

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 19/28/93

Distr: UA/SC

UA 304/93      "Disappearance"

3 September 1993

BRAZIL:            Jorge Antonio CARELI

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Amnesty International is concerned about the alleged "disappearance" on 10 August 1993 of Jorge Antonio Careli, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, after he was detained by the police.

According to information received by Amnesty International, Jorge Antonio Careli, an employee of the state-owned Oswaldo Cruz medical foundation, was last seen on the evening of 10 August in the shanty town, *favela*, of Varguinha, in the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro. At the time a group of over 20 police officers of the Anti Kidnapping Division, Divisão Anti-Sequestro, (DAS), of the Rio de Janeiro Civil Police, were conducting a raid in the *favela*. Witnesses saw Jorge Antonio Careli, who was making a phone call from a public phone, being detained and beaten by police officers from the DAS. The police deny having detained Jorge Antonio Careli, who has no criminal record. People from the *favela* allege that on the following day, police officers from the DAS returned to the neighbourhood and intimidated witnesses of the incident to prevent them identifying the officers.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The involvement of military and civil police in "death squad" killings and "disappearances" of criminal suspects and "social undesirables" has been well documented in Rio de Janeiro. Widespread corruption in the Rio de Janeiro police force has also been reported and police implicated in criminal activities. Rio de Janeiro has a high crime rate and violent deaths and kidnappings are reported to have increased. Law abiding citizens, particularly in the shanty towns, have become the victims of violence both by criminal gangs and by the police in punitive raids.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes and airmail letters either in Portuguese, English or in your own language:**

-expressing concern at the "disappearance" of Jorge Antonio Careli on 10 August in the *favela* Varguinha, Rio de Janeiro, in circumstances suggesting the involvement of security forces;

- requesting that the "disappearance" of Jorge Careli be thoroughly investigated and his whereabouts disclosed;

- requesting the authorities to ensure the physical safety of witness to the incident.

**APPEALS TO**

1) Minister of Justice

Exmo Sr Mauricio Corrêa

Ministro da Justiça

Esplanada dos Ministerios, Bloco 23

70.064 Brasilia, D.F. Brazil

**Telegrams: Ministro Justiça, Brasilia, Brazil**

**Telexes: 611003 MNJU BR, 611088 MNJU BR or 612313 MNJU BR**

**Salutation: Vossa Excelência/Your Excellency**

2) State Governor

Exmo Sr Governador do Estado de Rio de Janeiro

Sr Leonel Brizola

Palacio Guanabara

Rua Pinheiro Machado s/n

22.231 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

**Telegrams: Governador Estado Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

**Telexes: 2131111 GERJ BR; 2123437 SGRJ BR; 2121272 PLG BR**

**Salutation: Vossa Excelência/Your Excellency**

3) State Secretary of Justice

Sr Secretario de Estado de Justiça do Estado de Rio de Janeiro

Dr Nilo Batista

Rua da Relação No 42, 12 Andar

Centro

20031 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Telegrams: Secretario de Justiça Estado Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

**Salutation: Vossa Excelência/Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Tortura Nunca Mais (human rights organization)

R Maranhão 206, Méier,

CEP 20720 Rio de Janeiro -RJ-

Brazil

and to the diplomatic representatives of Brazil to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 October 1993.