EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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12 March 1992

Please send up to 10 appeals per section

Further information on UA 59/92 (AMR 25/18/92, 18 February 1992) - <u>Health</u> Concern

Cuba: Silvio AGUILA YANES, aged 30

Amnesty International has learned that on 6 March Silvio Aguila Yanes was taken out of his prison cell in the maximum security area of Guanajay Prison on a stretcher in a serious condition. However, there is so far no news of where he has been taken. The prison authorities have reportedly refused to inform his relatives of his whereabouts. He is thought to have stopped his hunger-strike. He had been on hunger-strike for 22 days in January this year and stopped it when the authorities promised to transfer him from the damp dark cell in which he was being held, apparently as a form of punishment for refusing to wear his prison uniform. However, when they did not do so despite recommendations from medical personnel that he be transferred to hospital, on 17 February he went back on hunger-strike and also stopped ingesting liquids.

Amnesty International continues to be concerned for the health of Silvio Aguila Yanes and trusts that he has been transferred to hospital so that he may receive all necessary medical treatment. It urges the authorities to immediately inform his relatives of his present whereabouts.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/airmail letters

- expressing concern at reports that Silvio Aguila Yanes was removed from his cell in Guanajay Prison in a serious condition on 6 March;

- expressing the hope that he has been transferred to hospital in order to receive all necessary medical treatment;

- urging the authorities to immediately inform his relatives of his current whereabouts;

- requesting that the conditions in which he is held in future conform to the

United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

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APPEALS TO:

1) Minister of the Interior: General Abelardo Colomé Ibarra Señor Ministro / Ministro del Interior Dear Minister

Ministerio del Interior Plaza de la Revolución Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba Telegrams: Ministro Interior, Havana, Cuba

2) <u>Attorney General</u>: Dr Ramón de la Cruz Ochoa Señor Fiscal General/ Fiscal General de la República Dear Attorney General/ Dear Atto

3) <u>Director of Guanajay Prison</u> Señor Director Señor Director / Dear Sir Prisión de Guanajay Guanajay Provincia de la Habana, Cuba Telegrams: Director Prisión de Guanajay, Provincia Havana, Cuba

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

<u>Newspaper</u>: <u>Granma</u> Apartado 6260 Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

and to diplomatic representatives of Cuba in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 23 April 1992.