

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 64/91 (EUR 44/25/91, 21 February 1991) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: _brahim BINGÖL
Cavidan Kocaacar (f)
Metin Günaydin
Mehmet Tuzcu
Alp Aslan
and some five unnamed people

The above people here among some 10 people detained in Ankara on or around 17 February 1991.

_brahim Bingöl was formally arrested and committed to Sa_malcilar prison on 11 March, charged with aiding and abetting political killings.

He was held for 25 days and alleges that during this time he was tortured. He alleges that the methods of torture included being suspended by the wrists tied behind, being subjected to cold water under pressure, and electric shocks. During his detention he went on hunger strike and spent one week in hospital, but refused treatment. He now complains of loss of sensation in his left arm, which is being investigated medically.

Cavidan Kocaacar was released without charge. She spent 24 days in detention, 11 of them in hospital, suffering from the effects of her hunger strike and alleged torture. She is said to have undergone reversible neurological disability (a stroke-like condition) after which she was unable to move her left side.

She was initially admitted to hospital because she continually passed out during the interrogation. She claims that she was subjected to hanging and electric shocks and that she had been kept naked in a cell approximately 3cm deep in water. She has reported that she was suspended by the wrists, by the ankles, and by one wrist and one ankle alternately. She now has medical problems with numbness in her arms and legs for which she is undergoing medical investigation in order to substantiate her allegations of torture.

Alp Arslan was formally arrested and committed to Sa_malcilar prison on 11 March, charged with aiding and abetting political killings. He was detained

for 25 days, and also reported torture.

All three were kept in detention for a period greatly exceeding that of the 15 days laid down in the Turkish Criminal Procedure Code (TCPC). They were also kept incommunicado in contravention of Article 136 of the TCPC, in spite of repeated applications by their lawyers, who on 20 February received a written refusal from the prosecutor of the Ankara State Security Court on the grounds that for them to see a lawyer would "obstruct the investigation" of the political killings mentioned above.

It is thought that the other people listed above have been released.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- asking that the allegations of torture be officially investigated and the findings published;
- that if the allegations are substantiated those responsible should be brought to justice;
- asking for an explanation for the extended detention period.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of the Interior
Abdülkadir Aksu
İçişleri Bakanlığı
Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 46369 ICSL TR
Faxes: + 90 41 28 4346
+ 90 41 25 2858
+ 90 41 17 2390

President Turgut Özal
Office of the President
Devlet Başkanlığı
06100 Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 42875 BBK TR
Faxes: (via Press Office) + 90 4 168 5012

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Turkey in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 5 June 1991.