



CENTRAL AMERICA SPECIAL ACTION (CASA)

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E L S A L V A D O R

15 July 1983

CASA 16/83

Isaac Nelson RENDEROS SILIEZAR et al

(follow up to UA 133/83 AMR 29/17/83 of 16 June 1983)

On 16 June 1983, Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action on behalf of the following people: Isaac Nelson RENDEROS SILIEZAR, Arely de RENDEROS SILIEZAR, Sonia del Carmen AGUIÑADA, Adelina CHICAS and her 19-year-old daughter Elizabeth (all detained on 1 June 1983), and on behalf of Alfredo ACOSTA DIAZ, his wife and three children (detained on 8 June 1983) and Dr. José Vicente AREVALO (abducted on 9 June 1983).

1. Isaac Nelson RENDEROS SILIEZAR
Arely de RENDEROS SILIEZAR
Sonia del Carmen AGUIÑADA
Adelina CHICAS and her daughter Elizabeth

Isaac Renderos was detained by the National Guard on 1 June while waiting for his wife in his car in a shopping centre in San Salvador. Later that same night, police went to his home and arrested his wife Arely de Renderos Siliezar and three children, aged four to seven. The children were later released, but Isaac Renderos was reported to be held at the National Police Headquarters in San Salvador.

A report in the national newspaper El Mundo subsequently quoted a police communiqué stating that Isaac Renderos had committed suicide while in detention, despite previous denials by the authorities that he was being held. His death was also reported by the Archbishop of San Salvador in his weekly homily on 5 June. Isaac Renderos was alleged to have died from hanging in the basement of the National Police Headquarters. However, Amnesty International has received reports indicating that Nelson Renderos did not commit suicide but died as a result of the torture he was subjected to while in custody.

There is no further news on the whereabouts of his wife Arely de Renderos Siliezar, nor of Adelina Chicas and her daughter Elizabeth.

The arrest of Sonia del Carmen Aguiñada, also arrested on 1 June in the house of Isaac Renderos, has been acknowledged by the Salvadorian authorities and she has been transferred to prison. She is to be tried by a military tribunal on charges of subversion.

2. Alfredo ACOSTA DIAZ

Alfredo Acosta Díaz, aged 54, a small trader, was taken from his home on 8 June 1983 together with his wife, his 3 children and 3 others by men in plain clothes. The National Police have acknowledged holding them for investigation at their headquarters.

3. Dr. José Vicente AREVALO

Dr. Arévalo, aged 60, married with 3 children, former director of the hospital in Santa Ana and working in his own clinic at the time of his abduction, was reportedly taken away in a jeep-type vehicle while attending a patient, by 2 armed men dressed in white medical uniforms. Other waiting patients witnessed the abduction. The incident has been reported in the Salvadorian press. As far as Amnesty International is aware, his detention has not been acknowledged and there is serious concern for his safety.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONSCASE 1

Re: Isaac Nelson Renderos Siliezar

Letters, including from medical professionals, expressing concern at reports indicating that this man died as a result of torture suffered while in detention. Ask for the medical report prepared by the authorities following his death, which should state cause of death, and enquire as to the nature of the information which led Salvadorian officials to attribute his death to suicide by hanging. Ask that if it is established that he died as a result of torture while in prison, that a full investigation be undertaken into the circumstances of his death, and those responsible be brought to justice. Letters could also urge that steps be taken to ensure that military and security force personnel involved in the detention and interrogation of suspects be fully informed as to the international standards such as the United Nations (UN) Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the UN Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, and that these be adhered to with respect to the procedures used in both the detention and interrogation of detainees.

Re: Arely de Renderos Siliezar, Adelina Chicas and her daughter Elizabeth

Ask for clarification of the whereabouts of these 3 people, for assurances that their physical integrity be guaranteed while in detention and that they be released unless formally charged and brought before a court of law.

Re: Sonia del Carmen Aguiñada

Enquire about the exact details of the charges brought against her and when the trial is to take place. Ask for assurances that internationally accepted standards for a fair trial be adhered to in any eventual proceedings against her.

CASE 2

Express letters, telegrams, letters urging that Alfredo Acosta Díaz and the people arrested with him, be released unless charged and brought before

a court of law. Express concern at reports that people have been tortured at the headquarters of the National Police while being held there for investigation, and ask for assurances that their physical safety be guaranteed while in detention.

CASE 3

Express letters, telegrams, letters, asking for clarification of Dr. Arévalo's whereabouts and for guarantees that, if detained, his physical integrity be respected and that he be released unless formally charged and brought before a court of law.

APPEALS

CASE 1

Re: Isaac Nelson Renderos

appeals to:	Dr. Ramiro Arturo Méndez Asahar Ministro de Justicia Ministerio de Justicia 3a Av. Norte y 11a Calle Poniente San Salvador El Salvador (Minister of Justice)	+	Dr. Arturo Zeledón Castrillo Presidente de la Corte Suprema Palacio Nacional San Salvador El Salvador (President of Supreme Court of Justice)
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copies to:	Oficina de Tutela Legal del Arzobispado Comisión Arquidiocesano de Justicia y Paz Apdo. 2253 San Salvador El Salvador	(Legal Aid Office of the Arbishopric)
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Sr. Angel Benjamin Cestoni
Secretario Ejecutivo
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
2º piso, Edif. Fiscalía General de la República
13C Poniente
Centro de Gobierno
San Salvador
El Salvador

(Governmental Human Rights
Commission)

Re: Arely de Renderos, Adelina Chicas and her daughter Elizabeth

appeals to:	Coronel Carlos Reynaldo López Nuila Director de la Policía Nacional Cuartel General de la Policía Nacional 6 Calle Oriente San Salvador El Salvador	(Head of National Police)
	S.E. Dr. Alvaro A. Magaña Borja Presidente de la República de El Salvador Casa Presidencial San Salvador El Salvador	(President of El Salvador)

copies to: Oficina de Tutela Legal del Arzobispado
(address above)

copies to: Sr. Angel Benjamin Cestoni
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
(address above)

Re: Sonia del Carmen Aguiñada

appeals to: Dr. Ramiro Arturo Méndez Asahar
Ministro de Justicia
(address above)

copies to: Sr. Angel Benjamin Cestoni
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
(address above)

CASE 2

appeals to: Dr. Ramiro Arturo Méndez Asahar
Ministro de Justicia
(address above)

S.E. Dr. Alvaro A. Magaña Borja
Presidente de la República de El Salvador
(address above)

copies to: Coronel Carlos Reynaldo López Nuila
Director de la Policía Nacional
(address above)

Sr. Angel Benjamin Cestoni
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
(address above)

CASE 3

appeals to: S.E. Dr. Alvaro A. Magaña Borja
Presidente de la República de El Salvador
(address above)

General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Palacio Nacional
San Salvador
El Salvador

copies to: Sr. Angel Benjamin Cestoni
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador
(address above)

NOTE

We realize that some sections may not be able to arrange appeals on behalf of all those whose names are listed here. It is suggested that CASA coordinators take into account such factors as their own resources, their particular target sector interests, etc. and arrange appeals on as many as possible.