

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 41/81/96

10 December 1996

Further information on UA 265/96 (AMR 41/76/96, 18 November 1996) - Fear for safety

MEXICORuth Yudit Ortega Orozco (f), student activist and her family and fellow activists

Ruth Yudit Ortega Orozco continues to be the victim of threats and intimidation, apparently linked to her work as a student activist.

On 6 December 1996, an anonymous telephone caller told her that she was going to be killed. Call of this kind have been a regular occurrence since she became a member of the *Comité Estudiantil Metropolitano*, Metropolitan Students' Committee, but they have intensified in recent months (since August) and even more in the last few weeks. She receives calls as soon as she returns home, whatever the time of day. If someone else answers, the caller hangs up and then immediately calls back.

Following Ruth Yudit Ortega's abduction on 2 October - the first of two such incidents - the authorities offered her police protection, which she refused, fearing that the police themselves were involved in the threats and attacks against her. On 3 December, she presented a complaint to the *Dirección General de Investigación de Delitos contra la Seguridad de las Personas, las Instituciones y la Administración de Justicia* (governmental body which investigates offences against individuals), asking for protective measures to be taken, but the authorities refused her request.

Ruth Yudit Ortega greatly fears for her life. Other student leaders have received similar threats, although some have not officially reported these because they too are afraid of police involvement.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or in your own language:

- reiterating fears for the safety of Ruth Yudit Ortega, her family and her fellow student activists;
- expressing dismay at the failure of the Mexican authorities to provide the students with effective protection from intimidation and possible attacks on their person;
- asking what progress, if any, has been made in investigating earlier threats, abductions and torture;
- urging that every effort be made to identify those responsible and to bring them justice;
- expressing solidarity with those threatened as well as outrage about their situation and emphasizing Amnesty International's commitment to continue campaigning for their protection.

APPEALS TO:

1) Attorney General of the Republic
Lic. Jorge Madrazo Cuellar
Procuraduría General de la República
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Fax: +52 5 626 4419/4430

Salutation: Sr. Procurador de la República/Dear Attorney

2) Attorney General of the Federal District

Lic. José Antonio González Fernández

Procurador del Distrito Federal

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Salutation: Sr. Procurador/ Dear Attorney

When dialing fax numbers, if voice, ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor"

COPIES TO:

1) Daily newspaper

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2) Human Rights Organization

Sres., Red Nacional de Organismos Civiles

de Derechos Humanos "Todos los Derechos para Todos"

Puebla 153, Col, Roma

06700, México D.F, MEXICO

Fax: 525 208 7547

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 21 January 1997.