

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 20/94 "Disappearance"/Fear for Safety

21 January 1994

GUATEMALA: Lorenzo QUIEJ PU, aged 29, member of the Consejo Nacional de Desplazados de Guatemala (CONDEG), National Council for the Displaced of Guatemala

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Lorenzo Quiej Pu following his "disappearance", on 12 January 1994, from the Primer Asentamiento de desplazados internos "Mario Antonio Díaz" (First Settlement of Internally Displaced People), in zone 21 of Guatemala City.

Lorenzo Quiej, reportedly "disappeared" after leaving his home at approximately 6 am, to go to work in zone 7 of Guatemala City. On 15 January, his brother Miguel Quiej Pu, also a member of CONDEG, presented a formal demand before a judge for the case to be investigated. Further inquiries made by his family at the morgue, hospitals, the National Police and the Zone 18 Detention Centre have been unsuccessful. On 17 January 1994, CONDEG formally denounced the "disappearance" of Lorenzo Quiej to the Office of the Human Rights Procurator and asked for an investigation into the case.

Miguel Quiej has been threatened in the past by members of the army following the "disappearance" of Luis Miguel Solís Pajarito, a CONDEG leader, on 3 May 1990 (see UA 182/90, AMR 34/34/90, 9 May and follow-up AMR 34/39/90, 29 June).

Lorenzo Quiej is married with five children and works as a travelling shoemaker.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CONDEG was founded in September 1989 to defend the rights of displaced Guatemalans who fled areas of conflict during the army's counter-insurgency campaign of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Members and leaders of the group have suffered human rights violations, including "disappearances", extrajudicial execution, intimidation and harassment. Most recently, Marco Choco Damas was released after being held in army barracks for several days (see UA 387/93, AMR 34/79/93, 3 November 1993 and follow-up AMR 34/84/93, 24 November 1993). In September 1993 other CONDEG members and their families were reportedly subjected to intimidatory acts by two armed men (see UA 322/93, AMR 34/62/93, 14 September).

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

- expressing concern at the apparent "disappearance" of Lorenzo Quiej Pu;
- urging the authorities to open an investigation into his whereabouts;
- asking that, if detained, he be promptly brought before a court or else released;
- asking that if held in detention his safety is guaranteed and that he is granted access to a lawyer of his choice, a doctor and his relatives.

APPEALS TO1) President of the Republic:

S.E. Ramiro de León Carpio
 Presidente de la República de Guatemala
 Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Presidente de León Carpio, Guatemala, Guatemala
Faxes: + 502 2 537472, + 502 2 519702
Telexes: 5331 CAPRES GU
Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente /Dear President

2) Minister of Interior:

Lic. Arnoldo Ortiz Moscoso
 Ministro de Gobernación
 Ministerio de Gobernación
 Despacho Ministerial, Of. No. 8
 Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Ministro de Gobernación, Guatemala, Guatemala
Faxes: + 502 2 518105
Telexes: 5085 MINGOB
Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

3) Minister of Defence:

Gral. Mario Enríquez Morales
 Ministro de Defensa
 Ministerio de Defensa
 Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Ministro de Defensa, Guatemala, Guatemala
Faxes: + 502 2 537472
Telexes: 5361 COMGUA GU
Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

4) Attorney General:

Lic. Telesforo Guerra Cahn
 Procurador General de la Nación
 Procuraduría General de la Nación
 18 C 10-36, Zona 1, Guatemala GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Procurador General de la Nación, Guatemala, Guatemala
Faxes: + 502 2 500076
Salutation: Señor Procurador / Dear Attorney General

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:Human Rights Procurator:

Lic. Jorge García Laguardia
 Procurador de los Derechos Humanos
 12 Avenida 12-72, Zona 1, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Faxes: + 502 2 81734

Head of the Presidential Commission Coordinating the Policies of the Executive relating to Human Rights:

Lic. Jorge Gonzalo Cabrera Hurtarte
 Presidente, COPREDEH
 15 Avenida 18-38, Zona 13, Guatemala, GUATEMALA

CONDEG

7a Avenida 8-56, zona 1

Edificio El Centro

7° Nivel, Oficina 7-12

Archbishop's Human Rights Office

Oficina de Derechos Humanos del

Arzobispado de Guatemala (ODHAG)

Apartado Postal 723, Guatemala, Guatemala

and to diplomatic representatives of Guatemala accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 March 1994