

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 23/26/99

10 March 1999

Further information on UA 15/99 (AMR 23/02/99, 25 January 1999) and follow-up (AMR 23/15/99, 10 February 1999; AMR 23/20/99, 19 February 1999) - Fear for safety

COLOMBIA Francisco Javier Trujillo and his wife (name unknown)

and new names: Father Guillermo Campuzano and other church workers

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Francisco Javier Trujillo and his wife were forced to flee the municipality of Trujillo, Valle del Cauca Department after receiving death threats. Despite going into hiding in a Catholic seminary outside Bogotá the couple continued to be threatened, as did Father Guillermo Campuzano, the director of the seminary. All three have now been forced to seek safety elsewhere.

Since 20 February 1999 a series of anonymous telephone calls have been made to the seminary threatening the couple and Father Campuzano. On 26 February one such caller said "*Los tres hijos de puta están pillados*" "We know where the three sons of bitches are". On the same day someone also contacted the local offices of the *Cuerpo Técnico de Investigación de la Fiscalía* (CTI), Technical Investigations Unit of the Attorney General's office, to say that Father Guillermo Campuzano "*tiene escondido un guerrillero*" "is hiding a guerrilla".

On 28 February, with the help of the CTI, Francisco Trujillo and his wife were moved to a new location. On 1 March, Father Campuzano was also moved after receiving a note from the national paramilitary organization *Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia* (AUC), United Self-Defence Forces of Colombia "which read, *Muerte a curas guerrilleros. Tres días hijoeputa sapo*" "Death to guerrilla priests. Three days to live, son of a bitch". The next day the following message was left: "*si vuelve dese por muerto, lo juramos*" "if he comes back, we swear he's dead". Threats to the seminary have continued and an attempt was made to break into the premises on 4 March. Calls have also been made to the provincial seat of the religious community in Bogotá, one of which said "*Toda la fuerza de nuestra venganza sobre ese cura hijo de puta*" "All our revenge will be exacted on this son of a bitch priest".

On 19 February, the *Comisión Intercongregacional de Justicia y Paz* (CIJP), Intercongregational Commission for Justice and Peace and the *Asociación de Familiares de Víctimas de Trujillo* (AFAVIT), Association of Relatives of Victims of Trujillo, announced their decision to close their Trujillo office in the face of repeated death threats by local paramilitaries against their members, including Francisco Javier Trujillo and his wife.

In 1989 and 1990 over 100 peasant farmers in the Trujillo area "disappeared" or were killed by security forces working with paramilitaries. AFAVIT, supported closely by the national church-run human rights organization CIJP, have campaigned tirelessly for those responsible to be brought to justice.

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

- expressing concern that despite seeking safety away from the municipality of Trujillo, Francisco Javier Trujillo and his wife have continued to receive death threats and also that those offering them refuge, Father Guillermo Campuzano and other church workers, have been threatened;

- calling on the authorities to take immediate measures deemed appropriate by those at risk to guarantee their safety;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation into the death threats made against Francisco Javier Trujillo, his wife, Father Guillermo Campuzano and other church workers, for the results to be made public and for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation into links between the civilian, police and military authorities and paramilitary forces in relation to the Trujillo cases;
- urging the Colombian Government to bring to justice all those responsible for mass human rights violations in the municipality of Trujillo, stressing that this is an essential step towards preventing further human rights violations linked to these cases.

**APPEALS TO:**President of Colombia:

Señor Presidente Andres Pastrana, Presidente de la República  
Palacio de Nariño, Carrera 8 No. 7-26, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: President Pastrana, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 44281 PALP CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 286 7434 / 284 2186 / 337 1351**

**Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente / Dear President Pastrana**

Minister of the Interior

Dr. Nestor Humberto Martínez, Ministro del Interior, Ministerio del Interior,  
Carrera 8, No. 8-09, Piso 2, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Ministro del Interior, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 45406 MINGO CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 286 0053**

**Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister**

Attorney General

Dr. Alfonso Gómez Méndez, Fiscal General de la Nación  
Fiscalía General de la Nación, Diagonal 22B 5201, Apartado Aéreo 29855, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Fiscal General, Fiscalía General, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Faxes: + 571 570 2022**

**Salutation: Estimado Dr. / Dear Dr.**

**COPIES TO:**Intercongregational Commission for Justice and Peace

Comisión Intercongregacional de Justicia y Paz, AA 31861, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 March 1999.