

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 370/90 (AMR 23/43/90, 14 September 1990) - Torture and Killings

COLOMBIA : Hildegard FELDMANN, Swiss national, nurse, aged 54
- please note corrected name
Ramón ROJAS ERAZO

Amnesty International has received more information concerning the killing of Hildegard Feldmann on 9 September 1990, and of the alleged killing of Ramón Rojas Erazo in the same incident.

Hildegard Feldmann had been working in the El Sande community, municipality of Guachaves, Nariño department, for approximately six months as a community nurse and midwife, attached to the Geneinschaft der Laienmissionare (GLM), Community of Lay Missionaries of Fribourg, Switzerland.

According to reports, Hildegard Feldmann was visiting a sick woman in El Sande, which had recently been militarized as part of the army's counter-insurgency operations against alleged guerrillas in the area. On 9 September, a platoon of soldiers from the army's Grupo mecanizado de caballería no. 3 Cabal, attached to the III Brigade, reportedly destroyed a house close to the one Hildegard Feldmann was visiting, apparently on suspicion that guerrillas were sheltering there. Shortly afterwards, the house she was visiting was assaulted by troops and Hildegard Feldmann was shot and killed, together with the owner of the house, Ramón Rojas Erazo, and one other person.

A number of people were reportedly injured in the attack. A statement by the army's III Brigade, following the killings, claimed that she was killed by a stray bullet whilst assisting wounded guerrillas.

An autopsy on Hildegard Feldmann's body revealed that she had died from a gunshot wound to the heart.

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

- continuing to express concern at the reported killing of Hildegard Feldmann, and expressing concern at the killing of Ramón Rojas Erazo in circumstances suggesting they were victims of extrajudicial execution;
- requesting an immediate independent and impartial enquiry into the killings in order to bring those responsible to justice.

APPEALS TO

Presidente César Gaviria Trujillo
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Nariño
Bogotá
COLOMBIA

Telegrams: Presidente Gaviria, Bogotá, Colombia
Telexes: 44281 PALP CO
Faxes: + 57 1 286 7324; + 57 1 283 3066

Brigadier General Manuel Jose Bonnet Locarno
Comandante de la III Brigada
Avenida 4 N, Calle 18 y 19
Cali
Valle del Cauca
COLOMBIA

Telegrams: Comandante 3-Brigada, Cali, Colombia

COPIES TO:

Dr. Alfonso Gómez Méndez
Procurador General de la Nación
Edificio Banco Ganadero
Carrera 5, No. 15-80
Bogotá
COLOMBIA

Señores
CINEP
AA 25916
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 1 November 1990.