

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 70/13/95

25 August 1995

Further information on UA 163/95 (EUR 70/09/95, 7 July 1995) - Death after custody / Fear of torture/ill-treatment

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (Kosovo Province)

Shefki LATIFI
Ramadan SALIHU

and other ethnic Albanians

It is reported that in July 1995 specialists of the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Priština carried out an autopsy on Shefki Latifi. The latter died on 4 July 1995 following detention and alleged ill-treatment in custody in Podujevo police station. The results of the autopsy, which was carried out at the request of Shefki Latifi's family, are reportedly due to be made known in September.

Amnesty International continues to receive reports of the ill-treatment of ethnic Albanians in police custody in Kosovo province.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send faxes/airmail letters in English, French, German or in your own language:

- expressing deep concern about the alleged ill-treatment on 4 July 1995 in Podujevo police station of Shefki Latifi, which apparently resulted in his death;
- calling for a prompt, impartial and thorough investigation into these allegations, and urging that any police officer responsible for the ill-treatment of Shefki Latifi, and of a friend, Ramadan Salihu, who was allegedly also ill-treated on this occasion, be brought to justice;
- requesting information about the results of an autopsy carried out on Shefki Latifi in July 1995 in Priština;
- noting that Amnesty International constantly receives reports of the torture and ill-treatment of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo province, in violation of international human rights treaties recognized by Yugoslavia; - calling for immediate measures to put a stop to torture and ill-treatment, and for any police officer who fails to respect international human rights standards to be duly prosecuted and brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

Minister of Internal Affairs of Serbia

Zoran Sokolovi_
Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Republike Srbije
Kneza Miloša 101
11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

Faxes: +381 11 685 937

Salutation: Dear Minister

The chief of police, Podujevo

Na_elnik Organa Unutrašnjih Poslova
38240 Podujevo, AP Kosovo i Metohija, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Chief of Police

The district public prosecutor

Okru_ni javni tu_ilac
Prokuplje, Serbia, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

(NB: it appears that Podujevo now falls within the territory covered by the public prosecutor's office of Prokuplje, rather than Pristina).

COPIES TO:

Committee for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms, Priština:
Xhavit Mitrovica 15
38000 Priština, Yugoslavia

Humanitarian Law Fund
Terazije 6/111
11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

and to diplomatic representatives of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 October 1995.