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INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/50/87
Distr: UA/SC

20 August 1987

Further information on UA 218/87 (EUR 44/48/87 14 August) - Torture

TURKEY: Talat TÜRKOĞLU

Amnesty International has been informed that Talat Türkoğlu and the two other people, detained on or around 8 August 1987 in Talat Türkoğlu's home province of Edirne near the Greek border, were released on 17 August 1987. They had been held at the police station in one of the border towns.

Talat Türkoğlu had been provisionally released only three months ago from prison in Istanbul, where he is standing trial on charges of belonging to the illegal Turkish Communist Party-Unity (TKP-B).

No further action is requested. Thank you for sending appeals.

Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/49/87
Distr: UA/SC

UA 224/87 Fear of Torture 19 August 1987

TURKEY: Kubilay AKPINAR, owner of Güneşe Çağri (Call to the Sun), a monthly youth journal, published in Istanbul
Yildirim BILGEN, student at Marmara University in Istanbul

During the week of 10 August 1987 Yildirim Bilgen, a student at Marmara University in Istanbul, was detained in the street. He is believed to be held at Istanbul Police Headquarters and there are fears that he may be tortured. The reason for his detention is not known.

On 17 August 1987 Kubilay Akpinar, the owner of Güneşe Çağri, a monthly political youth journal published in Istanbul, was taken into police custody. The reason for his detention is not known. He, too, is believed to be held at Istanbul Police Headquarters and feared to be tortured.

Since the beginning of July 1987 political prisoners in military and civilian prisons all over Turkey have been on hunger-strike demanding improvements to bad prison conditions. Some of the hunger-strikes lasted only for days, while others have continued for several weeks. In Istanbul seven prisoners, on a "fast to death" for well over 40 days, were taken to a prison hospital in critical condition. Relatives of political prisoners and support groups are engaged in a solidarity campaign and solidarity hunger-strikes in Turkey and abroad. On 13 August a press conference was held in Istanbul by the prisoners' relatives' association TAYAD and a number of journals, including Güneşe Çağri.

It appears that both these detentions may be connected with the solidarity campaign on behalf of those on hunger-strike.

On 12 August, 19 relatives of political prisoners were taken into police custody in Istanbul, 14 of whom were later transferred to the same prison where their sons and brothers are being held, charged with violating Law 2911 on Demonstrations and Meetings. According to Amnesty International's information, they have not yet been released.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the military coup in 1980 Amnesty International has repeatedly stated that torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey, and allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill- treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation when they are denied access to relatives or a lawyer. Under current legislation the maximum detention period before being formally charged or released is 24 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects it is 15 days.

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/43/87
Distr: UA/SC

10 July 1987

Further information on UA 174/87 (EUR 44/42/87 29 June 1987) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Yusuf YÜREKLI, Inayet TORUNAY, Ahmet ÖZGENTÜRK, Cumali GÜVEN, Özkan ÜNLÜ

==========

Amnesty International is informed that Yusuf Yürekli and the four men detained with him on 23 June were released on 3 July and that they have been tortured.

They are said to have been released from police custody without any charges having been brought and without having been presented to a judge to be either charged or released.

These five men were detained in Adana on 23 June 1987 and were held at Adana Police Headquarters in incommunicado detention. Yusuf Yürekli, a former prisoner of conscience, was imprisoned between April 1981 and January 1983 on charges connected with his trade union activities. He was a representative of DISK (Confederation of Progressive Workers' Unions) for the Adana region, until it was banned in September 1980. He was sentenced to five years six months' imprisonment at the end of the five-year trial against DISK in December 1986, but remained free pending appeal. He is an active member of the Human Rights Association, since its foundation in Turkey in 1986. Inayet Torunay, a social democrat, was the deputy mayor of Adana prior to the military coup in 1980. The other detainees are well-known publically but not in any specific social or political capacity.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/express letters/airmail letters:
- calling for and investigation into allegations that Yusuf Yürekli, Inayet Torunay, Ahmet Özgentürk, Cumali Güven and Özkan Ünlü were tortured while in detention.

APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister Turgut Özal
Basbakanlik
Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 42203 sfa tr

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Turkey in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Please check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 August 1987.

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

- calling for and investigation into allegations that Yusuf Yürekli, Inayet Torunay, Ahmet Özgentürk, Cumali Güven and Özkan Ünlü were tortured while in detention.

APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister Turgut Özal
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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/42/87
Distr: UA/SC

UA 174/87 — Fear of Torure — 29 June 1987

TURKEY: Yusuf YÜREKLI, Inayet TORUNAY, Ahmet ÖZGENTÜRK, Cumali GÜVEN, Özkan ÜNLÜ

==========

Amnesty International is informed that these five men were detained in Adana on 23 June 1987 and are being held at Adana Police Headquarters in incommunicado detention. Yusuf Yurekli, a former prisoner of conscience, was imprisoned between April 1981 and January 1983 on charges connected with his trade union activities. He was a representative of DISK (Confederation of Progressive Workers' Unions) for the Adana region, until it was banned in September 1980. He has been an active member of the Human Rights Association since its foundation in 1986. Inayet Torunay, a social democrat, was the deputy mayor of Adana prior to the military coup in 1980. The other detainees are well-known publically but not in any specific social or political capacity.

There is concern that all five men may be tortured during interrogation in order to extract confessions.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the military coup in 1980, Amnesty International has repeatedly stated that torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey and allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation. Under current legislation the maximum detention period before being formally charged or released is 48 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects it is 15 days.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Yusuf Yürekli, Inayet Torunay, Ahmet Özgentürk, Cumali Güven and Özkan Ünlü not be tortured or ill-treated while in detention;

- urging that they be given immediate access to their families and lawyers;

- requesting details of any charges being made against them.

APPEALS TO:

Adana Emniyet Müdürü
Naci Parmaksiz
Adana, Turkey

Telegrams: Adana Emniyet Müdürü, Turkey
(Chief of Police)

Adana Valisi
Erdogan Sahinoglu
Adana, Turkey

Telegrams: Adana Valisi, Turkey
(Governor of Adana province)

Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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UA 174/87 — Fear of Torure — 29 June 1987

TURKEY: Yusuf YÜREKLI, Inayet TORUNAY, Ahmet ÖZGENTÜRK, Cumali GÜVEN, Özkan ÜNLÜ

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Yusuf Yürekli, Inayet Torunay, Ahmet Özgentürk, Cumali Güven and Özkan Ünlü not be tortured or ill-treated while in detention;

- urging that they be given immediate access to their families and lawyers;

- requesting details of any charges being made against them.

APPEALS TO:

Adana Emniyet Müdürü
Naci Parmaksiz
Adana, Turkey

Telegrams: Adana Emniyet Müdürü, Turkey
(Chief of Police)

Adana Valisi
Erdogan Sahinoglu
Adana, Turkey

Telegrams: Adana Valisi, Turkey
(Governor of Adana province)

Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44//38/87
Distr: UA/Sc

22 June 1987

Further information on UA 164/87 (EUR 44/36/87 18 June) - Torture

TURKEY: Ibrahim YILDIRIM
Cengiz BAYINDIRAN (family name not previously known)

Amnesty International is now informed that the second person detained at the same time as Ibrahim Yildirim is Cengiz Bayindiran, a teacher. Both men are being held at Mersin Police Headquarters. Neither their families nor lawyers are being allowed access to these two men.

The two men were detained in Adana on 18 June 1987. There is concern that they may be tortured during interrogation. Confiscation of banned literature, as happened in this case, frequently results in charges of belonging to an illegal organization or party.

Further recommended action: Telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Cengiz Bayindiran and Ibrahim Yildirim be given immediate access to their families and lawyers;

- requesting details of any charges against them;

- urging that they not be ill-treated.

Appeals to:

Emniyet Müdürü
Mersin, Turkey

(Chief of Police)

Telegrams: as above

Mersin Valisi
Mersin, Turkey

(Governor of Mersin province)

Telegrams: Mersin Valisi, Turkey

Mahmut Oltan Sungurlu
Minister of Justice
Adalet Bakanliği
Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Copies of appeals should be sent 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 22 July 1987.

Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/37/87
Distr: UA/SC

22 June 1987

Further information on UA 163/87 (EUR 44/35/87 18 June) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Hüseyin ÖZPINAR
Selim ÜNAY
Aydin MANDAK
Sabahattin Selim ERHAN

Amnesty International is informed that prisoners at Erzincan Military Prison are receiving visits from their lawyers and attending trial sessions.

However, the whereabouts of the four prisoners above, who escaped from the prison on 6 June 1987 and were recaptured on 11 and 15 June respectively, are not known.

Further recommended action: Telegrams/telexes/express letters/airmail letters:

- seeking information regarding the present whereabouts of Hüseyin Özpinar, Selim Ünay, Aydin Mandak and Sabahattin Selim Erhan;

- urging that they be given immediate access to their families and lawyers;

- seeking assurances that they will not be ill-treated.

Appeals to:

Bahadir Onat
Erzincan Emniyet Müdürü
Erzincan, Turkey

(Erzincan Chief of Police)

Telegrams: Emniyet Muduru;
Erzincan, Turkey

General Sabri Yirmibeşoğlu
3. Ordu Komutani
Erzincan, Turkey

(Commander of the Third Army)

Telegrams: General Yirmibesoglu,
3. Ordu Komutani, Erzincan, Turkey

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EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

URGENT ACTION

AI Index: EUR 44/36/87
Distr: UA/SC

UA 164/87 Torture 18 June 1987

TURKEY: Ibrahim YILDIRIM, aged approximately 35, chemical engineer, married with two children
Cengiz (family name not known), teacher in Adana

Amnesty International has learned that Ibrahim Yildirim was detained in Adana, after a search at his house at 3.00 a.m. on 18 June 1987 during which banned literature (printed material) was found. A teacher called Cengiz, whose family name is not known, was also detained in Adana on the same date. Both men are thought to be held at Adana Police Headquarters and there is concern that they may be tortured during interrogation. Confiscation of banned literature frequently results in charges of belonging to an illegal organization or party.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the military coup in 1980, Amnesty International has repeatedly stated that torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey and allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations of torture received by Amnesty International relate to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody either during their initial interrogation or when they have been taken again by police for questioning after their transfer to prison.

Although the Turkish authorities have stated repeatedly that all complaints of torture are investigated and that those responsible for torture will be prosecuted, Amnesty International has not observed any fundamental changes in the attitude or practice of the police in Turkey regarding torture.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Ibrahim Yildirim be given immediate access to his family and lawyer;
- requesting details of any charges against him;
- urging that he should not be ill-treated.

APPEALS TO:

Ali Galip Dincer
Cumhuryet Savcisi Adana
Adana, Turkey

Telegrams: Cumhuryet Savcisi,
Adana, Turkey

(Prosecutor's Office, Adana)

Mahmut Oltan Sungurlu
Minister of Justice
Adalet Bakanligi
Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Justice Minister,
Ankara, Turkey

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Turkey in your country.

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/35/87
Distr: UA/SC

UA 163/87 Fear of Torture 18 June 1987

TURKEY: Hüseyin ÖZPINAR
Selim ÜNAY
Aydin MANDAK
Sabahattin Selim ERHAN

On 6 June 1987 eight political prisoners escaped from Erzincan Military Prison by digging a tunnel, according to reports in the Turkish press. The four men above have since been recaptured in the region around Erzincan and are thought to have been taken to Erzincan Police Headquarters for interrogation. It is feared that they are being tortured.

Amnesty International is informed that the entire prison is incommunicado at present, with relatives and lawyers being denied access to prisoners. There is concern that prisoners are being ill- treated.

Some 30 soldiers and officers have reportedly been detained as well since the escape, because it is believed that the prisoners must have had active or passive help to make their getaway.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the military coup in 1980 Amnesty International has repeatedly stated that torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey and allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill- treatment of detainees in police custody during interrogation, but there have also been persistent allegations of torture and ill- treatment of political prisoners in military and civilian prisons.

Although the Turkish authorities have stated repeatedly that all complaints of torture are investigated and that those responsible for torture will be prosecuted, Amnesty International has not observed any fundamental changes in the attitude or practice of the police in Turkey regarding torture.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Hüseyin Özpinar, Selim Ünay, Aydin Mandak and Sabahattin Selim Erhan be given immediate access to their families and lawyers;

- seeking assurances that these four men will not be ill-treated;

- urging also that all prisoners held in Erzincan Military Prison be given immediate access to their families and lawyers.

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/2/6/87
Distr: UA/SC

UA 135/87 Fear of Torture 21 May 1987

TURKEY: Vahdettin HALIS

Vahdettin Halis, a Turkish worker who had been living in Switzerland, was deported on 13 May 1987 and was detained on arrival in Turkey. He has since been held at Istanbul Police Headquarters and both his lawyer and family have been denied access. It is feared that he is being tortured.

In January 1986 Vahdettin Halis had been convicted of involvement in a violent clash between two exile Kurdish groups in Basel which happened in August 1985 and was sentenced to a term of imprisonment and subsequent deportation. Having served his sentence he was forcibly returned to Turkey on 13 May.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since the military coup in 1980 Amnesty International has repeatedly stated that torture is widespread and systematic in Turkey. Allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983 and refer mainly to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation. In Istanbul, where a state of emergency is presently in force, the maximum detention period before being brought before a court to be charged or released is 48 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects it is 15 days.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that Vahdettin Halis not be tortured or ill-treated while in detention;

- urging that he be given immediate access to his family and lawyer;

- requesting details of any charges against him.

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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/22/87
Distr: UA/SC

6 May 1987

Further information on UA 114/87 (EUR 44/17/87 21 April) - Torture

TURKEY: Mehmet ASLAN, aged 25, student

Amnesty International is informed that Mehmet Aslan has been formally arrested, charged and transferred to Sagmalcilar Prison. Details about the charges are not known, but are thought to refer to the April demonstrations against a new bill on student associations; the bill has since been withdrawn by the government.

Mehmet Aslan, a student of physics at Istanbul University, was taken into police custody on 17 April 1987.

No further action is requested. Thank you for sending appeals.

Note: UA 114/87 requested up to 30 appeals per section.

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