

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 16/92 (AMR 25/02/92, 13 January 1992) and follow-up AMR 25/07/92, 17 January 1992 - Death Penalty

Cuba:Eduardo DIAZ BETANCOURT (38)

Daniel Candelario SANTOVENIA FERNANDEZ (36)

~~Pedro de la Caridad ALVAREZ PEDROSO (26)~~

On 19 January 1992 the Cuban Council of State confirmed the death sentence passed against Eduardo Díaz Betancourt. He was executed by firing squad the next day. Clemency was, however, granted to Daniel Candelario Santovenia Fernández and his sentence was commuted to 30 years' imprisonment. The sentence against Pedro de la Caridad Alvarez Pedroso had earlier been commuted by the **Tribunal Popular Provincial**, People's Provincial Court, to the same period of imprisonment. All three had been found guilty by Havana Provincial Court on 11 January 1992 on charges of terrorism, sabotage and enemy propaganda, all crimes against state security. The three, who were Cuban exiles and had been living in the United States, had been arrested on 29 December 1991 as they landed by dinghy on the Cuban coast near Cárdenas, Matanzas province, 150 km east of the capital.

The execution of Eduardo Díaz Betancourt was the first to have taken place this year. Two executions are known to have taken place during 1991: Jorge González Norona, convicted of strangling three women (see UA 430/90, AMR 25/05/90, 24 October 1990) and Joaquín Dueñas Carbonell, convicted of killing two police officers in December 1990 (see UA 82/91, AMR 25/04/91, 4 March 1991).

No further action is required.