

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 149/92 Death Threats/Fear of Extrajudicial Execution

8 May 1992

TURKEY: Leyla Zana (female) [independent MP for Diyarbak\_r]  
Sedat Yurtta\_ [MP for Diyarbakir]  
Hatip Dicle [independent MP for Diyarbakir]  
Zübeyir Aydar [independent MP for Siirt]  
Do\_u Perinçek [Publisher]  
Yalçın Küçük [Writer and publisher]  
Musa Anter [Writer]  
Mahmut Al\_nak [MP for \_irnak]  
Ahmet Türk [independent MP for Mardin]  
Sedat Edip Bucak [MP for \_anl\_urfa]  
Salih Sümer [MP for Diyarbakir]  
Mahmut Uyan\_k [MP for Diyarbak\_r]  
S\_rr\_\_ak\_k [MP for Mu\_]  
Muzaffer Ar\_kan [MP for Mardin]  
Adnan Ekman [MP for Batman]  
Orhan Do\_an [independent MP for Cizre]  
Selim Sadak [independent MP for \_\_rnak]  
Nizamettin Tonguç [independent MP for Batman]  
Abdülkerim Zilan [MP for Batman]  
Mehmet Sincar [independent MP for Mardin]  
Yavuz Binbay [IHD president in Van]

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Cabbar Laygara [lawyer from Diyarbak\_r]  
Sekvan Aytu [IHD President in \_\_rnak]  
Bar\_\_ Mü\_takhan [correspondent for foreign newspaper]  
Ha\_m Ha\_imi [Mayor of Cizre]  
Faik Tünefan [IHD member, Istanbul]  
Ömer Hazar [IHD member, Istanbul]  
Dr Ata Soyer [Central Council member of the Union of Turkish Doctors]

In recent weeks a leaflet threatening death to the 28 people named above has been distributed in various towns in the predominantly Kurdish southeast of Turkey. All 28 people named in the leaflet are either Kurdish members of parliament, or have in some way spoken out publicly on behalf of Turkey's Kurdish minority and taken up or investigated cases of human rights violations against them. The leaflet is signed "Islami Cihad-B (Islami Yumruk)" meaning "Islamic Holy War - B (Fist of Islam)". Many of its threats are directed against the Kurdish Workers' Party, PKK, its organizations and its leader, Abdullah Öcalan (widely known as Apo), which since 1984 has been fighting a guerrilla war for an independent Kurdish state. The leaflet states among other things that:

*"The Religious Union of ERNK", the dogs of Apo, will be killed by the Fist of Islam sooner or later.*

"Islami Cihad-B (Islami Yumruk) will continue the struggle with these hypocrites as it has done in the past in K\_z\_ltepe, Nusaybin, Batman and Diyarbak\_r [scene of a continuing series of killings believed to be extrajudicial executions], with the permission of Almighty God.

"The killing of such persons is proper.

"Oh Muslims, the blood of correspondents and writers of Yeni Ülke, Özgür Halk, Newroz, Deng, Ikibin'e Do ru is yours to spill.

"The highest worship is to combat these wretched hypocrites, sons of the infidel.

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"Show the fighters of the Fist of Islam the path to these people whom you know.

"In unity and brotherhood on the path of Allah, let us continue to destroy these hypocrites, with the permission of Allah.

"- death to Apo, the spawn of infidel Nimrod.

"- death to the hypocrites of Apo.

"- the love of Allah is the source of our struggle.

"Muslims, we swear in the name of Allah that  
"the whore Leyla Zana [thereafter 27 names as listed above]  
"will be slaughtered in the name of Allah."

A British human rights delegation reported a death threat made by Colonel Yediy\_ld\_z, the Diyarbak\_r Gendarmerie Commander, on 18 April 1992 against the woman MP Leyla Zana in Tepe near Bismil. The delegation and also the Diyarbak\_r Police Chief, Ramazan Er, and the MP for Cizre, Orhan Do\_an, were present when the threat was made. Col Yediy\_ld\_z reportedly told Leyla Zana:

"You are my enemy. I will only be satisfied when I have spilt your blood. Even if I killed you and drank your blood, I still would not be content. I am going to kill you, but first I am going to discredit you."

On 5 May, at 2 o'clock in the morning, a large number of security personnel accompanied by armoured vehicles came to the house of Sekvan Aytu, president of the Human Rights Association (IHD) in \_\_rnak, asking for him. However, he was away on a trip. In his function as local IHD president he usually is easily accessible during the day in his office. Several victims of extrajudicial executions have been taken from their homes late in the night in a similar fashion.

In view of the continuing series of mysterious killings in the southeast, often after the abduction and torture of the victim, Amnesty International is deeply concerned about the safety of all those named above, but in particular of Leyla Zana.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

More than 50 killings and a number of "disappearances" have occurred in southeast Turkey during the past year in which involvement of the security forces has been alleged. The main targets have been local politicians (in particular members of the People's Labour Party (HEP) perceived to represent the Kurdish minority; the independent MPs named above are all members of HEP), local representatives of the Human Rights Association (IHD), journalists investigating human rights abuses, and

villagers who refuse to participate in the system of government-appointed village guards especially when they were suspected of links with the PKK either directly or through family members.

Many attribute the succession of alleged extrajudicial executions to the so-called kontrgerilla, part of the secret service said to specialize in operations against insurgents in the southeast. From December 1991 killings and woundings were increasingly carried out by assassins, who are often very young, in the street. Some sources attribute these killings to Hizbullah. The existence of Hizbullah as an organized armed force in Turkey is in some doubt, and it is widely believed that such assassinations are carried out on the instigation of the security forces. Two journalists investigating a possible connection were assassinated in February 1992. Islami Cihad-B (Islami Yumruk) is a previously unknown organization, but its targets appear to be the same as those previously attributed to Hizbullah and the kontrgerilla.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern about death threats made against 28 people named in a leaflet by Islami Cihad-B (Islami Yumruk) and in particular against Leyla Zana by Colonel Yediy\_ld\_z, especially in view of the fact that over 50 unresolved killings, where the involvement of the security forces is alleged, have already occurred in the region;
- seeking assurances that the authorities will do everything possible to ensure the safety of all 28 named persons;
- appealing that all necessary steps be taken to prevent further killings and "disappearances".

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**APPEALS TO**

1) Prime Minister:

Mr Süleyman Demirel  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Ba\_bakanl\_k  
06573 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Ankara,  
Turkey**

**Telexes: 44061/44062/44063 bbmt tr  
42099 basb tr  
42875 bbk tr**

**Faxes: + 90 41 17 04 76  
+ 90 42 30 88 96**

**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

2) Minister of the Interior:

Mr \_smet Sezgin  
\_çi\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06644 Ankara, Turkey

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

**Telexes: 46369 IC SL TR  
Faxes: + 90 4 118 1795**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

3) Gendarmerie General Commander:

Orgeneral E\_ref Bitlis  
Jandarma Kuvvetleri Komutan\_  
Kuvvetleri Komutanl\_\_\_\_  
Bakanl\_klar  
Ankara, Turkey

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

**Salutation: Dear General**

4) Emergency Legislation Governor:

Mr Ünal Erkan  
Ola\_anüstü Hal Valisi  
Diyarbak\_r, Turkey

**Telegrams: Olaganustu Hal Valisi,  
Diyarbakir, Turkey**

**Telexes: 72110 OHVT TR  
72084 DYVA TR  
72090 JASY TR**

**Faxes: + 90 831 26174**

**(telephone first and ask to  
switch on the fax machine:  
"Lütfen fax sinyali veriniz")**

**Salutation: Dear Governor**

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

\_nsan Haklar\_ Ara\_t\_rma Komisyonu Ba\_kan\_

TBMM

Ankara, Turkey

and 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 19 June 1992.