

PUBLIC

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To: Health professionals

From: Medical office / Americas Program

Date: 9 May 2001

***Further information on
MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION***

**Insufficient medical care for Jorge Luis García Pérez [Antúnez]
Cuba**

[original action AMR 25/003/2001, 26 April 2001]

Key words ill-health / insufficient medical care / hunger strike

Amnesty International welcomes reports that Jorge Luis García Pérez (also called Antúnez) stopped his hunger strike on 27 April 2001, because he was visited by a specialist chest physician. It is not clear what further treatment, if any, he has received.

Jorge Luis García Pérez was reportedly transferred to Camilo Cienfuegos Hospital in Sancti Spíritus in February 2001 where, according to reports, it was discovered that he had a mass in his lung. In addition, he was said to be suffering from kidney problems, severe weight loss, frequent fainting, vomiting and was coughing up blood. Since his hospital visit in February 2001 he had apparently not received any treatment until recently.

Jorge Luis García Pérez, aged 36, was sentenced on charges of "enemy propaganda", "attempted sabotage", illegal possession of a weapon and attempted escape. He has been imprisoned since 15 March 1990 and is currently held in Nieves Morejón prison in Sancti Spíritus Province. His total combined sentence is 18 years' imprisonment.

Recommended actions

We would like to ask the Ecuador, Mexico and Canadian (English speaking) health professional groups to write further appeals. No further appeals are requested at the moment from other groups.

Please write letters, preferably in Spanish:

welcoming reports that Jorge Luis García Pérez, imprisoned in Camilo Cienfuegos Hospital in Sancti Spíritus, was visited by a specialist chest physician;
asking the authorities for details of his current state of health;
asking for details of medical care he is receiving and of medical services available in prison.

If you receive no reply from the government or other recipients within two months of dispatch of your letter, please send a follow up letter seeking a response. Please check with the medical team if you are sending appeals after 30 June 2001, and send copies of any replies you do receive to the International Secretariat (att: medical team).

Addresses

Head of State and Government
Dr Fidel Castro Ruz
Presidente de los Consejos de
Estados y de Ministros
La Habana, Cuba
Fax: via Ministry of Foreign Affairs: +53.7.333 085 / 335 261
Salutation: Su Excelencia/Your Excellency

Attorney-General
Dr Juan Escalona Reguera
Fiscal General de la Rep**u**blica,
Fiscal**R**a General de la Rep**u**blica
San Rafael 3, La Habana, Cuba
Telegrams: Fiscal General,
Havana, Cuba
Fax: +53.7.570795/ 53 7 669 485
Salutation: Sr Fiscal General / Dear Attorney General

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Sr Felipe P**J**rez Roque
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores,
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Calzada No. 360
Vedado, La Habana, Cuba
Telegrams: Ministro Relaciones Exteriores,
Havana, Cuba
Fax: +53.7.333 085 / 335 261/ 333 460
Salutation: Se**Z**or Ministro / Dear Minister

Interior Secretary
General Abelardo Colom**J** Ibarra
Ministerio del Interior y
Prisiones
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza de la Revoluci**n**
La Habana, Cuba
Fax: +53 7 33 5261 / 301566
Salutation: Se**Z**or Director

Please also send copies of your letter to diplomatic representatives of Cuba accredited to your country