EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 84/93 (EUR 44/90/93, 4 October 1993) and follow-up: EUR 44/91/93, 6 October 1993 - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Nilüfer Koç (female), Kurdish interpreter of Turkish origin, student in Germany, aged 24

Nilüfer Koç, who had been detained in Uludere, __rnak province, on 29 September while accompanying a German delegation to Turkey, was released on 5 October 1993.

After her return to Germany, Nilüfer Koç described her treatment while in detention at the Gendarmerie Headquarters in __rnak: During the first three days sheer violence reigned. Her torture included being hung by handcuffs from a hook for two hours. She was repeatedly hosed with cold water while naked, was beaten and called a "Kurdish whore", grabbed by the hair and then had her head hit against the wall. On one occasion a weapon was held against her forehead and she was told to make a last wish. According to one newspaper report, she recounted, how she had heard screaming from other rooms and, on one occasion, sounds as if a corpse was being removed. Having been blindfolded when outside her cell, she could only guess that she was being held in a military station.

Nilüfer Koç assumed that the security forces believed her to be involved in Bremen in the Kurdish resistance movement and that they hoped to obtain from her information about activities of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in Germany. To such questions she was only able to answer, "I have nothing to do with such things".

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

- expressing dismay at the reported torture of the interpreter Nilüfer Koç from Germany, in $_$ rnak between 29 September and 5 October;
- calling for a prompt, impartial and thorough investigation into her allegations of torture.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs:
Mr Hikmet Çetin
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
D_i_leri Bakanl___
06100 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Foreign Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: 90 4 287 3869

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

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 November 1993.