

**PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE
WEEK**

15 - 21 October 1984



the
“disappeared”
women of Chile

**These women are from among some 650
well-documented cases of people who
“disappeared” following their arrest between
1973 and 1977 in Chile**

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Life Imprisonment

I've seen them outside in a car
four of them in that blue car on the street
smoking and
telling jokes
the whole night
And then the telephone rings
and it's always them
The whole night
looking at them from behind the curtains
and the lights out so Mama wouldn't know
The car showed up the first time
during the hunger strike
It's not the same one that came
for my sister
They parked in front of the house
and the four of them took turns
worked shifts
for three weeks.
The car shows up
now
every time Mama does something
Tonight I'll see them again,
again the four of them smoking and
the telephone ringing.
The old lady bought a chain
with forty other women
and again, once again, they'll chain themselves
together.
Do you remember that judge
the one who refused to investigate
my sister's case?
Mama explained to him, proved everything she had to prove.
I saw my daughter, sir, I saw her with my own eyes.
What else did she have to explain after that
to the judge?
My breasts hurt, mommy,
was all that my sister said,
and go away, go away
before they kill you
And the judge said she was lying,
and that the word of an officer
in the Chilean army
was worth more much much more
than a thousand of hers,
my beautiful sister her breasts
hurt that day
when the old lady finally found her
in that damned hospital.
That judge's house
has strong iron bars on the windows.
In the few minutes it takes
for the police to arrive
he'll have time to recognize the forty women,
recognize them one by one.
Time to understand
before he closes the curtains
the things my mother will do
to find the daughter they arrested
the year the month the day
when a blue car stops parking
in front of the door of her house
a car with four men
And the phone doesn't ring
at three in the morning
Then the judge will turn out the lights
and ask himself why nobody is coming to help him
and he will keep on looking and
looking and
looking
from behind every curtain
at the chain of mothers in the street.

**Amnesty International
International Secretariat
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom**

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Amnesty International
International Secretariat
11 Easton Street
London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom



Ida Amalia VERA AIMARZA,
detained 19 November 1974,
31 years old



Maria Cristina LOPEZ STEWART,
detained 22 September 1974,
21 years old



Carmen Cecilia BUENOCIFUENTES,
detained 29 November 1974,
24 years old



Rosa Elena MORALES MORALES,
detained 15 August 1976,
46 years old



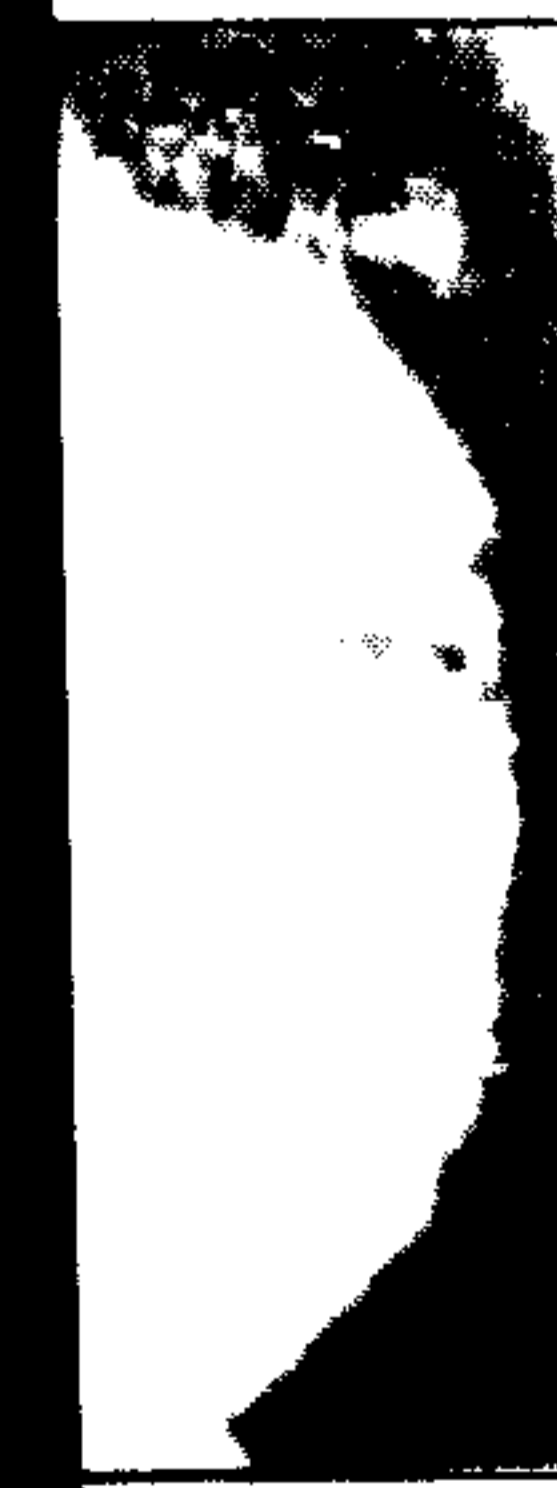
Marcela Soledad SEPULVEDA
TRONCOSO, detained 26 June 1974,
19 years old



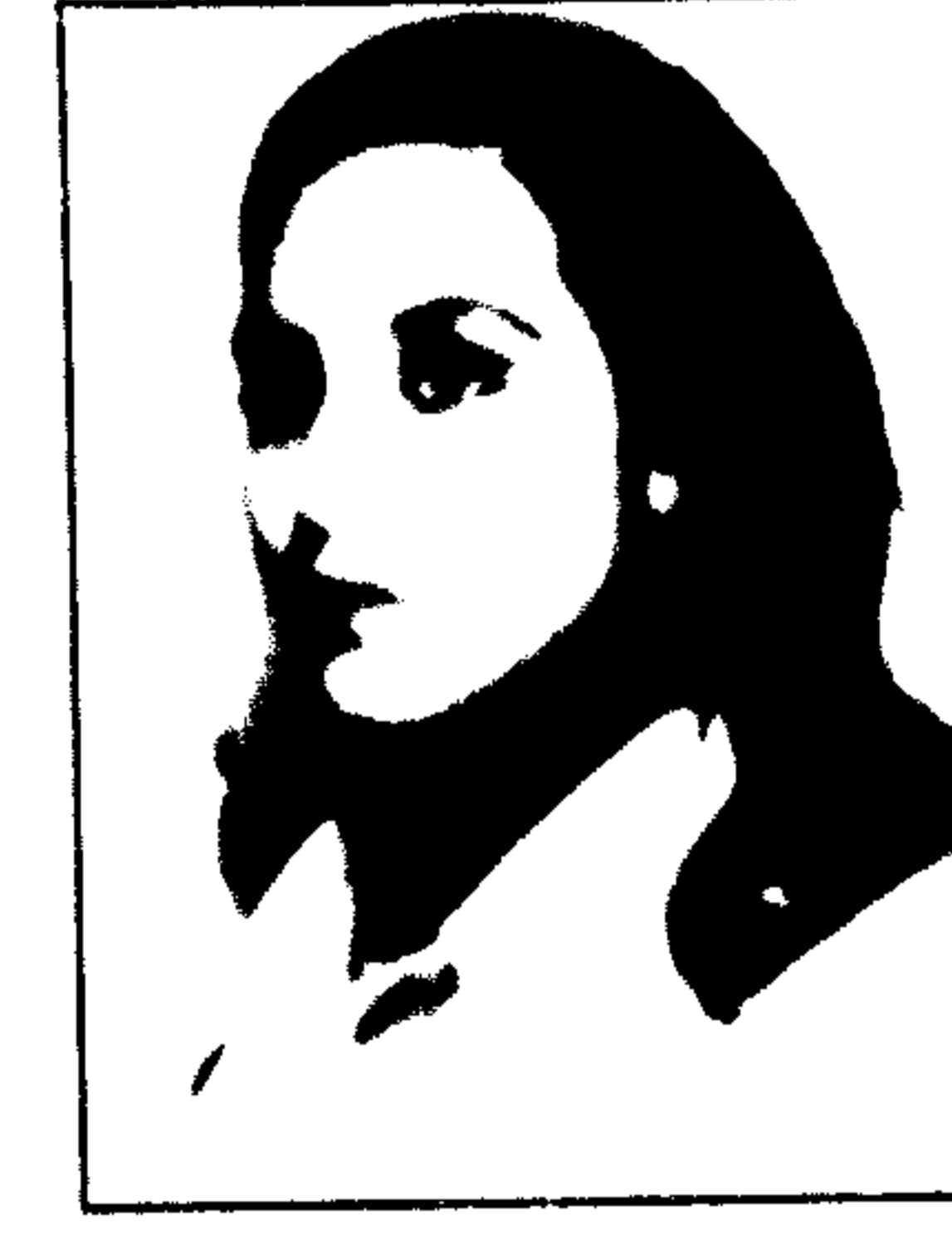
Clara Elena CASTEROS TORRES,
detained 23 July 1976, 22 years old,
two daughters



Maria del Carmen ARRIAGADA
JEREZ, detained 27 September 1973,
40 years old, six children



Mireya Herminia RODRIGUEZ
DIAZ, detained 24 June 1975,
34 years old



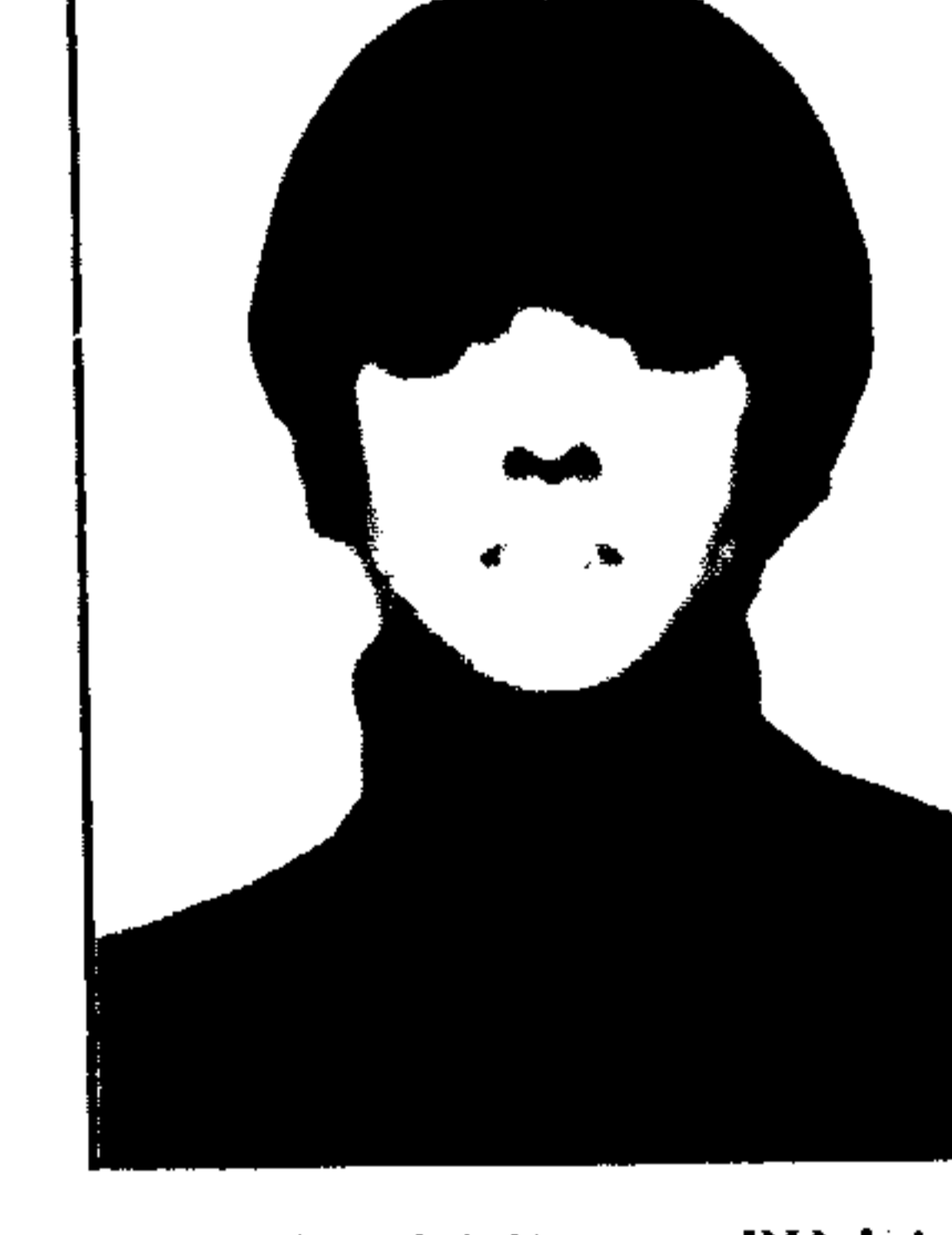
Nilda Patricia PENA SOLARI,
detained 10 December 1974,
24 years old



Alicia HERRERA BENTEZ,
detained with husband and son
4 August 1976, 51 years old



Maria Angélica ANDREOLI BRAVO,
detained 6 August 1974,
27 years old



Jacqueline del Carmen BENA
CONTRERAS, detained 27 August
1974, 28 years old



Reinalda del Carmen PEREIRA
PLAZA, detained 15 December 1976,
five months pregnant, 29 years old



Jenny del Carmen BARRA
ROSALES, detained 17 October 1977,
24 years old

