

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 44/93 (EUR 44/44/93, 7 May 1993) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY:

Arrested and sent to prison:

Teslim Töre

Murat Toprak

Hüseyin Bak_r

Muazzez Yücel (female) (note correction of name))

and new names:

Kenan Kalyon

Mustafa Çubuk

Ergün Adakl_

Fatma_rier (female)

Mukaddes Alata_ (female)

Mehmet Ali Ayhan

Cemile Arda (female)

Detained in the same operation but later released:

Fethiye Y_ld_r_m F and her brothers

Ahmet Fethi Y_ld_r_m

Fethi_hsan Y_ld_r_m

Songül Cö_kun (female)

Kudret Çubuk (wife of Mustafa Çubuk)

On 19 May 1993 all those mentioned above (with the exception of Kudret Çubuk who was released some days earlier) were brought before Istanbul State Security Court, where 11 were arrested for membership or support of the illegal TKEP (Türkiye Komünist Emek Partisi - Turkish Communist Labour Party) and sent to Sa_malc_lar Prison to await trial. The other detainees were released. After appearing in court, Teslim Töre, the General Secretary of the illegal organization TKEP (Turkish Communist Labour Party) was given an opportunity to talk to the press, and told reporters: "I was interrogated by M_T [State Intelligence Organization]. They behaved very well towards me, and offered me tea, coffee, and even a glass of rak_" (alcoholic drink).

Ergün Adakl_ stated that he had not been tortured.

Ahmet Fethi Y_ld_r_m gave Amnesty International the following account of his detention: "I and my brother Fethi_hsan Y_ld_r_m, my elder sister Fethiye Y_ld_r_m and my girlfriend Söngül Co_kun were sitting at home in the Avc_lar district of the city when about 15 plain clothes policemen carrying machine guns appeared in the flat - they had let themselves in with a key. We were detained and taken to the Anti-Terror Branch of Istanbul Police Headquarters at Gayrettepe. We were not tortured in the conventional ways, but we were blindfolded and made to stand for three days without sleeping in a very cold place. Whenever we went to sleep we were shaken awake by a guard. At the end of three days I was interrogated for about five hours on just one occasion, after which I was put in a cell 2.5 m x 1 m, with a bench, a mattress and a blanket. I stayed there for the rest of the fifteen days until 19 May.

"I saw Hüseyin Bak_r, Murat Toprak, Mehmet Ali Ayhan and Cemile Arda being taken out of their cells on numerous occasions for interrogation. They looked bruised and exhausted. I was able to talk to them in court - they told me that they had been beaten, hung up by the arms, soaked with cold water, subjected to falaka (beating on the soles of the feet), and electric shocks. They complained to the judge and the prosecutor about being tortured, and were referred to the Forensic Medicine Institute. I do not know if they received a medical report. There were obvious signs of torture when I saw them in the early days of the detention, but by the time we went to court the bruises had disappeared.

"I felt that we were lucky in a way - recently many people have been killed in house-raids. We could easily have been shot and presented to the press as having been killed in a clash. I have previous experience of police custody - I was convicted of membership of TKEP and spent 1983 to 1988 in prison. But my sister was very frightened indeed and has been very disturbed by what happened."

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

- urging that the allegations of torture made by Ahmet Fethi Y_ld_r_m, Hüseyin Bak_r, Murat Toprak, Mehmet Ali Ayhan and Cemile Arda be promptly, thoroughly and impartially investigated by an independent body, and that any persons found responsible be brought promptly to justice.

APPEALS TO:

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 4 418 1795

Salutation: Dear Minister

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

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 18 June 1993.