

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 41/09/92

Distr: UA/SC

18 December 1992

Further information on UA 336/92 (AMR 41/08/92, 29 October 1992) - Death Threats

MEXICO:María Teresa JARDÍ, human rights lawyer

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Amnesty International is deeply concerned at reports of continuing death threats against María Teresa Jardí, Director of the Departamento de Solidaridad y Defensa de los Derechos Humanos de la Arquidiócesis de México, Department of Solidarity and Defence of Human Rights of the Archdiocese of Mexico. In the last death threat, received on 5 December 1992, María Teresa Jardí was told "...now you will have to say goodbye to lots of people. I advise you to do it before Christmas night, because you will be leaving soon, and not just from Mexico..." ("*...ahora vas a tener que despedirte de mucha gente. Te recomiendo lo hagas antes de la noche de navidad, porque ya te vas y no precisamente de México...*"). Previous death threats had warned her to stop her human rights work. It is believed that her investigations into human rights violations which have suggested the involvement of law enforcement agents may be behind the threats.

On 3 November 1992, following the first death threats, the Cámara de Diputados de México, Chamber of Deputies, requested that an investigation be opened into the threats. The Procuraduría General de la República, Republic's Attorney General's Office, commissioned a special investigation and provided a security escort for María Teresa Jardí and her family. President Salinas met with María Teresa Jardí to discuss the situation.

#### BACKGROUND

Several other human rights activists have received death threats in recent years. In May 1990, Norma Corona Sapién, a human rights lawyer and president of a human rights commission in the State of Sinaloa, was gunned down by unidentified gunmen. At the time of her assassination she was investigating the murders of four people, who had reportedly been abducted and tortured by the federal judicial police. In March 1990, she had announced that she was receiving death threats because of these investigations. It was suggested that government agents were behind her death.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes, express and airmail letters in Spanish, English or in your own language:**

- expressing deep concern that despite the government's efforts to protect María Teresa Jardí and her family, she continues to receive death threats;
- urging that further measures are taken to clarify the identity of the perpetrators and to bring those responsible to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

**1. President of the Republic of Mexico**

Lic. Carlos Salinas de Gortari  
Presidente de la República  
Palacio Nacional  
06067 México D.F., MEXICO

**Telegrams: Presidente Salinas, México D.F., Mexico**

**Telexes: 170937 SPPNME; 1774468 SPPNME**

**Faxes: +5 27 11 764**

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

**2. Attorney General of the Republic**

Lic. Ignacio Morales Lechuga  
Procurador General de la República  
Procuraduría General de la República  
Avenida Paseo de la Reforma s/n  
esquina con Violeta  
Colonia Guerrero  
66300 México DF, MEXICO

**Telegrams: Procurador Morales Lechuga, México DF, Mexico**

**Faxes: + 52 5 626 44 75; + 52 5 626 44 76**

**Salutation: Lic. Ignacio Morales Lechuga/Dear Sir**

**3. Attorney General of the Federal District**

Lic. Diego Valadéz  
Procurador General de Justicia del Distrito Federal  
Niños Héroe 61, 3er piso  
esquina con Dr. Lavista  
Colonia Doctores  
México DF, MEXICO

**Telegrams: Procurador Diego Valadéz, México DF, Mexico**

**Faxes: + 52 5 761 84 74**

**Salutation: Lic. Diego Valadéz/Dear Sir**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

**1. Mexican Commission for the Defence and Promotion of Human Rights**

Sres.

Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos

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México DF

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 29 January 1992.