**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andrey Vladimirovich Kozyrev  
 Rossiyskaya Federatsiya  
 129110 Moskva  
 Prospekt Mira, 49a  
 Ministerstvo inostrannykh del  
 Ministru KOZYREVU A.V.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Presidential Special Envoy in the Chechen Republic, Oleg Soskovets  
 Rossiyskaya Federatsiya  
 103274 g. Moskva  
 Krasnopresnenskaya nab., 2

Pervomu Zam. Premyera-ministra  
SOSKOVETSU O.

**Faxes: +7 095 205 45 41**

and to diplomatic representatives of RUSSIA accredited to your country.

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