

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 70/32/96

14 October 1996

Limited action: please restrict appeals to 20 per section.

Further information (2) on EXTRA 150/96 (EUR 70/21/96, 25 September 1996) and follow-up (EUR 70/28/96, 1 October 1996) - Ill-treatment/possible refoulement

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF

YUGOSLAVIA

Xhafer Bardiqi

Florim Hoxha

Amir Drugzani (note correct spelling)

new name: Mustafa Hajrullahu

Amnesty International has received further reports of the ill-treatment by police of ethnic Albanians who have been forcibly returned from Germany to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) or have returned there voluntarily after their requests for asylum were refused.

Mustafa Hajrullahu, aged 22, from a village near Gnjilane in Kosovo province reportedly fled to Germany in 1992 after being called up for military service in the Yugoslav Army. His request for asylum was refused by the German authorities and on 14 September 1996 he was arrested by German police and taken to Stuttgart airport and forced to board a plane destined for the FRY. According to a local human rights organization, on arrival at Priština airport he was questioned and physically ill-treated by police officers and ordered to report to the police station in Gnjilane on 16 September. He was summoned again for questioning on 3 October and has reportedly been ordered to report to the police station every month.

There is likely to be a considerable increase in the number of ethnic Albanians forcibly returned to the FRY from Germany following the signing of an agreement between Germany and the FRY on 10 October which provides for the return of some 135,000 Yugoslav citizens, the majority of them ethnic Albanians.

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

- expressing concern at reports that Mustafa Hajrullahu, an ethnic Albanian, was physically ill-treated by police at Priština airport on 14 September after being deported from Germany, where his request for asylum had been refused;
- urging a prompt and impartial investigation into this and reports of similar incidents (refer to the other three cases - see 1 October follow-up UA) and that any police officer found responsible be brought to justice;
- urging that appropriate steps be taken to ensure that none of these men suffer further ill-treatment;
- noting the reported imminent return from Germany of many asylum-seekers and urging the Yugoslav authorities to guarantee all those who return the full enjoyment of their fundamental human rights in conformity with international human rights treaties ratified by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including protection from torture, or any other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of the Republic of Serbia

Mr Slobodan Milošević

Predsednik Republike Srbije

Andrijev venac 1

11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

Faxes: +381 11 682 167

Telegrams: President Milosevic, Beograd, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear President

2) Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia

Mr Zoran Sokolovic

Ministar Unutrasnjih Poslova Republike Srbije

Kneza Milosa 101, 11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

Faxes: +381 11 683 041 or 685 937

Telegrams: MUP Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Premier - President of the Serbian Government

Mr Mirko Marjanović

Predsednik Vlade Republike Srbije

Nemanjina 11, 11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

Faxes: + 381 11 659 682

Telegrams: Predsednik Vlade Srbije, Beograd, Yugoslavia

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs

Milan Milutinović

Ministar za inostrane poslove

Savezno ministarstvo za inostrane poslove

Kneza Miloša 24

11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia

Fax: + 381 11 682 668

Humanitarian Law Centre

Terazije 14

11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Committee for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms, Pristina

Xhavit Mitrovica 15, 38000 Pristina, Yugoslavia

and to diplomatic representatives of 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 18 November 1996.