

**URGENT
ACTION**

**amnesty
international**

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EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 29/92/82
Distr: UA

3 November 1982

Further information on UA 252/82 (AMR 29/89/82 26 October) - Fear of Torture/
Extrajudicial execution

EL SALVADOR: 11 arrests
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Amnesty International has received reliable reports that the following people have been acknowledged by the Salvadorian authorities to be in detention:

Luis Antonio MENJIVAR (reportedly held at the National Police Headquarters)
David Elias GUADRON VALENCIA (as above)
Pedro RAMIREZ ESQUIVEL (reportedly held in La Esperanza prison, Mariona)
Pablo RAMIREZ CORNEJO (as above)
Raúl Antonio CASTRO PALOMARES (as above)
Jorge HERRERA (reportedly held at the National Police Headquarters)
Daniel (or David) AVALOS (reportedly held in La Esperanza prison, Mariona)

There is no further news on the whereabouts of Vicente Ortiz, Carlos Menjivar, Héctor Fernandez and Berta Alicia Castro.

Further recommended action:

For those that have been acknowledged, please send appeals requesting that their physical safety be guaranteed while in detention. Request details of the charges against them and urge that they be given a fair trial in accordance with internationally recognized legal standards.

For those that remain "disappeared", please continue to appeal expressing concern about the reported detention of these labour and opposition leaders and urging that they be humanely treated while in detention. Request clarification of their whereabouts and legal situation, including details of charges, if any, and urge that they be immediately released unless charged and brought before a court of law.

Appeals to:

For all cases:

General José Guillermo García
Ministro de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Ministerio de Defensa y Seguridad Pública
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador
(Minister of Defence and Public
Security)

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

.../...

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.

For those reportedly held at National Police Headquarters:

Cor. Reynaldo López Nuila
Director de la Policía Nacional
Cuartel General de la Policía Nacional
6 Calle Oriente
San Salvador, El Salvador
(Head of National Police)

COPIES TO:

For all cases:

Dr Arturo Méndez Azahar
Ministro de Justicia
Ministerio de Justicia
San Salvador, El Salvador

For those held in La Esperanza prison:

Sr. Director
Centro Penitenciario La Esperanza
Calle a
Cantón Mariona
Mejicanos
San Salvador, El Salvador

and to Salvadorian diplomatic representatives in your country.

- 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.