

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death Penalty

10 January 1992

USA: (Texas)

Joseph NICHOLS

Delma BANKS

Joe Angel CORDOVA

Joseph Nichols is scheduled to be executed by the state of Texas on 14 January 1992, Delma Banks on 15 January 1992 and Joe Angel Cordova on 22 January 1992.

Texas has now scheduled four executions within the next four weeks. (Johnny Garrett is scheduled to be executed on 11 February 1992, see UA 444/91, AMR 51/69/91, 17 December 1991 and follow-ups AMR 51/04/92, 8 January 1992, AMR 51/07/92, 10 January 1992).

Joseph Nichols, black, was sentenced to death in March 1982 for the murder of a white male. Delma Banks, black, was sentenced to death in October 1980 for the murder of a white male. George Cordova, hispanic, was sentenced to death in February 1982 for the murder of a hispanic male.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As of 24 August 1991, there were 343 prisoners under sentence of death in Texas.

The last person to be executed by the state was G W Green, on 11 November 1991. The method of execution in Texas is lethal injection.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/telephone calls/faxes/:

- urging the Board of Pardons and Paroles to recommend that the Governor grant clemency to Joseph Nichols, Joe Angel Cordova and Delma Banks by commuting their death sentences.

APPEALS TO:

Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
8610 Shoal Creek Blvd
PO Box 13401, Capitol Station
Austin, TX 78711
USA

**Telegrams: Texas Board Pardons/Paroles, Austin, Texas
78711, USA**

Telexes: 910 874 1340

Faxes: + 512 459 2735

Telephone: + 512 459 2700/2716/2800

Salutation: Dear Board Members

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of the USA in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY TO ARRIVE IN THE USA BY 22 JANUARY 1992.