

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 31/95 (AMR 41/02/95, 13 February 1995) - Torture
/ Fear for safety

MEXICO María Gloria GUEVARA NIEBLA (f)
 Ricardo HERNÁNDEZ LÓPEZ
 Hilario MARTÍNEZ HERNÁNDEZ
 Martín TRUJILLO BARAJAS
 Luis SÁNCHEZ NAVARRETE
 Álvaro CASTILLO GRANADOS
 Hermelinda GARCÍA ZAPAHUA (f)
 Rosa HERNÁNDEZ HERNÁNDEZ (f), aged 20
 Jorge SANTIAGO SANTIAGO
new names: Jorge JAVIER ELORRIAGA
 Encín GÓMEZ

 and: Gonzalo SÁNCHEZ NAVARRETE
 Patricia JIMÉNEZ SÁNCHEZ (f)
 Cecilia MARTÍNEZ GUERRERO (f)
 Ofelia HERNÁNDEZ HERNÁNDEZ (f)
 Brenda RODRÍGUEZ ACOSTA (f)
 Joel MARTÍNEZ GONZÁLEZ
 Gerardo LÓPEZ LÓPEZ

On 10 February, following an armed confrontation between peasants and police in Cacalomacán, state of Mexico, the last seven people named above were detained by the Federal Judicial Police. During the clash, one police officer was killed and one of the peasants, Gerardo López López, was seriously injured. Reports indicate that all seven, allegedly members of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), have been brutally tortured in police custody. All, except Gerardo López López, have now been transferred to the *Reclusorio Norte*, a prison in Mexico City. Gerardo López López has been transferred to the Military Hospital in the city.

The first eight people listed above are currently being held in the *Reclusorio Norte*. Jorge Santiago Santiago, and two others detained in Chiapas on 10 February, Jorge Javier Elorriaga and Encín Gómez, are in detention at the *Penal de Alta Seguridad, Almoloya de Juárez*, a high security prison in the state of Mexico.

On 10 February, a delegation of Deputies (Members of Congress) belonging to the opposition *Partido de la Revolución Democrática (PRD)*, Party of the Democratic Revolution, visited the first eight named above in prison. They reported that several told them that they had been tortured during police interrogation to force confessions, and that most had visible signs of their torture. María Gloria Guevara Niebla (also known as María Gloria Benavides) said that she had been beaten up, threatened with her two-year-old son's torture or death, and forced to sign papers she could not see. Ricardo Hernández López said that he had been beaten and that he saw the other detainees being beaten by the police. Luis Sánchez Navarrete said that he had been beaten up and nearly asphyxiated by having a canvas bag pulled over his head. Álvaro Castillo Granados was reportedly beaten up and had visible bruising on his face and wrists, and also said that he had had a bag pulled over his head. Hermelinda García Zapahua said that she had been stripped and subjected to electric shocks

all over her body, and also beaten on the head and breasts. She also said that she was beaten after transfer to prison. Rosa Hernández Hernández said that she was wrapped in a wet sheet and then subjected to electric shocks all over her body, and almost asphyxiated with a blanket.

The congressional delegation reported that, after arrest, the eight had not been taken to the Office of the Attorney General as required by law, but were instead taken to unknown locations for interrogation. Amnesty International fears that any of the detainees listed above may be taken back into police custody for further interrogation and subjected to further may ill-treatment or torture.

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

- expressing concern at the reported torture of at least 13 alleged members of the EZLN taken into police custody between 8 and 10 February (naming some or all);
- requesting a prompt and impartial investigation into these allegations and calling for those responsible to be brought to justice; asking to be kept informed of the outcome of these investigations;
- urging immediate measures to ensure the physical and mental integrity of all the detainees, especially if taken back into police custody;
- seeking assurances that all are being humanely treated and are allowed immediate and continuing access to their relatives, doctors and lawyers.

APPEALS TO

1) President of the Republic

Lic. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León
 Presidente de la República
 Palacio Nacional
 06067 México D.F., MEXICO

Telegrams: Presidente Zedillo, México D.F., Mexico

Telexes: 170937 sppnme; 1774468 sppnme

Faxes: + 52 5 271 1764

Salutation: Sr. Presidente/Dear President

2) Minister of the Interior

Lic. Esteban Moctezuma Barragán
 Secretario de Gobernación
 Secretaría de Gobernación
 Bucareli 99, 1er. piso
 Col. Juárez
 06699 México DF, MEXICO

Telegrams: Secretario Gobernación, México D.F, Mexico

Faxes: +52 5 592 0584

Salutation: Sr. Secretario/Dear Minister

3) Minister of Defence

Gral. Enrique Cervantes Aguirre
 Secretario de la Defensa Nacional
 Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional
 Blvd. Manuel Ávila Camacho y
 Avda. Industria Militar
 Col. Lomas de Sotelo
 11640 México DF, MEXICO

Telegrams: Secretario Defensa, México D.F., Mexico

Faxes: (+52 5) 557 1370 (voice line: ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor")

Salutation: Sr. Secretario/Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Human rights organization

Sres. CONPAZ

Chiapa de Corzo 19, El Cerrillo

San Cristóbal de las Casas

29220 Chiapas, Mexico

2) Human rights organization

Sres. Centro de Derechos Humanos

San Bartolomé de las Casas

5 de Febrero No. 6

San Cristóbal de las Casas

29200 Chiapas, Mexico

3) Daily newspaper

Sr. Editor

La Jornada

Balderas 68

06050 México D.F., Mexico

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 29 March 1995.