

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 13/03/97

UA 55/97

Fear for safety

20 February 1997

ARGENTINADaniel STRAGÁ, human rights lawyer and journalist

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On 14 February 1997 an anonymous caller left a telephone message for human rights lawyer Daniel Stragá at his office, indicating that there was going to be an attempt on his life. Amnesty International fears for his safety.

Daniel Stragá works for the non-governmental organization *Coordinadora contra la Represión Policial e Institucional* (CORREPI), Coordination against Police and Institutional Repression. He is the legal representative for a number of families of victims of police violence, including those killed in circumstances suggesting possible extrajudicial executions and known in Argentina as "trigger-happy" (*gatillo fácil*) killings.

While Amnesty International is unable to confirm the source of the threat against Daniel Stragá, the organization is concerned that it has occurred in the context of an increasing level of threats and intimidations against journalists (see UA 50/97, AMR 13/01/97, 13 February 1997). As a journalist, Daniel Stragá has received death threats in the past, and in recent years he and a colleague in the legal profession have been subjected to death threats and intimidation on account of their legal work on behalf of victims of police violence [see AI Report 1996].

A complaint about the 14 February threat was filed before a judge attached to the Federal Court No.5 (*Juzgado Federal No. 5*) of Buenos Aires. According to reports, an investigation into the complaint has been initiated by the judge.

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

- expressing concern at the death threats against Daniel Stragá;
- urging that immediate and effective steps be taken to guarantee his safety;
- urging that the investigation that has been initiated be carried out thoroughly and conclusively, and urging that its findings be made public and those found responsible for the threats be brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

President

Exmo. Sr. Presidente  
de la República Argentina  
Dr. Carlos Saúl Menem

Casa Rosada, Balcarce 50  
Buenos Aires C.F., ARGENTINA  
**Fax: + 541 331 6376 / 331 1849**

**Telegrams: President Menem, Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
**Salutation: Excelencia / Excellency**

Minister of Interior

Sr. Ministro del Interior  
Sr Carlos Corach

Ministerio del Interior  
Casa de Gobierno  
Balcarce 50  
Buenos Aires C.F., ARGENTINA

**Fax: + 541 331 7354 (if voice, ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor")**

**Telegrams: Ministro del Interior, Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
**Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister**

Minister of Justice

Sr, Ministro de Justicia  
Dr. Elias Jassan  
Minsitrio de Justicia  
Calle Gelly y Obes 2289  
1425 Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Telegrams: Ministro de Justicia, Buenos Aires, Argentina**  
**Faxes: +541 8035453/ 3955**  
**Salutation: Sr. Ministro/ Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

Buenos Aires Ombudsman

Defensor del Pueblo de la  
Ciudad de Buenos Aires  
Dr. Antonio Cartaña  
Av. Belgrano 1876, 3o. Piso Of. "B"  
Capital Federal  
Argentina

Human Rights Secretariat

Subsecretaria de Derechos Humanos  
Dra. Alicia Pierini  
Ministerio del Interior  
Moreno 711 piso 5  
Buenos Aires C.F.  
ARGENTINA  
**Fax: + 541 343 2326**

Newspaper

*Pagina 12*  
Av. Belgrano 671/77  
1092 Buenos Aires  
Argentina

and to diplomatic representatives of ARGENTINA accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 April 1997.