

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 55/05/92
Distr: UA/SC

28 April 1992

Further information on EXTRA 33/92 (EUR 55/01/92, 25 March 1992) and follow-ups EUR 55/02/92 of 27 March 1992, EUR 55/03/92 of 31 March 1992 and EUR 55/04/92 of 6 April 1992 - Fear of Imminent Execution

AZERBAJDZHANI REPUBLIC: Grachik PETROSYAN
Gagik ARUTYUNYAN
Arno MKRTCHYAN
Arvid MANGASARYAN
Garnik ARUSTAMYAN

(in cyrillic

?????? ??????????
?????? ???????????
????? ??????????
?????? ??????????????
???????? ??????????????)

Amnesty International has now learned from unofficial sources that the stay of execution placed on the death sentences passed on the five men listed above is until 16 May 1992, rather than 2 May as was earlier believed. Appeals may therefore continue until that date. It is also reported that a sixth man, Garegin Grigoryan, (mentioned in EUR 55/04/92 of 6 April 1992) was sentenced to imprisonment rather than death.

Grachik Petrosyan, Gagik Arutyunyan, Arno Mkrtchyan, Arvid Mangasaryan and Garnik Arustamyanyan were sentenced by the Azerbaydzhani Supreme Court on 19 March 1992 after being convicted of the murder of an Azeri journalist and three military personnel in the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Amnesty International is opposed to the death penalty in all cases without reservation, and is appealing to the Acting President of the Azerbaydzhani Republic to commute the death sentences passed on the five men.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- welcoming the temporary stay of execution granted to Grachik Petrosyan, Gagik Arutyunyan, Arno Mkrtchyan, Arvid Mangasaryan and Garnik Arustamyanyan;
- urging that these and all other pending death sentences be commuted;
- urging that everyone sentenced to death in Azerbaydzhani Republic be granted the opportunity to appeal to a court of higher jurisdiction, in accordance with internationally agreed human rights standards;

- pointing out that Amnesty International takes no position on territorial disputes, and in these cases is concerned solely with the issue of the death penalty.

Page 2 of 4FU EXTRA 33/92

APPEALS TO:

1) Acting President of the Azerbaijan Republic - Yakub Dzhavad ogly Mamedov:

Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
370066 g. Baku
ul. Kommunisticheskaya 19
I.O. Prezidenta Mamedovu Ya.

Dear Acting President

Telegrams: Azerbaijan, 370066 Baku, I.O. Prezidenta Mamedovu Ya.D.

2) Head of the Presidential Department of Citizenship and Clemency questions - T. Aslanov:

Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
370066 g. Baku
ul. Kommunisticheskaya, 19
Otdel po voprosam grazhdanstva i pomilovaniya
pri apparate prezidenta Azerbaijan Respubliki
Zaveduyushchemu ot dela Aslanovu T.

Dear T. Aslanov

Telegrams: Azerbaijan, 370066 Baku, Otdel po pomilovaniya pri prezidente, Aslanovu T.

3) Chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee - Professor Nadir Mekhtiyev:

Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
370073 Baku
Metbuat pros.2
Komitet po pravam cheloveka
Professoru Mekhtiyevu

Dear Professor Mekhtiyev

Telexes: Baku 142199
Faxes: + 7 8922 38 12 87

(We understand that there have been some problems getting through with this code ... it works from the UK, but if you are experiencing difficulties please check the code with your international telephone code service)

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Procurator General of the Azerbaijan Republic - Murat Babayev:
Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
g. Baku
Prokuratura Azerbaijan Respubliki
Generalnomu prokuroru Babayevu M.

Ibrahim Isa ogly Ismailov:
Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
g. Baku
Verkhovny sud Azerbaijan Respubliki
Predsedatelyu Ismailovu I.I.

2) Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Azerbaijan Republic -

3) Minister of Justice of the
Azerbaijani Republic -
Alisaad Saftar oghly Orudzhev:
Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
370601 g. Baku
pr. Kirova, 13
Ministerstvo yustitsii Azerbaydzhanskoy
Respubliki
Ministru Orudzhevu A.S.

4) Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
Azerbaijani Republic -
Guseynaga Sadykhov:
Azerbaijanskaya Respublika
g. Baku
Ministerstvo inostrannykh del
Azerbaydzhanskoy Respubliki
Ministru Sadykhovu G.
and to diplomatic representatives of the Azerbaijani Republic in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY TO ARRIVE IN THE AZERBAIDZHANI REPUBLIC BY 16 MAY 1992.