

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 23/47/96

24 September 1996

Further information on UA 241/95 (AMR 23/63/95, 19 October 1995) and follow-up (AMR 23/21/96, 24 April 1996; AMR 23/23/96, 26 April; AMR 23/27/96, 20 May; AMR 23/33/96, 17 June; AMR 23/42/96, 19 July) - Fear for safety

COLOMBIA Civilian Population of Remedios and Segovia, Antioquia

new names: Leshe Elizabot Yali GIRALDO (f), aged three months
Kenny Magiver JIMÉNEZ GÓMEZ (f), aged six months
Eugenia GÓMEZ (f)
Beatriz Elena GIRALDO (f)

Serious human rights violations committed by paramilitary organizations in Segovia, department of Antioquia, continue despite the announcement of new security measures and the increased presence of members of the security forces in the town.

At approximately 3am on 21 September 1996 a group of unidentified men reportedly threw a bomb at a house situated near the Santander park in the town of Segovia. The resulting explosion killed three-month-old Leshe Elizabot Yali Giraldo and six-month-old Kenny Magiver Jiménez Gómez. The two infants' mothers, Eugenia Gómez and Beatriz Elena Giraldo, were seriously injured.

Witnesses state that prior to the explosion they had seen a group of soldiers belonging to the *Batallón Bomboná*, Bomboná Battalion, patrolling in the park together with two hooded individuals. The bomb attack took place during curfew hours when only members of the security forces are permitted on the streets of Segovia.

Reportedly those responsible for the bombing dropped several hand-written leaflets which were found in the early hours of the morning, one stated: "*Vamos a seguir como lo hemos venido haciendo anteriormente como con Majo, con Domingo, etc proximately seguiremos con La Negra y luego con una masacre*", "We are going to continue as we have been doing previously with Majo, Domingo and next we will continue with La Negra and then with a massacre". One leaflet which was signed by the paramilitary group *Muerte a Comunistas y Guerrilleros* (MACOGUE), Death to Communists and Guerrillas, stated "*No habrá compasión con ninguno que tenga relación con la guerrilla. MACOGUE*" - "There will be no compassion for anyone who has relations with the guerrilla. MACOGUE".

The bomb attack follows the killing of 15 people and injuring of a further 15 together with the "disappearance" of another two people on 22 April 1996 and the appearance of paramilitary graffiti threatening the civilian population of Segovia, and further raises concerns for the safety of the civilian population.

Appeals based on earlier updates may continue, and in addition:

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

- expressing concern at the bomb attack which killed the infants Leshe Elizabot Yali Giraldo and Kenny Magiver Jiménez Gómez and seriously injured their mothers Eugenia Gómez and Beatriz Elena Giraldo;

- urging that full and impartial investigations into the bomb attack are undertaken that the results be made public and that those responsible be brought to justice;

- urging the government to immediately fulfil its commitment to disband paramilitary forces presently operating as auxiliaries of the armed forces or with armed forces' complicity, and for members of such forces responsible for human rights violations to be brought to justice.

if possible also:

- urge that there be full and impartial investigations into links between the security forces and paramilitary groups operating in Remedios and Segovia and that those members of the security forces responsible for supporting such groups be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of Colombia:

Señor Presidente Ernesto Samper Pizano
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Nariño, Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

Telegrams: President Samper, Bogotá, Colombia

Telexes: 44281 PALP CO

Faxes: + 57 1 289 3377 / 286 7434

Salutation:Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente/Dear President Samper

2) Governor of Antioquia

Sr. Alvaro Uribe Velez
Gobernador del Departamento de Antioquia
Gobernación de Antioquia
Calle 42B, # 52-106
Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia

Telegrams:Gobernador, Departamento de Antioquia, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia

Salutation: Sr. Gobernador / Dear Governor

3) Minister of the Interior

Dr. Horacio Serpa Uribe
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Carrera 8a, No.8-09, Piso 7
Santafé de Bogotá, COLOMBIA

Telegrams: Ministro del Interior Serpa, Bogota, Colombia

Telexes:45406 MINGO CO

Faxes:+ 57 1 286 6524 / 286 0053 / 286 0485

Salutation:Sr. Ministro/Dear Minister

4) Bomboná Batallion

Commander of the Bomboná Battalion
Bomboná Batallion of the XIV Brigade
Segovia, Antioquia, Colombia

Telegrams: Commander, Bomboná Battalion, Segovia, Antioquia, Colombia

Salutation: Sr. Comandante / Dear Commander

COPIES TO:

Alternative Legal Association

SEMBRAR, AA 34692, 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 12 November 1996.