

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 440/94 (AMR 19/25/94, 13 December 1994) - Fear for Safety

BRAZILWagner DOS SANTOS, aged 23, witness to the "Candelaria Massacre"

Amnesty International has learned with concern that, because of fears for his safety, Wagner Dos Santos cannot leave the hospital where he has been treated after the attempt against his life in December 1994.

On the night of 9 December, Wagner dos Santos, a key witness to the killing of eight street children in Rio de Janeiro in July 1993, was found unconscious near Rio de Janeiro's main railway station, *Central do Brasil*. He had several bullet wounds, allegedly inflicted by a group of plainclothes police officers.

Seriously ill, Wagner was taken to the Firemen's Hospital, where he was placed under police and hospital staff protection.

On 5 January, Wagner was discharged from hospital. However, he could not leave as the state authorities would not provide him adequate protection and an alternative shelter. The hospital authorities reported that in mid-January they received an anonymous telephone call threatening to abduct Wagner from the hospital. The hospital authorities stress that they are not able to keep Wagner in hospital much longer, as they need his bed for other patients. Wagner still needs major surgery to treat facial paralysis brought on by the bullet wounds. There is apparently no public hospital currently able to perform this operation.

To Amnesty International's knowledge, nobody has yet been charged with Wagner dos Santos' abduction and shooting.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- calling on the authorities to guarantee the physical safety of Wagner dos Santos and provide him with all necessary protection, including the provision of safe accommodation, so that he can leave hospital safely;
- expressing concern at the apparent lack of progress in the investigation on the abduction and shooting of Wagner Dos Santos on 9 December 1994.

APPEALS TO

Minister of Justice

Exmo Sr Ministro da Justiça
Sr Alexandre Dupreyrat
Ministério da Justiça
Esplanada dos Ministérios
Bloco 23, 70.064 Brasilia, DF, Brasil

Faxes: + 55 61 321 5172

Telegrams: Ministro da Justiça Dupreyrat, Brasilia, Brazil

Salutation Vossa Excelência / Your Excellency / Su Excelencia

Governor of Rio de Janeiro

Exmo Sr Governador do Estado de Rio de Janeiro
Dr Nilo Batista
Palácio Guanabara

Rua Pinheiro Machado s/n, Rio de Janeiro -RJ, Brasil

Faxes: + 55 21 5528390/5536090

Telegrams: Governador Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Salutation: Vossa Excelência / Your Excellency / Su Excelencia

Attorney General for Rio de Janeiro State

Procurador Geral do Estado do Rio de Janeiro

Dr Antonio Carlos Biscaia

Procuradoria Geral da Justiça

Av Nilo Pessanha 12, 2 andar

22-020 Centro, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Telegrams: Procurador Geral de Justica, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Salutation: Vossa Excelência / Your Excellency / Su Excelencia

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

(Local non-governmental organization)

Centro Brasileiro de Defesa dos Direitos da Criança e do Adolescente

Caixa Postal 4884, 20100 Agencia Central, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Faxes: +55 21 2274029

and to diplomatic representatives of Brazil accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 March 1995.