

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Possible Extrajudicial Execution/
Fear for Physical Safety

23 December 1992

BRAZIL

Carlos Henrique MOREIRA (age 14)
Carlos André Dos SANTOS (age 14)
Antônio Carlos DE OLIVEIRA (age 16)
Alexandre SILVA NEVES (age 18)
Carlos Henrique DE SOUZA SANTOS (age 18)
Márcio PACHECO DE OLIVEIRA (age 17)
Valdeci RODRIGUES (fear for physical safety)

Amnesty International is concerned about the possible extrajudicial execution of Carlos Henrique Moreira, Carlos André dos Santos, Antônio Carlos de Oliveira, Alexandre Silva Neves, Carlos Henrique De Souza Santos, and Márcio Pacheco de Oliveira killed on 20 December 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The organization is also seriously concerned for the physical safety of Valdeci Rodrigues, wounded in the same incident.

According to the information received by Amnesty International the above mentioned youths were playing in the early hours of the morning of 20 December 1992 in a shanty town in Sampaio, Rio de Janeiro when they were surrounded by a group of men who arrived in the shanty town by car. The men forced the youths to lie down. Five of the youths were then shot dead. A sixth, Márcio Pacheco de Oliveira, died in hospital from his wounds. A seventh member of the group, Valdeci Rodrigues, was slightly wounded but managed to escape. Witnesses allege that the killers wore military police uniforms.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Extrajudicial executions are a common feature of urban Brazil. Most of the killings are carried out by death squads, often with the participation of off-duty police officers. There is evidence that local police have given support to these groups or even participated in their activities. People who have drawn attention to these activities, publicly denounced them or tried to investigate them have in a number of cases been victims of threats or extrajudicial executions. Amnesty International has also received reports of extrajudicial executions and excessive use of force, including lethal force, by the military police in several Brazilian states. All crimes involving the military police are investigated by military police officers and judged by military courts. Brazilian Human Right lawyers claim that military courts, which since 1977 have judged all cases involving military police on duty, have conferred a high degree of impunity to military police officers for human rights violations.

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

- demanding a thorough and impartial investigation into the killing of Carlos Henrique Moreira, Carlos André dos Santos, Antônio Carlos de Oliveira, Alexandre Silva Neves, Carlos Henrique de Souza Santos, Márcio Pacheco de Oliveira and the wounding of Valdeci Rodrigues and urging that the culprits be brought to justice.

- requesting that all necessary steps be taken to protect the physical safety of Valdeci Rodrigues and other witnesses to the incident.

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APPEALS TO

1) State Governor

Sr. Governador do Estado de Rio de Janeiro
Sr Leonel Brizola
Palacio Guanabara
22.231 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
Telegrams: Governador Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
Faxes: +5521 285 7490

Salutation: Vossa Excelencia/Your Excellency

2) State Vice-Governor and Police Secretary:

Vice Governador do Estado de Rio de Janeiro
Dr Nilo Batista
Rua Barao de Itambi No. 60,4 andar
22.231 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
Telegrams: Vice Governador, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
Telexes: 021 2135
Faxes: + 5521 240 9159

Salutation: Sr. Secretario/Dear Sir

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Attorney General

Exmo. Sr. Procurador Geral da República
Dr. Aristides Junqueira
Procuraduria Geral da República
Av. L2 Sul Q 603
70.200 Brasilia DF
Brasil

Salutation: Vossa Excelencia/Your Excellency

Centre for the Mobilization of Marginalized Populations
Centro de Articulação de Populações Marginalizadas (CEAP)
Rua da Lapa No. 200, Sala 809
Centro - Rio de Janeiro
20.021 Rio de Janeiro
Brasil

Newspaper

Jornal do Brasil
Av. Brasil 500

20.940 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil

and to diplomatic representatives of Brazil accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 February 1993.