

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 41/72/96

11 November 1996

Further information on UA 200/96 (AMR 41/43/96, 13 August 1996) and follow-ups (AMR 41/51/96, 29 August; and AMR 41/56/96, 26 September; AMR 41/62/96, 11 October) - Death Threats / Fear for safety

MEXICO Pilar Noriega (f), lawyer
Digna Ochoa (f), lawyer
 Enrique Flota, lawyer

new names: David Fernández Dávalos, Jesuit
 José Lavanderos Yáñez, lawyer

On 9 November 1996 in Mexico City, Digna Ochoa was approached by an unidentified man who handed her a note. The note was another anonymous threat against members of the *Centro de Derechos Humanos Agustín Pro-Juárez (PRODH)*, Human Rights Centre Agustín Pro-Juárez, this time naming the people listed above, including David Fernández Dávalos, the director of PRODH, and also José Lavanderos Yáñez, another of the PRODH legal team. Both men were subjected to a campaign of threats and defamation last year (see UA 203/95, AMR 41/19/95, 18 August 1995 and AMR 41/28/95, 6 October).

This time the anonymous threat refers to the "death notices" of those named (as would appear in a newspaper) and the wording they would like to choose for such notices. The note threatened that if those named did not stop after the first killing they will continue killing the rest one by one.

This is the latest in a series of threats against members of PRODH, apparently due to their active role in human rights, particularly in documenting and making public denunciations of human rights violations. Amnesty International remains deeply concerned for their safety.

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

- expressing deep concern that death threats against members of the *Centro de Derechos Humanos Agustín Pro-Juárez (PRODH)*, in Mexico City, are continuing despite earlier appeals and urging that the authorities now take effective action to put a stop to the threats and guarantee the safety of these human rights defenders;
- asking what measures the authorities took in response to earlier appeals;
- expressing alarm at the rapid deterioration in the human rights situation in Mexico, and calling on the government to adopt urgent and effective measures, including its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the UN Convention Against Torture, to halt the pattern of human rights violations and the impunity benefitting perpetrators.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of the Republic
Lic. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León
Presidente de la República
Palacio Nacional, 06067 México D.F., MEXICO
Telegrams: Presidente Zedillo, México D.F., México
Telexes: 170937 sppnme; 1774468 sppnme

Faxes: + 52 5 271 1764, or 515 1794 or 542 1648 (voice line: ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor")

Salutation: Sr. Presidente / Dear President

2) Attorney General of the Republic

Lic. Antonio Lozano Gracia
Procurador General de la República
Paseo de la Reforma 75
México 06200 D.F. MEXICO

Telegrams: Procurador General de la República, México D.F., México

Faxes: + 52 5 626 4478

Salutation: Sr. Procurador / Dear Attorney General

3) Attorney General of the Federal District

Lic. José Antonio González Fernández
Procurador del Distrito Federal
Niños Heroes 132. Col. Doctores
México 06720 D.F. MEXICO

Telegrams: Procurador General del Distrito Federal, México D.F., México

Faxes: + 52 5 625 7081

Salutation: Sr. Procurador / Dear Attorney General

COPIES TO:

1) Centro de DD.HH.

Miguel Agustín Pro-Juárez (PRODH)
Puebla No 153, Col Roma
06700 México DF, México
Faxes: + 52 5 208 7547

2) daily newspaper

Sr. Editor
La Jornada
Balderas 68
06050 México D.F., 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 20 December 1996.