

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 278/94 (EUR 63/16/94, 19 July 1994) - Fear of ill-treatment/Fear of deliberate and arbitrary killings

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Sulejman Skoki_, Kemal Skoki_, Halid Adanali_, Esad Adanali_, Avdo Adanali_ - also (new names) Halid Velagi_, Omer Alibegovi_ and other Muslims in Serb-controlled areas of north-eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina (Janja, Bijeljina and Br_ko).

Some 50 Muslim men from the town of Janja and the surrounding area were arrested by the Bosnian Serb authorities on 15 July 1994. Among them were the men named above. Amnesty International has since learned that Sulejman Skoki_, Halid Velagi_ and Omer Alibegovi_, and possibly all the others, were forcibly sent by the Bosnian Serb armed forces to the front line at Lopare, south of Br_ko, to dig trenches or fight Bosnian Government forces. Halid Velagi_ and Omer Alibegovi_ were subsequently wounded by an exploding grenade and taken to a hospital in Bijeljina. Halid Velagi_ has since returned to Janja, but did not know what had happened to Sulejman Skoki_.

Amnesty International has no further information about the fate of the men named above.

Movement in and out of Janja is reportedly strictly controlled by the Bosnian Serb authorities and no one may reach the town or leave it without the authorities' permission.

Amnesty International has also received a report that a curfew is in force in Janja and that those who break the curfew risk being arrested or killed. According to the same report, Bosnian Serb military officials, accompanied by Serb civilians, after having arrested and taken away Muslim men, have allegedly been returning to these homes and raping the women.

Another report received by Amnesty International indicates that the forcible expulsion of Muslims from Bijeljina may be continuing. On 24 July, buses with dimmed windows were reportedly seen passing through Janja, apparently travelling from Bijeljina to Zvornik. Local Muslims feared that they were carrying Muslims who had been taken from their homes by force by the Bosnian Serb authorities. On 24 July Sarajevo radio reportedly claimed that 54 Muslim men had been killed in Bijeljina and that 36 women were also missing.

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

- expressing deep concern about reports that on 15 July Bosnian Serb forces arrested Muslim men from Bijeljina, Br_ko and Janja, including the above-named men from Janja, some of whom have reportedly been sent to fight, against their will, Bosnian Government forces;

- urging the immediate release of all those who have been detained and forcibly mobilized against their will;

- expressing deep concern about recent allegations that Serb military officials,

accompanied by Serb civilians, have raped women in Janja, after arresting adult male members of their households, and urging that these allegations be investigated and any perpetrators brought to justice.

- expressing concern about reports indicating that Muslims have continued to be forcibly expelled from Bijeljina.

- calling for immediate action to ensure an end to all attempts to make non-Serbs leave their homes, whether by force or intimidation.

APPEALS TO

Commander of Serbian forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina

General Ratko Mladi_

c/o Vila "Bosanka"

Dedinje, Beograd, Yugoslavia.

Faxes: Belgrade +381 11 669 867 or +381 11 235 1213

Faxes: Pale, near Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina: +381 71 783 442*

Telegrams: General Mladi_, Dedinje, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear General Mladi_

Vice-President of the de facto Bosnian Serb Government (understood to be responsible for human rights questions)

Vitomir Popovi_

c/o Vila "Bosanka"

Dedinje, Beograd, Yugoslavia.

Faxes : Belgrade +381 11 669 867 or +381 11 235 1213

Faxes: Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina: +381 78 30 314*

Telegrams: Vitomir Popovi_, Dedinje, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

(* it may not be easy to get a connection)

Salutation: Dear Mr Popovi_

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The representative of the Bosnian Serbs

Dr Radovan Karad_i_

c/o Vila "Bosanka"

Dedinje, Beograd, Yugoslavia.

Faxes: Belgrade - +381 11 669 867

The president of Janja municipal assembly

Predsednik

Skupština opštine

76316 Janja

Republika Srpska

The president of Bijeljina municipal assembly

Predsednik

Skupština opštine

76300 Bijeljina

Republika Srpska

and to diplomatic representatives of the 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 5 September 1994.