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7 March 1991

Further information on UA 48/91 (EUR 44/20/91, 12 February) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Emel At_ci (f)

Zeki Tombak Erdo_an Ergin Mehmet Gune_ Salih Koç

Emel At_ci, Zeki Tombak, Erdo_an Ergin and Mehmet Gune_ were formally arrested on 15 February 1991 and are currently held at Bayrampa_a prison in Istanbul. Emel Atici's 3-year-old child is with her in prison. It is reported that they may be charged with membership of the People's Armed Unit (SHB). Salih Koç was released on the same date. They had all been arrested in Istanbul on 9 February, and it was feared that they would be interrogated under torture while in police custody.

Emel At_ci has reported that she was beaten and insulted while in incommunicado detention. Mehmet Güne_ and Mehmet Gergeç were reportedly subjected to hanging by the wrists, electric shocks and falaka, and were given medical certificates certifying injuries consistent with these claims.

A lawyer was given power of attorney for ${\tt Emel\ At_ci}$ by her mother, but this was not accepted as valid by the Prosecutor and access was denied on these grounds.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- urging that the allegations of torture be independently investigated;
- urging that steps be taken to halt the widespread practice of denying detainees access to legal counsel, which is internationally recognized as a protection for detainees against torture, and for the security forces against false allegations of torture.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of the Interior Abdülkadir Aksu Içisleri Bakanligi Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 46369 ICSL TR Faxes: +90 41 28 43 46

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Turkey in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 18 April 1991.