

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/03/97

8 January 1997

Further information on EXTRA 188/96 (EUR 44/182/96, 6 December 1996) - Fear of "disappearance" / Fear of torture and new concern: Possible extrajudicial executions

TURKEYRamazan Yaz_c_, Kurd, aged 36

Hakk_Kaya, Kurd, aged 30, truck driver

and new names:

Atilla Korkmaz, Kurd, supermarket owner

Mahmut Önerar_, Kurd, aged 22, minibus driver

Tevfik Kusun, Kurd

No information has been forthcoming on the whereabouts of either Ramazan Yaz_c_ or Hakk_Kaya since they "disappeared" after being taken into police custody in Diyarbak_r on 22 November and 18 November respectively. Fears for their safety have been heightened by the recent discovery of the bodies of three young Kurds taken into custody in Diyarbak_r during the first half of December.

On 23 December 1996 the bodies of Atilla Korkmaz and Mahmut Önerar_ were found by a main road near Ad_yaman. According to a newspaper report their hands were tied, their mouths taped and they had been killed with a shot to the head. When relatives saw them later at the morgue for identification, they noticed bruising and marks of blows. The body of Tevfik Kusun was found near Ad_yaman on 7 January 1997.

Atilla Korkmaz, the owner of the Centrum supermarket in the Bat_kent district of Diyarbak_r, was reportedly detained at 1.30pm on 9 December 1996. Four plainclothes police officers carrying walkie-talkies took him away from his shop in a Renault car with the licence number 21 AV 545. Relatives identified his body on 2 January 1997.

Mahmut Önerar_, a minibus driver working on the Diyarbak_r-Lice route, was reportedly detained as he was waiting at the Lice minibus stop in Diyarbak_r on 8 December 1996. Three plainclothes police officers carrying walkie-talkies approached him, saying that they wanted to question him, and took him away in a Renault Toros car with the licence number 21 AV 305. Since then his family have had no news of him. He was previously detained in 1992 and had received threats on several occasions.

Tevfik Kusun was detained on 29 November 1996 at 2pm on a building site in the village 500 Evler near Diyarbak_r. Reportedly four plainclothes police officers took him away in a white Toros car with the licence number 72 AN 938. According to eye-witnesses the vehicle entered Diyarbak_r Police Headquarters, but when relatives made inquiries at Police Headquarters the detention was denied.

Amnesty International wrote to the Justice Minister on 13 December regarding these and other cases of alleged "disappearance", but has received no reply so far. Mahmut Mordeniz, detained on 28 November 1996 at 10am in a market in the Unkap_district of Diyarbak_r, and his wife Fahriye Mordeniz, detained at their home on the same day at about 11 am, as well as Ramazan Tekin and _irin Bayram (see EXTRA 181/96 of 22 November 1996) remain unaccounted for in police custody.

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

- noting with deep concern the discovery on 23 December and 7 January of the bodies of Atilla Korkmaz, Mahmut Önerar_ and Tevfik Kusun near Ad_yaman, all previously "disappeared" in police custody in Diyarbak_r;
- expressing grave concern for the safety of Hakk_Kaya, detained in Diyarbak_r on 18 November 1996, and Ramazan Yaz_c_, detained in Diyarbak_r on 22 November 1996, both since held in unacknowledged detention, presumably at the Anti-Terror Branch of Diyarbak_r Police Headquarters;
- urging that their whereabouts be established without delay, their detention registered and their relatives informed without further delay;
- seeking assurances that they will not be subjected to torture or any other form of ill-treatment;
- calling for the detainees to be promptly brought before a judge to be charged or released;
- asking to be informed of any charges brought against them.

APPEALS TO:

1. Chief Prosecutor at Diyarbak_r State Security Court:

Mr Nihat Çakar

DGM Ba_savc_s_

Devlet Güvenlik Mahkemesi

Diyarbak_r, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Bassavcisi, Diyarbakir, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

2. State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights:

Mr Lütfü Esengün

Office of the Prime Minister

Ba_bakanl_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Prime Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 44061/44062/44063 bbmt tr; 42099 basb tr

Faxes: +90 312 417 0476

Salutation: Dear Minister

3. Diyarbak_r Chief of Police:

Mr R_dvan Güler

Diyarbak_r Emniyet Müdürü

Diyarbak_r, Turkey

Telegrams: Emniyet Muduru, Diyarbakir, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Sir

COPIES TO:

President of Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Demir Berbero_lu

nsan Haklar Inceleme Komisyonu Ba_kan_

TBMM

Ankara, Turkey

Fax: +90 312 420 5394

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 13 February 1997.