

EXTERNAL

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To: Medical professionals
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Americas
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FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

(See AMR 44/02/90 - 16 March 1990 and AMR 44/05/90 - 18 July 1990)

**Escolástico CALVO
PANAMA**

Keywords

Theme: medical care

Amnesty International has learned that Escolástico Calvo was released from prison on 15 November 1990. He was arrested on 5 January 1990 by United States' soldiers following the US invasion of Panama and the overthrow of the government led by General Manuel Noriega. Several thousand supporters of General Noriega, both military and civilians, were detained at this time. Escolástico Calvo had been director of the national press under General Noriega's government.

Sr Calvo suffers from diabetes and while initially held at Fort Clayton, an American military base, he was reported to have been without regular access to medication. Two weeks after his arrest he was transferred to Modelo Prison in Panama City. In March 1990 he was admitted to hospital, reportedly suffering from uncontrolled diabetes, kidney and urinary tract failure, prostatitis and hypertension. He underwent a transurethral resection of the prostate on 5 March 1990 and was returned to Modelo prison on 12 March. Following protests from his family and an application from his doctors, his return to hospital for post-operative care was authorized the following day. He was returned to Modelo prison on 15 March 1990.

No further action is required. Thank you for having appealed.