

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/05/00

8 February 2000

Further information on UA 27/00 (AMR 41/03/00, 3 February 2000) - Fear for safety

MEXICO Hundreds of striking students

In a further police raid on 6 February, all of the students still on strike at the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* (UNAM), National Autonomous University campus, of which there were over 700 - more than 50 of these reportedly minors - were arrested. On 8 February more than 500 were released. Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of all those still detained, particularly as a number are thought to have been denied access to their families, lawyers of their choice and medical attention.

There were no reports of injuries or violence during the surprise dawn raid on the campus in which more than 2000 *Policia Federal Preventiva*, Federal Preventive Police officers were involved. The campus has been occupied since April 1999 by striking students who are protesting at proposed reforms to the university system.

President Zedillo has acknowledged ordering the security forces to put an end to the student occupation of the campus. The police operation was apparently carried out on the orders of a judge, reportedly to protect university property.

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

- calling on the authorities to guarantee the safety of all the UNAM students detained and ensure that they are given immediate access to their families, medical attention and a lawyer of their choice;
- asking the authorities to release all the detainees immediately unless they are to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic

Dr. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León
Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos
Residencia Oficial de Los Pinos
Del. Miguel Hidalgo, CP 118500
México D.F., MEXICO

Telegrams: President, México D.F., Mexico

Faxes: + 52 5 515 5729

Salutation: Señor Presidente/ Dear Mr President,

Minister of the Interior

Lic. Diódoro Carrasco Altamirano
Secretario de Gobernación
Secretaría de Gobernación
Bucareli 99, 1er. piso
Col. Juárez, C.P. 06699
México D.F., MEXICO

Telegrams: Secretario de Gobernación, México D.F., Mexico

Faxes: + 52 5 546 5350

Salutation: Señor Secretario / Dear Minister

Attorney General of the Republic

Lic. Jorge Madrazo
Procurador General de la República
Av Reforma, esq. Violeta
Col Guerrero
México D.F., CP 06300
MEXICO

Telegrams: Procurador General República, México D.F., Mexico

Faxes: + 52 5 346 0906

Salutation: Señor Procurador General/ Dear Attorney General

Attorney General of Mexico City

Lic Samuel Villar

Procurador General de México DF

Niños Héroes 61, 3er piso, Col. Doctores

Mexico DF, CP 06720, MEXICO

Faxes: + 52 5 133 7631 (if fax tone not available, please try later)

Salutation: Señor Procurador / Dear Attorney General

COPIES TO:

Human Rights Commission of Mexico City

Dr Luis Barreda Solórzano

Presidente de la CEDHDF

Av. Chapultepec 49, Col. Centro

México DF, CP 06040

and to diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 7 March 2000.