

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 53/08/98

13 October 1998

Further information on UA 221/98 (AMR 53/07/98, 14 August 1998) - Fear for safety / Possible extrajudicial execution

VENEZUELA Yolima Rangel (f), mother of Freddy Diaz  
Ali Eduardo Sojo, aged 14  
Katuska Sojo (f)  
Flor Diaz (f)

Freddy Diaz, aged 18, killed

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The family of Freddy Diaz, shot dead in the municipality of Sucre on 8 July 1998, reportedly by a policeman, continue to live in fear as a result of persistent and ongoing harassment and intimidation by members of the Sucre police force. Fear for their safety therefore remains.

The police are maintaining intensive surveillance of Yolima Rangel's home involving the regular presence of police cars passing slowly in front of the house throughout the day and night.

Furthermore, the court case against the policeman accused of shooting Freddy Diaz has been delayed by the *Policía Técnica Judicial* (PTJ), Criminal Investigation Police.

Immediately following the killing of Freddy Diaz, his family were taken into custody for 24 hours and told by police that if they pressed charges they would: "*hacerles la vida imposible*", "make your lives impossible".

Yolima Rangel nevertheless reported the shooting, resulting in police harassment to both her and her neighbours.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Yolima Rangel and her family, who continue to live in fear as a result of ongoing and persistent harassment by the Sucre police force, and calling on the authorities to guarantee their safety;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation into the events surrounding the death of Freddy Diaz, and calling for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- reminding the government of Venezuela of its commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular Article 3: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

**APPEALS TO:**

Attorney General

Dr. Iván Darío Badell González  
Fiscal General de la República  
Manduca a Ferrenquín  
La Candelaria  
Caracas, Venezuela

**Telegrams: Fiscal General, Caracas, Venezuela**

**Faxes: + 58 2 564 74 61**

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

Minister of the Interior

Doctor Asdrúbal Aguiar  
Ministro de Relaciones Interiores  
Ministerio de Relaciones Interiores  
Carmelitas a Santa Capilla  
Caracas, Venezuela

**Faxes: + 58 2 861 19 67**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

Mayor of the Municipality of Sucre

Sr Raoul Bermúdez,  
Casco Histórico de Petera  
Municipio de Sucre  
Alcaldía  
Oficina del Alcalde  
Estado Miranda  
Venezuela

**Telegrams: Alcalde, Estado Miranda, Venezuela**

**Salutation: Sr Alcalde / Dear Mayor**

President of the National Human Rights Commission

Dr. José Guillermo Andueza  
Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos  
Palacio de Miraflores  
Edificio Bicentenario, Nivel Plaza, Of. 206  
Caracas, Venezuela

**Faxes: + 582 806 39 42**

**Salutation: Sr. Presidente / Dear President**

**COPIES TO:**

Sres. Red de Apoyo por la Justicia y la Paz  
Apartado Postal 17.476,  
Parque Central,  
Caracas,  
Venezuela

and to diplomatic representatives of Venezuela accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 November 1998.

***"Everyone has the right to life, liberty  
and security of person".***

Article 3, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

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