

Thank you Chairman Christopher Smith, Co-Chairman Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell and other members and staff of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe for organizing this important briefing.

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide human rights organization. Amnesty has more than one million members in 140 countries, with over 300,000 members in the USA. Amnesty works to free all prisoners of conscience; ensure fair and just trials for political prisoners; abolish torture and the death penalty, and end extra-judicial executions. Amnesty also opposes abuses by armed opposition groups. Amnesty has no position for or against the use of military force.

We thank Chairman Smith and the CSCE for the recent statement criticizing the Russian customs officials' confiscation of Amnesty International's reports on human rights violations in Chechnya as "anti-Russian government propaganda" in May. To date, despite repeated Amnesty requests, Russian officials have not released the documents.

My remarks will cover the new increased level of torture in Chechnya in the context of Russia's armed conflict in the Russian Republic of Chechnya. I will highlight a few selected cases of torture. I will also examine the larger context of systemic problems with torture and ill-treatment in Russia, allegations of human rights violations by Chechen armed groups, and make recommendations for eliminating torture to the Russian Government and the US government.

According to the definition of torture in the United Nations Convention Against Torture, the three essential elements include: (1) infliction of severe mental or physical pain or suffering; (2) by or with the consent of state authorities; and (3) behavior for a specific purpose, such as gaining information, punishment, or intimidation. Torture may be distinguished from other forms of ill-treatment by the degree of suffering involved and the need for a purposive element.

Torture By Russian Forces Related to the Armed Conflict in Chechnya

Amnesty International continues to collect evidence of daily human rights abuses in Chechnya. Despite recent Russian government assurances that all crimes against civilians will be investigated, all perpetrators remain unpunished. Amnesty International's research team visited North Ossetia and Ingushetia last month, which are neighboring provinces of Chechnya, and Amnesty received new disturbing testimonies from survivors of secret Russian "filtration camps."

We confirmed that Russian forces are constantly detaining people at checkpoints in Chechnya and in the territories under their control, either during so-called "cleansing operations" in newly-occupied towns or during identity checks on civilian convoys traveling from Chechnya to

neighboring Ingushetia. People are most often detained for not having proper registration and a residence permit, or on suspicion of belonging to armed Chechen groups. Women are also detained on suspicion of being related to Chechen fighters. At one point the Russian official policy was to arrest all Chechen males over age 10 to be automatically treated as rebels. People detained by Russian forces are then sent to various secret "filtration camps" where they are held without access to their relatives, lawyers, or the outside world.

Detainees in secret "filtration camps"- men, women, and children- are routinely and systematically tortured: they are raped, beaten with hammers and clubs, tortured with electric shocks and tear gas, their teeth are sawed off and some are simultaneously beaten around both ears to burst the ear drums.

These "filtration camps" are not actual police stations or prisons- they are makeshift operations without the basic living facilities properly to house detainees. Some known "camps" are hastily constructed, for example, out of a poultry processing plant, the basement of a café, or train carriages (see appendix I).

Detainees are usually released after a bribe that the family of the detainee pays, with the price varying from hundreds to thousands of dollars. Filtration camps have also turned into an unofficial business, where the detained are effectively sold by the camp authorities. Amnesty knows of only one case where a person was released from a "filtration camp" without being "bought out" by a relative or friend.

Meanwhile, the Russian government has failed to allow independent observers to access filtration camps and tries to hide the problems. Amnesty heard of one case where a delegation was visiting and the detainees were placed in an ambulance in the back of the building all day without food or water until the delegation left town. The Russian government has rejected any allegations of torture in Russia so far.

The following cases are selected from dozens of cases documented by Amnesty International. The appendix includes: a list of filtration camps currently known; cases of probable death in custody; and lists of detainees in "filtration camps." More Amnesty documents are available at our web site at www.amnesty.org.

Case of "Zelimkhan":

Twenty-year-old "Zelimkhan" was detained on 6 May at his parents' house in the town Urus-Martan by a group of about 15 Russian federal forces officers, allegedly members of the special detachments (OMON). He was taken to the outskirts of Komsomolskoye village, ordered to take off his clothes, handcuffed and forced onto his knees. "Zelimkhan" was beaten with clubs for

about two hours by four OMON officers while the rest of the group watched and laughed. He was asked to sign a confession stating he was a Chechen fighter and that he took part in fighting. Later the same day, "Zelimkhan" was taken to the "Internat" filtration camp.

In the "Internat" filtration camp, he was brutally gang-raped by four or five OMON officers. "Zelimkhan" was blindfolded and handcuffed and ordered to lay on a table face down before being sodomized with wooden clubs and the butt of machine-guns. He was also repeatedly kicked in the area of the genitals while asked to stand naked by a wall. "Zelimkhan" said the officers also squeezed his genitals, repeatedly saying they would make him handicapped and incapable of producing children. He was questioned by an investigator who had ordered the rape, and asked to sign a confession that he was a Chechen fighter, which he refused.

"Zelimkhan" was released on 13 May for the sum of \$300 after being forced by the "Internat" authorities to sign a document claiming that he had not been subjected to ill-treatment. After his release he was immediately hospitalized. In a statement the doctors treating him concluded that he had sustained numerous bruises and haematomas in the area of his ribs and chest and in the area of his kidneys, and that he needed treatment by a urologist because of an inflammation and infection in the genitals.

"Zelimkhan" also told Amnesty International that detainees in the "Internat" have their ears pierced with sharp nails. Children were also tortured and ill-treated in the "Internat". "Zelimkhan" witnessed how 15-year-old Timur, a student at School No. 4 in UrusMartan, was severely beaten by the guards and a number of his ribs were broken. Timur was apparently detained together with his uncle, who was suspected of being a Chechen fighter. Eventually Timur was released when the family paid \$700 to the guards. "Zelimkhan" also told Amnesty about his cell mate Rustam Gandarov, who was detained three times and was released only after his relatives paid \$3,500.

Case of "Musa":

The testimony of a survivor of the Chernokozovo "filtration camp," given under the name of "Musa" is illustrative of the situation existing in the camp early this year. "Musa" was detained with 10 other men on 16 January in the village of Znamenskiy in Chechnya. While traveling on a bus with his mother and brother, "Musa" was taken to the Temporary Department of Internal Affairs in the village of Znamenskiy and kept there overnight with other detainees. On 17 January the whole group was taken to a "filtration camp" in Chernokozovo.

"Musa" told Amnesty: "The guards started beating us from the minute we entered the camp. There were about 20-25 men in masks in the camp yard, standing in two lines and forming a live chain, something like a 'human corridor'. We were pushed through this corridor and each of the

guards began hitting us with clubs. Then they ordered us to completely undress and we were forced into a freezer room, previously used for freezing meat. They kept us there naked for a while and then ordered us to dress up and get out. They began beating us again in the corridor outside the freezer. They continued beating us in the cell, too. During this first night in the camp I was beaten four times.

The next day, 18 January, we were forced to run through the live chain of armed guards in masks in the corridor in front of our cells. Some of the guards were armed with sledge hammers, the rest had clubs. When I ran through their corridor, somebody hit me on the back with a hammer. The pain was so strong, that I was not even able to feel any pain during all the rest of the beatings with clubs. This is when my spine was broken.

During the night it was impossible to sleep because of the screams you could hear from other cells. I was brought to the office of the investigator in order to sign a confession that I was a fighter or that I had aided them. I was told by the guards that I have answer to any questions by the investigator. When I entered his office there were two electric wires hanging from the ceiling. They threatened me that if I did not confess and sign the papers I would be electrocuted. The guards pushed my face onto the wires and at that moment I passed out."

"Musa" told Amnesty International that he saw a man in his cell whose hands were severely burned by the prison guards with cigarette lighters. Another of his cellmates, a 17-year-old teenager, had his teeth sawed off with a metal file by the guards and his lips were shredded. He could not speak, eat or drink. Several other people among his cellmates had burst eardrums as a result of torture. This torture method involves the prisoner being hit simultaneously on both sides of the head in the area of his ears. "Musa" remembered a young Chechen student in Moscow, who had been detained on the train to Moscow while traveling to attend university exams. The student was so badly beaten, according to "Musa", that he had lost his mind.

"The soldiers often told us, 'even if you get out of here alive, you will certainly be handicapped.'" An independent medical examination of "Musa" after his release concluded that he had a fractured spine. He suffered serious bruises on his abdomen, and on his spinal column, and suffers abdominal pains and a serious head trauma.

Case of Razmik Nagdalian:

The problem of persecution of ethnic Chechens and others from the Caucasus exists not only in the Russian Caucasus but also throughout the vast territory of Russia. Amnesty International has received a number of reports about incidents of torture and ill-treatment by the police of Chechens and other people from the Caucasus taken into custody following routine identity checks on the street or in their homes. Amnesty is not aware of any convictions based on

criminal investigations by the authorities into the allegations of torture and ill-treatment of Chechens in custody. Torture and ill-treatment have reportedly often been used to induce a detainee to sign a confession relating to possession of drugs or weapons. Sometimes, ill-treatment occurs without any obvious reason, in what appear to be racist attacks. Alleged victims of torture and ill-treatment in custody were mainly Chechen adult men, but cases of ill-treatment of women and adolescents under 18, were also reported.

Razmik Nagdalian is an Armenian born in Azerbaijan, who moved to Moscow in 1994. Razmik Nagdalian became ill at the age of 31 and is registered as an invalid. He has a brain tumor and epilepsy. On 23 September he was walking on the street near Savelievsky train station in Moscow when three officers of the special police detachments (OMON) asked for his documents. Razmik Nagdalian showed his passport but the OMON officers thought his type of registration was suspicious. The men took him into a square, forced his arm behind his back and swore at him, saying: "Don't you know whose land you are living on?" They beat him with their fists and kicked him around his kidneys and to his head. Razmik Nagdalian said that he hit a wall and fell on the ground. His head was cut. The officers took his passport and ripped it. At this point he lost consciousness. Razmik Nagdalian said that he did not know if it was an epileptic crisis or not.

When he gained consciousness he found himself on the ground with a severe headache and the jacket he was wearing was all bloody. The next day that he went to the local polyclinic and obtained a medical certificate that registered the injuries he had suffered as a result of the beating. He went with his complaint to the duty officer at police department No. 14, but no investigation ever took place.

The purpose of torture in Chechnya is similar to torture in general - to extract confessions or extract testimony incriminating others. An underlying reason for the torture is to attempt to break the personal spirit of an individual. A terrible aspect of the torture is that people are held incommunicado in these detention centers for days, without access to relatives, medical care, or a lawyer.

Overall Context of Torture in Russia

I would like to separate out the torture occurring around events in Chechnya (i.e. in the context of an armed conflict) from the broader pattern of torture and ill-treatment in the Russian Federation. Torture in Chechnya represents the special problem of a war zone (or technically an internal armed conflict) where the problem is extreme, including new types of torture that Amnesty has not previously recorded such as the filing of teeth with a metal saw. In Russia in general there are broad systemic problems with torture and ill-treatment- but the conflict in Chechnya represents an increase in frequency and severity of torture incidents. Torture in the

context of an armed conflict could be controlled through the command structure of the Russian military and police forces. Responding to the current level of torture and ill-treatment is a test of the professionalism and the military competence of the Russian security forces. They are failing miserably.

For instance, Russian officials have long claimed that brutal hazing or *dedovshina* in the Russian military only occurs rarely and is not an official policy. But the current systematic and routine torture in the context of an armed conflict in Chechnya, if it is not an official policy, should be an error that Russia's military command structure can eliminate. It is being perpetrated with complete impunity.

The nationwide problem of torture and ill-treatment in Russia is fueled by the overall political and economic crisis. As Russia continues to reinvent itself after the old totalitarian Soviet system, Russia has not yet successfully put in place systemic criminal justice reforms, leaving thousands of people gravely mistreated.

As Amnesty documented in its landmark 1997 report, "This Man-Made Hell," on torture in Russia, structural problems in the Russian criminal justice system facilitate torture.

Torture and ill-treatment are fostered by: an over-reliance on confessions for evidence; pressure on police to solve crimes without resources to conduct forensic investigations; outrageous overcrowding in pre-trial detention centers, and ill-equipped and under-funded prisons. Other factors that enhance torture include an underdeveloped culture of rule of law resulting arbitrary decision-making; a breakdown in discipline leading *dedovshina* or brutal hazing in the armed forces; and impunity for abuses in the system.

According to the 1999 Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices on Russia, "There are credible reports that law enforcement personnel regularly use torture to extract confessions from suspects, and that the Government does not hold most of them accountable for their actions."

Torture is carried out in at least three phases in the criminal justice system in Russia. First, in police custody, police routinely torture and ill-treat suspects. Innocent people, sometimes no more than passers-by, regularly become victims of abuse. Those more likely to be ill-treated are the less educated and the less privileged: ethnic minorities, the unemployed, vagrants, peasants, women, adolescents, and in some cases the disabled. A general feeling of impunity and state protection is apparently experienced by police officers.

Police officers use torture methods including asphyxiation, known in Russian as *slonik* ("elephant"), beatings, and special methods of physical restraint, known as *lastochka* ("swallow")

or konvert ("envelope). In the torture method slonik, a gas mask is put on the suspect. The flow of oxygen is restricted or cut off repeatedly until the suspect suffocates and agrees to confess. This torture method is called "elephant" because of the resemblance of the suspect wearing a gas mask to the animal. In another torture method lastochka, the suspect's hands are handcuffed behind the back, and in konvert, the victim's legs are pulled up to his head.

Second, after police custody, many detainees are transferred to vastly overcrowded pre-trial detention centers. The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture said: "The senses of smell, touch, taste and sight are repulsively assailed. The conditions are cruel, inhuman and degrading; they are torturous".

Third, in prisons, violations often continue. The Russian Government's own Human Rights Ombudsman Oleg Mironov reported that 50 percent of prisoners with whom he spoke in 1998 claimed to have been tortured. Prisons continue to be grossly overcrowded and thousands of prisoners have no individual bed and have to sleep in two or three shifts, often without bedding. Many cells are filthy and pest-ridden, with inadequate light and ventilation. Food and medical supplies are frequently inadequate. The unsanitary conditions mean that illness spreads rapidly. Lung, circulatory and skin diseases, especially tuberculosis and scabies, are widespread. According to reports, the Stalin-era prison system's practice of press-camera continues to be common in a number of prisons and detention centers, whereby prison officials and guards use some prisoners to brutalize other prisoners to control or punish them in return for special privileges.

Torture and ill-treatment are also common in the military. The violent and cruel hazing of young recruits, at best, involves forcing recruits to perform menial tasks, often outside official duties. At worst, it leads to beatings, torture, murder, and suicide. Military authorities and official documents hide the real problem of ill-treatment in the Russian army with euphemisms such as "non-regulation relations" between servicemen, or characterize it as a practice of abuse of young soldiers by old soldiers. In fact, not only soldiers but also officers of the armed forces continue to permit, encourage and often participate in the ill-treatment.

Allegations of Human Rights Violations by Chechen Armed Groups

There have been reports of violations of international humanitarian law by Chechen armed groups, primarily by Russian official sources, but there are serious difficulties in investigating them, including the lack of independent information and witness accounts of such incidents. In one instance, the Russian Ministry of Defense claimed that Chechen civilians have been killed by Chechen armed groups for refusing to allow them into their village. There have also been reports that Chechen armed groups have prevented people from leaving Chechnya, and that they are using civilians as "human shields" and are making them dig fortifications. It was reported

that on November 28, 1999 unarmed Chechen civilians in the village of Gekhi came under direct fire by Chechen fighters and at least five people were wounded in the attack. Reportedly, in the weeks prior to this incident the Chechen fighters had frequently entered the village in order to fire on the nearby Russian forces' positions and then immediately withdraw.

Conclusion

Torture and ill-treatment are a huge problem in Russia, but the escalating rate and severity of torture in the context of filtration camps related to the armed conflict in Chechnya is highly alarming.

Many policymakers may be hoping that the Chechen conflict will blow over and the US government can establish a productive relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin. But although the main fighting may be over, the torture problem will not go away, and in fact may increase. As the war moves to a more low-intensity conflict, the Russian forces will be challenged tactically how to respond. After a small attack by a Chechen armed group, Russian forces will continue to travel to the closest village and round up innocent victims to torture them to force them to reveal information about the identity, location, and weapons of the fighters or to confess to the attack.

President Putin and the Russian Government have not shown a willingness to punish torture and abuses by the Russian army. According to Amnesty's knowledge, not a single person was convicted for violations in the first Chechen War or has been convicted for the current war. Russia wants engagement with the West and financial investment. The United States Government and the international community must demand human rights changes as the price of respectability and full participation in international institutions. US officials, particularly the Department of Defense, should raise the issue of torture with the Russian military in the context of professionalism, command and control and demand change.

Under the current situation of torture in Chechnya - anyone could be picked up by the Russian security forces and tortured. Anyone could be a victim. This is a clarion call- the horrendous torture problem will not go away and may get worse.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Russian Government:

- Immediately release the names of all detained and the locations of all "filtration camps." Grant current detainees access to relatives, medical care and lawyers.
- End the unofficial practice of accepting bribes to release detainees.
- Ensure full and appropriate access to all detainees by the International Committee of the Red Cross, international monitors and journalists in Chechnya, including access to "filtration camps." Provide security guarantees and access to humanitarian aid groups in Chechnya.
- Implement the resolution from the April session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights for establishing a national, broad-based and independent commission of inquiry with the capacity for a thorough and impartial investigation. Submit a report promptly to the member states of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.
- Investigate all reports of arbitrary detention, ill-treatment, and torture and prosecute those who have committed crimes. Bring individuals responsible for those violations to justice and award reparations to those who have been unlawfully detained.
- Invite the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions, the Special Rapporteur on violence against Women, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for children and armed conflict.
- Stop the campaign of intimidation against ethnic Chechens and other people from the Caucasus who reside in Moscow and other parts of the Russian Federation.
- Enforce the 1998 Russian Federation Constitutional Court's decision that the use of residence permits and resident registration system is illegal.
- Establish an effective system of independent inspection of all places of detention.
- Improve conditions in pre-trial detention, including limiting the period of detention pending trial. Make effective use of the system of release on bail.

To the United States Government:

- Raise the issue of torture at senior levels, including from the CSCE Commissioner from the Department of Defense with his Russian military counterparts, as a breach of the professional conduct of the Russian armed forces and a violation of international and Russian law.
- Urge the Russian Government to implement the resolution from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, including:
 - Give Russia a deadline to submit a report on its commission of inquiry to investigate violations of humanitarian law and human rights and to bring those responsible to justice.
 - Urge Russia to invite the United Nations thematic rapporteurs (see recommendations to Russia).
 - Collect information in the State Department's Office on War Crimes on violations of human rights and humanitarian law in Chechnya.
 - Send monitors to the Caucasus to visit "filtration camps," and collect information on human rights violations and humanitarian needs.
 - Support the re-establishment of the office of the OSCE Assistance Group in Chechnya.
- Ensure a vigorous implementation of the Leahy Laws to ensure that no funding from the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act flows to any security unit that has committed gross human rights violations until the perpetrators are brought to justice. The State Department needs to devote sufficient resources to tracking human rights violations by security units. All law enforcement officials, lawyers and judges who are selected for US training should be screened to ensure they have not committed human rights violations. Further, vigorously implement the Department of Defense version of the Leahy Laws to ensure that no Russian security units that have committed human rights violations can participate in American military training or joint exercises.

Appendix I - List of known locations of secret "filtration camps"

- The pre-trial detention center (SIZO) known as the "White Swan", (Beliy Lebed) in the city of Pyatigorsk, in Stavropol Territory;
- on the premises of a former school in the town of Urus-Martan (the so-called "Internat");
- a makeshift detention facility in the village of Znamenskoye, allegedly located in the basement of a building situated behind the local government building;
- at the Russian army checkpoint in the Chechen village of Tolstoy-Yurt - it is apparently a pit dug in the ground;
- a fruit warehouse in Tolstoy-Yurt;
- in the village of Gorogorsk, on the premises of a former oil factory (known as "NGDU");
- in the village of Kadi-Yurt;
- in a poultry processing plant in the Chechen village of Chiri-Yurt;
- in the basement of the "Chekhkar" café in Chiri-Yurt;
- in the town of Mozdok in Stavropol Territory
- in the town of Grigorievsk in Stavropol Territory;
- and in the Chechen capital, Grozny, including two detention facilities in the Leninsky district of Grozny, in the buildings of the car factory there (in buildings "PAP-1" and "PAP-5");
- in the village of Chernokozovo, now reportedly under the jurisdiction of the Russian Ministry of Justice.
- four train carriages parked in the Chechen village of Stanitsa Chervlyonnaya

Appendix II

Individuals thought to be in detention in secret "filtration camps", or thought to

have died in detention:

- Adam Abubakarov, 16, thought to be held in detention in the camp known as the "Internat" in Urus-Martan
- Visita Vakhidovich Arsanukayev, 29; Vakha Alievich Titayev, 39; Maerbek Didayev, 42; and Valid Aliyevich Arsamerzoyev, 40
- Abubakar Ismailov; Samrudy Djabrailov; Aslanbek Zelimkhanovich Djankhutov; and Mussa Goitaev)
- 63 individuals listed in Appendix III, including Idrisov Movladi who reportedly was killed in detention
- 14-year-old girl (name not known), though to have died in Chernokovozo, as a result of being raped and tortured by guards
- "Sultan" (not his real name), 25-year-old Chechen man, who died on 16 March from injuries sustained as a direct result of beatings

Appendix III- Names of detainees transferred from Chernokozovo "filtration

camp" to other secret "filtration camps" in February 2000*

Names of detainees believed to have transferred to a detention facility in the Chechen village of Kadi-Yurt:

1. Bakayanov Ramzan - born 1979
2. Zarbarayev Vadadi - 1951
3. Yandarov Kureish - 1961
4. Edisultanov Usman - 1978
5. Barzayev Arsan - 1977
6. Khamzayev Ibragim - 1977
7. Bisultanov Vakha - 1977
8. Ibashev Ramzan - 1976
9. Kazayev "Musa" - 1977
10. Vitrigov Said-Ramat - 1956
11. Samalbayev Sabir - 1979
12. Imayev Rasul - 1979
13. Akayev Magomed - 1975
14. Aliyev Buta - 1976
15. Aliyev Badrudi - 1975
16. Vadayev Islam - 1983
17. Aliyev Emal - 1976
18. Kurameyev Rustam - 1977
19. Kitev Mansur - 1977
20. Asayev Delimkhan - 1970
21. Dadayev Makharbek - 1957 (or 1951)
22. Saiyev Edik - 1963
23. Rasayev Savarbek - 1971
24. Baytayev Arbi - 1982
25. Gumichayev Dokka - 1979
26. Bisultanov Rasul
27. Aleroyev Aslanbek - 1961
28. Matiyev Ramzan
29. Sadayev Aslanbek - 1971
30. Ibakhiyev Ramzan - 1976
31. Titiyev Mukhtar

Names of detainees (women marked with an 'f') believed to have been transferred to the prison hospital at the pre-trial detention centre (SIZO) in Pyatigorsk:

32. Azizov Magomed - 1981
33. Baskhanov Elbek - 1976
34. Tsedayev Bashir
35. Baymaskhanov Alik
36. Shakhmirzayev Lyomi
37. Musitova Zareta f
38. Labazanova Raisa f
39. Magomadova Laila f
40. Makhmadova Aset f
41. Salaudanova Vazilya f
42. Sushmanov Khasan
43. Kediyev Yusup - 1979
44. Batsaligov Anzor
45. Suleymanov Khusein
46. Asantayev Daibek - 1978
47. Ilyasov Ruslan - 1963
48. Yakhayev Bislan - 1974
49. Aliyev Said Magomed - 1981
50. Gubayev Bisman - 1984
51. Kusuyev Umar
52. Kasanov Zelimkhan - 1970
53. Teriyev Alikhan - 1979
54. Khasuyev Artur - 1983
55. Isayev Usman - 1977
56. Kesimigov Uvais - 1977
57. Satayev Dezirbek - 1979
58. Idrisov Movladi - killed
59. Garavlikov Vlad - 1948
60. Atazov Khamid - 1975
61. Gekayev Lechi - 1978
62. Gekayev Arbi - 1978
63. Bakayev Rashid -1978

*A note on the list of names:

In March, Amnesty International's field researcher obtained three separate lists containing the names of 63 of the 300 or so people believed to have been transferred by the Russian authorities from Chernokozovo "filtration camp" to other detention facilities prior to the official visit to Chernokozovo by the Council of Europe's Committee for the

Prevention of Torture (CPT) in February. The lists include the names of detainees believed to be held in detention in the Chechen village of Kadi-Yurt, as well as of detainees who were allegedly transferred to the prison hospital at the re-trial detention centre (SIZO) in the town of Pyatigorsk in Russia's Stavropol Territory. One detainee named in the lists, Movladi Idrisov, reportedly died in detention after being transferred to the Pyatigorsk prison hospital. There are spelling variations and mistakes when comparing the names in the material obtained by AI, due to the different alphabets used, different people who have written them down, and also the difficult conditions in which the lists were compiled. The names and dates of birth given above are as accurate as possible. Amnesty International has received no further information on the whereabouts or state of health of these individuals since March.