

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/51/96

2 April 1996

Further information on EXTRA 142/95 (EUR 44/135/95, 17 November 1995) and follow-up (EUR 44/142/95, 24 November 1995) - Fear of "disappearance" / Fear of torture

TURKEY Süleyman Seyhan, a Kurd aged 58
Nedim Akkoyun, shepherd boy aged 12
Davut Alt_nkaynak, shepherd boy aged 12
Seyhan Do_an, shepherd boy aged 13
Abdurrahman Co_kun, aged 18 [note: corrected age]
Abdurrahman Olcay, student aged 19
Mehmet Emin Aslan, aged about 25 [note: corrected age]

On 6 March 1996 the body of Süleyman Seyhan was found in a cistern in the evacuated village of Korucu [Ma_ra] by his relatives.

Following the abduction of two teachers and a building contractor on 28 October 1995 who were later found dead, a joint operation of security forces and village guards was carried out for several days in the area of Dargeçit in which reportedly about 100 villagers were detained. The detention of Süleyman Seyhan, Nedim Akkoyun, Davut Alt_nkaynak, Seyhan Do_an, Abdurrahman Co_kun, Abdurrahman Olcay and Mehmet Emin Aslan as well as the detention of many other villagers was witnessed by villagers. Apart from the above seven people all villagers were later released; several of them reported that they had been tortured during detention

Süleyman Seyhan was taken from his house at 7am on 30 October 1995 by soldiers and a village guards who put him into their jeep. His daughter Fehime was detained the same morning in front of her children. She was released three days later. Süleyman Seyhan's detention was never acknowledged by the authorities although he had reportedly been seen by fellow-detainees at the Dargeçit Gendarmerie Battalion Headquarters as had the six "disappeared" boys and young men.

At the beginning of March 1996 a relative of Süleyman Seyhan received an anonymous phone call saying that he was dead, and giving information as to where his body was hidden. On 6 March Süleyman Seyhan's family obtained permission from the Major commanding the Gendarmerie Battalion at Dargeçit to collect the body. After the body of Süleyman Seyhan was found, his relatives informed the authorities who examined the body and the site.

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

- expressing grave concern for the safety of the juveniles Nedim Akkoyun, Davut Alt_nkaynak and Seyhan Do_an, as well as the villagers Abdurrahman Olcay, Abdurrahman Co_kun and Mehmet Emin Aslan, all of whom "disappeared" after being taken into custody at Dargeçit Gendarmerie Battalion Headquarters in late 1995;
- urging that their whereabouts be established without further delay and that their families be informed accordingly;
- calling for an immediate and impartial investigation to be carried out into the death of Süleyman Seyhan and asking to be informed of its results.

APPEALS TO:

1) Minister of the Interior:
Mr Ülkü Güney

Içisleri Bakanl____

06644 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Minister

2) Dargeçit Gendarmerie Commander:

Dargeçit Jandarma Komutan_

Jandarma Bölük Komutanl____

Dargeçit - Mardin, Turkey

Telegrams: Jandarma Komutani, Dargecit, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Commander

3) Mardin Chief Prosecutor:

Mardin Cumhuriyet Ba_savc_s_

Hükümet Kona__

Mardin, Turkey

Telegrams: Cumhuriyet Bassavcisi, Mardin, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Sir

4) Dargeçit Governor:

Dargeçit Kaymakam_

Hükümet Kona__

Dargeçit - Mardin, Turkey

Telegrams: Kaymakam, Dargecit, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Governor

COPIES 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 10 May 1996.