

24 November 1997

Further information on EXTRA 158/97 (EUR 44/81/97, 19 November 1997) - Fear of "disappearance"/Torture**TURKEY** Bereket Da_ (f)
Ramazan Demir

Ömer Yüksel
Hüseyin Karakoyun,
Ismet Karakoyun
M. Ali Yüksel
Ali Erol
Musa Erol
Ahmet Turgay,
_ehmuz Yeter,
Izzet Yeter
Ahmet Yavuz
_erif Yurt
Oktay Yurt
Fikret Yurt
_ehmuz Açıan
Abdullllah Baran
_evket Baran
Mustafa Ak_n
Hasan Kanat
A.Rahman Kanat
Cevzet Turan
Osman Aykal

Amnesty International has received the following information about the detention of some 30 villagers from the village of Ç_narönü, near the town of Savur in Mardin province.

On the evening of 10 November 1997, a clash between the security forces and armed members of the PKK (Kurdish Workers' Party) occurred some three to four kilometres from the village of Ç_narönü. By 6.30am, the following day, the village was surrounded by 500 to 600 soldiers. After summoning the population of more than 1,000 to the village square, the commander of Sürgücü Gendarmerie Station told them: "You are aiding the PKK", and reportedly threatened them. He then read out a list of more than 30 names and sent the other villagers home.

Those named in the list were driven to Sürgücü Gendarmerie Station, where they were made to wait for two to three hours. They were then taken to the Central Gendarmerie Command in Savur. They were forced to kneel outside for 48 hours and were beaten constantly and denied food and water.

On 12 November, the detainees were separated into two groups. 21 or 22 detainees were placed in a room above 10 other detainees. Those below were made to wait until the morning and to listen to the cries of those being tortured above.

The following morning, the group of 10 villagers were put in a minibus and taken back to the village. When they reached the village, the soldiers told them to go away and refused to say where the other villagers would be taken. On 16 November, the gendarmerie commander came to the village with five or

six soldiers and told one of those released to leave his house. The house was then set on fire. Other houses, tractors and minibuses were also set on fire.

Two days later, one of the villagers who had left the village learned that it had been completely emptied and that of the remaining 21 or 22 detainees, Abdullah Baran, Bozan Baran, Ahmet Yavuz, Mahmut Çakmak, Garip Çakmak, _eyhmus Yatak, Mehmet Ali Yüksel and the village headman, A.Halim Erkan, had been taken to Mardin for interrogation. Amnesty International has no further information about the fate of the other detainees. There is great fear for the safety of all of them.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Abdullah Baran, Bozan Baran, Ahmet Yavuz, Mahmut Çakmak, Garip Çakmak, _eyhmus Yatak, Mehmet Ali Yüksel and the village headman A.Halim Erkan from Ç_narönü village near Savur in Mardin province, reportedly held in Mardin; and for the safety of a further 15 or 16 villagers held at an undisclosed location, all held in unacknowledged detention since 11 November 1997;
- expressing particular concern about reports that they were subjected to torture at Savur Central Gendarmerie Command;
- urging that immediate steps be taken to establish their whereabouts and state of health and that their relatives be informed immediately;
- requesting to be informed of any charges brought against the villagers.

APPEALS TO:

1. Mardin Chief Public Prosecutor:

Mardin C. Ba_savc_s_
C. Ba_savc_l____
Mardin, Turkey

Telegrams: Bassavcisi, Mardin, Turkey
Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

2. Chief of Staff of the Gendarmerie:

General Fikret Özden Boztepe
Jandarma Kuvvetleri Komutanl____
Bakanl_klar
Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Jandarma Genel Komutani, Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: + 90 312 418 9208
Salutation: Dear General

3. Minister of the Interior:

Mr Murat Ba_eskio_lu
_cisleri Bakanl____
Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: + 90 312 418 1795
Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights

Mr Hikmet Sami Türk
Office of the Prime Minister
Ba_bakanl_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: + 90 312 417 0476

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 22 December 1997.