

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 70/02/97

30 January 1997

Further information on UA 25/97 (EUR 70/01/97, 24 January 1997 - Ill-treatment, possible prisoners of conscience)

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

new names: Dušan Nari_, parliamentary deputy
Ljubiša Brki_, town councillor

On 28 January 1997 police reportedly beat demonstrators in the town of Smederevska Palanka, including a parliamentary deputy, Dušan Nari_, and local councillor Ljubiša Brki_. Opposition sources in the town claimed "not even women and children were spared the beatings".

The demonstration was reportedly held after a new town council was convened that day by councillors from the ruling Socialist Party of Serbia. The opposition coalition *Zajedno* believes it won local elections in Smederevska Palanka; its claim was supported in December 1996 by the findings of a fact-finding mission from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), which had been invited by the government.

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

- expressing concern at the reports of beatings by police of demonstrators, Dušan Nari_ and Ljubiša Brki_, in the town of Smederevska Palanka on 28 January;
- calling for a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into this and other recent reports of ill-treatment by police of demonstrators in the towns of Smederevo, Kragujevac and Kraljevo (see original UA) and for any officer found responsible to be brought to justice;
- urging the immediate and unconditional release of anyone who remains in detention for the non-violent exercise of his or her right to freedom of assembly and freedom of expression;
- emphasising that Articles 19 and 21 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (which the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia recognizes as legally binding) guarantee the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly, and urging the authorities to ensure that these rights are upheld.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic of Serbia

Predsednik Republike Srbije

Slobodan Milošević_

Andrijevica 1

11000 Beograd, FR Yugoslavia

Fax: + 381 11 682 167 or 656 862

Telegrams: Predsednik Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear President

Minister of Internal Affairs

Zoran Sokolović_

Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Republike Srbije

Kneza Miloša 101

11000 Beograd, FR Yugoslavia

Fax: +381 11 641 867 or 11 685 937

Telegrams: Ministar unutrašnjih poslova Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia
Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

NGO Information Centre
Avalska 9,
11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia
Fax: +381 11 444 39 44

and to diplomatic representatives of the 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 13 March 1997.