

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 336/92 Death Threats

29 October 1992

MEXICO: **María Teresa Jardí, female, human rights lawyer**

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Amnesty International is seriously concerned at reports of death threats against María Teresa Jardí, Director of the Department of Solidarity and Defence of Human Rights in the Archdiocese of Mexico (Directora del Departamento de Solidaridad y Defensa de los Derechos Humanos de la Arquidiócesis de México) and legal adviser to the Chihuahua-based human rights group, Commission of Solidarity and Defence of Human Rights (COSYDDHAC, Comisión de Solidaridad y Defensa de los Derechos Humanos).

The renowned human rights lawyer has received three written death threats in the last few days. The letters warned her that if she did not stop her human rights work, she and her family would suffer the consequences. One of the threats refers to her investigations into the murder of Víctor Manuel Oropeza, a journalist and political activist, who was killed in July 1991. He had received death threats prior to his murder after publishing a series of articles criticising the judicial police and a former Deputy Attorney General in charge of anti-narcotics investigations, for a series of alleged abuses.

#### BACKGROUND

Several other human rights activists have received death threats in recent years. In May 1990, Norma Corona Sapién, a human rights lawyer and president of a human rights commission in the State of Sinaloa, was killed by unidentified gunmen. At the time of her assassination she was investigating the murders of four people, who had reportedly been abducted and tortured by the federal judicial police. In March 1990, she had announced that she was receiving death threats because of these investigations.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes, preferably in Spanish or in your own language:**

- expressing serious concern about the death threats received by María Teresa Jardí and urging immediate measures to guarantee her physical integrity;
- urging an immediate investigation into the threats and that those responsible be brought to justice.

#### APPEALS TO:

1. President of the Republic of Mexico  
Lic. Carlos Salinas de Gortari

Presidente de la República  
Palacio Nacional  
06067 México D.F., MEXICO

**Telegrams: President Salinas, México D.F., Mexico**

**Telexes: 170937 SPPNME; 1774468 SPPNME**

**Faxes: 5 27 11 764**

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

page 2 of UA 336/92...

2. Attorney General of the Republic

Lic. Ignacio Morales Lechuga  
Procurador General de la República  
Procuraduría General de la República  
Avenida Paseo de la Reforma s/n  
esquina con Violeta  
Colonia Guerrero  
66300 México DF, MEXICO

**Telegrams: Procurador Morales Lechuga, México D.F., Mexico**

**Faxes: 5 626 44 75; 5 626 44 76**

**Salutation: Lic. Ignacio Morales Lechuga/Dear Sir**

3. Attorney General of the Federal District

Lic. Diego Valadéz  
Procurador General de Justicia del Distrito Federal  
Niños Héroe 61, 3er piso  
esquina con Dr. Lavista  
Colonia Doctores  
México DF, MEXICO

**Telegrams: Procurador Diego Valadéz, México DF, Mexico**

**Faxes: 5 761 84 74**

**Salutation: Lic. Diego Valadéz/Dear Sir**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1. Mexican Commission for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights  
Sres.

Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos  
Tabasco 262-201  
Colonia Roma  
07600 México DF, MEXICO

2. weekly magazine

Sr. Editor  
Filo Rojo  
Cuauhtémoc 16-mz  
Col. Doctores  
06720 México DF, MEXICO

3. weekly magazine

Sr. Editor  
Proceso  
Fresas 13  
Col. del Valle  
México DF

MEXICO

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 10 December 1992.