

EXTERNAL (for  
general distribution)

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Further information on UA 50/83 (AMR 29/05/83 3 March, AMR 29/10/83 5 May) -  
Fear of Torture/extrajudicial execution  
EL SALVADOR: Jorge Benjamín RODRIGUEZ DUEÑAS  
=====

Amnesty International remains seriously concerned about the fate of Jorge Benjamín Rodríguez Dueñas, a member of the *Sindicato Nacional de la Industria del Transporte* (National Union of the Transport Industry). He was abducted on 19 February 1983 in Soyapango by heavily armed men in civilian clothes. The Salvadorian authorities have denied that he is in detention. The following letter was received by an Urgent Action participant from the Minister of Labour and Social Security:

*"With reference to your letter of 3 July 1983 in which you appeal for the release of Jorge Benjamín Rodríguez Dueñas, I am pleased to be able to inform you that, after requesting information from the Minister of Defence and Public Security, I received a reply dated 23 August 1983 which stated that the above-mentioned person is not and has not been detained by any branch of the security forces.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Dr. Julio Alfredo Samayao H.  
Minister of Labour and Social Security"*

Jorge Rodríguez Dueñas had been previously arrested in August 1982, together with other members of the *Sindicato Nacional de la Industria del Transporte*. Their detention was subsequently acknowledged; they were accused of storing and printing communist propaganda in the offices of the *Sindicato Nacional de la Industria del Transporte*. Jorge Benjamín Rodríguez and three others were subsequently released; two are still in detention.

There has been no news about Jorge Benjamín Rodríguez Dueñas since his abduction on 19 February 1983.

Further recommended action:

Please continue to send letters:

- expressing concern about the "disappearance" of Jorge Benjamín Rodríguez Dueñas since February 1983
- requesting clarification of his present whereabouts and urging that he be immediately released unless formally charged and brought before a court
- urging that he be humanely treated while in detention

.../...

☎ 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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



Amnesty International

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11, Rue de la Harpe  
75005 Paris, France

Letters should be sent to:

S.E. Alvaro Magaña Borja  
Presidente de la República  
Casa Presidencial  
San Salvador, El Salvador  
*(President)*

General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova  
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública  
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad Pública  
Doble Via a Santa Tecla  
San Salvador, El Salvador  
*(Minister of Defence and Public Security)*

Check with the International Secretariat if sending appeals after 4 January 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 may be 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 facts.

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