EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 51/37/93

Distr: UA/SC

29 April 1993

Further information on UA 77/93 (AMR 51/22/93, 19 March 1993) - and follow-up AMR 51/29/93, 7 April 1993 - Death Penalty

USA (Texas): Gary GRAHAM

Gary Graham was granted a 30-day stay of execution on 28 April 1993, just hours before he was scheduled to be executed. The stay was granted by Governor Richards but the reasons for the stay are not yet known to Amnesty International.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters in English if possible:

To Governor Richards:

- welcoming the stay of execution granted to Gary Graham;

To the Board of Pardons and Paroles:

- noting that Governor Richards has granted Gary Graham a 30-day stay of execution;
- urging the Board to recommend that Governor Richards grant clemency to Gary Graham;

To Both:

- urging that they take into account Gary Graham's youth at the time of the crime, his poor legal representation at trial, and the weakness of the identification evidence on which he was convicted;
- expressing concern about the evidence of racism in application of the death penalty in Texas, particularly as regards young offenders, citing some of the statistics given regarding capital sentencing in Harris County.

APPEALS TO:

Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles 8610 Shoal Creek Boulevard PO Box 13401, Capitol Station Austin, TX 78711-3401, USA

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

Faxes: + 1 512 467 0945 Telephone: + 1 512 406 5852

Salutation: Dear Board Members

The Honorable Ann Richards Governor of Texas Office of the Governor PO Box 12428, Capitol Station Austin, TX 78711, USA

Telegrams: Governor Richards, Austin, TX 78711, USA

Faxes: + 1 512 463 1849

Salutation: Dear Governor

Page 2 of 2FU 77/93

COPIES TO:

Newspaper:
The Letters Editor
Houston Chronicle
801 Texas Avenue
Houston, TX 77002, USA
Faxes: +1 713 220 7868

and to diplomatic representatives of USA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 28 May 1993.