

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 46/40/96

30 August 1996

Further information on UA 184/96 (EUR 46/34/96, 23 July 1996) - Prisoner of Conscience / Conscientious objection

RUSSIAN FEDERATION Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich, 22, novice at a Buddhist monastery

Amnesty International has learned that on 28 June 1996 the St Petersburg Military procurator ruled to close the case against conscientious objector Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich due to "change in circumstance". The procurator ruled that he should no longer be detained, but sent to the Military recruitment office in the republic of Tuva, in order to be dismissed from military service. This decision was upheld on 18 July by the Military Procurator of Moscow.

However, according to information received from the deputy Military procurator of Khabarovsk, Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich has now been returned from the Investigation prison in St Petersburg where he was being detained to his original military unit in Khabarovsk and is being made to continue serving in the army.

It is said that the criminal charges against him are still being examined by the military procurator of the Krasnorechensky region.

Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich, a novice at a buddhist monastery, deserted from his military unit after being denied the possibility of registering his conscientious objection to compulsory military service both at the time he was called up and after conscription. Amnesty International is concerned that Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich continues to be denied the option of lawfully registering his objection, and therefore that he is still at risk of imprisonment if he should obey his conscience and desert again.

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

- expressing concern that despite the rulings of the St Petersburg Military procurator of 28 June 1996 and the Central Military Procurator in Moscow to allow Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich to return to his native region of Tuva, he is still with his military unit in the Khabarovsk region;
- urging that any charges still pending against Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich for desertion be dropped;
- urging that until such time as a genuine civilian alternative exists in law and practise, Uvanchaa Dozur-ool Mongushevich should be allowed to perform unarmed duties of a non-combatant and non-punitive nature.
- urging that immediate moves are made to introduce proper provision for recognition of conscientious objection, including adequate mechanisms for registering objection and provision of non-punitive alternative service.

APPEALS TO:

Chief Military Procurator of the Russian Federation
Valentin PANICHEV
Rossiyskaya Federatsiya
103760 g. Moskva K-13
Kuznetsky Most, 13
Prokuratora Rossiyskoy Federatsii
Glavnomu voyennomu prokuroru
PANICHEVU V.

Telegrams: Chief Military Procurator, Moscow, Russia

Salutation: Dear Chief Military Procurator

Military Procurator of the St Petersburg Garrison
Rossiyskaya Federatsiya
191194 St Petersburg
ul Shapalernaya, d. 4
Voyennomy prokuroru
Sankt- Peterburgskogo Garnizona

Telegrams: Rossiya, Sant-Peterburg, Voenny Prokuror, Sankt-Peterburgskovo Garnizona

Salutation: Dear Military Procurator

Military Procurator of Krasnorechensky Garrison
Rossiyskaya Federatsiya
680041 Khabarovsk-41
Kranorechenskii Garrison-5
Voennomu Prokuratoru Kranorechenskogo Garrnison

Salutation: Dear Military Procurator

COPIES TO:

Minister of Defence, Col-Gen. Igor Rodionov
Rossiyskaya Federatsiya
103175 Moskva
ul. Myasnitskaya, 37
Ministerstvo oborony
Ministru RODIONOVU I.

Faxes: (7 095) 296 08 64

and to diplomatic representatives of Russian Federation accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 October 1996.