EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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16 May 1995

Further information on EXTRA 07/95 (EUR 58/04/95, 20 January 1995) - Fear of imminent execution

KYRGYZSTAN Vasily Skvortsov, aged 21

_____ in Russian)

and 29 other individuals, names unknown

On 3 May 1995 President Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan refused clemency petitions from 30 prisoners under sentence of death. According to unofficial sources Vasily Skvortsov was among them.

The President was reportedly acting on a recommendation submitted by the Clemency Commission the previous week. Kyrgyzstani press sources, commenting on the Clemency Commission's decision, noted that "our society is saturated with crime to such an extent that excessive leniency could further corrupt the criminal world".

Amnesty International deplores the decision of President Akayev and the Clemency Commission not to grant clemency to these 30 prisoners. In the belief that these prisoners may still be alive, Amnesty International is urging President Akayev to reverse his decision in all 30 cases and to commute these death sentences. It is stressing to the authorities in Kyrgyzstan that there is no evidence that the death penalty prevents serious crime any more than other punishments.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- urging President Akayev to reverse his decision of 3 May 1995 to refuse clemency to 30 people facing the death penalty, and to commute their death sentences; urging the Clemency Commission to reconsider its decision of 26 April 1995 to recommend that clemency be refused to 30 people facing the death penalty, and to recommend to the President instead that these 30 death sentences be commuted;
- noting that there is no evidence that the death penalty prevents serious crime any more than other punishments.

APPEALS TO:

1) The President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Askar Akayev

Kyrgyzskaya Respublika

720003 g. Bishkek

Dom pravitelstva

Prezidentu AKAYEVU A.A.

Telegrams: Kyrgyzskaya Respublika, 720003 Bishkek, Prezidentu Akayevu A.A.

Faxes: +7 3312 21 86 27 Salutation: Dear President

2) The Head of the Department for Citizenship and Clemency Questions at the

President's Apparatus, Aynabek Kachkynbayev

Kyrgyzskaya Respublika 720003 g. Bishkek Dom pravitelstva

Apparat Prezidenta

Otdel po voprosam grazhdanstva i pomilovaniya

Zaveduyushchemu otdelom KACHKYNBAYEVU A.

Telegrams: Kyrgyzskaya Respublika, 720003 Bishkek, Otdel pomilovaniya,

Kachkynbayevu A.

Faxes: +7 3312 21 86 27 Salutation: Dear Sir

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Chairman of the Supreme Court, K. Boobekov Kyrgyzskaya Respublika 720505 g. Bishkek ul. Orozbekova Verkhovny Sud Predsedatelyu BOOBEKOVU K.

The Procurator General, Asanbek Sharshenaliyev Kyrgyzskaya Respublika 720300 g. Bishkek ul. Orozbekova, 72 Prokuratura Kyrgyzskoy Respubliki Generalnomu prokuroru SHARSHENALIYEVU A.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Roza Otunbayeva (Ms)
Kyrgyzskaya Respublika
720003 g. Bishkek
ul. Abdumomunova, 205
Ministerstvo inostrannykh del
Ministry OTUNBAYEVOY R.
Fax: +7 3312 22 57 35

and to diplomatic representatives of Kyrgyzstan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 June 1995.