

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 34/26/93

Distr: UA/SC

UA 153/93 Threats/Intimidation

13 May 1993

**GUATEMALA: Gustavo Armando ESTRADA QUEZADA, student leader
and his girlfriend Igrid Lucrecia URRUTIA ALDANA (female)**

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Gustavo Armando Estrada Quezada and Ingrid Lucrecia Urrutia Aldana who have both been subjected to threats and acts of intimidation during May 1993.

Gustavo Armando Estrada Quezada is a student at the Escuela de Comercio de Guatemala, Commerce School of Guatemala, and member of the Coordinadora de Estudiantes de Educación Media (CEEM), Coordination of Secondary School Students. His activities as a student leader have made him a victim of harassment since 1991. During the past week secondary school students have been protesting on the streets against the rises in the cost of living. This has unleashed a wave of repression against them.

On the morning of 11 May Ingrid Lucrecia Urrutia Aldana was abducted by armed men driving a black vehicle similar to those used by members of the state security force. Her abductors asked her if she was the girlfriend of Gustavo Armando Estrada Quezada, and when she said yes, she was warned to stay away from him, and to tell him that he had 48 hours in which to leave the country. If he did not do so, he would be killed and his family would be in grave danger. Her abductors further threatened that if Ingrid did not keep away from Gustavo, she would also be killed.

On 12 May unidentified individuals went to the house of Gustavo Armando Estrada Quezada asking to see him, remained outside, apparently keeping the house under surveillance, and also made threats to his family.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Amnesty International is concerned at the recent increase in human rights violations against targeted groups, including trade unionists, student leaders, journalists and those working with non-governmental organizations, particularly those attempting to investigate and protect human rights. These groups have been long-term targets of abuses in Guatemala, including harassment, threats, torture, "disappearances", and extrajudicial executions. Such abuses have sometimes been preceded by acts of intimidation and surveillance, such as in this instance.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Gustavo Armando Estrada Quezada and

Ingrid Lucrecia Urrutia Aldana;

- asking for guarantees for the security of the two young people as well as for members of their families;

- asking that these incidents be investigated and that those found responsible to brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1) President of the Republic:

S.E. Jorge Serrano Elías
Presidente de la República de Guatemala
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Presidente Serrano, Guatemala, Guatemala
Faxes: + 502 2 537472, + 502 2 519702
Telexes: 5331 CAPRES GU

Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente / Dear President

2) Minister of Interior:

Lic. Francisco Perdomo
Ministro de Gobernación
Ministerio de Gobernación
Despacho Ministerial, Of. No. 8
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Ministro de Gobernación, Guatemala, Guatemala
Telephone: + 502 2 21212, ext 500;
+ 502 2 518105-6 (direct)
Telexes: 5085 MINGOB

Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

3) Minister of Defence:

Gral. José García Samayoa
Ministro de Defensa
Ministerio de Defensa
Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Telegrams: Ministro de Defensa, Guatemala, Guatemala
Telexes: 5361 COMGUA GU
Faxes: + 502 2 537472

Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1) Human Rights Procurator:

Lic. Ramiro de León Carpio
Procurador de los Derechos Humanos
12 Avenida 12-72, Zona 1, Guatemala, GUATEMALA
Faxes: + 502 2 81734

2) Head of the Presidential Commission Coordinating the Policies of the Executive relating to Human Rights:

Sr. Bernardo Neumann
COPREDEH
15 Avenida 18-38, Zona 13
Guatemala, GUATEMALA

3) Archbishop's Human Rights Office:

Oficina de Derechos Humanos del
Arzobispado de Guatemala (ODHAG)
Apartado Postal 723
Guatemala, Guatemala

and to diplomatic representatives of accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 June 1993.