

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/44/94  
Distr: UA/SC

UA 207/94

Extrajudicial Execution and "Disappearance"

31 May 1994

**TURKEY** Halil Alpsoy  
Kasim Alpsoy, cousin of Halil

- both members of the pro-Kurdish Democracy Party (DEP)

---

Kasim Alpsoy has not been seen since he was detained in Adana on 15 May. Amnesty International's concern for his safety has been greatly heightened by the killing of his cousin Halil Alpsoy after the latter had been detained in Istanbul on 12 May.

At about 1.30am on 12 May, three men and a woman came to the house of Halil Alpsoy in Istanbul, saying they were from the police. They took Halil Alpsoy away with them in a car. He was not seen again until his body was found on 24 May in the Yah\_ihan area near K\_r\_kkale, 70 kilometres east of Ankara and some 600 kilometres from Istanbul. He had been detained for a short period, about two months ago, at Kanarya Police Station, where he was accused of "making propaganda against the state" because he was a member of the Democracy Party (DEP).

On 15 May, at about 4am, members of the gendarmerie (soldiers carrying out police duties in rural areas) came to the house of Kasim Alpsoy in Adana and detained him. The next night, at about 1am, he returned home, saying that he had been detained in order to give a statement. Kasim Alpsoy alleged that he had been severely tortured and that the gendarmerie had kept his identity card and valuables. He said that he was told to come back the next day when his belongings would be returned to him.

On 16 May, Kasim Alpsoy went back to Adana Provincial Gendarmerie Headquarters together with a relative called \_ükrü. \_ükrü waited for four hours for Kasim Alpsoy to come out again, until he was chased out of the gendarmerie station and told that no person by the name of Kasim Alpsoy was being held there. Kasim Alpsoy's wife submitted a petition to Adana Police Headquarters and to the Public Prosecutor, but has received no information about her husband's whereabouts.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

DEP is a legal parliamentary party which advocates Kurdish autonomy. Its officials and members have been subject to frequent detention and prosecution, and have also frequently made credible allegations of torture. Several members and officials have died in custody. They have also been the target of political killings, often in circumstances which suggest possible security force involvement. Over 60 DEP members have been killed. On 4 September 1993 Mehmet Sincar, DEP MP for Mardin, was killed by unidentified assassins in the city of Batman in broad daylight hours after heavy police protection had been mysteriously lifted. Arrests, and even killings, of DEP candidates intensified with the approach of the local elections of 27 March. As a consequence, DEP withdrew from these elections.

There has been a striking increase in reports of "disappearances" since the summer of 1993 - particularly in the southeastern provinces. Police and gendarmerie there have the right to hold political suspects in complete

incommunicado detention for a month. It is extremely unusual for the police authorities to notify relatives that a person has been detained, and they frequently refuse information concerning where or why the person is being held. What is particularly distressing for relatives is that the procedures laid down in the Turkish Criminal Procedure Code for the prompt and proper registration of detainees, and for notification of their families, are almost universally ignored in the southeastern provinces, and increasingly disregarded in the rest of the country. The abuse of registration procedures creates the conditions in which the "disappearance" of detainees can occur.

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

- expressing utmost concern for the life of Kasim Alpsoy, who "disappeared" at the Adana Provincial Gendarmerie Headquarters on 16 May 1994;
- urging that immediate steps are taken to establish his present whereabouts and state of health;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation without delay into the killing of Halil Alpsoy whose body was found on 24 May near K\_r\_kkale following his detention in Istanbul on 12 May 1994;
- asking to be informed of the results of both investigations.

**APPEALS TO**

1) Chief of Staff of the Gendarmerie:

Orgeneral Ayd\_n\_lter  
Jandarma Kuvvetleri Komutanl\_\_\_\_  
Bakanl\_klar  
Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Jandarma Genel Komutani, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 418 0476**

**Salutation: Dear General**

2) Minister of the Interior:

Mr Nahit Mente\_e  
Içi\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
Bakanl\_klar  
06644 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Icisleri Bakanligi, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: +90 312 418 1795**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

3) Istanbul Chief of Police:

Mr Necdet Menzir  
Istanbul Emniyet Müdürlü\_ü  
Istanbul, Turkey

**Telegrams: Emniyet Mudurlugu, Istanbul, Turkey**

**Telexes: 26177 IEMT TR**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Sabri Yavuz  
\_nsan Haklar\_ Ara\_t\_rma Komisyonu Ba\_kan\_  
TBMM  
Ankara, Turkey

**Faxes: +90 312 420 5394**

and to diplomatic representatives of accredited to your country

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 July 1994.