

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 34/69/93  
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Further information on UA 259/93 (AMR 34/52/93, 6 August 1993) - and follow-up (AMR 34/60/93, 9 September 1993) - Indiscriminate use of lethal force and new concerns: Death Threats and Extrajudicial Executions

GUATEMALA: Killed: Andrés GODÍNEZ DÍAZ, 56  
María PÉREZ SANCHES, 54

Fear for safety: Marcos GODÍNEZ  
María SALES LÓPEZ  
Ramiro GODÍNEZ PÉREZ  
Francisca LÓPEZ SANCHES  
Juan GODÍNEZ PÉREZ  
and other residents of Colotenango

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On 26 September 1993 Andrés Godínez Díaz and his wife María Pérez Sanches were tortured and killed in circumstances suggesting that they may have been extrajudicially executed. They and their relatives, Marcos Godínez, María Sales López, Ramiro Godínez Pérez, Francisca López Sanches and Juan Godínez Pérez, had previously received threats from the Patrullas de Autodefensa Civil (PAC), Civil Defence Patrols. They had taken part in a peaceful demonstration on 3 August 1993 in the village of El Naranjal, Colotenango, in which Juan Pablo Chanay was killed and several others wounded, also by the PACs. Other residents of Colotenango, Hueguetenango have also been threatened.

According to reports, on the morning of 26 September Andrés Godínez and María Pérez left their home to work on their maize field. On their return from the field they were detained by members of the PAC and were found dead later that day.

Andrés Godínez had reportedly been hit on the head with a stone, part of his neck slashed with a machete and his throat slit. His mouth, nose and ears had been filled with fertilizer. Finally, he had been shot in the stomach. His wife, María Pérez, had her hair pulled out and her head smashed with stones.

Civil Defence Patrols (PAC) were created as a component of the military counter-insurgency strategy in 1982. Although voluntary according to the Constitution, civil patrols are in effect compulsory. Those refusing to take part in them have been branded "guerrillas" and many have been subjected to human rights violations, including harassment and attacks, "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution.

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

- expressing concern that Andrés Godínez Díaz and his wife María Pérez Sanches

were tortured and killed, reportedly by members of the Patrullas de Autodefensa Civil (PAC);

- expressing concern at the constant death threats received by other members of the family and other residents of Colotenango;

- urging the government to guarantee the safety of those who have been threatened;

- urging an immediate investigation into the torture and killings, that the findings be made public and that those found responsible be brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President of the Republic:

S.E. Ramiro de León Carpio  
Presidente de la República de Guatemala  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA

**Telegrams: Presidente de León Carpio, Guatemala, Guatemala**

**Faxes: + 502 2 537472, + 502 2 519702**

**Telexes: 5331 CAPRES GU**

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

2) Minister of Interior:

Lic. Arnoldo Ortiz Moscoso  
Ministro de Gobernación  
Ministerio de Gobernación  
Despacho Ministerial, Of. No. 8  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA

**Telegrams: Ministro de Gobernación, Guatemala, Guatemala**

**Faxes: + 502 2 518105**

**Telexes: 5085 MINGOB**

**Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister**

3) Minister of Defence:

Gral. Mario Enríquez Morales  
Ministro de Defensa  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA

**Telegrams: Ministro de Defensa, Guatemala, Guatemala**

**Faxes: + 502 2 537472**

**Telexes: 5361 COMGUA GU**

**Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Human Rights Procurator:

Lic. Jorge García Laguardia  
Procurador de los Derechos Humanos  
12 Avenida 12-72, Zona 1,  
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

**Faxes: + 502 2 81734**

Head of the Presidential Commission Coordinating the Policies of the Executive relating to Human Rights:

Lic. Jorge Gonzalo Cabrera Hurtarte  
Presidente  
COPREDEH

15 Avenida 18-38, Zona 13  
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

Human rights organization  
Coordinadora Nacional de Viudas  
de Guatemala (CONAVIGUA)  
8a. Avenida 2-29  
Zona 1, 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 16 November 1993.