

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 22/94 (EUR 50/01/94, 12 April 1994) - Fear of imminent execution and new concern: Ill-treatment

UKRAINE Vasily Mikhaylovich KRIVONOS, aged 19
(_____ in Russian)

Amnesty International has learned that the Presidential Clemency Commission of Ukraine is due to re-examine Vasily Krivonos' petition for clemency in the next few days and pass its recommendation to the new President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma. Unless Leonid Kuchma exercises his constitutional authority to commute this death sentence Vasily Krivonos faces imminent execution.

Vasily Krivonos was sentenced to death for murder by Vinitsky Regional Court on 18 November 1993. His appeal against the death sentence was rejected by the Supreme Court of Ukraine on 24 February 1994. A petition for clemency was lodged with the President of the Ukraine on 10 March. It is reported that following international pressure and widespread publicity of Vasily Krivonos' case in the Ukrainian press, the former President, Leonid Kravchuk, deferred taking a decision on Vasily Krivonos' petition for clemency.

Vasily Krivonos had just turned 18 at the time the crime for which he has been sentenced to death was committed. He is said to have learning difficulties and to have a history of nervous and psychiatric problems. He claims that his confession was obtained under duress and he denies the charge of premeditated aggravated murder. He was reportedly granted access to a lawyer and to his mother only after the prosecution had completed its investigation and compiled the indictment.

Amnesty International has received allegations that Vasily Krivonos has suffered severe and regular beatings on death row. Prison guards are reported to taunt him daily about his imminent execution and he is said to be considering committing suicide.

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

- urging President Kuchma to grant clemency to Vasily Krivonos and to commute his death sentence;
- urging President Kuchma to commute all other death sentences that come before him;
- urging that the authorities investigate the alleged beatings of Vasily Krivonos on death row.

APPEALS TO:

President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma

Ukraine

252601 Kiev

ul. Bankovaya, 7

Prezidentu Ukrainy Kuchma L.

Telegrams: Ukraine, 252601 Kiev, ul. Bankovaya, Prezidentu Kuchma L.

Faxes: +7 044 291 61 61

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Head of the Department for Citizenship and Clemency Issues at Ukraine's
Presidential Administration, P.A. Andreychenko

Ukraina
252220 Kiev
ul. Bankovaya, 11
Otdel po voprosam grazhdanstva i pomilovaniya
pri administratsii Prezidenta Ukrainy
Zaveduyushchemu otdelom Andreychenko P.A.
Faxes: +7 044 291 61 61

Procurator General of Ukraine, Vladislav Datsyuk

Ukraina
252601 Kiev-II
ul. Reznitskaya, 13/15
Prokuratura Ukrainy
Generalnomu Prokuroru Datsyuku V.

Chairman of the Supreme Court, Heorhiy Butenko

Ukraina
252601 Kiev 24 GSP
ul. M. Grushevskogo
Verkhovny Sud Ukrainy
Predsedatelyu Butenko H.

Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Hennady Udovenko

Ukraina
252501 Kiev 24
ul. Karla Liebknecht, 15/1
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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 5 October 1994.