

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/177/96

25 November 1996

Further information (2) on EXTRA 167/96 (EUR 44/169/96, 30 October 1996) and follow-up (EUR 44/172/96; 5 November 1996) - Fear of "disappearance" / Fear of torture / Health concern

TURKEY Ekber Geçgel
Selçuk Geçgel
Ali Geçgel
Irfan Aslan
Bedri Ta_kale
Kenan Demir, village headman (*muhtar*) of Tozkoparan
Süleyman Kaya
Nihat Kaya
Dursun O_uz, aged 70

plus other villagers (names unknown)

According to reports, on 13 November Ekber Geçgel, Selçuk Geçgel and Nihat Kaya were to be transferred from Elaz__ E-Type prison and are now believed to be held in a prison in Elbistan.

Detainees who have since been released and who saw Selçuk Geçgel while he was in police custody, reported that he appeared to be of unbalanced mind as a result of torture, by turns singing, laughing or crying and accepting whatever accusation was put to him by the police. Later, when he was seen in prison in Elaz__, he only stared at his visitors, but did not speak at all and looked very gaunt.

Ekber Geçgel has received some medication for his stomach condition and is said to be improving.

The other villagers from Tozkoparan were released, including Dursun O_uz. They were said to have to report regularly to the security forces who continued searching houses in the village. Security forces' operations against neighbouring villages were reportedly continuing.

No further action is required at this stage. We will monitor further developments in this case.