



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)

AI Index: AMR 29/44/82
Distr: CO/AD plus
relevant NS

EL SALVADOR

1 June 1982

CASA 29/82 Elsa Aurelia AGUILAR DE LOBO

Amnesty International has received reports that 32-year-old teacher Elsa Aurelia Aguilar de Lobo was abducted from her home in San Salvador on 5 May. The kidnapers burst into her house at 10.30 at night and took her away, leaving behind her two children aged 7 and 9. She was barefoot and wearing only a nightdress. A writ of habeas corpus has been presented on her behalf but the security forces deny that she has been arrested. Her present whereabouts are unknown.

Elsa Aguilar is the wife of Professor Lobo who has been 'disappeared' for two years following his abduction by members of the security forces.

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 (both military and police units as well as paramilitary squads acting with their implicit or explicit warrant) 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.

Following the elections for a constituent assembly held in the country on 28 March 1982, negotiations continued for some time in an attempt to form a government and agree on important cabinet and other political and military appointments. At the time of writing, a coalition government has been formed, consisting of four ministers from each of the three main parties participating in the elections plus four independent ministers, with Roberto D'Arbuissou, previously implicated in death-squad killings and leader of the Alianza Republicana Nacionalista (ARENA), Nationalist Republican Alliance, as President of the Constituent Assembly. Alvaro Magaña was appointed President of the Republic. Reports of human rights violations involving the official security forces have continued unabated throughout the period following the elections.

CENTRAL AMERICA
SPECIAL ACTION

- 2 -



Recommended Action

Letters expressing grave concern about the abduction of Elsa Aurelia Aguilar de Lobo and the 'disappearance' two years ago of her husband Professor Lobo. Request clarification of their whereabouts and urge that their physical safety be guaranteed, and that they be released immediately.

Appeals to:

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

(President of the Republic)

General José Guiblermo García
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

(Minister of Defence and Public
Safety)

Copies to:

Ing. Carlos Aquilino Duarte
Ministro de Educación
Ministerio de Educación
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

(Minister of Education)

CDHES
Av. las Américas y Calle San José
Urb. Isidro Menéndez, Edif. ACUS
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

(El Salvador Human Rights Commission)

Copies also to Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.

Please ask teachers' organizations in your country to participate in the appeals.