

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 95/93 (AMR 25/15/93, 5 November 1993) - Death Penalty

**CUBA** **Félix OVIEDO AGUILERA**

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According to the 4 August 1994 edition of the official Cuban newspaper *Granma*, Félix Oviedo Aguilera has been executed after his appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court and the Council of State decided not to commute his sentence.

The report did not say when the execution took place. Four death sentences were passed in late 1993, but, as far as Amnesty International is aware, this is the first execution to have been carried out in Cuba since early 1992. Four death sentences were passed in late 1993.

Félix Oviedo Aguilera had been convicted of murder and armed robbery for an attack on a Havana bus on 2 August 1993 in which a youth was killed when he was thrown from the vehicle through a window. In November 1993, he was sentenced to death while some 22 other people were sentenced to between six months' and thirty years' imprisonment, either for being directly involved in the attack, failing to denounce it or receiving stolen goods. In its report of the execution, *Granma* noted that the characteristics of the incident had called for exemplary sentencing.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and of the right not to be subjected to cruel inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Concern about the use of the death penalty in Cuba is heightened by the lack, or inadequacy in practice, of full judicial guarantees, particularly the right to adequate defence and especially if there is a political element to the case. Execution is by firing squad.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters**

- deeply regretting the news that Félix Oviedo Aguilera has been executed;
- stating Amnesty International's unconditional opposition to the death penalty in all cases on the grounds that it violates the right to life as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment;
- calling for all other pending death sentences to be commuted.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President:

Dr Fidel Castro Ruz  
Presidente del Consejo de Estado  
Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Presidente Castro, Havana, Cuba**

**Telexes: 511122 / 511464 / 512950**

**Faxes: + 53 7 333085 / + 53 7 335261**

**(These telex and fax numbers are for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - please ask them to forward your message to President Castro)**

**Salutation: Señor Presidente / Dear President**

2) President of the Supreme Court:

Dr José Raúl Amaro Salup  
 Presidente del Tribunal Supremo Popular  
 Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Presidente, Tribunal Supremo Popular, Havana, Cuba**

**Telexes: 511457 tsupo**

**Salutation: Sr Presidente del Tribunal Supremo Popular / Dear President of the People's Supreme Court**

3) Attorney-General:

Dr Juan Escalona Reguera  
 Fiscal General de la República  
 Fiscalía General de la República  
 San Rafael 3

Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Fiscal General, Havana, Cuba**

**Telexes: 511456 fisge**

**Faxes: + 53 7 333164**

**Salutation: Sr Fiscal General / Dear Attorney General**

4) Minister of Justice:

Dr Carlos Amat Forés  
 Ministro de Justicia  
 Ministerio de Justicia  
 Calle 0 No 216, 8vo piso  
 entre 23 y Humboldt, Vedado  
 Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

**Telegrams: Ministro Justicia, Havana, Cuba**

**Telexes: 511331**

**Salutation: Sr Ministro / Dear Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sr Roberto Robaina González  
 Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores  
 Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
 Calzada 360  
 Vedado, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

**Faxes: + 53 7 333085 / + 53 7 335261**

Newspaper

Granma  
 Apartado 6260  
 Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

and to diplomatic representatives of Cuba accredited to your country

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.**