

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 462/90 (AMR 34/69/90, 14 November 1990) - Fear of "disappearance"/torture

GUATEMALA/BELIZE:Luis Arturo AREVALO

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Luis Arturo Arévalo, a Guatemalan citizen, was arrested and reportedly tortured in Belize and was then handed over to the Guatemalan authorities.

Many Urgent Action participants have received letters signed by the Prime Minister of Belize, the relevant parts of which are as follows:

*"I have appointed a Commission of Inquiry to make a full and thorough investigation into reports that Guatemalan National Luis Arturo Arevalo was allegedly tortured by Belize security forces on or around October 30, 1990, and was returned to Guatemala, where there were grounds to believe he might be subjected to further violations by the Guatemalan military authorities.*

*My information is that the Police have no record of any arrest and deportation of Luis Arturo Arevalo. However, they have confirmed that one Raul Roberto Arevalo Cruz....was arrested in late October in the Cave's Branch area of the Cayo District as a result of a complaint of ill-treatment made by his common-law wife.....Immigration authorities have confirmed that Mr Arevalo was later returned to Guatemala, his country of origin. The Police have denied that they mistreated Mr Arevalo while in custody....."*

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters especially from those who received copies of the letter from George Price, Prime Minister of Belize:**

- welcoming the appointment of the Commission to investigate the reports of torture and deportation;
- asking the Prime Minister to inform them of the results of the inquiry.

**APPEALS TO:**

George Price  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
East Bloc  
Balmopan, Belize

Telegrams: Prime Minister, Balmopan, Belize  
Telexes: 138 B2

**COPIES TO:**

Belize Human Rights Commission  
PO Box 707  
Belize City, Belize

The Reporter  
PO Box 617  
Belize City, Belize

Brig. Gral. Juan Leonel Bolaños  
Ministro de Defensa  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Palacio Nacional  
Guatemala, Guatemala

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and to diplomatic representative of Guatemala and Belize in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS YOU CAN.**