

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 23/53/92

Distr: UA/SC

UA 321/92

Fear of "Disappearance"

16 October 1992

COLOMBIA:

Jhon Fredy TRIANA BELTRAN, school pupil, aged 17

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Amnesty International is concerned for the physical safety of Jhon Fredy Triana Beltran who has not been seen since 13 October 1992, when he was detained by six individuals believed to be members of the security forces, in Villavicencio, Meta department.

According to information received by Amnesty International, seventeen year-old Jhon Triana was in the company of a group of school friends at 7 pm on 13 October 1992 in the neighbourhood of La Esperanza, Villavicencio, when he was seized by six men who forced him into a white vehicle, registration number AP 7321. Relatives later managed to trace the vehicle to the premises of UNASE, a specialized anti-kidnapping police unit, in Villavicencio. UNASE officials, however, are denying knowledge of Jhon Triana's detention and his whereabouts remain unknown.

Only days before Jhon Triana's detention, the family's home had been searched by armed forces' personnel. During the search a radio which the family used to communicate with their farm workers some distance from Villavicencio, was reportedly confiscated.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Coinciding with an escalating offensive by the Colombian armed forces against the armed opposition group Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, (FARC), Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, in the department of Meta, Amnesty International has received an increasing number of reports of human rights violations against members of the civilian population including arbitrary arrest, torture, "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution. Civic and community workers and members of legal left-wing parties have been particular targets.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in spanish, english or in your own language:

- expressing concern for the physical safety of Jhon Fredy TRIANA BELTRAN after his reported detention by members of UNASE in Villavicencio Meta department;
- requesting that there be an immediate investigation into his whereabouts;

- urging that if in detention he be immediately released unless charged with a recognizable criminal offence and brought before a competent court;

- urging that he be humanely treated and allowed immediate access to a lawyer and relatives.

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**APPEALS TO:**

1) President of Colombia

Señor Presidente César Gaviria Trujillo  
Presidente de la República  
Palacio de Nariño  
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: President Gaviria, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 44281 PALP CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 286 3066 / 286 7324 / 287 7937**

**Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente / Dear President Gaviria**

2) Director General of the Police

Mayor General Miguel Antonio Gómez Padilla  
Director General de la Policía Nacional  
Tr. 45, No 40-11  
Santa Fe de Bogotá  
Colombia

**Telegrams: Dir. General Policía Nacional, Bogotá Colombia**

**Salutation: Sr Director General / Dear Sir**

3) Director of UNASE

Señor Director  
UNASE  
Villavicencio, Meta  
Colombia

**Telegrams: Director UNASE Villavicencio, Meta**

**Salutation: Estimado Director/ Dear Director**

4) Minister of Defence

Dr Rafael Pardo Rueda  
Ministro de Defensa Nacional  
Avenida Eldorado - Carrera 52  
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Ministro de Defensa Pardo Rueda Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 42411 INPRE CO; or 44561 CFAC CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 222 1874**

**Salutation: Sr Ministro / Dear Minister**

5) Procurator General

Dr Carlos Gustavo Arrieta Padilla

Procurador General de la Nación  
Edificio Banco Ganadero  
Carrera 5, No 15-80  
Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Procurador General Arrieta Bogotá, Colombia**

**Telexes: 41224 PRGEN CO, 41213 PGNDP CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 284 0472**

**Salutation: Sr Procurador de la Nación / Dear Dr Arrieta**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Human Rights Group:

CINEP  
AA 25916  
Santa Fe de Bogotá  
Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 November 1992.