

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 36/93 (AMR 34/03/93, 12 February 1993) and follow-up AMR 34/05/93 of 16 February 1993 - Threats/Harassment

GUATEMALA: Staff of the Asociación para el Avance de las Ciencias Sociales en Guatemala (AVANCSO), Association for the Advancement of Social Sciences in Guatemala  
including: Helen Mack Chang

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Amnesty International is concerned at recent renewed acts of intimidation against Helen Mack Chang. These and previous acts of intimidation against her and other members of the Asociación para el Avance de las Ciencias Sociales en Guatemala (AVANCSO), Association for the Advancement of Social Sciences in Guatemala, appear to be reprisals against the conviction of an army sergeant for the murder of Helen Mack Chang's sister, Myrna Mack.

On 29 April 1993 the Appeal Court ratified the sentence of 30 years' imprisonment against army sergeant Noel de Jesús Beteta. He was sentenced on 12 February 1993 to 25 years' imprisonment for the murder of Myrna Mack Chang and to an additional five year term for a separate assault on a minor.

On 30 April two unidentified men, who arrived on motor-bikes, wearing heavy winter clothing inappropriate for the climate, knocked on the door of the home of Helen Mack. The two men banged on the door and demanded to be let in to see the owners of the house. The only people in the house at that time were two female domestic workers who were frightened by the men and so refused them entry. The men continued to beat on the door for about 15 minutes before finally leaving.

Myrna Mack Chang, a leading anthropologist and one of the founding members of AVANCSO, was murdered in September 1990. At the time of her killing she was carrying out research on groups displaced by the war.

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

- expressing concern at the latest act of intimidation against Helen Mack, apparently in reprisal for her role in perusing legal proceedings in bringing to justice those responsible for the killing of her sister Myrna Mack Chang;
- asking for an immediate investigation into this incident and that those responsible be brought to justice;

- asking for guarantees for the safety of Helen Mack, as well as for the safety of staff of AVANCSO.

**APPEALS TO**

1) President of the Republic:

S.E. Jorge Serrano Elías  
Presidente de la República de Guatemala  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, Guatemala  
**Telegrams: Presidente Serrano, Guatemala, Guatemala**  
**Telephone: + 502 2 21212 / + 502 2 22266**  
**Faxes: + 502 2 537472 / + 502 2 519702**  
**Telexes: 5331 CAPRES GU**

**Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente / Dear President**

2) Minister of the Interior:

Lic. Francisco Perdomo  
Ministro de Gobernación  
Despacho Ministerial  
Oficina No. 8, Primer Nivel  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, Guatemala  
**Telegrams: Ministro Gobernación, Guatemala, Guatemala**  
**Telephone: + 502 2 21212, ext 500 / + 502 2 518105-6 (direct)**  
**Telexes: 5085 MINGOB GU**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

3) Minister of Defence:

Gral. José García Samayoa  
Ministro de Defensa Nacional  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, Guatemala  
**Telegrams: Ministro Defensa, Guatemala, Guatemala**  
**Telephone: + 502 2 21212, ext 2226**  
**Telexes: 5361 COMGUA GU**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

4) Interim Attorney General:

Lic. Edgar Tuna Valladares  
Procurador General de la Nación  
Procuraduría General de la Nación  
18 Calle 10-36, Zona 1, Guatemala  
Guatemala  
**Telegrams: Procurador General, Guatemala, Guatemala**  
**Telephone: + 502 2 64697 / + 502 2 313656 / + 502 2 518385**

**Salutation: Señor Procurador General / Dear Attorney General**

**COPIES TO**

President of the Supreme Court:

Lic. Juan José Rodil Peralta  
Presidente de la Corte  
Suprema de Justicia  
Centro Cívico  
21a Calle y 7a Avenida  
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

7a Avenida 11-79  
Edificio Galerías España, 6o piso  
Zona 9, Guatemala, Guatemala

Newspaper:

Diario Siglo XXI

Human Rights Procurator:  
Lic. Ramiro de León Carpio  
Procurador de Derechos Humanos  
Avenida Simeón Cañas 10-61  
Zona 2,  
Guatemala, Guatemala

Human Rights Organization:  
Oficina de Derechos Humanos  
Arzobispado de Guatemala  
Apartado Postal 723  
Guatemala, Guatemala

and to diplomatic representatives of Guatemala accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 June 1993.