

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 359/94 (AMR 23/76/94, 30 September 1994) and follow-up (AMR 23/08/95, 23 February 1995) - Possible "Disappearance" / Fear for Safety

COLOMBIA Miguel Enrique OLAYA PABÓN, human rights activist and community leader

Amnesty International continues to be seriously concerned for the safety of members of the *Movimiento de Integración Cívico-Comunal de Pailitas*, Movement for Civic-Community Integration of Pailitas, department of Cesar, following threats against Miguel Enrique Olaya Pabón. Miguel Enrique is a member of the Movement and an activist with the *Comité Municipal de Derechos Humanos*, Municipal Committee for Human Rights.

At about 10pm on 11 May 1995, Miguel Enrique Olaya Pabón was reportedly talking to a friend on a bench in El Jardín park opposite his home in Pailitas, when four men dressed in civilian clothes and berets entered the park. Miguel Enrique recognized one of them as a civilian army informer working with the *Comando Operativo No.7*, Operational Command No.7, which operates in the region. The other three men were identified as soldiers.

The four positioned themselves around Miguel Enrique and his friend, at which point two local residents entered the park. One entered his home whilst the other approached Miguel Enrique and his friend and asked them why the four men were there. One of the four replied "*váyase del parque que esto no es contigo*" ("leave the park, this is nothing to do with you"). The individual refused and the man took out a revolver and threatened to kill him: "*se retira del parque o le pego un tiro*" ("either you leave the park or I'll shoot you").

At that moment a woman living in one of the houses bordering the park came out of her home. Miguel Enrique took advantage of the distraction, ran towards the woman and sought refuge in a neighbouring house.

The person who had been threatened also sought refuge in the same house and told Miguel Enrique that the men were going to kill him. Minutes later the men left the park and fired a shot into the air, witnessed by neighbours who had come out of their houses to see what was happening. On 12 May, Miguel Enrique officially denounced the previous day's events to the Pailitas *Personería Municipal*, Office of the Municipal Ombudsman.

Miguel Enrique Olaya Pabón had reportedly been warned by a friend that his name appeared on a list drawn up by the Colombian Army. "Black lists" which have included the Pailitas Movement's leaders and other local activists have frequently appeared in Cesar, and many of those named have become the victims of extrajudicial executions. Apparently Miguel Enrique's name appeared on the list because of his work with the *Comité Municipal de Derechos Humanos* and followed meetings with military and police commanders in the area. Since its foundation in 1990, the Pailitas Movement's members have reported frequent incidents of intimidation, threats and harassment and several of its leaders and activists have been killed.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Miguel Enrique Olaya Pabón following the incident on 11 May 1995 in El Jardín park in Pailitas reportedly involving three soldiers and a civilian army informer;

- urging the authorities to immediately take all measures deemed adequate by Miguel Enrique Olaya Pabón in order to ensure his safety;
- expressing concern for other members of the *Movimiento de Integración Cívico-Comunal de Pailitas* and the *Comité Municipal de Derechos Humanos*, and urging the authorities to likewise undertake all measures deemed adequate by those under threat in order to ensure their safety, in line with the declared government commitment to do everything necessary to protect the lives and integrity of human rights workers;
- calling for full and impartial investigations into the incidents on 11 May and the previous threats and killings of members of the Pailitas Movement, for the results to be made public and those responsible brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

**1) President of Colombia:**

Señor Presidente Ernesto Samper Pizano  
 Presidente de la República  
 Palacio de Nariño  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia  
 Telegrams: President Samper Pizano, Bogotá, Colombia

**Telexes: 44281 PALP CO**

**Faxes: + 57 1 286 7434**

**Salutation: Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente/Dear President Samper**

**2) Procurator General:**

Dr. Orlando Vásquez Velásquez  
 Procurador General de la Nación  
 Procuraduría General  
 Edificio Banco Ganadero  
 Carrera 5, No. 15-80  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Procurador General Vásquez, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Faxes: + 57 1 342 9723/281 7531**

**Salutation: Sr. Procurador de la Nación/Dear Dr. Vásquez**

**3) Attorney General**

Dr. Alfonso Valdivieso Sarmiento  
 Fiscal General de la Nación  
 Fiscalía General de la Nación  
 Apartado Aéreo 29855  
 Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia

**Telegrams: Fiscal General Valdivieso, Fiscalía General, Bogotá, Colombia**

**Faxes: + 57 1 245 5292 or 288 2828**

**Salutation: Estimado Dr. Valdivieso/Dear Dr. Valdivieso**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Alternative Legal Association

MINGA

AA 40303

Santafé de Bogotá

Colombia

and to diplomatic representatives of Colombia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,

or your Section office, if sending appeals after 1 July 1995.