

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/35/94  
Distr: UA/SC

10 May 1994

**Further information on UA 162/94 (EUR 44/29/94, 26 April 1994) - "Disappearance"  
/ Fear of Extrajudicial Execution and new concern: Extrajudicial execution  
/ Fear for safety**

**TURKEY: erif Av\_ar, aged 29**

The body of \_erif Av\_ar has been found. Amnesty International believes he was extrajudicially executed a few days after 22 April, when he was abducted from his family's business premises by five village guards and two plainclothes men believed to be members of the gendarmerie intelligence service JITEM. Lack of government action to investigate earlier killings seems to have led to the relative openness with which this abduction was carried out. This level of impunity mixed with further threats against \_erif Av\_ar's relatives has heightened Amnesty International's fears for the safety of other members of the Av\_ar family.

On 7 May, the Av\_ar family was telephoned and asked to come to the university hospital in Diyarbak\_r to identify a body found near the village of Toprakl\_, in the district of Silvan. The family confirmed that the victim was \_erif Av\_ar, shopkeeper and father of two young children. He had been shot twice in the head. An autopsy reportedly established that he had been killed some 10 days earlier, five days after his "disappearance".

Family members who had followed the two cars in which the abductors drove with \_erif Av\_ar to the Gendarmerie Command Headquarters in Saraykap\_ were able to identify the five village guards whom they also saw on the gendarmerie compound shortly after the abduction. The five have reportedly been detained.

\_erif Av\_ar's name joins the list of at least 15 others who have "disappeared" in Turkey since the beginning of 1994, in Istanbul as well as the southeastern provinces. Unlike the other victims who were captured in remote villages, sometimes at night, or were called under false pretences to unknown destinations, \_erif Av\_ar was abducted in broad daylight, in the presence of witnesses, and taken directly to a government detention facility. Within hours of \_erif Av\_ar's detention, appeals were made on his behalf to the civil, judicial and police authorities, and even to President Demirel himself. However, it appears that the authorities made no effort whatsoever to establish his whereabouts. It seems the abduction was carried out openly in order to demonstrate publicly that the perpetrators were able to act with impunity.

It appears that the family has been targeted because one of its members is the European representative of the Kurdish newspaper Özgür Gündem. Six Özgür Gündem journalists and 12 of its distributors have been killed in less than two years of the newspaper's existence, and two of its journalists have "disappeared". The circumstances of the killings suggest security force involvement, but the authorities have consistently failed to implement the United Nations Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions, as repeatedly urged by Amnesty International.

Other members of the Av\_ar family have been threatened with abduction and there is serious concern for their safety. Amnesty International is calling for

immediate measures to be taken to protect them from "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution.

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

- expressing outrage at yet another case of "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution in which government agencies were clearly implicated, namely that of \_erif Av\_ar in Diyarbak\_r;
- calling for an immediate, full and impartial investigation, and for those responsible for the abduction and murder of \_erif Av\_ar to be brought to justice;
- urging that all appropriate measures are taken in order to protect the Av\_ar family which has been threatened with further "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions;
- calling for impartial commissions of investigation into the pattern of killings and "disappearances" to be set up in accordance with the United Nations Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions.

**APPEALS TO**

1) Minister of the Interior:

Mr Nahit Ment\_e  
\_çi\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06644 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 428 4346**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

2) Chief of Staff of the Gendarmerie:

General Ayd\_n\_lter  
Jandarma Kuvvetleri Komutanl\_\_\_\_  
Bakanl\_klar  
Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Jandarma Genel Komutani, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 418 0476**

**Salutation: Dear General**

3) President Süleyman Demirel

Cumhurbaşkanl\_\_\_\_  
Cankaya  
Ankara, Turkey

**Telexes: 42303 KOSK TR**

**Faxes: +90 312 468 5012 (via Press Office)**

**Telegrams: President Demirel, Ankara, Turkey**

**Salutation: Dear President**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Sabri Yavuz  
\_nsan Haklar\_ Ara\_t\_rma Komisyonu Ba\_kan\_  
TBMM

Ankara, Turkey

**Faxes: +90 312 420 5394**

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 21 June 1994.