

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 164/91 (EUR 44/60/91, 10 May 1991) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY:       Bedri Uzunboy, aged 28  
              Ibrahim Türk, aged 32  
              Aziz Özalp, aged 34  
              Abdurrahman Sansarkan, aged 25  
              Ahmet Özalp, aged 28  
              Zeki Alyaprak, aged 32  
              Remzi Tanrikulu, aged 23  
              Fahri .....

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On 8 May 1991, the eight people from Bismil named above with the exception of Ibrahim Türk were released without being brought before the Prosecutor. Ibrahim Türk was taken to Diyarbakir State Security Court on 14 May 1991 and released without charges being brought.

All those detained claim that they were subjected to some form of ill-treatment, while Ibrahim Türk was beaten, hosed with pressurized cold water, suspended by the wrists with arms tied behind his back and subjected to electric shocks on five separate occasions. On release he had bruises about the body and marks from being suspended, but these were not recorded in the certificate issued by the Forensic Medicine Institute.

Although taken into custody on 6 May 1991 for participation in an unauthorized demonstration, interrogation of the detainees focused on their alleged knowledge of guerrilla activities in the area. None of the detainees had a lawyer to act on their behalf and none were given the opportunity to appoint a lawyer, as required by the Criminal Procedure Code. None of the detainees lodged any formal complaint about treatment in police custody, being discouraged by the new "anti-terror" law which came into force in April 1991 and requires permission from the Interior Ministry for the prosecution of alleged torturers. (An example of the possible effects of the Anti-Terror Law on proceedings against torturers is the halting at the end of May 1991 of the trial of five members of the armed forces charged with killing the teacher Siddik Bilgin under torture in 1985. A decision will be made subsequently as to whether or not a new trial can be opened.)

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern at the alleged ill-treatment and torture of the above eight detainees from Bismil at the anti-riot police headquarters (Çevik Kuvvet) in Diyarbakir between 6 and 14 May 1991;
- urging that an immediate, independent and thorough investigation into their allegations is initiated and requesting to be informed of its methods and findings.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of the Interior:

Mr Abdülkadir Aksu  
İçişleri Bakanlığı  
06644 Ankara, Turkey

**Faxes:** + 90 41 28 43 46;  
+ 90 41 17 2390

**COPIES TO:**

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Eyüp A\_ik  
İnsan Hakları Ara\_tırma Komisyonu Ba\_kanı  
TBMM  
Ankara, Turkey

**Faxes:** + 90 4 42 06 941

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 16 July 1991.