

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 29/04/96

14 March 1996

Further information on UA 06/96 (AMR 29/01/96, 10 January 1996) and follow-ups (AMR 29/02/96, 29 January; AMR 29/03/96, 1 February) - Death threats / Fear for safety

EL SALVADOR Adrián ESQUINO LISCO
Maximiliano BRAN GARCÍA

new names: Antonio Armando PÉREZ ARIAS
 Rafael Arturo PÉREZ ARIAS

Amnesty International has learned that, on the evening of 12 March 1996, Antonio Armando Pérez Arias and Rafael Arturo Pérez Arias, members of ANIS (Salvadorean National Indigenous Association) were beaten and detained by at least 10 members of the *Policía Nacional Civil*, PNC, National Civil Police.

According to reports, the PNC forced their way into the offices of ANIS in Sonsonate during a meeting of members of ANIS, and began shooting. After beating Antonio Armando Pérez Arias and Rafael Arturo Pérez Arias, the PNC took them to the Sonsonate Police headquarters, where they were seen by members of a local human rights non-governmental organization. Amnesty International has no further details as to their current treatment in detention and it is not yet known on what charges they are being held.

Reports also indicate that during the evening of 11 March, three armed, masked men seen around the *Las Hojas* Cooperative had distributed leaflets outside the homes of cooperative members stating: "Adrián Esquino Lisco will die tonight" ("*Adrián Esquino Lisco va a morir esta noche*").

The Esquino family has gone into hiding fearing for their lives.

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

- expressing concern about the beating and detention of Antonio Armando Pérez Arias and Rafael Arturo Pérez Arias, members of ANIS, by at least 10 members of the National Civil Police on 12 March 1996;
- asking that they be humanely treated while in detention and that they be charged with a recognizable criminal offence or immediately released;
- expressing concern about the continuing death threats against Adrián Esquino Lisco, other members of ANIS and their families, referring to the incident of 11 March;
- calling for immediate measures to guarantee the safety of all members of ANIS, including the residents of Las Hojas and Sonsonate;
- calling for steps to be taken immediately to identify those responsible for the death threats and to bring them to justice.

APPEALS TO:

President of El Salvador
Dr. Armando Calderón Sol
Presidente de la República de El Salvador
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

Telegrams: Presidente Calderón, San Salvador, El Salvador
Telexes: 20245 RS SAL; 20522 PRESS SAL

Faxes: +503 271-0950

Salutation: Sr. Presidente / Dear President

Minister of the Interior

Lic. Mario Acosta Oertel

Ministro del Interior

Ministerio del Interior

Centro de Gobierno

San Salvador, El Salvador

Telegrams: Ministro Interior, San Salvador, El Salvador

Faxes: +503 271-2484

Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Attorney General's Office for Human Rights

Dra. Victoria Marina Velásquez de Avilés

Procuradora para la defensa

de los derechos humanos de El Salvador

9a. Avenida Nte. y Calle Poniente

Edificio Amsa No. 535, San Salvador

El Salvador

Salvadorean National Indigenous Association (ANIS)

Sres.

ANIS

Calle Obispo Marroquín,

Oficina Antigua Aduana Férrea 5-1

Sonsonate, El Salvador

Newspapers

Sr. Jefe de redacción

La Prensa Gráfica

3a. Calle Poniente No. 130

San Salvador, El Salvador

Sr. Jefe de redacción

Diario Latino

23 Av. Sur No. 225

Apartado Postal 96,

San Salvador, El Salvador

and to diplomatic representatives of El Salvador accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 April 1996.