

**URGENT
ACTION**

**amnesty
international**

**URGENT
ACTION**

International Secretariat, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF, England

EXTERNAL (for
general distribution)

Amnesty International opposes by all appropriate means the imposition and infliction of death penalties and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners or other detained or restricted persons whether or not they have used or advocated violence. (Amnesty International Statute, Article 1(c))

Index: AMR 29/01/82
Distr: UA

UA 6/82

"Disappearance"

11 January 1982

EL SALVADOR: (1) Rudy Leonel ALVAREZ Pablo Dagoberto CRUZ PENA
Rafael Irene MENDEZ MELARA José SANTOS GARCIA
José Angel GRANADOS Ladislao Roberto CORBERA ARGUETA
Transito de las Mercedes GUEVARA

(2) Rafael Antonio GUADRON GALAN

=====

(1) Amnesty International has received the names of seven people who were arrested between 22 December 1981 and 5 January 1982:

- Rudy Leonel Alvarez, aged 20, a worker, was arrested on 5 January 1982 in San Antonio Abad, San Salvador, by men in civilian clothes believed by eye-witnesses to be members of the security forces.
- Pablo Dagoberto Cruz Peña, a bricklayer aged 25, was arrested on 2 January 1982 at about 5.00 pm in Colonia Montserrat, San Salvador, by uniformed members of the National Police. He was reported to have been taken to the National Police headquarters.
- Rafael Irene Mendez Melara, a small farmer aged 30, was arrested on 27 December 1982 with two other people, as yet unnamed, in San Antonio Abad, San Salvador, by men in civilian clothes believed by eye-witnesses to be members of the National Police.
- José Santos Garcia, a tailor aged 30, was arrested in the entrance of a tailor's shop on 23 December 1981 by uniformed members of the security forces.
- José Angel Granados was arrested on 22 December 1981 by men in plain clothes believed by eye-witnesses to be members of the National Police in Colonia Santa Fé, San Salvador.
- Ladislao Roberto Corbera Argueta was arrested on 22 December 1981 by men in plain clothes believed by eye-witnesses to be members of the National Police in Colonia Santa Fé, San Salvador. He was arrested together with Jose Angel Granados (see above).
- Transito de las Mercedes Guevara, a maid aged 14, was arrested on 22 December 1981 by men in civilian clothes believed by eye-witnesses to be members of the National Police in Colonia Santa Fé, San Salvador. She was arrested together with Jose Granados and Ladislao Corbera Argueta (see above).

(2) Rafael Antonio Guadron Galan, a student aged 27, was arrested on 15 August 1981 at about 5.45 pm near the Vieytez cinema in San Salvador. On 28 December 1981 he was reported to have been seen in the National Police headquarters in San Salvador, and was reported to be in poor health.

Background information

Human rights violations on a massive scale in El Salvador continue to be brought to the attention of Amnesty International. Amnesty International

is aware that these violations of human rights have occurred at a time of escalating civil conflict between guerrilla groups and the Salvadorian authorities and is also aware of reports of abuses having been committed by non-governmental forces. However, there is a systematic pattern of human rights violations, including torture, "disappearances" and cold-blooded murder, being carried out by the Salvadorian security forces and directed against people not involved in guerrilla activities. Testimonies received by Amnesty International implicate all branches of the Salvadorian security forces in gross abuses of human rights.

Talks on the human rights situation in El Salvador were held between Amnesty International and officials of the United States Administration in Washington DC on 9 October 1981. The talks followed an exchange of correspondence earlier in the year between Amnesty International and the US Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and the Deputy Secretary of State, William Clark Jr., about the effects of US military aid to El Salvador on human rights there.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Please send separate appeals on behalf of the first seven people and Rafael Antonio Guadron Galan.

- (1) Telegrams/express letters expressing concern about the arrests of these 7 people and urging that their physical safety be guaranteed. Request clarification of their whereabouts and legal situation.
- (2) Telegrams/express letters requesting the Rafael Antonio Guadron Galan be transferred to the jurisdiction of the courts, or released. Request assurances that he is receiving any medical attention that may be necessary.

APPEALS TO:

Coronel Jaime Abdul Gutierrez
Vice-Presidente de la Junta de El Salvador
Casa Presidencial, San Salvador, El Salvador

Coronel Carlos López Nuila
Director de la Policía Nacional
6 calle Oriente, San Salvador
El Salvador

for Rafael Antonio Guadron Galan only:

Ing. Carlos Aquilino Duarte
Ministro de Educación
Ministerio de Educación
San Salvador, El Salvador

COPIES TO:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><i>Orientación</i>
Arzobispado de San Salvador
Seminario San José de la Montana
San Salvador, El Salvador</p> <p>and to Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.</p> <p>PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Appeals may continue until 11 February 1982.</p> <p>Article 3, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person";</p> <p>Article 5, "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment";</p> <p>Article 9, "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile".</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The name of Amnesty International can be used unless stated otherwise; although, letters written in a private or professional capacity may be more effective.</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Information about the alleged connection of any person with an organization which is banned in their country is provided as background only and should not be included in appeals.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In Urgent Action cases, where Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the possible ill-treatment of prisoners, appeals are issued when the circumstances of a person's arrest or disappearance make such treatment likely. Do not make direct accusations and, unless otherwise instructed, do not use the word "torture".</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Send at least one telegram or express letter immediately. Other letters can be sent afterwards to the addresses listed. Copies of letters should be sent to the relevant diplomatic representatives in your country. Copies of any replies received should be sent immediately to the International Secretariat, or to your national section or Urgent Action coordinator. Thank the official who has replied, requesting that you be kept informed about the case.</p> |
|---|---|