



INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

**URGENT
ACTION**

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 14/90 (AMR 29/01/90, 12 January 1990) - Fear of "disappearance"

EL SALVADOR: Oswaldo Antonio ALFARO ESTÉVEZ, student
 Rubén Ernesto IRAHETA ABREGO, mechanic
 Pedro Edilberto RAMÍREZ ARIAS, mechanic

Amnesty International has learnt that Oswaldo Antonio Alfaro Estévez was found dead in mid-November, a few days after his "disappearance". His parents subsequently identified the body in the Morgue of the General Cemetery in San Salvador as that of their "disappeared" son. An autopsy examination revealed that he had died as a result of multiple bullet wounds in the chest.

A law student at the Universidad de El Salvador (UES), the University of El Salvador, Oswaldo Antonio Alfaro Estévez was a member of the Frente de Estudiantes Universitarios Salvadoreños (FEUS), Salvadorian student organization. He was detained on 11 November 1989, reportedly by uniformed members of the Policía de Hacienda, the Treasury Police, along with Rubén Ernesto Iraheta Abrego and Pedro Edilberto Ramírez Arias, both mechanics, as they were driving near the Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), the Central American University, in Antigua Cuscatlán, San Salvador. The three men were taken to an unknown destination.

The discovery of Oswaldo Alfaro's body has led to serious concern for the safety of Rubén Ernesto Iraheta Abrego and Pedro Edilberto Ramírez Arias, whose detention has never been officially recognized by the Treasury Police and whose whereabouts are still unknown.

Please send further appeals regarding the apparent extrajudicial killing of Oswaldo Antonio Alfaro Estévez, and the continued "disappearance" of Rubén Ernesto Iraheta Abrego and Pedro Edilberto Ramírez Arias.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/telegrams/telephone calls/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- requesting an immediate and thorough investigation into the reported extrajudicial execution of Oswaldo Antonio Alfaro Estévez, the results of which should be made public, and urging that those found responsible be brought to justice;
- expressing serious concern for the safety of Rubén Ernesto Iraheta Abrego and Pedro Edilberto Ramírez Arias, and urging immediate clarification of their whereabouts;
- asking that, if detained, they be immediately brought before a judge or released;

Telephone: 01-833 1771 Fax: 01-956 1157 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience*. It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners.

- seeking assurances that their physical safety be guaranteed while in detention and that they be allowed visits from their relatives and lawyers.

APPEALS TO:

S.E. Alfredo Cristiani Telegrams: Presidente Cristiani
Presidente de la República San Salvador, El Salvador
de El Salvador Telephone: (503) 421172; 218280
Casa Presidencial Telexes: 20245 RS SAL; 20522
San Salvador, El Salvador Fax: (503) 710950

Sr. Oscar Santamaría Telegrams: Ministro Justicia
Ministro de Justicia San Salvador, El Salvador
Ministerio de Justicia Telephone: (503) 241510
Av. Masferrer No. 612-b
Colonia Lomas Verde
San Salvador, El Salvador

Cnel. Heriberto Hernández Telegrams: Director Policía de Hacienda
Director General de la San Salvador, El Salvador
Policía de Hacienda Telephone: (503) 255855; 262656
Calle Concepción Telexes: 20458
San Salvador, El Salvador

COPIES TO:

Lic. Benjamín Cestoni Oficina de Tutela Legal del Arzobispado
Comisión de Derechos Humanos Comisión Arquidiocesana de Justicia y Paz
de El Salvador, Apartado Postal 2253
gubernamental (CDH) San Salvador, El Salvador
29a Av. Norte, No. 1102
San Salvador, El Salvador

Dr. José Francisco Guerrero
Presidente de la Corte Suprema de Justicia
Centro de Gobierno "José Simeón Cañas"
San Salvador, El Salvador

and to diplomatic representatives of El Salvador in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 March 1990.

— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."

The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.

Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

— in Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.

Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.