

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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"Disappearance"/Extrajudicial Execution

13 May 1992

PHILIPPINES:

Enriquito Jarito, farmer  
and his brother (name unknown to Amnesty International)

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Amnesty International has just learned of the reported "disappearance" of Enriquito Jarito, a 38-year-old farmer from *barangay* (administrative unit) Pagsang-an, Northern Samar. He reportedly "disappeared" in March 1992 after being arrested by members of the military. Despite an appeal for information, broadcast by the local radio station, no information on the whereabouts of Enriquito Jarito has been forthcoming. On 27 January 1992 Enriquito Jarito's brother was the victim of apparent extrajudicial killing. Amnesty International believes that unless the whereabouts of Enriquito Jarito are immediately clarified he may also be at risk of extrajudicial execution.

According to a witness Enriquito Jarito was arrested without warrant by members of the military during a military operation in Higonoyan subdistrict in March. Relatives of Enriquito Jarito believe they are suspected by the military of being communist sympathizers and were reportedly too frightened to report the "disappearance" of Enriquito Jarito until some time after his arrest. Amnesty International is concerned that members of his family may also be at risk of intimidation or acts of violence by the military.

To Amnesty International's knowledge, there has been no official investigation into the killing on 27 January of Enriquito Jarito's brother.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Amnesty International has recorded ten cases of "disappearance" or incommunicado detention since the beginning of 1992. During the previous year at least 25 cases were recorded. Of these 25, at least six were believed to have been killed in custody. In 1990 more than 50 people were reported to have "disappeared" in the Philippines. Of these, at least five are believed to have died or to have been killed while in custody and some appeared to have been tortured. During the last two years at least 18 whose detention was denied by security forces subsequently reappeared after a period of police or military custody. The fate and whereabouts of the majority were unknown in March 1992.

"Disappearance" and incommunicado detention in the Philippines have occurred against a background of armed conflict between government and government-backed forces and the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). The majority of those held in unacknowledged or incommunicado detention have been members of lawful non-governmental organizations publicly labelled by the security forces as fronts for the NPA or CPP, or individuals suspected of NPA or CPP membership. In the overwhelming

majority of cases in which there is clear and substantive evidence, the perpetrators have been members of government or government backed forces.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern for the safety of Enriqueito Jarito and urging the authorities to act immediately to clarify his fate and whereabouts;
- calling for immediate and impartial investigations into this case and into the case of the killing of Enriqueito Jarito's brother, and asking to be informed of the progress of any such investigations;
- requesting assurances that the safety of Enriqueito Jarito's family will be guaranteed.

**APPEALS TO;**

1) Brigadier General Emiliano Templo  
Head of Civil-Military Relations  
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo  
EDSA  
1100 Quezon City, Metro Manila  
Philippines

**Telegrams: Head of Civil-Military Relations, Manila, Philippines**

**Telexes: 22471 DND PH or 42004 DCSLOG PM**

**Salutation: Dear Brigadier General Templo**

2) Brigadier General Romeo Zulueta  
Area Commander  
VISCOM Headquarters  
Camp Lapu-Lapu  
Apas, Lahug  
Cebu City, Philippines

**Telegrams: Area Commander, Brig. Gen. Zulueta, Cebu City, Philippines**

**Salutation: Dear Brigadier General**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1) Mary Concepcion Bautista (Chairman) OR  
2) Paulynn Paredes Sicam (Commissioner) OR  
3) Hesiquio Mallillin (Commissioner)  
Commission on Human Rights  
IBP Building  
Doña Julia Vargas Avenue  
Pasig Metro Manila, Philippines

4) Senator Wigberto Tanada  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Padre Faura, Manila  
Philippines

and to diplomatic representatives of the Philippines in your country

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 June 1992.