

7 October 1999

Further information on UA 252/99 (AMR 22/23/99, 27 September 1999) - Fear for safety / Death Threats

CHILE Viviana DÍAZ (f), President of the *Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos*
 Ricardo NUÑEZ]Socialist Party senators
 José Antonio VIERA-GALLO]
 and their families.

New name: Dora CARREÑO (f), member of the *Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos*

Amnesty International remains extremely concerned for the safety of Viviana Díaz, president of the non-governmental organisation *Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos*, Association of Relatives of the "Disappeared", who has received further death threats. Dora Carreño, a member of the organisation, has also received death threats.

On the morning of 5 October 1999 Viviana Díaz found a series of handwritten death threats in the front garden of her house: "*por poco tiempo más te va a durar la cuerda*" ("you won't last much longer"), "*Antes de que cante el gallo tu no estarás*" (by the time the cock crows you won't be around), "*andate con cuidado te queda poco*" (take care, your time is running out), "*bas [sic] a seguir camino la Zola [sic]*" ("you're going to follow in Sola's footsteps" -this seems to refer to the former president of the *Agrupación*, Sola Sierra, who died in July 1999), "*tienes tus días contados*" ("your days are numbered") and "*te queda poco*" ("your time is running out"). That night her private telephone line was interfered with and cut off intermittently over several hours.

On 6 October 1999 a judicial complaint about all the threats Viviana Díaz has received was filed before the Appeals Court in Santiago (*Corte de Apelaciones de Santiago*). The threats have been denounced before the Minister of the Interior and Viviana Díaz has been offered police protection.

Agrupación member Dora Carreño is reported to have received threatening telephone calls. Amnesty International believes that this is connected with her personal testimony before Judge Baltasar Garzón in the proceedings against former General Augusto Pinochet and others, currently underway in Spain, and the detention in Chile of former Air Force General Edgard Ceballos Jones in connection with the death as a result of torture of her father, Alfonso Carreño, and the "disappearance" of José Baeza Cruces.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:

- expressing concern at the death threats against Viviana Diaz and her family, and Dora Carreño;
- expressing continued concern about the threats against parliamentarians Ricardo Nuñez and José Antonio Viera-Gallo and their families;
- urging the authorities to effectively protect Viviana Díaz and Dora Carreño to enable them to continue their legitimate human rights work;

- calling for an immediate investigation into these threats, for the findings to be made public and for those responsible to be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic

Señor Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle
Presidente de la República de Chile
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 694 5080

Telegrams: Presidente, Santiago, Chile

Salutation: Sr. Presidente / Dear President

Minister of Interior

Raúl Troncoso Castillo
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 696 8740

Telegrams: Ministro del Interior, Santiago, Chile

Salutation: Sr. Ministro / Dear Minister

Minister of Justice

Sra. Maria Soledad Alvear
Ministra de Justicia
Ministerio de Justicia
Morandé 107
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 695 4558

Telegrams: Ministra de Justicia, Santiago, Chile

Salutation: Sra. Ministra / Dear Minister

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Señor Juan Gabriel Valdés Soublette
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Catedral 1158, Piso 3
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 696 8796 - 672 6274

Telegrams: Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Santiago, Chile

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Newspapers

El Mercurio
Avenida Santa Maria 5542
Casilla 13-D
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 228 7541

Diario La Tercera

Vicuña Mackenna 1870
Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 550 7999

Human Rights Organization

Agrupación de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos

Manuel Rodriguez 33

Santiago, Chile

Faxes: + 562 698 8609

and to diplomatic representatives of Chile accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 November 1999.