

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 41/27/97

25 April 1997

Further information on EXTRA 54/97 (AMR 41/20/97, 18 April 1997) and follow-up (AMR 41/21/97, 21 April; AMR 41/23/97, 22 April) - Fear of imminent deportation of human rights defenders

MEXICO
Vilma Núñez, Nicaraguan national
Benjamín Cuéllar, Salvadorean national
George Anne Potter (f), US national (please note corrected name)

George Anne Potter, a member of the Unitarian Universalist Committee of Boston, Massachusetts, was arbitrarily expelled from Mexico on 25 April 1997, following the withdrawal of her visa by the Mexican authorities.

Amnesty International continues to be concerned that international human rights defenders visiting Mexico may continue to be arbitrarily expelled from Mexico, in an attempt to curtail their peaceful activities.

Amnesty International calls on the Mexican Government to make effective their stated commitment to guarantee the free exercise of the right of all human rights defenders to promote and defend human rights within the Mexican territory.

PLEASE CONTINUE ACTION:

- expressing serious concern at the arbitrary expulsion of George Anne Potter, a human rights defender, from Mexico, following the withdrawal of her visa by Mexican immigration officials on 21 April 1997, in Oaxaca, state of Oaxaca;
- reminding the authorities of their publicly stated commitment to an open-door policy on international human rights defenders, and urging them to reiterate this in the light of the deportations of Vilma Núñez and Benjamín Cuéllar and George Anne Potter;
- urging that all human rights defenders be allowed to carry out their peaceful activities in Mexico, in line with the Mexican Government's international commitments.

APPEALS TO:

1. Minister of the Interior:

Lic. Emilio Chuayffet Chemor
Secretario de Gobernación
Secretaría de Gobernación
Bucarelli 99, 1er piso, Col Juárez, 06699 México DF, MEXICO
Faxes: + 52 5 546 5350 / +52 5 535 99 52
Salutation: Sr. Secretario / Dear Minister

2. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Lic. José Ángel Gurría Treviño
Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores
Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
Av. Ricardo Flores Magón No.1, Colonia Nonoalco Tlatelolco
06995 México D.F., MEXICO
Faxes: +525 782 4109
Salutation: Sr. Ministro/ Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

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1. Human rights organization

Centro de Derechos Humanos
"Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez" A.C.
Puebla N. 153 Col. Roma,
06700 México D.F. MEXICO

2. Newspaper

Sr. Director
La Jornada
Balderas 68
06050 México D.F., MEXICO

and to diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 May 1997.