

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 50/08/92

Distr: UA/SC

EXTRA 77/92

Fear of Imminent Execution

9 September 1992

UKRAINE:

Viktor Petrovich GOROKHOV, farm worker

Amnesty International has learned from unofficial sources that the President of Ukraine has turned down the petition for clemency lodged by a man on death row, Viktor Gorokhov, and that the sentence may be carried out within the next six days.

Viktor Gorokhov, a young farm worker from southern Ukraine, is said to have killed his parents-in-law because he believed them responsible for persuading his estranged wife to refuse him access to their small daughter. He was found guilty of premeditated, aggravated murder (Article 93 of the Ukrainian Criminal Code) and sentenced to death by Nikolayev Regional Court. He reportedly gave himself up after the murders, and was subsequently admitted to a psychiatric hospital for treatment. He is said to have no previous convictions.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The organization is appealing to the President of Ukraine, Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk, to reverse his decision and commute the death sentence passed on Viktor Gorokhov.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send IMMEDIATELY telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or your own language (or Ukrainian if this is possible without delay):

- urging President Kravchuk to reconsider his decision not to grant clemency to Viktor Petrovich Gorokhov, and to commute the death sentence;

- urging President Kravchuk to commute all other death sentences that come before him, in the spirit of Ukraine's co-sponsorship of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the first worldwide treaty aimed at abolition of the death penalty.

APPEALS TO

The President of Ukraine
Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk
Ukraine
252601 Kiev
Kirov street no. 6
President of Ukraine
Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk

Telegrams: Ukraine, 252601 Kiev, ul. Kirova, Prezidentu Kravchuku L.M.
Faxes: + 7 044 293 10 01
Salutation: Dear President

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COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Procurator General of Ukraine
Viktor I. Shishkin
Ukraine
252601 Kiev-II
Reznitskaya st. 13/15
Procuracy of Ukraine
Procurator General V.I. Shishkin

Chairman of Supreme Court of Ukraine
Aleksandr Nikiforovich Yakimenko
Ukraine
252601 Kiev
Kirov street
Supreme Court of Ukraine
Chairman Aleksandr Nikiforovich Yakimenko

Chairperson of the Clemency Commission of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet
Ukraine
Kiev
Kirov street 6
Supreme Soviet of Ukraine
Chairperson of the Clemency Commission

Chairperson of Nikolayev Regional Court
Ukraine
g. Nikolayev
Oblastnoy sud
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and to diplomatic representatives of Ukraine accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 September 1992.