

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 149/92 (EUR 44/44/92, 8 May 1992) - and follow-ups: EUR 44/88/92, 11 September 1992; EUR 44/92/92, 22 September 1992 - Death Threats/ Fear of Extrajudicial Execution and new concern: Fear for Safety

TURKEY:

Leyla Zana (female)	Muzaffer Ar_kan	Ömer Hazar
Sedat Yurtta_	Adnan Ekmen	Dr Ata Soyer
Hatip Dicle	Orhan Do_an	
Zübeyir Aydar	Selim Sadak	and new names:
Do_u Perinçek	Nizamettin Toğu_	Mehmet Sincar
Yalçın Küçük	Abdülkerim Zilan	(assassinated 4
Mahmut Al_nak	Yavuz Binbay	September 1993)
Ahmet Türk	Cabbar Laygara	Metin Özdemir
Sedat Edip Bucak	Sekvan Aytu	(assassinated 4
Salih Sümer	Bar__ Mü_takhan	September 1993
Mahmut Uyan_k	Ha_im Ha_imi	Musa Anter (assassinated
S_rr_Sak_k	Faik Tünefan	20 September 1992)

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of the people named above who continue to receive death threats, in particular Leyla Zana and Sedat Yurtta_. The organization is also concerned that the killings of Mehmet Sincar, MP, and Metin Özdemir in Batman on 4 September 1993, may have been extrajudicial executions.

Mehmet Sincar, Democracy Party (DEP) MP for Mardin, and Metin Özdemir, the chairman of DEP in Batman, were shot dead by three gunmen in broad daylight in the city of Batman, southeast Turkey, on 4 September 1993, the day after attending the funeral of Habib K_l_ç, former chairman of DEP in Batman who was killed on 1 September. Four other people, including the DEP MP, Nizamettin To_u_, were wounded in the attack. Mehmet Sincar was the 54th and most high ranking member of the DEP to be assassinated in the last two years.

On 4 September, the party of MPs who had come to Batman for the funeral split into two groups to tour the town and talk to local people. Leyla Zana and Sedat Yurtta_ were in one group, Mehmet Sincar and Metin Özdemir in the other. Five minutes before the killing, the group and Leyla Zana returned to the DEP party building. As soon as they got there they heard by telephone that Mehmet Sincar had been killed. When they arrived at the scene of the crime less than 10 minutes later they came across dozens of police vehicles. Police questioned DEP supporters in the crowd and reportedly told them, "If you do not give us information this is what happens". A young man working in the DEP party building was told by a plainclothes policeman, "You have been detained twice and still you are walking around - you will be wiped out by evening time".

Later that day, the Turkish Revenge Brigade (TIT - Türkçü Intikam Tu_ay_) contacted national newspapers, stating that the event was in retaliation for Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) activities, adding, "Our principal targets were Diyarbakir MPs, Sedat Yurtta_ and Leyla

Zana. Because our hit-men shot the wrong persons, our mission was not successful. Our operations against the parliamentarians will continue."

Other DEP MPs who were in Batman at the time of the killing report that they were under heavy police surveillance on the day before the killing and were followed everywhere by at least two vehicles and many plainclothes policemen. However, the police presence disappeared on the morning of 4 September, the day of the murders resulting in the assassins escaping from the scene of the crime. All foreign observers who have visited the area have noted that police presence is particularly heavy in Batman and that their movements were constantly monitored. On 4 September, police reportedly did not control exits to the city, but carried out heavy incoming checks.

Given the renewed death threat against Leyla Zana and Sedat Yurtta_, Amnesty International is gravely concerned for their safety.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Amnesty International has received persistent reports of members of the security forces threatening to kill Kurdish activists in Turkey. Members of a foreign delegation were present when a gendarmerie commander allegedly threatened Leyla Zana. A gendarmerie commander in the town of Silvan in Diyarbak_r province was recently recorded on tape, in the presence of the former Interior Minister, _smet Sezgin, planning the murder of a local politician.

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

- expressing grave concern about the murder of Mehmet Sincar, MP, and Metin Özdemir in Batman on 4 September, the wounding of four others including Nizamettin Togu_, MP, and the renewed death threats against MPs Leyla Zana and Sedat Yurtta_;
- urging that all possible steps be taken without delay to find and bring to justice those responsible for the attack, and to prevent further such killings;
- calling for an independent commission to be established to investigate these political killings according to the United Nations Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions.

APPEALS TO

1) President Süleyman Demirel

Cumhurba_kanl____

Çankaya

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: President Demirel, Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 42303 kosk tr

Faxes: +90 44 68 50 12 (via Press Office)

Salutation: Dear President

2) Chief of the Turkish General Staff:

General Do_an Güre_

Bakanl_klar

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: General Gures, Bakanliklar, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 4 418 1795

Salutation: Dear General

3) Chief of Staff of the Gendarmerie:

General Ayd_n_lter

Jandarma Kuvvetleri Komutanl____

Bakanl_klar

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Jandarma Genel Komutani, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 4 418 0476
Salutation: Dear General

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS 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 19 October 1993.