

**URGENT
ACTION**

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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))*

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Further information on UA 118/81 (AMR 29/35/81 18 May, AMR 29/36/81 22 May, AMR 29/37/81 2 June, AMR 29/51/81 20 July, AMR 29/66/81 21 September)

EL SALVADOR: Anna Marguarita GASTIAZORO
Eleotherio de Jesus CARCAMO
Rafael BARRERA

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Several Urgent Action participants who wrote to the then Minister of Justice Mario Antonio Solano thanking him for his previous letter have received the following reply:

In regard to your note in which you state your interest in knowing the status of the prisoners: Ana Marguarita Gasteazoro, Eleotherio de Jesus Carcamo and Rafael Barrera, I am pleased to advise you that the above mentioned persons are at the order of the respective Trial Judges and that the consideration and resolution of their cases attaches to the Judicial Power and not to the Ministry of Justice; the latter is concerned about their safeguard, custody and personal security and it endeavours that their stay at the detention centers be within the legal lineaments and that their human rights, of which I am guarantor, be respected. International Red Cross Commissioners visit the prisoners whenever they deem it advisable.

It is satisfactory to us to consider your concern about the above mentioned prisoners, who may receive correspondence from you when you might wish to send any.

Yours very truly,

MARIO ANTONIO SOLANO R.
Ministro de Justicia.

Further recommended action:

You may write to the Ministry of Justice, thanking that office for the reply you received from then Minister of Justice Mario Antonio Solano, in which he gave his assurances that the human rights of the three detained people will be respected.

If you wish you may also write to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, referring to Sr. Mario Antonio Solano's letter of 19 November 1981, and asking for details of the proposed trial, including the date of when the trial is due to take place. Please also request details of the location of the place of detention.

Presidente
Corte Suprema de Justicia
Palacio Nacional
San Salvador, El Salvador

.../...

Please send copies of letters to the Ministry of Justice* and to diplomatic representatives of El Salvador in your country.

Sr. Ministro
Ministerio de Justicia
San Salvador, El Salvador

* PLEASE NOTE that as there is still some uncertainty as to the make-up of the coalition which is to be formed following the inconclusive elections of 28 March 1982, cabinet appointments will be dependent upon the eventual agreements reached.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Please take immediate action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the Recommended Action.<input type="checkbox"/> Letters and telegrams should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to the relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Article 3, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person";Article 5, "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment";Article 9, "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile".<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. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><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.<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".<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. |
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