

**URGENT  
ACTION**

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"Disappearance"

21 September 1983

EL SALVADOR: Pedro FLORES PEÑA  
Hugo Francisco CARRILLO CABRERA  
=====

Pedro Flores Peña, a law student at the University of El Salvador, was reportedly detained in San Salvador on 13 September 1983 by four men, believed to be members of the security forces, travelling in a pick-up truck. Pedro Flores is a member of the *Consejo Superior*, Superior Council, of the university.

Hugo Francisco Carrillo Cabrera, aged 31, head of the Foreign Relations Department at the Law Faculty of the same university, was reportedly detained by armed men, believed to be members of the security forces, on the afternoon of 14 September 1983 as he was returning from the university to his home in Ciudad Satélite, a suburb of San Salvador. Hugo Carrillo is married with three children.

The reasons for the detentions of these two men and their present whereabouts are unknown.

Teachers and other workers in the field of education have often been a specific target of repression in recent years in El Salvador. The National University itself was completely occupied by the army on 26 June 1980. Students, professors, university administrators and staff were taken into custody and at least 22 people were killed. Staff and students at the university have continued to be a target of repression since 1980. On 28 June 1983, the Secretary General of the National University, Ricardo Calderón Juárez, was arrested by the National Police (see UA 144/83, AMR 29/21/83 1 July, AMR 29/27/83 21 July) and on 15 July 1983 Ismael Recinos López, Director of Public Relations at the same university, was detained (see UA 157/83, AMR 29/26/83 21 July, AMR 29/32/83 22 August). Amnesty International has received reports that other members of staff at the same university have also been threatened recently.

The arbitrary arrests, torture, "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions which have been carried out against members of the teaching profession by the regular police and military forces, or the paramilitary groups to which they are linked, appeared to be an attempt to eradicate the teachers' union ANDES (*Asociación Nacional de Educadores de El Salvador "21 de Junio"*), an active corporate member of the mass organization *Bloque Popular Revolucionario* (BPR - Popular Revolutionary Block). The BPR is a member of the *Frente Democrático Revolucionario* (Democratic Revolutionary Front), the broad grouping which since its formation in 1980 has led the opposition to the Salvadorian government. Teachers may also have been targeted for repression since, as educated people, they are potential leaders in small communities and, as such, could constitute a focus of opposition to the established authorities.

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Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience*. It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners without reservation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Telegrams/express letters/airmail letters expressing concern at the reported arrests of Pedro Flores Peña and Hugo Francisco Carrillo Cabrera and requesting clarification of their whereabouts and legal situation. Seek assurances that they are being humanely treated while in detention and urge that be either charged and brought before a court or immediately released.

APPEALS TO:

S.E. don Alvaro Magaña  
Presidente de la República  
Casa Presidencial  
San Salvador, El Salvador

*Telegrams to: Presidente Magaña,  
San Salvador, El Salvador*

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

*(Head of National Police)*

*Telegrams to: Sr. López Nuila,  
Director Policía Nacional, San  
Salvador, El Salvador*

General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova  
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública  
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad  
Pública

Casa Presidencial  
San Salvador, El Salvador

*(Minister of Defence)*

*Telegrams to: Ministro Defensa Vides  
Casanova, San Salvador, El Salvador*

COPIES TO:

Prof. Carlos Aquilino Duarte Funes  
Ministro de Educación  
Ministerio de Educación  
Calle Delgado y 8a Avenida Norte  
San Salvador, El Salvador

Lic. Miguel Angel Parada  
Rector  
Universidad de El Salvador  
San Salvador, El Salvador

CDHES (governmental)  
Dr. Benjamin Cestoni  
2a Planta  
Edif. Fiscalía General de la República  
Centro de Gobierno  
San Salvador, El Salvador

*(human rights commission)*

and to diplomatic representatives of El Salvador in your country.

*Please try to organize some appeals from TEACHERS/ACADEMICS.*

PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Check with the International Secretariat if sending appeals after 2 November 1983.

- Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

- Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

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."

- The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity are often more effective.

- Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

- In Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new information.

- Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your national section Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.