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Further information on UA 73/91 (AMR 23/13/91, 28 February 1991) - Possible Extrajudicial Execution

COLOMBIA: Alcides CASTRILLON

Amnesty International has received information from the Colombian Presidential Adviser on Human Rights that official investigations have been opened into the killing of Alcides Castrillon on 25 February 1991 in circumstances suggesting he may have been a victim of extrajudicial execution.

According to the information, the preliminary investigation is in the hands of the Court of Criminal Instruction in Bogotá. On 4 March 1991, the judge responsible contacted the State Security Department, *Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad*, to ask for their collaboration with the investigation which is now under way. On 7 March 1991, the office of the Procurator's deputy for the Public Ministry appointed a lawyer to act as a special agent for the Public Ministry in the legal process.

Whilst Amnesty International welcomes the investigation, there is concern that although many such investigations are opened in Colombia, only exceptionally do they lead to the identification and prosecution of those responsible for the human rights violations.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- continuing to express concern at the killing of Alcides Castrillon in circumstances suggesting he may have been the victim of extrajudicial execution;
- welcoming the official investigation into the killing and urging that it be thorough and impartial and that the results be made public.

APPEALS TO:

1. President of the Republic:

Señor Presidente César Gaviria Trujillo [Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente]

Presidente de la República

Palacio de Nariño

Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

Telegrams: Presidente Gaviria, Bogota, Colombia

Telexes: 44281 PALP CO

Faxes: + 57 1 283 3066; + 57 1 286 7324

+ 57 1 287 7937

2. Procurator General:

Dr. Carlos Gustavo Arrieta Padilla

[Salutation: Sr. Procurador General de la Nación]

Procurador General de la Nación

Procuraduría General Edificio Banco Ganadero Carrera 5, No. 15-80

Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

Telegrams: Procurador General Arrieta, Bogota, Colombia

Telexes: 41224 PRGEN CO; 41213 PGNDP CO

Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472

COPIES TO:

Señores [Salutation: Señores]

CINEP (Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular)

AA 25916

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 2 October 1991.