



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 29/87/81
Distrib: CO/AD +
relevant NS
21 December 1981

E L S A L V A D O R

CASA 51/81

55 recent arrests

The following persons were detained between 7 October -13 December 1981 by members of the Salvadorian security forces. The detention of the people named below has not been acknowledged by the Salvadorian authorities. There are grave fears that they might "disappear" if not acknowledged to be in detention.

1. José Eugenio CERON VASQUEZ

Worker, aged 35, member of the ANDA* trade union, detained on 3 December 1981 by plainclothes members of the security forces at his home in colonia "10 de Septiembre", San Salvador. A few days earlier he had signed a statement by his union which appeared in El Mundo newspaper on 2 December.

2. Aida Telma MURCIA

Baker, aged 34, detained at 7:30 am on 2 December 1981 in her bakery in colonia Santa Carlota, San Salvador by members of the security forces in plain clothes.

3. Manfredo Cesar HENRIQUEZ FLORES

Student, aged 22, detained by army on 1 December 1981 as he was playing basketball in the Domingo Sabio sportsfield in San Salvador.

4. Salvador CRUZ VASQUEZ

Musician and radiotechnician, aged 33, detained on 1 December 1981 by members of the security forces in plain clothes in barrio Candelaria, San Salvador.

5. Tulio Alberto REYES CAMPOS

Day labourer, aged 22, detained at 4 pm on 29 November 1981 by National Police detectives in San Salvador. Is mentally retarded.

6. Luis Alonso MEJIA

Day labourer, aged 38, working on the coffee harvest at the Oklahoma finca on the slopes of the San Salvador volcano, was detained on 27 November 1981 by army soldiers while he was waiting at a bus stop on his way to work.

7. Alvaro ALONSO DE GUEVARA CHAVEZ

Small shopkeeper, aged 21, detained on 24 November 1981 by the army and

*ANDA = Administración Nacional de Acueductos y Alcantarillados, .../...
(trade union of water and sewage workers)

National Guard at his home in Mejicanos.

8. Santos CAMPOS MACHADO

Day labourer, aged 21, working on the cotton harvest on the hacienda La Cruzadilla, Jiquilisco, arrested on 24 November 1981 by combined security forces.

9. Gregoria HERNANDEZ

Maid, aged 20, detained with Santos Campos Machado (above) on 24 November 1981 by combined security forces on the hacienda La Cruzadilla, Jiquilisco.

10. Victor Manuel CABALLERO

Student, aged 29, arrested on 17 November 1981 by combined security forces in San Salvador.

11. Pedro AGUILAR URRUTIA

Student, aged 13, arrested on 17 November 1981 by members of the security forces in plainclothes at his home in cantón Miramar, Comasagua.

12. Manuel Antonio URRUTIA

Day labourer, aged 50, arrested with brother Pedro Aguilar Urrutia (above) on 17 November 1981 by plain clothes members of the security forces at their home in cantón Miramar, Comasagua.

13. José Oscar CALDERON

Student, aged 18, arrested on 15 November 1981 by members of the National Guard in colonia Magaña, Santa Ana.

14. Miguel Angel GARCIA CARRILLO

Student, aged 15, detained by army soldiers from "El Zapote"^{barracks} on 6 November 1981 in San Jacinto market, San Salvador.

15. José Victor RAMIREZ

Sacristan, aged 67, arrested on 6 November 1981 by members of the security forces in plainclothes in the El Carmen church in Santa Tecla.

16. Miguel Angel ROJO CAÑAS

Car mechanic, aged 18, arrested on 5 November 1981 by soldiers from San Carlos barracks, in colonia El Cubo, San Salvador.

17. Oscar Armando MONTERROSA GONZALEZ

Worker, aged 16, resident in Mejicanos, arrested on 5 November 1981 by soldiers from San Carlos barracks in colonia El Cubo, San Salvador.

18. Marta Luz ELIAS de ALVARADO

Arrested on 2 November 1981 by combined security forces in Usulután. Her husband José Eriberto ALVARADO was arrested the week before.

19. Angela ALVARADO

Aged 19, sister-in-law of Marta Luz Elias de Alvarado (above), arrested with her on 2 November 1981 in Usulután.

20. Luis Alfredo ANAYA

Student, aged 19, from Santa Tecla, arrested on 1 November 1981 at cantón Curacal on bus route 107 from Santa Tecla to Tequecoyo.

.../...

21. José Saturnino ACEVEDO TURCIOS
Employee, aged 22, arrested on 30 October 1981 by members of the army in San Marcos Lempa.
22. Guillermo RAMIREZ PEREZ
Worker at SIGMA factory, aged 25, arrested on 30 October 1981 by members of the National Police while travelling between Cuscatancingo and Tugurio "La Fortaleza". Although he has been seen in the National Police headquarters, the authorities deny that he is in detention.
23. Transito BELTRAN
Peasant, aged 25, arrested by security forces at 3 pm on 27 October 1981 in Coatepeque.
24. María Isabel SALAMANCA QUINTANILLA
Aged 23, arrested by the National Police on 22 October 1981 in San Salvador.
25. German RAMIREZ ESPERANZA
Arrested on 22 October 1981 by army troops in San Tepec.
26. Victor Manuel VAZQUEZ
Arrested together with German Ramirez Esperanza (above) on 22 October 1981 by army troops in San Tepec.
27. Jaime RAMIREZ ESPERANZA
Arrested together with Victor Manuel Vazquez and German Ramirez Esperanza (above) on 22 October 1981 by army troops in San Tepec.
28. Salvador Edmundo NAVARRETE VILLALTA
Aged 33, arrested on 19 October 1981 by combined security forces on the road from San Salvador to Huizucar.
29. Victor Manuel RAMORS GUTIERREZ
Bus ticket collector, aged 20, arrested by National Police in cantón Milingo, jurisdiction of Ciudad Delgado on 17 October 1981.
30. Orlando RIVERA GUTIERREZ
Driver, aged 25, cousin of Victor Manuel Ramos Gutierrez, arrested with him on 17 October 1981 by National Police in cantón Milingo, jurisdiction of Ciudad Delgado.
31. José Abraham GARCIA
Driver, aged 25, arrested with cousins Victor Manuel Ramos Gutierrez and Orlando Rivera Gutierrez (above) by National Police on 17 October 1981 in cantón Milirgo, jurisdiction of Ciudad Delgado.
32. Oscar Antonio ACOSTA AVILAR
Aged 13, arrested by soldiers of the 1st Infantry Brigade of the San Carlos barracks on 16 October 1981 in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.
33. Victor Hugo LACAYO REYES
Student, aged 18, arrested on 16 October 1981 by security forces at his home in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.

34. Luis Adan VELASCO GONZALEZ

Sheetmetal worker, aged 17, arrested on 15 October 1981 by security forces at his home in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.

35. Ramon GARCIA

Student, aged 15, arrested on 16 October 1981 by security forces at his home in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.

36. Oscar Mauricio PINEDA CAMPOS

Student, aged 17, arrested on 16 October 1981 by security forces at his home in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.

37. Salvador HERNANDEZ

Carpenter, aged 44, married with 4 children, arrested on 16 October 1981 by security forces.

38. Guadalupe del Carmen BRIZUELA DE AVILA

Student, aged 15, arrested on 16 October 1981 by army at her home in San Salvador. A writ of habeas corpus has been granted in the Supreme Court but the authorities deny that she is in detention.

39. Ana del Carmen TORRES DE GARCIA

Seamstress, arrested at 10 pm on 14 October 1981 by security forces in colonia Las Delicias, Santa Tecla.

40. Carlos Alberto VALENCIA CRUZ

Student, aged 19, arrested on 9 October 1981 by security forces at his home in barrio El Calvario, San Salvador.

41. Manuel AGUIRRES

Arrested by security forces on 9 October 1981 in colonia Zacamil in Mejicanos.

42. José Roberto BELTRAN CRUZ

Radio technician, aged 26, arrested on 9 October 1981 by security forces in plain clothes in his workshop in San Salvador. A writ of habeas corpus has been granted by the Supreme Court, but the authorities deny that he is in detention.

43. Guilfredo CENTENO

Aged 29, arrested on 7 October 1981 in San Salvador.

44. Julio Cesar GUZMAN HERNANDEZ

Apprentice bricklayer, aged 18, arrested on 7 October 1981 by army soldiers while playing football in San Salvador. A writ of habeas corpus has been granted by the Supreme Court, but the authorities deny that he is in detention.

During the compilation of the above list, Amnesty International received information on a further 11 people arrested by the Salvadorian security forces during the same period. The detention of the 11 people (listed below) has not been acknowledged by the Salvadorian authorities.

.../...

45. Manuel Humberto CRUZ FLORES
Peasant, aged 23, arrested on 13 December 1981.
46. Juan Francisco HERNANDEZ
Farmer, aged 26, arrested by army on 3 December 1981 in colonia Plan Piloto in San Salvador.
47. Hector Vicente GOMEZ FLORES
Sheetmetalworker, aged 22, arrested by army on 3 December 1981 in colonia Plan Piloto, San Salvador
48. Daniel de Jesus ZUNIGA ORELLANA
Peasant, aged 19, arrested on 3 December 1981.
49. Aguilas Ingles ECHEVERRIA
Secondary school teacher, aged 32, arrested on 26 November 1981 at the entrance to the General Francisco Menendez Institute by army troops.
50. Santos DIAZ PORTILLO GUZMAN
Office worker, aged 42, arrested on 23 November 1981 at the hacienda Normandia, cantón Cruzadilla, department of Usulután.
51. Juan Antonio ORELLANA
Aged 35, arrested with Santos Diaz Portillo Guzman (above) on 23 November 1981 in cantón Cruzadilla, department of Usulután.
52. Efrain ALVARADO
Aged 38, arrested on 23 November 1981 in cantón Cruzadilla, department of Usulután.
53. Leonidas PERDOMO CAMPOS
Aged 24, arrested on 23 November 1981 in cantón Cruzadilla, department of Usulután.
54. Carlos VASQUEZ SILVA
Aged 30, arrested on 16 November 1981.
55. Roberto Antonio LOOS LANDAVERDE
Driver, aged 28, arrested on 15 November 1981 by army in Soyapango.

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 and is also aware of reports of abuses having been committed by non-governmental forces. However, there is a systematic pattern of human rights violations, including torture, "disappearances" 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.

Talks on the human rights situation in El Salvador were held between Amnesty International and officials of the United States administration in Washington DC on 9 October 1981. The talks followed an exchange of correspondence earlier in the year about the possible effects of US military aid to El Salvador on human rights there between Amnesty International and the US Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and the Deputy Secretary of State, William Clark Jr.

Recommended Action

Telegrams/express letters/letters expressing concern about the arrest of these 55 people and urging that their physical safety be guaranteed. Please also request details of their place of detention and their legal situation.

Appeals to:

Coronel Rafael Flores Lima
Jefe de Estado Mayor del Ejército
Calle Concepción, Final Pasaje Merazo
San Salvador, El Salvador

(Army Chief of Staff)

Coronel Jaime Abdul Gutierrez
Vice-presidente de la Junta
de El Salvador
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

(Vice-president and
commander-in-chief of the
armed forces)

Copies to:

Orientación, Arzobispado de San Salvador, Seminario San José de la Montaña,
San Salvador, El Salvador

and to the Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.