

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 34/13/97

UA 88/97

Extrajudicial execution/fear for safety
of witnesses

1 April 1997

GUATEMALA Tomás Alonzo Sequen, aged 53 - killed
Roque Jacinto Alonzo Quisque - killed

members of their family, witnesses to the killings

Amnesty International is concerned about the apparent extrajudicial execution of Tomás Alonzo Sequen and his son, Roque Jacinto Alonzo Quisque, on 21 March 1997 in the community of San Rafael Sumatan, San Pedro Yepocapa municipality, in the department of Chimaltenango.

On 21 March at around 9.30pm, as the family was having dinner, a hooded man wearing an army uniform entered their house and shot Tomás Alonzo Sequen and Roque Jacinto Alonzo Quisque in front of several other members of the family. Another man in plain clothes waited outside the house. No goods were stolen from the house.

Tomás Alonzo Sequen was a prominent indigenous leader in the community, a member of the Union of Mayan People of Guatemala (*Unión del Pueblo Maya de Guatemala*) and of the Permanent National Commission on Land Rights (*Comisión Nacional Permanente del Derecho Relativo a la Tierra*) which was created within the framework of peace agreements signed by the Guatemalan Government and armed opposition groups in 1996.

There are grave fears the safety of the relatives of Tomás Alonzo Sequen who witnessed the killings.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:

- expressing concern about the apparent extrajudicial execution of Tomás Alonzo Sequen and his son, Roque Jacinto Alonzo Quisque;
- expressing concern for the safety of the witnesses to these killings and calling on the authorities to take immediate measures to guarantee their safety;
- calling on the authorities to conduct full and prompt investigations into these killings and ensure that those responsible are brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

1) President of the Republic

S.E. Alvaro Arzú Irigoyen
Presidente de la República de Guatemala
Palacio Nacional
6 Calle y 7 Avenida, Zona 1
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

Fax: +502 221 4537

Telegrams: Presidente, Guatemala, Guatemala

Salutation: Sr. Presidente/Dear president

2) Attorney General

Lic. Héctor Hugo Pérez Aguilera
Fiscal General de la Nación
Ministerio Público
18 calle 10-36, Zona 1

Guatemala, GUATEMALA

Tel/Fax: 502 231 7066

Telegrams: Fiscal General, Guatemala, Guatemala

Salutation: Sr. Fiscal General/Dear Attorney General

3) Minister of Interior

Lic. Rodolfo Mendoza

Ministro de Gobernación

Ministerio de Gobernación

Despacho Ministerial, Of. N° 8

Palacio Nacional

6ª Calle y 7ª Avenida, Zona 1

Guatemala, GUATEMALA

Fax: +502 251 5368

COPIES TO:

Chimaltenango District Attorney

Lic. Héctor Robledo Robledo

Fiscal Distrital de Chimaltenango

Ministerio Público

1ª Avenida 2-77, Zona 1

Chimaltenango, Chimaltenango

GUATEMALA

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COPREDEH

Licda. Marta Altolaquirre

Comisión Presidencial

Coordinadora de la Política

del Ejecutivo en Materia

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(COPREDEH)

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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 13 May 1997.