

27 November 2001

Further information on UA 174/01 (AMR 41/026/2001, 17 July 2001) - Fear for safety/ arbitrary detention/ possible "disappearance"

MEXICO Faustino Jiménez Alvarez (m)

New names: Últiminio Díaz Castillo (m) and his family

Amnesty International fears for the safety of Últiminio Díaz Castillo following reports that he has information on the whereabouts of Faustino Jiménez Álvarez, who has not been seen since his "disappearance" on 17 June. It is feared that his life is at risk and that attempts may be made to silence him.

Últiminio Díaz Castillo is currently an inmate of Acapulco prison, Guerrero. It is not known why he is in prison, but he was previously an agent of the Guerrero State Judicial Police, *Policía Judicial Estatal de Guerrero (PJE)*.

On 1 October he made a telephone call to Faustino Jiménez's wife, Enedina Cervantes Salgado, and told her that he had information about the whereabouts of her husband. (See UA 174/01, AMR 41/026/2001, 17 July 2001).

In early October, Últiminio Díaz Castillo reportedly lodged a formal complaint (ref no TAB/ZAP/908/2001) against several former commanders of State Judicial Police detailing their involvement in kidnappings, torture and extra-judicial executions, which he reportedly witnessed during his employment in the State Judicial Police.

On 16 November, the non-governmental human rights organisation Christian Action for the Abolition of Torture, *Acción de los Cristianos para la Abolición de la Tortura (ACAT)* asked the National Commission for Human Rights, *Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos (CNDH)* for protection measures (*medidas cautelares*) for Últiminio Díaz Castillo.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Faustino Jiménez Alvarez was reportedly seized by State Judicial Police from his home in Guerrero state on 17 June. Despite constant appeals by relatives, the authorities have failed to give any information as to his whereabouts.

On 12 October, Amnesty International wrote to the Attorney General of Mexico, General Macedo de la Concha, enquiring about this and two other cases of possible "disappearance". To date the organization has not received a reply.

State Judicial Police in Guerrero are often implicated in human rights violations, such as torture, "disappearance" and extrajudicial executions. The state authorities rarely take effective steps to investigate such crimes and as a result impunity is the norm.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Spanish or your own language:

-expressing concern for the safety of Últiminio Díaz Castillo and his family, after he made allegations implicating agents of the State Judicial Police in human rights violations;

-calling on the authorities to take immediate steps to guarantee the safety of Últiminio Díaz Castillo and his family, in accordance with their wishes;

-urging the authorities to ensure that if Últiminio Díaz serves as a witness to any crime, that he be protected fully in order to ensure that he is not subject to any form of pressure or censure;
 -expressing grave concern for the safety of Faustino Jiménez Alvarez, who has not been seen since he was seized by Guerrero State Judicial Police on 17 June;
 -urging the authorities to carry out an immediate, impartial and thorough investigation into the "disappearance" of Faustino Jiménez Alvarez, including an investigation into all information which may help clarify the case, to make the findings public and bring those responsible to justice.

APPEALS TO:

Governor of Guerrero

Lic. René Juárez Cisneros
 Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero
 Palacio de Gobierno, segundo piso
 Plaza Central, Primer Congreso de Anahuac
 Colonia Centro
 Chilpancingo 39000
 Guerrero
 MEXICO

Telegrams: Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero, Guerrero, Mexico

Fax: (+52 747) 472 3125 / 471 0334

Salutation: Señor Gobernador / Dear Governor

Attorney General of the Republic

General Rafael Marcial Macedo de la Concha
 Procurador General de la República
 Procuraduría General de la República
 Reforma Norte esq. Violeta 75
 Col. Guerrero, delegación Cuauhtémoc
 México D.F., C.P. 06300
 MEXICO

Telegrams: Procurador General, Mexico D.F., Mexico

Fax: (+52 55) 5346 2776

Salutation: Señor Procurador General / Dear Attorney General

Minister of the Interior

Lic. Santiago Creel
 Secretario de Gobernación
 Secretaría de Gobernación
 Bucareli 99, 1er. piso, Col. Juárez
 Delegación Cuauhtémoc
 México D.F., C.P. 06600
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Telegrams: Secretario de Gobernacion, Mexico D.F., Mexico

Fax: (+52 55) 5703 2171 / 5546 5350

Salutation: Señor Secretario / Dear Minister

E-mail: santiagocreel@compuserve.com

COPIES TO:

President of the National Commission of Human Rights

Dr. José Luis Soberanes Fernández
 Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos (CNDH)
 Periférico Sur 3469, 5o piso

Col. San Jerónimo Lídice
México D.F. 10200
MÉXICO

**Fax: (+52 55) 5668 0767 (There may be a message in Spanish. Just send the fax
after the tone)**

E-mail: correo@cndh.org.mx

Non-governmental organization

Acción de los Cristianos para la Abolición de la Tortura - México (ACAT)
Huatusco No. 21 Depto. 502, Col Roma Sur,
06760 México D.F.
MÉXICO

and 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 8 January 2002.