

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 35/012/2003

23 April 2003

Further information on UA 108/03 (ASA 35/011/2003, 22 April 2003- "Disappearance"/fear for safety)

PHILIPPINES Virgilio Catoy (m), film-maker

killed: Eden Marcellana (f), aged 31, secretary general of the Southern Tagalog office of the human rights group KARAPATAN
Eddie Gumanoy (m), Chairperson of the peasant group KASAMA-TK

Virgilio Catoy, who was abducted with four others on 21 April, has been located and is reportedly safe.

Eden Marcellana, secretary general of the Southern Tagalog office of the human rights group KARAPATAN, and Eddie Gumanoy, Chairperson of the peasant group KASAMA-TK, were found dead after being abducted. Francisco Saez and Melvin Jocson, both provincial coordinators of the peasant group Anakpawis, were also among those abducted. They have reportedly been located at local police stations.

The five were returning from a fact-finding mission to investigate the reported abduction of three people by members of the Philippine military's 204th Brigade in Gloria town, Mindoro Oriental.

Many thanks to all those who took action on this case. If possible, please send a final round of appeals, in English or your own language:

- expressing concern at the abduction of Eden Marcellana, Eddie Gumanoy, Virgilio Catoy, Francisco Saez and Melvin Jocson on 21 April;
- expressing sadness and concern about the deaths of Eden Marcellana and Eddie Gumanoy;
- calling for a full, impartial and thorough investigation into the abduction and deaths of Eden Marcellana and Eddie Gumanoy, and into the abduction of Virgilio Catoy, Francisco Saez and Melvin Jocson;
- urging the authorities to send a clear message that human rights violations, including forced Adisappearances, extrajudicial killings and torture, will not be tolerated under any circumstances and that those found responsible will be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO: [Please note that fax numbers are sometimes difficult to obtain]

Secretary of National Defense

General Angelo Reyes

Department of National Defense

Camp Aguinaldo

E. de los Santos Avenue

Quezon City

Philippines

Telegrams: Defense Secretary, Quezon City, Philippines

Fax: + 632 911 6213

Salutation: Dear Secretary Reyes

President of the Republic of the Philippines

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Malacañang Palace

J.P. Laurel Street

San Miguel 1005, Manila
Philippines

Telegrams: President Macapagal-Arroyo, Manila, Philippines

Fax: + 632 736 1010 / 832 3793

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights

Hon. Purificacion Valera Quisumbing

SAAC Building, UP Complex

Commonwealth Avenue

Diliman 1100, Quezon City

Philippines

Fax: + 632 926 6188 / 928 7240

Email: drpvq@chr.gov.ph

Salutation: Dear Chairperson

and to diplomatic representatives of the Philippines accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.