

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 134/93 (AMR 23/28/93, 26 April 1993) - Fear of "disappearance"

COLOMBIA:Reinaldo AMOROCHO, travelling salesman

Amnesty International has been informed that the body of Reinaldo Amorocho has been found.

Military sources have reportedly claimed that Reinaldo Amorocho was killed on 7 April 1993 in a confrontation between the Colombian armed forces and guerrillas from the armed opposition group Ejército Popular de Liberación (EPL), People's Liberation Army, in Santander department.

Amnesty International is concerned at the circumstances surrounding Reinaldo Amorocho's death as the organization was informed that eye-witnesses had observed his detention on 7 April by soldiers from the army's Guane Battalion, which is attached to the Vth Brigade, Batallón Guane de la V Brigada (please refer to the original Urgent Action).

There is concern that Reinaldo Amorocho may have been used by the armed forces as a "guide". Amnesty International has received numerous reports of members of rural communities being seized by the army in order to employ them as "guides" in areas of high guerrilla activity. The "guides" are often required to carry heavy equipment for troops and to lead the military patrol in their march to suspected guerrilla zones. They are sometimes killed in ensuing armed confrontations or by the soldiers if they are suspected of being guerrilla sympathizers.

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

- expressing concern that the body of Reinaldo Amorocho has been found;
- expressing concern at military claims that Reinaldo Amorocho was killed in a confrontation with the army on 7 April 1993, when eye-witnesses had reportedly observed his detention on that date by members of the armed forces;
- requesting that the circumstances surrounding his death be investigated and the results made public;
- urging the government to take all possible measures to protect the lives

of civilians in areas undergoing counter-insurgency operations.

APPEALS TO:

1) 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

Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472

Salutation: Sr. Procurador de la Nación / Dear Dr. Arrieta

2) Advocate for the People:

Dr. Jaime Córdoba Triviño
Defensor del Pueblo
Defensoría del Pueblo
Calle 34, Carrera 5
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Defensor del Pueblo Trivino, Defensoria del Pueblo, Bogota,
Colombia**

Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472

Salutation: Estimado Dr Triviño / Dear Dr. Triviño

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Human Rights and Educational Organization:

Señores
CINEP
AA 25916
Santa Fe 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 18 June 1993.