

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 25/18/00

26 July 2000

Further information on EXTRA 31/99 (AMR 25/11/99, 3 March 1999) and follow-up (AMR 25/15/99, 16 March 1999) - Prisoners of Conscience/Arbitrary arrests/Legal Concern

CUBAVladimiro ROCA ANTUNEZ
Marta Beatriz ROQUE CABELLO
René GOMEZ MANZANO
Felix A. BONNE CARCASES

Three of the so-called "Group of Four" were released in May, but prisoner of conscience Vladimiro Roca Antúnez is still in custody.

Amnesty International recognises that the release of Marta Beatriz Roque Cabello, René Gómez Manzano and Félix Bonne Carcasés could mark a positive step towards greater respect for human rights in Cuba, but reiterates its call for the immediate and unconditional release of Vladimiro Roca Antúnez.

The "Group of Four", all members of the *Grupo de Trabajo de la Disidencia Interna para el Análisis de la Situación Socio-Económica Cubana* (The Internal Dissidents Working Group for the Analysis of the Cuban Socio-Economic Situation) were all convicted of "sedition" (*sedición*) in March 1999. Vladimiro Roca Antúnez was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, René Gómez Manzano and Félix Bonne Carcasés to four years' imprisonment and Marta Beatriz Roque Cabello to three and a half years' imprisonment.

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

- welcoming the release of three members of the *Grupo de Trabajo de la Disidencia Interna para el Análisis de la Situación Socio-Económica Cubana*;
- urging that Vladimiro Roca Antúnez be immediately and unconditionally released, on the grounds that he is a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression and association;
- urging that human rights activists and political opponents be allowed to carry out their legitimate activities without interference or harassment by the authorities;
- calling for the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience in Cuba.

APPEALS TO:

Attorney-General

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

Telexes: 511456 fisge

Faxes: + 53 7 669485 (If someone answers, say - 'Fax, por favor'.)

Salutation: Sr Fiscal General / Dear Attorney General

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sr. Felipe Pérez Roque
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

Calzada No. 360, Vedado, La Habana, Cuba
Telexes: 511122 / 511464 / 512950
Faxes: + 53 7 333085
Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

Minister of the Interior
General Abelardo Colomé Ibarra
Ministro de Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana, Cuba
Faxes: + 53 7 335261
Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

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 23 August 2000.