

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 93/91 (EUR 44/33/91, 11 March 1991) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY:Sait Seyit Ahmad (please note correct name)

Daryü_ Lorestani
Manije Mahcar Saliyani (f)
Naser Hodapanani (Hodabandeh)
Abbas Rüstani Gomi
Hamid Hamidyan
Mahdi Javadi Nejad
Seyid Monnirirad
Bijan Barzinmer
Samad Ma_adban

Amnesty International has learned that Sait Seyit Ahmad was formally arrested on or around 18 March and is now held at Ankara Central Closed Prison. It is thought that he will be charged with membership of an illegal organization. He has reported that he was severely beaten when he was taken into custody. On arrival at the Political Branch of Police Headquarters he was allegedly beaten unconscious, and recovered to find himself naked and being sprayed with cold water at high pressure.

All the others named above have been released. It is not known whether or not they will face charges, and it is not known what treatment they received while in police detention.

All those detained were refugees recognized by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), apart from one whose case was under consideration.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Faxes/express and airmail letters:

- regretting the fact that detainees were not permitted access to legal counsel and that representatives of the UNHCR were refused permission to see the refugees;
- requesting a full enquiry into the allegations of torture made by Sait Seyit Ahmad;
- asking that evidence extracted under torture not be used as evidence in court except in legal proceedings brought against the torturers.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Justice
Mahmut Oltan Sungurlu
Adalet Bakanligi
06659 Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 41 25 40 66

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 3 May 1991.