EXTERNAL AI Index: AMR 25/12/97

17 June 1997

Further information on EXTRA 73/97 (AMR 25/08/97, 22 May 1997) - Arbitrary arrest / legal concern / harassment / prisoner of conscience (POC) / possible POCs

CUBAAna María AGRAMONTE CRESPO

Alberto PERERA MARTÍNEZ Jesús PÉREZ GÓMEZ Lorenzo PESCOSO LEÓN Aquileo CANCIO CHONG

Amnesty International has learned that Jesús Pérez Gómez, Lorenzo Pescoso León and Aguileo Cancio Chong were released without charge on or about 13 June 1997. They had all been arrested in Havana on 1 May 1997.

Alberto Perera Martínez of the *Comité Paz, Progreso y Libertad*, Committee of Peace, Progress and Liberty, remains in detention at State Security headquarters in Havana known as Villa Marista. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the authorities intend to bring him to trial although the nature of any charge against him is not known. As far as Amnesty International is aware, he has still not been permitted to see a lawyer. Amnesty International believes that he may be a prisoner of conscience, detained solely on account of his peaceful political activities and fears that if brought to trial, he will not be granted full judicial guarantees in accordance with international standards.

Ana María Agramonte Crespo, President of the Movimiento Acción Nacionalista, Nationalist Action Movement, remains imprisoned at the Havana Women's Prison, known as "Manto Negro". She had been arrested on 1 May 1997 and convicted on charges of "disrespect" and "resisting authority" and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment. Amnesty International believes that she is a prisoner of conscience imprisoned solely for peacefully exercising her rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly and continues to call for her immediate and unconditional release.

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

- urging that Ana María Agramonte Crespo be immediately and unconditionally released, on the grounds that she is a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for peacefully exercising her rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly;
- urging that the reasons for the arrest of Alberto Perera Martínez be immediately clarified and that he be immediately released unless charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- urging that as long as he is in detention, he be provided with full judicial guarantees, including immediate access to a lawyer of his choice.

APPEALS TO:

1) Attorney-General

Dr Juan Escalona Reguera Fiscal General de la República Fiscalía General de la República San Rafael 3, La Habana, Cuba

Telegrams: Fiscal General, Havana, Cuba

Telex: 511456 fisge

Salutation: Sr Fiscal General / Dear Attorney General

2) Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sr Roberto Robaina González Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores Calzada No. 360

Vedado, La Habana, Cuba

Telegrams: Ministro Relaciones Exteriores, Havana, Cuba

Telex: 511122 / 511464 / 512950 Fax: + 53 7 333085 / + 53 7 335261

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

3) Minister of the Interior

General Abelardo Colomé Ibarra Ministro de Interior Ministerio del Interior Plaza de la Revolución

La Habana, Cuba

Telegrams: Ministro Interior, Havana, Cuba Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

4) Department of State Security

Sr Director
Departamento de Seguridad del Estado
Villa Marista
La Víbora
La Habana, Cuba

Telegrams: Director, Villa Marista, Havana, Cuba

Salutation: Señor Director / Dear Sir

COPIES TO:

National Union of Jurists
Unión Nacional de Juristas
Apartado 4161
La Habana 4, Cuba

Editor of Granma (daily newspaper)

Sr Jacinto Granda de Laserna Granma Apdo 6260 La Habana, Cuba

and to diplomatic representatives of Cuba accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 July 1997.