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# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 12/95

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NEWS SERVICE ITEMS: EXTERNAL - **RUSSIA** (being sent to contacts by the research team)

PLEASE NOTE: Please look out for the finalised agenda of the International Press Officers/AV meeting at the IS from 10-12 February 1995, sent out today in an urgent note to press officers.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS RELEASES

Sudan - 25 January - SEE NEWS SERVICES 275 AND 261

UN Commission on Human Rights - 31 January - SEE NEWS SERVICE 06/95

Turkey - 8 February - SEE NEWS SERVICE 261

Northern Iraq - 28 February - SEE NEWS SERVICE 266

\*\* Women's Campaign - 8 March \*\*

## TARGETED AND LIMITED NEWS RELEASES

News Service 12/95

AI INDEX: EUR 46/WU 02/95  
19 January 1995

RUSSIA: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONDEMNS TREATMENT OF CAPTURED RUSSIAN TROOPS

Amnesty International is concerned that some Chechen fighters have reportedly claimed they take only conscripts prisoner, and execute captured special forces troops.

Amnesty International is urging the Chechen authorities to condemn publicly any executions of captured troops that may have taken place. The organization is also urging the authorities to investigate all reports of such executions, to ensure that these actions are not tolerated, and to take effective steps to prevent such actions.

Amnesty International is concerned that such actions are a clear violation of humanitarian law, including common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, applicable to all parties in non-international armed conflicts. Article 3 states inter alia: "Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of the armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed *hors de combat* by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely."

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