

19 April 1999

Further information on EXTRA 139/97 (AMR 25/37/97, 17 October 1997) and follow-ups (AMR 25/38/97, 21 October, AMR 25/39/97, 30 October, AMR 25/42/97, 24 November, AMR 25/46/97, 18 December, and AMR 25/08/98, 4 March 1998)  
Prisoners of Conscience / Possible POCs / Legal Concern / Hunger Strike

CUBADaula CARPIO MATA (f)]

José Antonio ALVARADO ALMEIDA ]members of the  
Lilián MENESES MARTINEZ (f) ]unofficial *Partido*  
Ileana PEÑALVER DUQUE (f)]*Pro Derechos Humanos*  
Danilo SANTOS MENDEZ ]en Cuba (PPDHC),  
Iván LEMA ROMERO ]Party for Human  
José Manuel LLERA BENITEZ ]Rights in Cuba  
Vicente GARCIA RAMOS]  
Roxana Alina CARPIO MATA (f), ]  
sister of Daula Carpio Mata

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Amnesty International has learned that three of the nine people named above are still in prison despite completing their sentences, while the others have been released.

Daula Carpio Mata, a provincial delegate of the unofficial *Partido Pro Derechos Humanos en Cuba (PPDHC)*, Party for Human Rights in Cuba, was arrested in October 1997. The others were arrested a few days later after they went on hunger strike in protest.

Danilo Santos Méndez and Vicente García Ramos were apparently released in October 1998, Daula Carpio Mata on 17 March 1999 and José Manuel Llera Benítez and Iván Lema Romero on 13 April 1999. Roxana Carpio Mata has completed her sentence at home (she was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment but was transferred to hospital shortly afterwards where it was discovered that she was pregnant and she was permitted to serve the rest of her sentence at home).

José Antonio Alvarado Almeida, Lilián Meneses Martínez and Ileana Peñalver Duque reportedly remain imprisoned, despite completing their sentences.

All nine are reported to be in poor health after a hunger strike which they began on 9 October 1997, the day of the arrest of Daula Carpio Mata, and which ended five months later (apart from a one month break in January 1998).

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

- expressing concern that José Antonio Alvarado Almeida, Lilián Meneses Martínez and Ileana Peñalver Duque remain in prison although they have completed their sentences, and urging that they be released immediately and unconditionally, on the grounds that they are prisoners of conscience, convicted solely for their peaceful political activities;
- requesting that they be granted any necessary medical attention.

**APPEALS TO:**

Attorney-General

Dr Juan Escalona Reguera  
Fiscal General de la República  
Fiscalía General de la República  
San Rafael 3, La Habana, Cuba  
**Telegrams: Fiscal General, Havana, Cuba**

**Faxes: + 53 7 57 07 95**

**Telex: 511456 fisge**

**Salutation: Sr Fiscal General / Dear Attorney General**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sr Roberto Robaina González

Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Calzada No. 360

Vedado, La Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Ministro Relaciones Exteriores, Havana, Cuba**

**Telex: 511122 / 511464 / 512950**

**Fax: + 53 7 333085 / + 53 7 335261**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

Minister of the Interior

General Abelardo Colomé Ibarra

Ministro de Interior

Ministerio del Interior

Plaza de la Revolución

La Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Ministro Interior, Havana, Cuba**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

Cuban Journalists' Union (official body)

Unión de Periodistas de Cuba

Calle 23 No. 452

Apartado 6656

Vedado, La Habana

Cuba

Editor of *Granma* (daily newspaper)

Sr Jacinto Granda de Laserna

Granma

Apdo 6260

La Habana, Cuba

and to diplomatic representatives of Cuba accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 May 1999.