

URGENT ACTION amnesty international

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Further information on UA 88/81 (AMR 29/27/81 15 April, AMR 29/84/81 10 December) -
Fear of torture/extrajudicial killing

EL SALVADOR: Manuel de Jesús RODRIGUEZ RUIZ
20 trade union leaders
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Amnesty International has learned that Alfonso Reime Melendez was released in January 1982. No further news has been received concerning the other 19 trade unionists or Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez Ruiz.

Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez Ruiz, aged 21, was abducted on 4 April 1981 by agents of the National Guard in San Salvador.

On 9 April 1981 Alfonso Reime Melendez and the 19 trade union leaders in the textile industry who are still "disappeared" were meeting in a factory in San Salvador when they were arrested by agents of the National Guard.

Further recommended action:

Please continue to send appeals on behalf of Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez Ruiz and the 19 trade union leaders who are still "disappeared".

APPEALS TO:

General José Guillermo García
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

Copies of appeals may be sent to the Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.

Appeals may continue until 4 August 1982.

Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 1 – “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

Article 5 – “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

Article 9 – “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.”

The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity are often more effective.

Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

In Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new information.

Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your national section Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.