



# CENTRAL AMERICA SPECIAL ACTION (CASA)

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 10 Southampton Street,  
London WC2 7HF, England. Telephone: 01-836 7788 Telex: 28502



EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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E L S A L V A D O R

10 May 1982

CASA 23/82 12 recent arrests

The following persons were detained in El Salvador between 28 March and 18 April 1982 by members of the Salvadorian security forces. The detention of the people named below has not been acknowledged by the Salvadorian authorities, and there are grave fears that they might "disappear" if not acknowledged to be in detention.

1. Canuto REYES HERNANDEZ

Tailor, aged 21, living in Mejicanos, arrested at midday on 18 April 1982 in the San José park in San Salvador by members of the National Police.

2. Nelson de Jesus CARPIO GUZMAN

Student, aged 15, arrested between 6 - 6.30 pm on 16 April 1982 on his way home from school in colonia San José de las Flores in Tonocatepeque by the Treasury Police (Policía de Hacienda).

3. Alberto GUDANA SOLORZANO

Arrested with Nelson de Jesus Carpio Guzman (above) between 6 - 6.30 pm on 16 April 1982 in Tonocatepeque by the Treasury Police (Policía de Hacienda).

4. Tomás SANCHEZ PEREZ

Office worker, aged 19, living in colonia Santa María, San Marcos, arrested at 9.35 am on 15 April 1982 by paramilitary agents at his place of work in San Salvador. He is reported to have been subsequently handed over to the National Police.

5. Jorge Alberto VASQUEZ GUZMAN

Student, aged 16, living in Mejicanos, arrested at 9.30 pm on 12 April 1982 in front of the church in San Martín possibly by municipal police.

6. Mario Alfredo MENENDEZ VALENZUELA

Student, aged 23, arrested at midnight on 12 April 1982 in colonia San Luis in San Marcos.

7. Thelma VILCHES FUMES

on 12 April 1982

Maid, aged 16, arrested at 11.30 pm/at her home in colonia Los Angeles in San Marcos by members of the National Guard.

8. Angel Vidal RIVERA PAREDES

Mechanic, aged 21, arrested between 10.15 and 10.30 am on 10 April by members of the National Police in San Salvador.

.../...



9. Margarito GUERRA GARCIA

Farmer, aged 28, living in cantón El Castillo, jurisdiction of San Juan Ubico, department of La Libertad, arrested on 9 April 1982 possibly by municipal police from San Juan Ubico and cantón Nombre de Dios.

10. Francisco GUERRA GARCIA

Aged 39, farmer, arrested with brother Margarito Guerra García (above) on 9 April 1982 in cantón El Castillo, jurisdiction of San Juan Ubico, department of La Libertad, possibly by municipal police from San Juan Ubico and cantón Nombre de Dios.

11. José Manuel CUYAS CLIMACO

Student, aged 22, living in Guadalupe, San Vicente, arrested at 10:30 am on 1 April 1982 by army troops in a red vehicle at San José Verapaz on the San Vicente highway.

12. Antonio Hernando RIVAS

Worker, aged 37, arrested at 3 pm on 28 March 1982 by members of the National Guard as he was leaving the María Cecilia Sherry school ... in San Salvador, where he had just voted.

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 civil conflict between guerrilla groups and the Salvadorian authorities. However, there is a systematic pattern of human rights violations, including torture, "disappearance" 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

Express letters and letters expressing concern about the arrest of these 12 people and urging that their physical safety be guaranteed. Please also request details of their place of detention and their legal situation.

Appeals to:

Alvaro Magaña (new president of the junta)  
Presidente de la Junta de El Salvador  
Casa Presidencial  
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR