

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/133/96

5 September 1996

**Further information (1) on EXTRA 142/96 (EUR 44/132/96, 3 September 1996) -
Prisoners of conscience / Fear of arrest as prisoner of conscience**

**TURKEYAk_n Birdal, President of Turkish Human Rights Association
Mehmet Ihsan Arslan, Vice-president of Mazlum-Der
Fetullah Erba , Member of Parliament**

Mehmet Ihsan Arslan has presented himself at Ankara Police Headquarters, following the issue of a warrant for his arrest. According to reports, he and Ak_n Birdal have been interrogated at the Anti-Terror Branch of Ankara Police Headquarters and it is expected that they may soon be brought before a judge. Amnesty International considers both to be prisoners of conscience.

It has also been reported that the prosecutor's office intended to write to the Turkish Grand National Assembly to demand that parliamentary immunity for Fetullah Erba_ be lifted so that he, too, could be detained and possibly charged. If this happened, he would also be considered to be a prisoner of conscience.

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

- expressing concern about the detention of Ak_n Birdal and Mehmet Ihsan Arslan;
- pointing out that they are considered to be prisoners of conscience as they have in no way advocated or committed violence;
- calling for their immediate and unconditional release;
- seeking assurances that they are being treated humanely in detention in accordance with internationally recognized standards;
- noting that Fehullah Erba_ would also be a prisoner of conscience if detained.

APPEALS TO:

1. Prime Minister

Mr Necmettin Erbakan
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 Prime Minister

2. State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights

Mr Lütfü Esengül
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. Chief Prosecutor at Ankara State Security Court

Mr Nuh Mete Yüksel
Ankara DGM Ba_savc_s_
Ankara DGM Savc_l____

Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Bassavciligi, Ankara, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mrs Tansu Çiller

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

D__i__leri Bakanl____

06100 Ankara, Turkey

Fax: +90 312 419 1547

and to diplomatic representatives of TURKEY accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 October 1996.