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<u>Ill-treatment of Dorel DINCA</u>

AI CONCERN: Amnesty International is concered that Dorel Dinc_ was ill-treated by police officers.

BACKGROUND: Dorel Dinca was born in 1955 in Gura Ocni_ei village in Dîmbovi_a county. From November 1992 until April 1993 he was employed by a family company by the name of Kalman as a driver at a private parking lot in Bor_, a small locality some 14 kilometres from Oradea near the border with Hungary.

In the evening of 20 February 1993 two German lorries with trailers stopped at the parking lot. The driver of one of these lorries, which was owned by the firm Meyer and Meyer, 21-year-old Daniel Laudenslag (or possibly Laubenschlag) was unable to drive into the parking lot. So Dorel Dinc_ got into the cab and directed him to a parallel street to find a parking space. In this street scaffolding had been erected. During this manoeuvre, the lorry was stopped by two uniformed police from Bor_ and a sergeant-major from the border guard in civilian clothes. They asked for the driver's documents but as the German driver did not initially understand them, they made the driver and Dorel Dinc_ dismount from the cab and manhandled them. According to eye-witnesses Dorel Dinc_ was then forced to strip to the waist and severely beaten for about two hours. His identity card and driving licence were taken as were a sum of 1,500 lei and cigarettes given as gifts by various drivers that day. His identity card was returned two days later but his driving licence was not. The German driver was also fined a sum of 10,000 lei. The police reportedly gave no reason for the ill-treatment or other penalties.

On account of the injuries received in this beating, Dorel Dinc_ was hospitalised from 22 to 25 February and also from 5 to 9 March 1993 in Oradea county hospital - as attested to by medical-legal certificate No. 653/Ia/262 dated 1 March 1993. He claimed that he was threatened by local police and unknown individuals and subsequently officially obliged to leave the locality. He is currently temporarily domiciled in Bucharest where he is seeking employment.

Amnesty International has been informed that two of the eye-witnesses were pressured by the police not to testify. Additionally it appears that while the county police authorities acknowledge that they are aware of the allegations of ill-treatment made by Dorel Dinc_, there has been no investigation into them. In the meantime the sergeant-major allegedly involved in the beating has been promoted to the rank of sub-lieutenant.