

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 50/09/96

17 July 1996

Further information on EXTRA 124/95 (EUR 50/17/95, 24 October 1995) and follow-ups (EUR 50/19/95, 5 December; EUR 50/02/96, 2 February 1996 and EUR 50/03/96, 26 February) - Death penalty

UKRAINE Sergey TEKUCHEV (?????? ???? in Russian), aged 27

Amnesty International fears that Sergey Tekuchev may be facing imminent execution following the refusal of his clemency petition by the President of Ukraine on 8 July 1996. This information was passed to Sergey Tekuchev's family by the Ukrainian Supreme Court.

Sergey Tekuchev was sentenced to death for premeditated, aggravated murder (Article 93 of the Ukrainian Criminal Code) by Stavastopol City Court on 11 September 1995.

Amnesty International has received reports of at least one execution carried out recently, that of Vladimir Yurevich Ogoltsov, after his transfer to Dnipropetrovsk prison three weeks ago. Another three men have reportedly also been transferred to this prison recently (see EXTRA 107/96, EUR 50/08/96, 16 July 1996).

This is despite the fact that Ukraine, by joining the Council of Europe on 9 November 1995, had committed itself to imposing an immediate moratorium on executions and to abolish the death penalty within three years.

Ukraine has not published any statistics on the use of the death penalty since its accession to the Council of Europe, and Amnesty International fears that the number of executions is far higher than the few instances which come to light from unofficial sources. A local Ukrainian radio station recently reported that over 100 prisoners had been executed since Ukraine joined the Council of Europe.

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

- expressing alarm that Sergey Tekuchev may face imminent execution despite the moratorium on executions;
- urging President Kuchma to reconsider and to grant clemency to Sergey Tekuchev, and to commute all other death sentences that come before him;
- urging the Ukrainian authorities to ensure that, as a member of the Council of Europe, they fully respect all commitments undertaken to impose an immediate moratorium on executions, and to abolish the death penalty within three years;
- expressing sympathy for the victims of crime and their families, but pointing out that the death penalty has never been shown to deter crime more effectively than other punishments, and is brutalizing to all involved in its application.

APPEALS TO:

President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma
Ukraina
252601 Kiev
ul. Bankovaya, 7
Prezidentu Ukrainy Kuchma L.

2

Faxes: +380 44 291 61 61
Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Prezidentu Kuchma
Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Chairman of the Presidential Clemency Commission, Pyotr Andreychenko

Ukraina
252220 g. Kiev
ul. Bankovaya, 7
Kommissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya pri Prezidente
Predsedatelyu ANDREYCHENKO P.

Fax: +380 44 291 61 61

Procurator General of Ukraine, Grigory Vorsinov

Ukraina
252601 g. Kiev II
ul. Reznitskaya, 13/15
Prokuratura Ukrainy
Generalnomu prokuroru VORSINOVU G.

Fax: +380 44 290 26 03

Chairman of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Vitaly BOYKO

Ukraina
252601 g. Kiev 24 GSP
ul. M. Grushevskogo
Verkhovny Sud Ukrainy
Predsedatelyu BOYKO V.

Chairman of the Sevastopol City Court, name not known

Ukraina, Respublika Krym
g. Sevastopol
Gorodskoy Sud
Predsedatelyu

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 20 August 1996.