

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/66/97

28 August 1997

Further information on EXTRA 113/97 (EUR 44/62/97, 14 August 1997) - Torture / Fear of torture

TURKEY_brahim _ncesu, Kurd aged 35
Ad_güzel _ncesu, Kurd
Cemalettin Tunç, Kurd aged 39
Ahmet Engin, Kurd aged around 30

On 18 August 1997, the detainees named above were taken before the prosecutor and investigating judge. _brahim _ncesu and Cemalettin Tunç were formally arrested and committed to Ümraniye Prison, Istanbul, to await trial. Ad_güzel _ncesu was released because an existing arrest warrant had been annulled due a recent amnesty for chief editors. There is no information about Ahmet Engin, who is presumed to have also been released.

_brahim _ncesu is reported to have been severely beaten during the early stages of his detention on 11 August, including during the four to five hours that he was held in the minibus in which he was originally detained. Both he and Cemalettin Tunç were also beaten while being transported in a police vehicle. _brahim _ncesu was taken to an unknown location where the police allegedly threatened to kill him, and also put a hose into his mouth and threatened to squirt pressurized water if he did not admit to police accusations.

The detainees were not, however, ill-treated while at the Anti-Terror Branch in Aksaray. In fact, they were given treatment there for the injuries caused by the earlier beatings. They showed the traces of these injuries on their bodies and faces to the investigating judge and were examined at the Forensic Medicine Institute. It is not known yet whether a medical certificate was issued. _brahim _ncesu and Cemalettin Tunç are said to have filed a complaint against the police.

Only Ad_güzel _ncesu's lawyer had power of attorney and was therefore permitted to see his client during the three-day extension period of the detention.

On 25 August two newspapers carried claims that _brahim _ncesu and Cemalettin Tunç had founded an illegal organization and were its leading members. Their lawyers are demanding that the newspapers print a correction of this false information.

No further action is required at this stage. Many thanks to all participants who sent appeals.