

**PUBLIC**

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**19 March 2004**

**Further Information on UA 274/03 (EUR 46/080/2003, 22 September 2003) - Fear for Safety/Torture and Ill-Treatment**

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Andrei Viktorovich Osenchugov (m), aged 18  
Aleksei Vladimirovich Shishkin (m), aged 18**

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Aleksei Shishkin and Andrei Osenchugov, who were allegedly tortured while awaiting trial, have made no further complaints, and both are said to be well.

They were arrested in March 2002 and charged with robbery. They were then held at the Nizhnii Novgorod pre-trial detention centre (IZ-52/1) until late October 2002. There the teenagers allege that they were tortured and ill-treated by two adult cellmates, on the orders of prison staff, to make them confess to a number of other crimes.

Both were convicted and sentenced to eight years in the Arzamas juvenile correction facility, in the Nizhnii Novgorod region. A law enforcement official allegedly visited them there and asked them to sign official requests to close the criminal investigation into their allegations of torture and ill-treatment. When they refused, they were allegedly told that they would be transferred back to the Nizhnii Novgorod pre-trial detention centre, where they would be forced to drop their accusations.

The investigation into the robbery of which they were convicted has reportedly been reopened, and the teenagers have been transferred back to the Nizhnii Novgorod pre-trial detention centre (IZ-52/1). Amnesty International is monitoring the situation closely, and will take further action as necessary.

**Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is requested at present.**