

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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14 January 1992

**Further information on UA 417/91 (EUR 48/31/91, 28 November 1991) and follow-up
EUR 48/31/91, 11 December 1991 - Arrest and ill-treatment concerns**

**YUGOSLAVIA: Dr Vesna Bosanac (f)
Dr Juraj Njavro**

**Siniša Glavaševi_
Branimir Polovina
Marin Vidi_-Bili and others**

According to a Croatian prisoner-of-war recently released from Sremska Mitrovica prison in Vojvodina province in Serbia, Marin Vidi_-Bili, representative of the Croatian government in Vukovar at the time of its occupation by federal army and Serbian forces in November 1991, is currently held in Sremska Mitrovica prison.

On 6 January 1992, a Croatian opposition party leader stated that he had learned that the journalist Siniša Glavaševi_ was being held in Belgrade. Amnesty International has not received any information about the fate of Branimir Polovina. All doctors from Vukovar hospital who were detained are reported to have been released.

Croatian official sources have stated that 185 hospital staff from Vukovar hospital, together with some 500 patients from Vukovar hospital and Borovo Selo, who were detained at the same time as the above persons have still not been released from detention. They were reportedly held in improvised detention centres under the control of the federal army in prisons, barracks and deserted farms, in places such as Sremska Mitrovica, Begejci and Staji_evo near Zrenjanin (Vojvodina). Prisoners released from these places of detention have described extremely harsh conditions, with prisoners exposed to severe cold, given poor food and subject to arbitrary beatings by guards. The conditions of hygiene and medical treatment of sick and wounded prisoners have been described as appalling. Recently the detention centres in Begejci and Staji_evo have been closed; some of those held there are believed to have been transferred to Sremska Mitrovica, but the whereabouts of many others is uncertain.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/faxes/airmail letters:

- urging the release of Siniša Glavaševi_, Marin Vidi_-Bili, Branimir Polovina and all patients and medical staff from Vukovar hospital and Borovo Selo who were detained on 20 November 1991 and who have neither used nor advocated violence;

- expressing concern about reports of the harsh conditions in which they are said to be held, and urging that all sick and wounded prisoners be given adequate medical care and conditions for recovery.

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APPEALS TO:

1. Acting Federal Secretary for Defence:

General Blagoje Ad_i_
Savezni sekretar za narodnu odbranu
Kneza Miloša 35
Belgrade
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: Acting Federal Defence Secretary Ad_i_, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 636 775

Salutation: Dear General

2. Officer responsible for supervising exchanges of prisoners:

General Komandant Prof.dr.Milan Puji_
Savezni sekretarijat za narodnu odbranu
Kneza Miloša 35
Belgrade
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: General Pujic, Savezni sekretarijat za narodnu odbranu, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 636 775

Salutation: Dear General

3. President of Serbia:

Mr Slobodan Miloševi_
Predsednik Republike Srbije
Maršala Tita 14
Belgrade
Yugoslavia

Telegrams: President of Serbia Slobodan Milosevic, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 38 11 682 167

Salutation : Dear President

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Yugoslavia in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 February 1992.