

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 70/32/95

14 December 1995

Further information on UA 163/95 (EUR 70/09/95, 7 July 1995) and follow-up (EUR 70/13/95, 25 August 1995) - Death after custody / Fear of torture/ill-treatment

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA (Kosovo province) Shefki LATIFI

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Shefki Latifi (aged 56) was detained on 4 July 1995 at Podujevo station and beaten by police. He died the same day.

Amnesty International has recently learned that on 10 July a medical certificate was issued in Priština which stated that he had died a natural death as a result of a heart attack - a coronary embolism caused by dislodged fatty matter. Amnesty International has not seen a copy of the autopsy and does not know if one has been issued yet. However, the organization has received a photograph of Shefki Latifi's body which clearly shows marks of bruising and laceration on his body consistent with allegations that he was beaten.

Amnesty International accepts that Shefki Latifi may have died of a heart attack, but believes that the ill-treatment he suffered at the hands of police officers in Podujevo police station may have contributed to his death.

Amnesty International continues to call for a prompt and impartial investigation into the ill-treatment of Shefki Latifi and his subsequent death, and for any police officer found responsible for his ill-treatment to be brought to justice.

Furthermore, fair and adequate compensation should be made available for his family if it is established that the ill-treatment he suffered may have contributed to his death.

No further action by the UA Network is requested. Thank you to all who sent appeals.