

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 41/71/96

6 November 1996

Further information on UA 255/96 (AMR 41/70/96, 5 November 1996) - Fear for safety and new concerns: Death threats / Possible "disappearances"

MEXICO Members of CONPAZ, human rights organization

new names: Javier López Montoya, administrator of CONPAZ and his wife Eva Lara and their two small children

Dr Gerardo González Figueroa, chairperson of CONPAZ, and his family

Amnesty International is appalled by latest reports indicating further human rights violations against staff of the *Coordinación de Organismos No Gubernamentales Por la Paz* (CONPAZ), Coordination of Non-Governmental Organizations for Peace, based in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, whose offices were attacked by unidentified individuals during the early hours of 4 November 1996 (see original UA).

On the night of 4 November, Dr Gerardo González Figueroa, Chairperson of the *Coordinación de Organismos No Gubernamentales Por la Paz* (CONPAZ), Coordination of Non-Governmental Organizations for Peace, received several death threats against him and his family over the telephone. Furthermore, Javier López Montoya, the administrator of CONPAZ, his wife Eva Lara and their two children have been missing since around 5pm on 5 November, when they were last seen leaving their home in San Cristóbal de las Casas. It is feared that they may have "disappeared". The relatives have presented a complaint before the local authorities.

While CONPAZ have asked for their thanks to be relayed to the Urgent Action Network for the appeals being sent on their behalf, saying it is invaluable to help improve their safety, Amnesty International is alarmed at these latest violations suffered by some members of CONPAZ and their families, and is therefore reinforcing its campaign on their behalf.

PLEASE CONTINUE ACTION AS OUTLINED IN ORIGINAL UA AND IN ADDITION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/ airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:

- calling for full investigations into the whereabouts of Javier López Montoya, the administrator of CONPAZ, his wife Eva Lara and their two children, and for immediate and effective measures to ensure their safety, as well as that of Dr Gerardo González Figueroa and his family;
- calling for immediate and effective measures to stop any further threats and attacks against members of CONPAZ, and for full and impartial investigations into these human rights violations. Stress that the continuing failure by the authorities to ensure protection to human rights defenders, and to bring those responsible to justice, is sending a message of impunity to the perpetrators, who have escalated their attacks.

APPEALS TO

1) Minister of Interior

Lic. Emilio Chuayffet Chemor
Secretario de Gobernación
Secretaría de Gobernación
Bucarelli 99, 1er Piso

Col Juárez, 06699 México DF, México

Faxes: +525 5465350

Telegrams: Secretario de Gobernación, México DF, México

Salutation: Sr. Secretario/Dear Minister

2) Governor of the State of Chiapas

Lic. Julio César Ruiz Ferro

Gobernador del estado de Chiapas

Palacio de Gobierno

Av. Central y Primera Oriente

Colonia Centro, 29009 Tuxtla Gutiérrez

Estado de Chiapas, MEXICO

Telegrams: Gobernador Ruiz Ferro, Chiapas, México

Faxes: +52 961 20917 (if voice, ask "me puede dar tono de fax, por favor)

Salutation; Sr. Gobernador/Dear Governor

COPIES TO:

Sres. CONPAZ

Apartado Postal 41

San Cristóbal de las Casas

29200 chiapas

MEXICO

fax: +52 967 83868

Centro de DD.HH.

Miguel Agustín Pro-Juarez (PRODH)

Puebla No 153, Col Roma

06700 México DF, México

Faxes: +525 2087547

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 19 December 1996.