EXTERNAL AI Index: AMR 41/101/97

3 November 1997

Further information on EXTRA 142/97 (AMR 41/96/97, 21 October 1997) - "Disappearance"/ Fear of torture

MEXICO

Pedro Antonio José
Guillermo José Cruz
Sixto Santiago Antonio
Rafael José Miguel
Nicolás Santiago Antonio
Encarnación Antonio José

Ernesto Santiago Antonio

Juan Martínez Sosa

- local government officials

Amnesty International has received reports that all the above named were tortured in a detention centre in Oaxaca, Oaxaca State. On 18 October 1997, Guillermo José Cruz, Encarnación Antonio José, Ernesto Santiago Antonio and Juan Martínez Sosa were released without charge, forty-eight hours after they had been detained. The remaining four: Pedro Antonio José, Sixto Santiago Antonio, Rafael José Miguel and Nicolás Santiago Antonio, have all been charged with the homicide of Jesús Castro González, a local political activist, and remain in detention. Members of the *Comité de Derechos Humanos de Tlaxiaco*, Human Rights Committee of Tlaxiaco, a local human rights organisation, have also been accused of being behind the same homicide. Amnesty International believes the accusations to be unfounded and that those accused have been targeted for their political and human rights activities

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

- calling for the unconditional release of Pedro Antonio José, Sixto Santiago Antonio, Rafael José Miguel and Nicolás Santiago Antonio and for measures to be taken to ensure their physical safety whilst they remain in detention; - urging that prompt and thorough investigations be carried out concerning the torture of the eight men and for those responsible to be brought to justice; - expressing concern at the level of human rights violations in Oaxaca state reportedly by members of the security forces.

APPEALS TO:

1) Minister of Interior

Lic. Emilio Chuayffet Chemor Secretario de Gobernación Secretaría de Gobernación Bucarelli 99, 1er piso, Col Juarez, 06699 México DF, MEXICO

Telegrams: Secretario de Gobernación, México DF, México

Faxes: + 52 5 546 5350; + 525 535 9952 Salutation: Sr. Secretario / Dear Minister

2) Governor of the State of Oaxaca

Lic. Diódoro Carrasco Altamirano Gobernador del Estado de Oaxaca Palacio de Gobierno Oaxaca, Oaxaca, MEXICO

Telegrams: Gobernador Carrasco, Oaxaca, Mexico

Faxes: + 52 951 637 37 (If voice, ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor) Salutation: Sr. Gobernador / Dear Governor

COPIES TO:

Human rights organization
Centro de Derechos Humanos
"Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez" A.C.
Puebla N. 153 Col. Roma,
06700 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 15 December 1997.