

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 356/94 (AMR 23/74/94, 27 September 1994) - Fear of "disappearance"/Fear for Safety

COLOMBIA Alvaro RODRIGUEZ CARVAJAL, taxi driver  
Alvaro AREVALO, salesman  
Tomás DIAZ HURTADO, tradesman and barber

New name: Italo RODRIGUEZ CARVAJAL, brother of Alvaro RODRIGUEZ CARVAJAL

Italo Rodriguez's life is believed to be in danger following the discovery of the bodies of his brother Alvaro Rodríguez Carvajal and friends Alvaro Arévalo and Tomás Díaz Hurtado, whose detention by police intelligence agents was witnessed on 15 September 1994 in the town of Barranquilla, Atlántico department.

Witnesses reported the detention of five men, including the above, at a pawn shop in Murillo Street, Barranquilla by the police intelligence agents (usually known as F-2). Two of the men, whose names are not known, later escaped, but the other three were taken to an unknown destination. The F-2 denied all knowledge of the detentions, although one of the F-2 agents allegedly threatened one of the men who escaped. In addition, witnesses state that the vehicles used in the operation were later seen inside the F-2 base.

Italo Rodríguez denounced his brother's "disappearance" to the authorities. On 27 September the bodies of all three men, Alvaro Rodríguez Carvajal, Alvaro Arévalo and Tomás Díaz Hurtado were found, buried in a cemetery in nearby Cartagena as "N.N." - bodies with "No Name". The bodies were completely burnt. Italo Rodríguez was only able to recognize his brother from a ring he was wearing when he was detained.

Since the discovery of the bodies, F-2 agents have reportedly been searching for Italo Rodríguez in the homes of his relatives and friends and issuing death threats against him. He is in hiding and there is serious concern for his safety.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters**

- urging that the death threats against Italo Rodríguez be immediately investigated and those found responsible brought to justice;
- urging that all possible measures immediately be taken to protect the life of Italo Rodríguez.
- considering the witnessed detention by F-2 agents of Alvaro Rodríguez Carvajal, Alvaro Arévalo and Tomás Díaz Hurtado on 15 September 1994, expressing grave concern that their badly-burned bodies were found on 27 September in Cartagena;

- urging that there be an immediate and thorough investigation into the detentions and subsequent deaths of the men, the results of which should be made public and those found responsible brought to justice;

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President of Colombia:

Señor Presidente Ernesto Samper Pizano  
 Presidente de la República  
 Palacio de Nariño  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: President Samper Pizano, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 44281 PALP CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 286 7434/287 7939**

**Salutation:Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente/Dear President  
 Samper**

2) Procurator General:

Dr. Orlando Vásquez Velásquez  
 Procurador General de la Nación  
 Procuraduría General  
 Edificio Banco Ganadero  
 Carrera 5, No. 15-80  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Procurador General Vasquez, Bogotá,**

**Faxes:+ 57 1 342 9723/281 7531**

**Salutation:Sr. Procurador de la Nación/Dear Dr. Vásquez**

3) Attorney General

Dr. Alfonso Valdivieso Sarmiento  
 Fiscal General de la Nación  
 Fiscalía General de la Nación  
 Apartado Aéreo 29855  
 Santafé de Bogotá  
 Colombia

**Telegrams:Fiscal General Valdivieso, Fiscalía General,  
 Bogotá, Colombia**

**Faxes:+ 57 1 287 0939 or 288 2828**

**Salutation: Estimado Valdivieso/Dear Dr. Valdivieso**

4) Advocate for the People:

Dr. Jaime Córdoba Triviño  
 Defensor del Pueblo  
 Defensoría del Pueblo  
 Calle 35 No. 7-25 piso 5  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams:Defensor del Pueblo Trivino, Defensoria del  
 Pueblo,**

**Bogota, Colombia**

**Faxes:+ 57 1 288 6683/346 1225**

**Salutation: Estimado Dr Triviño/Dear Dr. Triviño**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Association for Relatives of the "Disappeared"  
 Señores

ASFADDES  
AA 011446  
Santafé de Bogotá  
Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 December 1994.