

CENTRAL AMERICA SPECIAL ACTION (CASA)

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EL SALVADOR

23 August 1982

CASA 49/82

Arrest of Francisco Lucio FERNANDEZ MARCENARO

Francisco Lucio Fernández Marcenaro, a 35-year-old Salvadorian garage owner from San Salvador, was arrested at 5.30 pm on 5 July 1982 by members of a military patrol.

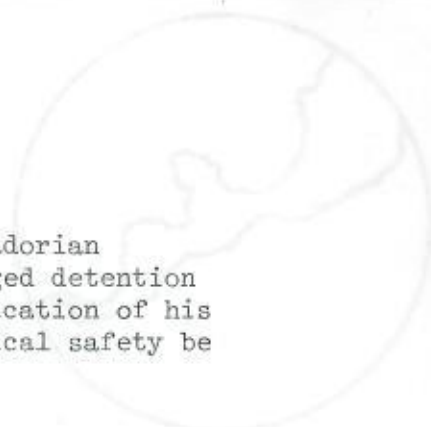
Francisco Lucio Fernández Marcenaro is married with three children, and had one of his little boys with him when his car was stopped by Km 5.5 on the Carretera Los Planes de Renderos, south of the capital San Salvador.

According to eye witnesses, Francisco Lucio Fernández Marcenaro was taken back to his garage in the company of members of the military patrol. His garage was subsequently ransacked and all the cars stolen. There has been no further news of his whereabouts since, and the Salvadorian authorities have denied any knowledge of his arrest.

Background information

Salvadorian military and security units have been repeatedly named in reports of human rights violations received by Amnesty International. These reports of human rights violations have continued unabated following the elections for a constituent assembly held on 28 March 1982. The violations are occurring in a context of continued conflict between the government and opposition forces, but reports received by Amnesty International indicate that non-combatants from all sectors of Salvadorian society continue to be the victims of such violations, including arbitrary arrest, "disappearance" and extrajudicial executions at the hands of the official military and police services, who act on occasion in conjunction with clandestine para-military squads who have their explicit or implicit warrant. As in previous years, in no single instance since the elections have the Salvadorian authorities issued a satisfactory response to inquiries concerning these violations.

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Recommended Actions

Please send telegrams/express letters/letters to the Salvadorian authorities expressing serious concern at the unacknowledged detention of Francisco Lucio Fernández Marcenaro, requesting clarification of his whereabouts and legal situation, and urging that his physical safety be guaranteed.

Appeals to

Don Alvaro Alfredo Magaña Borja (President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces)
Presidente de la República de El Salvador
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

Coronel Rafael Flores Lima (Chief of Staff of the Army)
Jefe del Estado Mayor del Ejército
Calle Concepción,
Final Pasaje Merazo
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

Copies of appeals to

CDHES (El Salvador Human Rights Commission)
Av. Las Américas y Calle San José
Urb. Isidro Menéndez, Edif. ACUS
San Salvador, EL SALVADOR

and to Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.

Background Information

Salvadorian military and security forces have been reported to have committed numerous human rights violations since the beginning of the conflict. The violations reported include the arbitrary arrest and detention of civilians, the use of force against peaceful demonstrators, and the execution of political prisoners. The military and security forces have also been reported to have committed acts of terrorism, including the bombing of civilian targets and the use of landmines in populated areas. The Salvadorian government has been accused of covering up these violations and of failing to investigate and prosecute those responsible. The Salvadorian military and security forces have also been reported to have committed acts of discrimination against the indigenous population and against those who are opposed to the military and security forces. The Salvadorian government has been accused of failing to protect the rights of these groups and of failing to provide them with adequate legal protection. The Salvadorian military and security forces have also been reported to have committed acts of violence against the press and against human rights activists. The Salvadorian government has been accused of failing to protect these groups and of failing to provide them with adequate legal protection. The Salvadorian military and security forces have also been reported to have committed acts of violence against the population in general. The Salvadorian government has been accused of failing to protect the population and of failing to provide them with adequate legal protection. The Salvadorian military and security forces have also been reported to have committed acts of violence against the environment. The Salvadorian government has been accused of failing to protect the environment and of failing to provide them with adequate legal protection.