

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 78/92 (AMR 51/102/92, 11 September 1992) - Death Penalty

USA (Texas): Eight executions scheduled in 7 day period

Amnesty International has received information that David Long and Irineo Montoya, and Cornelius Goss and Karl Hammond, who were scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas, USA, on 17 and 18 September 1992 respectively, have received stays of execution.

Four other executions are still scheduled in Texas, USA for September 1992.

WARREN BRIDGE is scheduled to be executed on 21 September. He is white and was sentenced to death in September 1980 for the murder of a white male.

JAMES DEMOUCHETTE is scheduled to be executed on 22 September. Demouchette, black, was sentenced to death in April 1983 for the murders of three white male victims.

ANDRE LEWIS, who is black, is scheduled to be executed on 22 September.

RICARDO ALDAPE GUERRA, Mexican, is scheduled to be executed on 24 September. (For further information on this case, see EXTRA 48/92, AMR 51/63/92, 7 May 1992; and follow-ups AMR 51/67/92, 12 May 1992, and AMR 51/101/92, 3 September 1992).

Thank you to all who sent appeals on behalf of David Long, Irineo Montoya, Cornelius Goss and Karl Hammond. No further action on their behalf is required at this time.

Please continue appeals as set out below for Warren Bridge (execution date of 21 September), James Demouchette, and Andre Lewis (who are both scheduled to be executed on 22 September, and Ricardo Aldape Guerra, (who is scheduled to be executed on 24 September).

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes in English if possible:

- urging the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to convene clemency hearings to consider the cases of Warren Bridge, James Demouchette, Andre Lewis and Ricardo Aldape Guerra;

- asking the Board to recommend that Governor Richards grant clemency to each of these prisoners by commuting their death sentences;

- expressing deep concern at the increasing numbers of executions being scheduled in Texas, and at the state's high rate of executions;
- stressing that the death penalty has not been shown to deter violent crime more effectively than other punishments, and referring to the alarming increase in violent crime in Texas in 1991 despite its regular use of the death penalty;
- urging the state to consider alternative punishments that would be more in keeping with the principles and values of a civilized society.

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APPEALS TO:

Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
8610 Shoal Creek Boulevard, PO Box 13401
Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711-3401
USA

Telegrams: Texas Board Pardons/Paroles, Austin,
TX 78711, USA

Faxes: + 1 512 406 5231

Telephone: + 1 512 406 5852

Salutation: Dear Board Members

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Honorable Ann Richards
Governor of Texas
Office of the Governor
PO Box 12428, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711
USA

Faxes: + 1 512 463 1849

Salutation: Dear Governor Richards

The Letters Editor
Austin-American Statesman

Box 670
Austin, TX 78767
USA

Faxes: + 1 512 445 3679

and to the press and diplomatic representatives of the USA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY, TO ARRIVE IN TEXAS BY 20 SEPTEMBER 1992. Please check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 September 1992.