

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 99/92 (AMR 23/14/92, 25 March 1992) - Torture/Death Threats

COLOMBIA: César CHAPARRO NIVIA, trade unionist, political activist
Vladimir HINCAPIE GALEANO

Margarita AGUDELO ALZATE (female)
Hernando AGUDELO ALZATE

New individual: Eye witness to detention of Cesar Chaparro Nivia and
Vladimir Hincapie Galeano

Amnesty International is concerned for the physical safety of an eye-witness to the detention of César Chaparro Nivia and Vladimir Hincapié Galeano on 29 February 1992, who has reportedly been the victim of threats and intimidation by state security agents. The identity of the witness is protected.

Amnesty International continues to be concerned about the safety of César Chaparro's wife, Margarita Agudelo and her brother Hernando Agudelo, who report having received anonymous threats after making a formal complaint, *denuncia*, to the National Procurator's office about the circumstances of César Chaparro's death.

César Chaparro and Vladimir Hincapié were reportedly detained in the Kennedy neighbourhood of Bogotá by agents of the Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad (DAS), Department of State Security and taken to a DAS base. Both men were transferred to the San Juan de Dios hospital in Bogotá during the night of 29 February with injuries which were allegedly the result of torture. On 4 March 1992, César Chaparro died, reportedly as a result of these injuries.

Amnesty International has received reports that an eye-witness to the detention of César Chaparro and Vladimir Hincapié has also been the victim of threats and intimidation, reportedly by the DAS agents involved in the men's detention. The DAS allegedly stated that César Chaparro's injuries were caused when he was hit by a car during his detention. However the witness has denied this version of events, alleging that he saw César Chaparro being beaten by the DAS agents and then forced into a DAS vehicle. There is concern for the physical safety of the witness as a result of his testimony.

Amnesty International has no information as to whether any official investigation has been opened into the death of César Chaparro and the injuries suffered by Vladimir Hincapié, both allegedly as a result of torture, or the death threats against Margarita and Hernando Agudelo.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- expressing concern for the safety of a key eye-witness to the detention of César Chaparro and Vladimir Hincapié, who has reportedly been the victim of threats and intimidation by DAS agents;
- requesting an immediate and thorough investigation into the threats against this key eye witness, the results of which should be made public and those responsible brought to justice;

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- continuing to request an immediate and thorough investigation into the death threats against Margarita and Hernando Agudelo, the results of which should also be made public;
- continuing to request a thorough and impartial investigation into the death of César Chaparro Nivia and the injuries to Vladimir Hincapié Galeano, allegedly as a result of torture carried out whilst both were in the custody of the DAS;
- urging that the government take all possible measures to protect the lives of civilians and of those giving legal testimony to ensure that they are able to carry out their lawful activities without fear.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of Colombia:
Señor Presidente César Gaviria
Trujillo
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Nariño
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia
**Telegrams: President Gaviria,
Bogotá, Colombia**
Telexes: 44281 PALP CO
**Faxes: + 57 1 286 3066; + 57
1 286 7324; + 57 1 287 7937**
**[Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr.
Presidente / Dear President
Gaviria]**

2) Procurator General:
Dr. Carlos Gustavo Arrieta Padilla
Procurador General de la Nación
Procuraduría General
Edificio Banco Ganadero
Carrera 5, No. 15-80
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia
**Telegrams: Procurador General
Arrieta, Bogotá, Colombia**
**Telexes: 41224 PRGEN CO; 41213
PGNDP CO**
Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472
**[Salutation: Sr. Procurador de la
Nación / Dear Dr. Arrieta]**

3) Advocate for the People:
Dr. Jime Córdoba Triviño
Defensor del Pueblo
Procuraduría General
Edificio Banco Ganadero
Carrera 5, No. 15-80
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia
**Telegrams: Defensor del Pueblo
Trivino, c/o Procuraduria General,
Santa Fe de Bogota, Colombia**
**Telexes: 41224 PRGEN CO; 41213
PGNDP CO**
Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472
**[Salutation: Estimado Dr Triviño
/ Dear Dr. Triviño]**

4) Director of Department of State
Security:
Dr. Fernando Brito
Director
Departamento Administrativo de
Seguridad
Carrera 28, No. 17A-00
Santa Fe de Bogotá
COLOMBIA
**Telegrams: Director,
Departamento Administrativo de
Seguridad, Santa Fe de Bogota,
Colombia**
Telexes: 43363 JEDAS
**[Salutation: Estimado Dr. Brito /
Dear Dr. Brito]**

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Minister of Justice:

Fernando Carillo
Ministro de Justicia
Ministerio de Justicia
Carrera 15, No 9-63
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

Lawyers' Association:

Corporación Colectivo de Abogados
AA 44456
Santa Fe de Bogotá
Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of COLOMBIA in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 June 1992.