

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 13/03/96

15 March 1996

Further information (4) on UA 123/94 (AMR 13/03/94 , 29 March 1994) and follow-ups AMR 13/04/94, 18 May 1994; AMR 13/06/94, 18 October 1994; AMR 13/05/95 27 October 1995) - Death in Custody / Death Threats

**ARGENTINADiego RODRÍGUEZ LAGUENS, aged 26, forestry expert
Dr Federico Alfredo HUBER, (Rodríguez Laguens family lawyer)
Mabel Cristina Laguens de RODRÍGUEZ, (Diego's mother) Felipe RODRÍGUEZ LAGUENS,
(Diego's brother)**

The oral public proceedings scheduled on 31 October 1995 of the trial concerning the killing of Diego Rodríguez Laguens were cancelled before they started. Amnesty International has now received information indicating that a new date has been set for the trial, which is due to begin on 22 March 1996. The organization remains concerned for the safety of the relatives of the victim, who are also the main witnesses, Felipe Rodríguez Laguens, Pedro Rodríguez Laguens and Barbara Rodríguez Laguens, brothers and sister of the deceased, as well as that of the family lawyer, Dr Federico Huber and the forensic expert, Miguel Angel Maldonado.

Amnesty International is concerned that the above mentioned who are all involved in trying to clarify the circumstances of Diego Rodríguez Laguens' death have been subjected to death threats and intimidation. The police and judicial investigations procedures have allegedly been hampered by members of the Jujuy police. The participation of the Federal Police instead of the Provincial Police in court security is still required.

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

- recognizing the trial as a positive development in the clarification of the death of Diego Rodríguez Laguens and welcoming the steps taken to determine responsibility;
- seeking assurances that during the trial the lawyers and forensic experts will be allowed to perform their role and the witnesses be allowed to testify without fear of intimidation;
- urging that the safety of the relatives and witnesses be adequately guaranteed;
- requesting that steps be taken to allow for the participation fo the Federal Police in court security and the protection of witnesses and relatives.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of the Interior
Sr Ministro del Interior
Sr Carlos Corach
Ministerio del Interior
Casa de Gobierno
Balcarce 50, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Faxes : + 541 331 7354
Telegrams : Ministro Ruckauf, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Salutation: Sr Ministro/Dear Minister

Governor of the Province of Jujuy
Sr. Gobernador de la
Provincia de Jujuy
Dr Guillermo Snopak

Casa de Gobierno
San Martín 450
4600 San Salvador de Jujuy,
JUJUY, Argentina
Fax: 548 82 33949
Telegrams: Sr Gobernador, San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina
Salutation: Sr. Gobernador/ Dear Governor

COPIES TO:

Newspapers

Tribuno de Jujuy
Belgrano 306
4600 San Salvador de Jujuy
Provincia de Jujuy
Argentina

El Dia
Diagonal 80, No.815
1900 La Plata
Provincia de Buenos Aires
Argentina

University Federation -Human Rights Office
Federacion Universitaria Argentina
Secretario Derechos Humanos
Sr Carlos Grela
Cordoba 2122, Planta baja
1120 Capital Federal
Argentina

and to diplomatic representatives of Argentina accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 26 April 1996.