EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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EXTRA 22/94 Fear of imminent execution

12 April 1994

UKRAINE Vasily Mikhaylovich KRIVONOS, aged 19
(_____ in Russian)

Amnesty International fears that Vasily Mikhaylovich Krivonos faces imminent execution unless Leonid Kravchuk, the President of Ukraine, exercises his constitutional authority to commute his death sentence.

Vasily Krivonos was sentenced to death for murder by Vinitsky Regional Court on 18 November 1993. His appeal against the death sentence was rejected by the Supreme Court of Ukraine on 24 February 1994. A petition for clemency was lodged with the President of Ukraine on 10 March 1994 and is still pending. A decision could be taken any time now.

Vasily Krivonos had just turned 18 at the time the crime for which he has been sentenced to death was committed. He is said to have learning difficulties and to have a history of nervous and psychiatric problems. He claims that his confession was obtained under duress and he denies the charge of premeditated aggravated murder. He was reportedly granted access to a lawyer and to his mother only after the prosecution had completed its investigation and compiled the indictment.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters either in Russian, English or in your own language:

- stating Amnesty International's opposition to the death penalty in all cases; urging President Kravchuk to grant clemency to Vasily Krivonos and to commute his death sentence;
- urging President Kravchuk to commute all other death sentences that come before him.

APPEALS TO

President of Ukraine, Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk

Ukraina

252601 Kiev

ul. Kirova, 6

Prezidentu Ukrainy Kravchuku L.M.

Telegrams: Ukraine, 252601 Kiev, ul. Kirova, Prezidentu Kravchuku L.M.

Faxes: +7 044 293 10 01 Salutation: Dear President

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Chairman of the Presidential Clemency Commission Ukraina

q. Kiev

Kommissiy pri Prezidente po voprosam pomilovaniya Predsedatelyu

2) Procurator General of Ukraine, Vladislav Datsyuk
Ukraina
252601 Kiev-II
ul. Reznitskaya, 13/15
Prokuratura Ukrainy
Generalnomu Prokuroru Datsyuku V.

3) Chairman of the Supreme Court, Heorhiy Butenko Ukraina
252601 Kiev 24 GSP
ul. Kirova
Verkhovny Sud Ukrainy
Predsedatelyu Butenko H.

4) Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Anatoly Maksimovich Zlenko Ukraina
252501 Kiev 24
ul. Karla Liebknecht, 15/1
Ministerstvo inostrannykh del Ukrainy
Ministru Zlenko A.M.

and to diplomatic representatives of Ukraine accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 May 1994.