

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/02/97

7 January 1997

Further information (2) on EXTRA 162/96 (EUR 44/164/96, 23 October 1996) and follow-up (EUR 44/179/96, 27 November 1996) - Prisoner of conscience

TURKEYOsman Murat Ülke, conscientious objector

On 24 December 1996 another hearing took place in the trial against Osman Murat Ülke at the Military Court of the General Staff in Ankara. Osman Murat Ülke, who was being held at a military prison in Eski\_ehir, was not brought to the hearing. The trial was adjourned to 28 January 1997. Osman Murat Ülke is charged in this trial with "alienating the public from the institution of military service", under Article 155 of the Turkish Penal Code and Article 58 of the Military Penal Code, by publicly burning his call-up papers and declaring his conscientious objection. The military court in Ankara had released Osman Murat Ülke on 19 December only for him to be detained again immediately upon release for transfer to his military unit. There he was arrested again for "continuing to disobey orders" and taken to Eski\_ehir Military Prison.

On 27 December 1996 the trial at Eski\_ehir Military Court against Osman Murat Ülke for his refusal to wear military uniform continued. The court released him at the end of the hearing which was adjourned to a later date.

In a public statement made after his release, Osman Murat Ülke said that he would not report to the military recruitment office of his own free will.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:**

- urging that he not be rearrested because of his stated conscientious objection to military service;
- reiterating appeals for the provision of alternative civilian service for conscientious objectors, in line with resolutions and recommendations by the United Nations and the Council of Europe (see update of 27 November 1996).

**APPEALS TO:**

1. Prosecutor at Military Court of General Staff:

Ba\_savc\_  
Genelkurmay Askeri Mahkemesi  
Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Genelkurmay Askeri Mahkemesi Bassavcisi, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 41 85 341**

**Salutation: Dear Prosecutor**

3. Minister of Justice:

Mr Sevket Kazan  
Adalet Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06659 Ankara, Turkey  
**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Ankara, Turkey**  
**Faxes: +90 312 425 4066; 417 3954**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

3. Minister of Defence:

Mr Turhan Tayan  
Ministry of Defence

Milli Savunma Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06100 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Defence Ministry, Ankara, Turkey**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

4. Chief of the Turkish General Staff:

General \_smail Hakk\_ Karaday\_

Bakanl\_klar

Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: General Karaday\_, Bakanliklar, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 418 1795**

**Salutation: Dear General**

**COPIES TO:**

State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights:

Mr Lütfü Esengün

Office of the Prime Minister

Ba\_bakanl\_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

**Faxes: +90 312 417 0476**

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 February 1997.