

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 70/06/97

7 February 1997

Further information on UA 38/97 (EUR 70/04/97, 3 February 1997) and follow-up EUR 70/05/97, 6 February 1997 - Fear of ill-treatment / possible extrajudicial executions

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

(Kosovo Province)

Ethnic Albanians including:

Avni Klinaku

Dulah Sallahu

Emin Sallahu

Shukrije Rexha (f), political activist

Majlinda Sinani (f), school teacher and actress

Nait Hasani (reports spell his name variously as Nait, Naip and Nahit)

Zahir Pajaziti (killed)

Hakif Zejnulahu (killed)

Edmond Hoxha (killed)

new names:

Liburn Aliu

Dilber Beka

Agim Kuleta

Fatmir Humolli

Gani Balaj

Mujë Përtekupi

Nebih Tahiri

Shaban Beka

Enver Dugolli

Naser Tahiri

Ragip Berisha

released:

Bejtullah Sallahu

Sinan Azemi

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It is reported that on 5 February 1997 the district court of Priština ordered an investigation against Avni Klinaku and 15 other ethnic Albanians, regarding charges of seeking to undermine the territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and of terrorism (under Articles 116 and 125 of the FRY Criminal Code). According to details published in the local Albanian-language press, they are suspected of being members of a clandestine organization, the "National Movement for the Liberation of Kosovo", and of having collected arms and planned the assassinations of members of the Serbian police force. From these details it appears that they are not suspected of having carried out any assassinations or attacks. They remain in detention pending investigation.

It is now clear that around 90 people were detained in the most recent wave of arrests in Kosovo province. Forty of them have reportedly now been released, among them Bejtullah Sallahu and Sinan Azemi. The rest remain in detention.

Recent unconfirmed reports suggest that Nait (Naip/Nahit) Hasani may be detained in Belgrade Central Prison, which has its own hospital.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Please send telegrams/faxes/express or airmail letters in English, French, German or Russian or in your own language:

- noting reports that an investigation has been started against Avni Klinaku and 15 other ethnic Albanians on charges of terrorism and seeking to undermine Yugoslavia's territorial integrity;
- acknowledging the duty of the authorities to bring to justice any person who has committed violent crimes, but stressing that such investigations must be carried out in conformity with national and international law;
- expressing concern about allegations that some of those detained have been tortured or ill-treated by police;
- referring specifically to the case of Nait Hasani, urging that his family be immediately informed as to his whereabouts;
- seeking assurances that the above persons and any others who similarly remain detained are not being subjected to torture or ill-treatment and that they are granted full legal safeguards, including the right to be brought promptly before a judge and to challenge their detention in a court of law, and access to their lawyers and families.

**The following may also be included:**

- noting the incident on 31 January in which three ethnic Albanians were shot dead by police, allegedly acting in self-defence;
- urging that this incident be promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigated so as to establish whether or not police acted within the law.

**APPEALS TO:**

President of the Republic of Serbia

Predsednik Republike Srbije

Slobodan Milošević

Andrijevica 1

11000 Beograd, FR Yugoslavia

**Fax: + 381 11 682 167 or 656 862**

**Telegrams: Predsednik Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia**

**Salutation: Dear President**

Minister of Internal Affairs

Zoran Sokolović

Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Republike Srbije

Kneza Miloša 101

11000 Beograd, FR Yugoslavia

**Fax: +381 11 641 867 or 11 685 937**

**Telegrams: Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

Committee for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms

Xhavit Mitrovica 15, 38000, Priština, Yugoslavia

NGO Information Centre

Avalska 9,

11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

and to diplomatic representatives of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 March 1997.