

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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20 December 1983

Further information on UA 213/83 (AMR 29/35/83 21 September, AMR 29/37/83 7 October) – “Disappearances”

EL SALVADOR: Pedro Flores PENA
Hugo Francisco CARRILLO CABRERA

On 19 November 1983 the *Comando Anticomunista de Salvación Universitaria* (Anti-Communist Command for University Salvation), a right-wing paramilitary group, reportedly claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Hugo Francisco Carrillo Cabrera. Hugo Carrillo, who is a lecturer at the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences at the University of El Salvador, and also Head of the University's School of International Relations, was kidnapped from his home by armed civilians on 14 September 1983.

There has been no further news of Amilcar Martínez Arguera, also a lecturer at the School of International Relations and Director of Economic and Social Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was taken from his home in San Salvador on 20 September 1983. A right-wing death squad, the *Brigada Maximiliano Hernández Martínez*, reportedly claimed responsibility for his abduction. There is considerable concern for Dr Martínez as he is reported to have recently undergone brain surgery and to be still in need of medical care.

There has been no further news of Carlos Abdulio Díaz Cárdenas and Jaime Enrique Bautista (note corrected names). Originally reported as a student, Carlos Abdulio Díaz Cárdenas is an employee of the *Banco Central de Reserva*, Central reserve Bank, and a member of the *Sindicato de Instituciones Financieras*, Financial Institutions Trade Union. He was abducted together with Jaime Enrique Bautista, a law student at the Matías Delgado University, on 24 September 1983.

Conflicting information has been received concerning Pedro Flores Peña. His wife was reported to have found his severely tortured and decapitated body near the University of El Salvador on 24 September 1983. However, reports indicate that there is some uncertainty as to whether this was in fact the body of Pedro Flores Peña: four days after the body was found, the *Ejército Secreto Anticomunista* (ESA), the Secret Anti-Communist Army, a paramilitary group, admitted responsibility for his kidnapping but claimed that he was still alive in their custody. Pedro Flores Peña was abducted in San Salvador on 13 September 1983.

During the past two months, three other lecturers from the National University have been killed and several lecturers and students have “disappeared”, allegedly at the hands of right-wing death squads. Amnesty International is deeply concerned at reports of the renewed activity of the so-called death squads, who are in fact members of the Salvadorian security and military forces acting under direct orders of higher-placed officers of these units.

Further recommended action:

Please continue to send appeals:

- expressing concern about the abduction of Hugo Francisco Carrillo Cabrera, Amilcar Martínez Arguera, Carlos Abdulio Díaz Cárdenas and Jaime Enrique Bautista;
- urging that their whereabouts be made known and they be humanely treated while in detention;

- requesting that they be immediately released unless charged and brought before a court;
- urging that an investigation be undertaken into reports that Pedro Flores Peña is still alive and that all efforts be made to discover his whereabouts.

Appeals to:

S.E. don Alvaro Magaña
Presidente de la República de El Salvador
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad
Pública
San Salvador, El Salvador

Coronel Carlos López Nuila
Director de la Policía Nacional
6a Calle Oriente
San Salvador, El Salvador

Copies to:

Dr Arturo Zeledón Castrillo
Presidente de la Corte Suprema
Palacio Nacional
San Salvador, El Salvador

Lic. Miguel Angel Parada
Rector
Universidad de El Salvador
San Salvador, El Salvador

Comisión de Derechos Humanos
Dr. Benjamin Custoni
2a Planta,
Edif. Fiscalía General de la República
Centro de Gobierno
San Salvador, El Salvador
(*governmental human rights commission*)

and to diplomatic representatives of El Salvador in your country.

Check with the International Secretariat if sending appeals after 31 January 1984.