

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/110/96

EXTRA 110/96

Fear of torture

18 July 1996

TURKEYHalil Can Do_an, aged 15

Esat Y_laz

_eref Han

Ay_e K_l_ç (f)

R_za Polat

Ismail K_z_lçay

Tayfun Koçak

Taylan Keskin

Ebru Arkan (f)

Servet Sand_kl_

Gökçen Kaygusuz

Hülya Deveci (f)

Levent Can Y_lmaz

Deniz Fidan

Ersin Atar

Müstecef Türkücü

Melek [family name not known]

Bülent [family name not known]

Pervin Abdalo_lu (f), released

Ayhan Sa_can (f), released

Amnesty International fears for the safety of 15-year-old Halil Can Do_an, detained on 12 July 1996, and of others detained around the same time in a police operation in Ankara which ran from 8 to 16 July. Reportedly the prosecutor at Ankara State Security Court has authorized that Halil Can Do_an may be held in incommunicado detention at Ankara Police Headquarters until 25 July when he will be brought before a judge to be charged or released. It is not known whether the other detainees are to be taken to court on the same date.

One of those detained, Pervin Abdalo_lu, is reported to have been released on 18 July and was taken to hospital for examination. It is alleged that she was tortured, including by electric shocks.

Halil Can Do_an was detained twice during 1995, in March and April, after which he alleged that he had been tortured and ill-treated. On the second occasion his allegations were supported by a medical report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

People suspected of offences under the Anti-Terror Law can be held in police custody without access to family, friends or legal counsel for up to 30 days in the 10 provinces under State of Emergency in the east and southeast such as Diyarbak_r, and for 15 days in the rest of Turkey. When not being interrogated, detainees are often held in cramped, airless and insanitary conditions. With no access to the outside world they are at the mercy of their interrogators. Torture is often applied to extract confessions, to elicit information about illegal organizations, to intimidate detainees into becoming police informers or as informal punishment for assumed support of illegal organizations.

Torture methods include being stripped naked and blindfolded, hosing with pressurized ice-cold water, hanging by the arms or wrists bound behind the victim's back, electric shocks, beating the soles of the feet, death threats and sexual assault.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Halil Dan Do_an, aged 15, and the 17 other people detained on or around 12 July in Ankara and held incommunicado at Ankara Police Headquarters;
- expressing concern also about the reported torture of Pervin Abdalo_lu;
- urging that the detainees are not subjected to torture or any other form of ill-treatment;
- requesting to be informed of any charges brought against them.

APPEALS TO:

1. Prosecutor at Ankara State Security Court:

Mr Cevdet Volkan

Ankara DGM Savcili_i

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Savcili_i, Ankara, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

2. Ankara Chief of Police:

Mr Ramazan Er

Ankara Emniyet Müdürlü_ü

Konya-Samsun Karayolu

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Emniyet Muduru, Ankara, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Sir

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Mrs. Tansu Çiller

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

D__i__leri Bakanl____

06100 Ankara

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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 30 July 1996.