

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 36/93 (AMR 34/03/93, 12 February 1993) -
Threats/Harassment

GUATEMALA: Staff of the Asociación para el Avance de las Ciencias Sociales en Guatemala (AVANCSO), Association for the Advancement of Social Sciences in Guatemala

Amnesty International has learned that army sergeant Noel de Jesús Beteta Alvarez was sentenced on 12 February 1993 to 25 years' imprisonment for the murder of anthropologist and one of the founder members of AVANCSO, Myrna Mack Chang. He was also sentenced to five years' imprisonment for a separate assault on a minor.

Following the recent incidents of intimidation including threats and harassment against staff of AVANCSO and witnesses to the murder of Myrna Mack Chang (See UA 20/93, AMR 34/02/93, 28 January 1993), there are grave fears that, following the sentence, there may be reprisals against the family of Myrna Mack or others associated directly or indirectly with the trial by certain sectors of the security forces.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in Spanish, English or your own language:

- noting the recent conviction against army sergeant Noel de Jesús Beteta for the murder of Myrna Mack Chang;
- expressing your hope that this conviction shows the determination of the government not to tolerate any further human rights abuses, no matter who the perpetrators are;
- expressing concern at the recent incidents of intimidation, including threats and harassment of staff of AVANCSO and others involved directly or indirectly in the proceedings;
- asking that these incidents be investigated and that those found responsible be brought to justice;
- asking that immediate measures be taken to protect the physical integrity of all those associated with the trial of Noel de Jesús Beteta including Myrna Mack's family, witnesses to her killing, judicial officials and their families, as well as staff of AVANCSO.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of the Republic:

S.E. Jorge Serrano Elías
Presidente de la República
de Guatemala
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala,
Guatemala

Telephone: + 502 2 21212 / + 502 2 22266
Faxes: + 502 2 537472 / + 502 2 519702
Telexes: 5331 CAPRES GU

Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente / Dear President

2) Minister of the Interior:

Lic. Francisco Perdomo

Ministro de Gobernación
Despacho Ministerial
Oficina No. 8, Primer Nivel
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala,
Guatemala

Telephone: + 502 2 21212, ext 500 / + 502 2 518105-6 (direct)
Faxes: + 502 2 518105
Telexes: 5085 MINGOB GU

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

3) Minister of Defence:

Gral. José García Samayoa
Jefe del Estado Mayor de Defensa Nacional
Ministerio de Defensa
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala,
Guatemala

Telephone: + 502 2 21212, ext 2226
Telexes: 5361 COMGUA GU

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

4) Interim Attorney General:

Lic. Edgar Tuna Valladares
Procurador General de la Nación
Procuraduría General de la Nación
18 Calle 10-36, Zona 1, Guatemala
Guatemala

Tel No: + 502 2 64697 / + 502 2 313656 / + 502 2 518385

Salutation: Señor Procurador General / Dear Attorney General

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO

President of the Supreme Court:

Lic. Juan José Rodil Peralta
Presidente de la Corte
Suprema de Justicia
Centro Cívico, 21a Calle y 7a Avenida
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

Newspaper:

Diario Siglo XXI

7a Avenida 11-79
Edificio Galerías España, 6o piso
Zona 9, Guatemala, Guatemala

Human Rights Procurator:

Lic. Ramiro de León Carpio
Procurador de Derechos Humanos
Avenida Simeón Cañas 10-61
Zona 2,
Guatemala, Guatemala

Human Rights Organization:

Oficina de Derechos Humanos
Arzobispado de Guatemala

Apartado Postal 723
Guatemala, Guatemala

and to diplomatic representatives of Guatemala accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 March 1993.