

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 51/162/2001

7 November 2001

Further information on UA 250/01 (AMR 51/147/2001, 5 October 2001) - Death penalty

USA (New Mexico) Terry Doug Clark (m), white, aged 45

---

On 6 November, Terry Clark became the first person to be executed in New Mexico since 1960. Hundreds of death penalty opponents held a vigil outside the State Capitol before the execution.

Terry Clark was sentenced to death for the murder of nine-year-old Dena Lynn Gore in 1986. He gave up appeals against his death sentence in March this year and was executed by lethal injection.

In a reply sent to people who had appealed against the execution, New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson wrote: "My mind is not closed on the subject. I will continue to listen and take into consideration the varying opinions. Although I do not intend to declare a moratorium on executions in New Mexico, eliminating the death penalty in the future may prove to be better public policy...".

Terry Clark becomes the 741<sup>st</sup> prisoner to be executed in the USA since it resumed judicial killing in 1977. According to Amnesty International's information, he was the 95<sup>th</sup> person to have been put to death after giving up their appeals. His was the 58<sup>th</sup> execution in the USA this year.

**No further action by the UA Network is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**