

**URGENT  
ACTION**

**amnesty  
international**

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

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 persons, whether or not they have used or advocated violence. (Amnesty International Statute, Article 1(c))

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"Disappearance"/Fear of torture

22 January 1982

EL SALVADOR: Douglas Mauricio RAMIREZ  
Señora de RAMIREZ, wife of above  
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Douglas Mauricia Ramirez is a teacher and director of university extension courses at the National University of El Salvador. Both he and his wife were arrested by security forces on 19 January 1982 in San Salvador. There are grave fears for their safety.

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 continuing civil conflict between guerrilla groups and the Salvadorian authorities. 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Telegrams/express letters/letters expressing concern about these arrests and urging that the physical safety of these two people be guaranteed. Request clarification of their whereabouts and legal situation.

APPEALS TO: *Appeals from TEACHERS/UNIVERSITY LECTURERS are particularly urged.*

Coronel Jaime Abdul Gutierrez  
Vice-president 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

COPIES TO:

*Orientación*  
Arzobispado de San Salvador  
Seminario San José de la Montaña  
San Salvador, El Salvador

and to Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Appeals may continue until 22 February 1982.