

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Fear of Torture/"Disappearance"

11 January 1991

COLOMBIA : Alvaro MORENO MORENO, aged 29

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Amnesty International has learned about the detention of Alvaro Moreno Moreno on 3 January 1991 in Bogotá, and is concerned for his physical safety as his detention is being denied by police authorities.

According to reports, 29-year-old industrial engineering student Alvaro Moreno Moreno was detained on 3 January 1991 by members of the national police in Bogotá. On 4 January, Alvaro Moreno's father was informed that his son was being held by the Judicial and Investigative Police headquarters, Dirección de Policía Judicial e Investigación, (DIJIN). However, this was later denied by police authorities and Alvaro Moreno's whereabouts remain unknown.

Although no further details are available at present, Amnesty International is concerned for the physical safety of Alvaro Moreno. The Procurator General of Colombia has been informed of the detention and possible "disappearance" of Alvaro Moreno.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Human rights violations, including "disappearances", in Colombia are occurring on a dramatically increasing scale, against a background of considerable non-political violence. Colombian human rights groups estimate that over 1,800 people have "disappeared" and remain unaccounted for since 1980. Principal targets have been people associated with trade unions, civic and community movements and legal left-wing parties, as well as alleged members of or sympathizers with armed opposition groups.

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the possible "disappearance" after detention of Alvaro Moreno Moreno and urging there be an immediate investigation to establish his whereabouts;
- urging that if still in detention his legal situation be clarified and he be immediately released unless he is to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence, also that he be allowed access to a lawyer and relatives;
- urging that he be humanely treated while in detention.

**APPEALS TO:**

Presidente César Gaviria Trujillo  
Presidente de la República  
Palacio de Nariño  
Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Presidente Gaviria, Bogota, Colombia**  
**Telexes: 44281 PALP CO**  
**Faxes: + 57 1 286 7324**

Coronel Peña Angarita  
Comandante  
Dirección de Policía Judicial e Investigación (DIJIN)  
Carrera 15, No. 10-41  
Bogotá  
COLOMBIA

**Telegrams: Comandante, DIJIN, Bogota, Colombia**

Dr. Carlos Gustavo Arrieta  
Procurador General de la Nación  
Edificio Banco Ganadero  
Carrera 5, No. 15-80  
Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Procurador General Arrieta, Bogota, Colombia**  
**Telexes: 41224 PRGEN CO or 41213 PGNDP CO**

**COPIES TO:**

Comisión Andina de Juristas  
Carrera 10, No. 24-76 Of. 1101  
Bogotá  
COLOMBIA

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 February 1991.