

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 412/94 (EUR 70/26/94, 24 November 1994) and follow-up (EUR 70/27/94, 25 November) - Fear of torture / ill-treatment

YUGOSLAVIA (Kosovo): Ramadan Ndrecaj, Rexhep Oruçi, Salih Sokoli, Avdi Mehmedović, Haki Mehmeti, Ali Mehmeti, Blerim Olloni, Sejfullah Sahatçiu, Shefqet Beqa, Remzi Tertica, Adem Shala, Halil Blakaj, Reshat Maliqi, Jonuz Loshi, Selim Çitaku, Ilmi Uka, Abdullah Doroci, Ramadan Ndreca, Shaip Mustafa, Murtez Jahaj, Fadil Hyseni, Bajram Jakaj, Isak Aliu, Idriz Jashari, Enver Ramizi, Esat Merovci, Halil Kafexholli, Idriz Sejdiu, Ilmi Bujari, Shefqet Berisha, Sherif Shala, Faik Jasiqi, Gani Hajdari, Vllasnim Shehu, Shaban Shala, Xhavit Osmani, Muhamet Nimani, Shaban Dana

new names: Halit Rexhepi, Asllan Bislimi, Ylmet Fondaj

Arrests of ethnic Albanian former police officers are continuing. Latest reports indicate that at least 110 former police officers have been arrested in Kosovo province since 17 November and there have been more allegations that some have been tortured. These include Ylmet Fondaj, from Suva Reka, who was reportedly arrested on 26 November. On 30 November his lawyer stated that he had been tortured in Prizren police station (where Ramadan Ndrecaj and Shaban Dana, two others allegedly tortured, have also been held).

A lawyer for Blerim Olloni, arrested on 20 November, has said that her client was tortured while being held for four days by state security police in Priština (Yugoslav law allows for a maximum of three days detention in police custody).

The lawyer stated that after Blerim Olloni made a statement to an investigating judge, he was again interrogated and ill-treated by state security officers. In his statement to the investigating judge Blerim Olloni reportedly spoke of the activities of the Independent Trade Union of former Police Officers.

Enver Ramizi, Esat Marovci, Halit Rexhepi and Asllan Bislimi, four former police officers from Gnjilane, are currently held in Gnjilane where they are being investigated on charges of "making preparations to endanger Yugoslavia's territorial integrity".

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

- expressing concern about reports that Ramadan Ndrecaj, Shaban Dana and Ylmet Fondaj have been severely ill-treated in police custody in Prizren, and Blerim Olloni during detention in custody in state security headquarters in Priština;
- urging an independent and impartial investigation into these reports and that any officers found responsible be brought to justice;
- requesting information about the charges against some 100 other ethnic Albanian former police officers recently arrested in Kosovo province;
- urging that all those arrested be granted full legal safeguards, including protection against any ill-treatment or torture.

APPEALS TO:

1. Federal Minister of Internal Affairs

Vukašin Jokanovi_
Ministar za unutrašnje poslove
Savezno ministarstvo za unutrašnje poslove
Kneza Miloša 92
Beograd, Yugoslavia
Faxes: +381 11 235 1005
Telexes: 11 448 siv yu or 11 185;
Telegrams: Savezno ministar unutrašnje poslove, Beograd, Yugoslavia
Salutation: Dear Minister

2. Head of police for Kosovo province

Na_elnik
Pokrajinski Sekretarijat za Unutrašnjih Poslova
Kragujeva_ka 4
38000 Priština, AP Kosovo i Metohija, Yugoslavia
Telegrams: Nacelnik, Pokrajinski SUP, Priština, APKM
Salutation: Dear Chief of Police

3. Federal Prime Minister

Dr Radoje Konti_
Predsednik Savezne Vlade
Bulevar Lenjina 2
11070 Beograd, Yugoslavia
Faxes: +381 11 636 775 or +381 11 195 244 or +381 11 600 446
Telexes: 11062 siv yu or 11448 siv yu
Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1. Committee for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms, Priština:
Xhavit Mitrovica 15
38000 Priština, Yugoslavia.

2. Humanitarian Law Fund
Terazije 6/III
11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

and to diplomatic representatives of Yugoslavia accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 January 1995.