

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 242/93

Administrative detention/Fear for safety

26 July 1993

COLOMBIA: "Dumar"

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of an alleged guerrilla leader known as "Dumar", who was captured by the armed forces at the beginning of July 1993 in Rio Viejo, Bolivar department. Reports state that he has not yet been brought before a judge or charged with a recognizable criminal offence and that he has been publicly paraded and subjected to torture and ill-treatment by his captors.

The Municipal Ombudsman, *personero*, of Rio Viejo states that "Dumar", a presumed guerrilla from the armed opposition group Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces, *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias Colombianas (FARC)* was captured by the army more than three weeks ago in the Rio Viejo area. He reports that "Dumar" is being exhibited to the people of Rio Viejo and subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, such as being gagged with a rope, lacerated and beaten with a stick. The *personero* also expresses concern that "Dumar" has not been brought before a judge or charged with any offence in violation of the Colombian Constitution which stipulates that detainees must be brought before a judge within 36 hours of their arrest. There is serious concern for his physical integrity.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The largely rural area of the Magdalena Medio in central Colombia has been a focus of political violence for several years following the emergence of guerrilla groups in the 1960s and the subsequent militarization of the region during the 1980s. Peace talks between the remaining active guerrilla groups and the government broke down earlier last year and there has been a resultant increase in guerrilla activity and in the armed forces counter-guerrilla operations. Human rights violations have escalated in the region, including arbitrary detention, torture, extrajudicial execution and "disappearance" committed by the armed and security forces and paramilitary groups working with them

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

- expressing concern for the safety of presumed guerrilla "Dumar" who has reportedly been subjected publicly to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by members of the armed forces in Rio Viejo, Bolivar department since his capture at the beginning of July 1993;

- urging that he be given any necessary medical treatment whilst in detention;

- urging that "Dumar" be immediately brought before a competent judge and charged with a recognizable criminal offence or released;

- urging that the authorities take all possible measures to protect the basic human rights of all detainees.

Page 2 of UA 242/93

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 7324/7434/287 7937

Salutation:Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente/Dear President Gaviria

2) Minister of Defence:

Dr. Rafael Pardo Rueda
 Ministro de Defensa Nacional
 Ministerio de Defensa Nacional
 Avenida Eldorado - Carrera 52
 Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia
Telegrams:Ministro de Defensa Pardo Rueda, Bogota, Colombia
Telexes:42411 INPRE CO; 44561 CFAC CO
Faxes:+ 57 1 222 1874

Salutation: Sr. Ministro/Dear Minister

3) 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

4) Attorney General:

Dr. Gustavo de Greiff
 Fiscal General de la Nación
 Fiscalía General de la Nación
 Apartado Aéreo 29855
 Santafé de Bogotá
 Colombia
Telegrams:Fiscal General, Fiscalía General, Bogotá, Colombia

Faxes: + 57 1 287 0939

Salutation: Estimado Dr. de Greiff/Dear Dr. de Greiff

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Andean Commission of Jurists
Comisión Andina de Juristas
AA 58533
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 6 September 1993.