

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 50/17/96

3 December 1996

Further information on EXTRA 107/96 (EUR 50/08/96, 16 July 1996) - Execution despite moratorium/fear of imminent executions

UKRAINE Sasha MARKITAN (_____ in Russian), aged 21
 Vitaly ALKHIMOV (_____), aged 23
 Sergey SKARABAGATOV (_____), aged 24
 Aleksey VEDMEDENKO (_____), aged 20

Amnesty International has learned with regret that Aleksey Vedmedenko was executed on 5 August 1996.

The circumstances surrounding the execution were particularly distressing for Aleksey Vedmedenko's mother, who went to visit her son in Dnipropetrovsk prison on 7 August and was told that he was still alive. However, the death certificate she received several weeks later was dated 5 August. Moreover, she has not been told where her son's body is buried.

Ukraine was to have imposed a moratorium on executions under the terms of its accession to the Council of Europe in November 1995. The Ukrainian Minister of Justice, Sergiy Holovaty, has recently admitted that 89 executions were been carried out in the first six months of 1996. In continuing to carry out executions, Ukraine is acting in flagrant breach of its solemn commitment to impose a moratorium and showing utter disregard for its responsibility as a member state of the Council of Europe.

Amnesty International has no new information on the fate of Sasha Markitan, Vitaly Alkhimov or Sergey Skarabagatov. It is assumed they are still facing imminent execution. **Please continue appeals on their behalf as outlined in the original Urgent Action of 16 July 1996.**

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

To all listed officials:

- deploring the execution of Aleksey Vedmedenko and the fact that people under sentenced of death continue to be executed in violation of Ukraine's commitment to impose a moratorium on executions;
- urging the Ukrainian authorities to ensure that all executions are immediately stopped and that all local authorities are aware that the moratorium is in force.

To the Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Legal Policy and Court and Legal Reform, Volodymyr STRETOVYCH and Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission on Legal Affairs, Law and Order, Leonid BORODICH:

- deploring the execution of Aleksey Vedmedenko, and informing them of demands that President Kuchma does not sign any more execution orders, and reminding them of the importance of Ukraine honouring its commitment to an immediate moratorium on executions;
- urging them to rapidly pass legislation abolishing the death penalty for all crimes.

APPEALS TO:

President of Ukraine, Leonid KUCHMA

Ukraina
252601 Kiev
ul. Bankovaya, 7
Prezidentu Ukrainy Kuchma L.
Faxes: +380 44 291 61 61
Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Prezidentu Kuchma
Salutation: Dear President

Chairman of the Presidential Clemency Commission, Pyotr ANDREYCHENKO
Ukraina
252220 g. Kiev
ul. Bankovaya, 7
Kommissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya pri Prezidenta
Predsedatelyu Andreychenko P.
Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Kommissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya, Predsedatelyu
Fax: +380 44 291 61 61
Salutation: Dear Chairman

Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Legal Policy and Court and Legal Reform, Volodymyr STRETOVYCH
Ukraina
252019 g. Kiev
ul. M. Grushevskogo, 5
Kommissiya po zakonodatelnym prepolyozheniyam i reforme sudebnoy i pravovoy
sistemy pri Verkhovnom Sovete Ukrainy
Predsedatelyu STRETOVYCHU V.
Telegrams: Ukriana, Kiev, Kommissiya zakodatelstva Verkhovnogo Soveta
Salutation: Dear Chairman

Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission on Legal Affairs, Law and Order, Leonid BORODICH
Ukraina
252019 g. Kiev
ul. M. Grushevskogo, 5
Kommissiya po voprosam zakonnosti, prava i pravoporyadka pri Verkhovnom Sovete
Ukrainy
Predsedatelyu BORODICHU L
Telegrams: Ukriana, Kiev, Kommissiya pravoporyadki Verkhovnogo Soveta
Salutation: Dear Chairman

COPIES TO:

Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Hennady UDOVENKO
Ukraina
252501 g. Kiev 24
ul. Karla Liebknecht 15/1
Ministerstvo inostrannykh del
Ukrainy
Ministru UDOVENKO H.Y

Procurator General of Ukraine, Grigory VORSINOV
Ukraina
252601 g. Kiev II
ul. Reznitskaya, 13/15
Prokuratura Ukrainy
Generalnomu prokuroru VORSINOVU G.

Fax: +380 44 290 26 03

The Director of Dnipropetrovsk SIZO 308/1, name not known

UKRAINE

Dnipropetrovskaya oblast

Dnipropetrovsk

SIZO 308/88

Direktory

and to diplomatic representatives of Ukraine accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 January 1997.