

**Red
Carnations
are carried
by Mourners
in
Guatemala**



THE HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR IN GUATEMALA
— A CALENDAR OF ABUSES

29 May 1978 — 29 May 1979

The massacre at Panzos not only constituted an act of genocide, but also marked the beginning of one of the most bloody escalations of repression in Guatemalan history. Starting from that date, threats, arrests, kidnappings, assassinations and land seizures increased dramatically.

(Democratic Front Against Repression statement on 29 May 1979, the first anniversary of the massacre at Panzos)

On 29 May 1978, over 100 Kekchi Indians were killed by the army in the northern Guatemalan town of Panzos, Alta Verapaz. The Indians had come to the town to discuss a dispute over land which they had farmed for several generations. Following the killings, army spokesmen claimed that it was the *campesinos* who initiated the violence, but reliable church, university, peasant, labour and legal organisations within Guatemala maintain it was the army that opened fire.

Amnesty International has monitored a variety of sources, including the Guatemalan and international press, since the Panzos incident, and has catalogued the incidents of human rights abuses, including arrests, kidnappings, disappearances and murders which have come to our attention over the period 29 May 1978 to 29 May 1979.

Amnesty International's investigation has made clear that over the period in question the primary human rights problems in Guatemala have continued to be widespread political murder, torture and disappearance, sometimes at the hands of official security forces and sometimes following abduction by para-military death squads. These so-called 'death squads' were originally formed in the 1960s to combat guerrillas, but instead of being disbanded after the guerrilla groups were crushed, the para-military groups, which include members of legally established security forces and most of which have links with government and business, became instruments for political and economic gain. The death squads have also been instrumental in crushing incipient opposition movements in Guatemala, initially through intimidating and murdering rank and file trade union members and *campesinos*. Following the 1976 earthquake, however, vast sums of reconstruction money flooded into Guatemala,

and this, combined with recent industrial development schemes within the country, has strengthened the power of the popular movements. The death squads have retaliated by identifying the leadership of these movements as particular targets for repression.

During our calendar period, yet another death squad, calling itself the ESA, *Ejercito Secreto Anticomunista*, surfaced with the publication, on October 18, 1978, of a list of 38 people, including journalists, trade union, student and church leaders whom it had 'tried and sentenced to death'. Since then, several more ESA death threat lists have been published and several people named on them have been murdered.

However, recent violence in Guatemala has not been confined to prominent individuals or to those named on the death lists. Guatemalan newspapers note daily the number of bodies found throughout the country, and the average over the period studied has been variously determined as between six and nine. On certain days as many as 17 bodies have been recovered. Victims are often mutilated in such a way as to make identification impossible and are often found at a great distance from the original place of abduction, further complicating the identification process.

1978 has been characterised as the most violent year in Guatemala's history by journalist Saul David Oliva, who reported that 770 unidentified bodies had been buried in the Verbena cemetery in the first six months of the year. In December 1978, Guatemalan journalists noted that since July 1978 when General Romeo Lucas Garcia came to power backed by a right-wing coalition, there had been reports that of more than 500 victims of violence, nearly 200 appeared to have been tortured. Secret cemeteries and mass graves have also been found during the year, adding further substance to the assessment made in AI's Guatemala Briefing Paper of 1976, that a reasonable estimate of those that have died since 1966 at the hands of these death squads could number as high as 20,000.

The pattern set in the first six months of the Lucas Garcia regime has continued, and AI has continued to record the almost daily murders of trade unionists, *campesinos*, teachers and students, whose only apparent crime has been their opposition to the regime or their attempts to assert their right to organise, protest or retain their farm lands in the face of government recolonisation and development schemes, or foreign penetration.

From the continuous record of human rights violations which have come to our attention during the period 29 May 1978 to 29 May 1979, Amnesty International has put special emphasis on a number of dates, when particularly shocking abuses of human rights occurred. These are considered illustrative of the sort of daily violence to which certain sectors of Guatemalan society are subjected. In many cases, these are dates on which leaders of the popular protest movements were killed or kidnapped in apparent efforts to disorient and destroy the emerging Guatemalan opposition. In other cases, AI has chosen to highlight dates of large-scale repression such as the massacre of the Kekchi Indians at Panzos which we felt indicated the relationship between land disputes and repression in rural Guatemala, or October 4 when police and national guardsmen broke into the headquarters of the striking state employees and arrested 400 postal workers.

In addition to the dates and our daily notation of the number of identified victims of the death squads whose murder has come to our attention, and where the political implications are clear, AI has also noted cases where only the name of the murder or kidnap victim was available, and has included a number of instances where Guatemalan newspapers reported merely the number of bodies found on a particular day throughout the country. The death squads have also taken it upon themselves to 'judge and execute' petty criminals and deviants in vigilante style executions, and a number of these killings also appear on the Calendar, in order to indicate yet another way in which Guatemalan citizens are deprived of due process of law.

Amnesty International does not claim that the compilation is exhaustive; it is intended merely to suggest the nature of the everyday violence with which Guatemalans must live. Neither is it claimed that all of the violence is on one side: a number of killings of government and police officials, presumably by clandestine left wing organizations have been noted. However, most observers agree that the vast majority of the victims of the death squads in Guatemala, whose murders had political implications, would be characterized by Guatemala's rulers as 'left wing'.

Throughout the year, Amnesty International has also recorded government statements on the violence; authorities have consistently denied that security forces are directly involved in any of these incidents, although sources in Guatemala claim that the death squads are armed with

information which could only come from government sources and act with such impunity that their activities appear at least to be tolerated by the authorities.

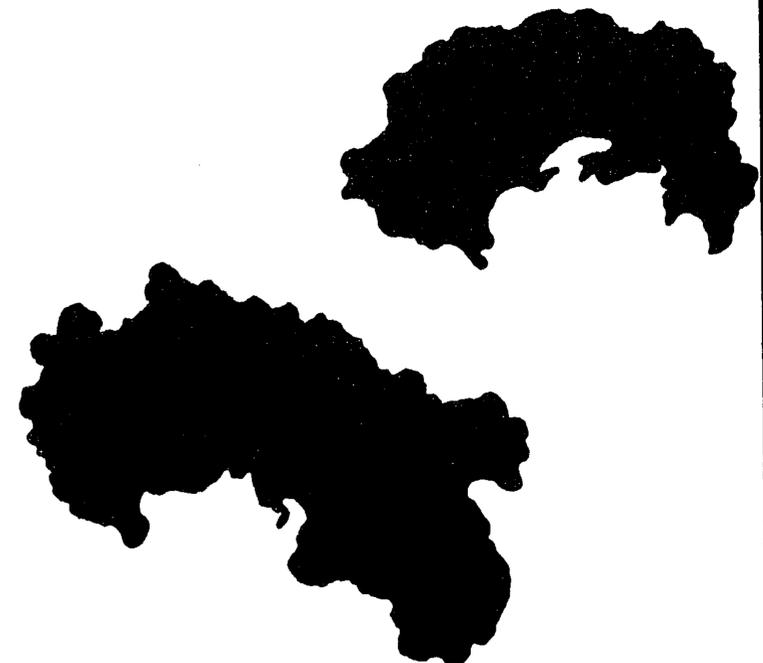
Families and associates of those who have suffered abuses, as well as international political and human rights organizations, have repeatedly called on the authorities to put an end to the violence and to bring the perpetrators to justice. President Lucas Garcia responded to such calls on 27 February 1979 comparing violence to an 'allergy' that one must learn to live with. On another occasion, the President abrogated government responsibility for the protection of its citizens by saying that it would need a 'magic wand' to eliminate violence in Guatemala. The Vice-President Francisco Villagran Kramer has repeatedly threatened to resign for what he officially states are reasons of health. Privately, however, he admits that the real problem is his frustration at the government's failure to end violence and investigate assassinations, and his own inability to change the course of events. Villagran Kramer is aware that if he were to leave the government, his life would be in danger. According to the Vice-President, in an interview he gave to Reuters press agency on 22 March 1979: 'Death or exile is the fate of those who fight for justice in Guatemala'. In no case of murder or kidnapping which we have recorded over the year covered by our calendar of human rights abuses, is AI aware that an official investigation has taken place, or that those responsible for a death or kidnapping have been officially brought to justice.

Surveying the record of the year since Panzos, Amnesty International's general conclusion must be to agree with the statement made on the anniversary of the massacre by the broadly based opposition group, the Democratic Front Against Repression, which declared that 'The massacre at Panzos marked the beginning of one of the most bloody escalations of repression in Guatemalan history. Starting from that date, threats, arrests, kidnappings, assassinations and land seizures increased dramatically.'

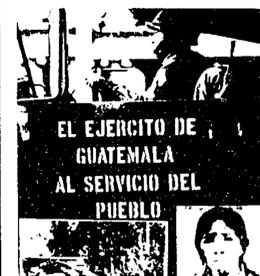
The calendar printed overleaf only gives the complete details indicated above in respect of the month of September 1978; duplicated copies can be made available of the details of brutal murders for the 12 months 29th May 1978 — 29th May 1979. It should be stressed that these details are extremely gruesome; only one month has been printed fully overleaf not only for reasons of space.

The Human Rights Year in Guatemala

A calendar of abuses May 1978 to May 1979



May 1978



Over 100 Kekchi Indians, including 25 women and five children, killed in confrontation with military at Panzos, Alta Verapaz. The Indians had come to the town to discuss with local authorities a letter they had received concerning conflict over ownership of land which Indians had farmed for from 40 to 100 years. Villagers say that mass graves had been dug two days before the incident. Army issues official statement charging that it was the Indians who initiated violence, but reliable church, university, peasant, labour and legal organisations within Guatemala say the army opened fire.

June

Amnesty International has details of at least 19 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:

August

Amnesty International has details of at least 43 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:

1
El Grafico of 30 July stated that it is the belief of Lic. Donald Alvarez Ruiz, Minister of the Interior that a 'Death Squad' is operating in Guatemala which, although it has no connection with the national security forces, is helping to clean up common criminals. Today the Minister responds: I very much regret that my journalist friends have misquoted the statement which I gave them in connection with gangs of common criminals who could be fighting each other, resulting in several deaths.



4
Police in gas masks use tear gas to break up a demonstration in Guatemala City protesting at the massacre at Panzos and the killing of the labour lawyer Mario Munia. The mayor of Guatemala City, Col. Abundio Muldonado, officially expresses regret that the majority of the 23 casualties are between 14 and 17 years old.

25
Luis asks if the death squad has been

8

Body, signs of torture, highway between Chiquimula and Cuitapa, two more between Chiquimula and Esquipulas. Presumed by police to be death squad victims.

11
Two bodies floating in the river Samala. Both shot dead. Juan Pablo Velasquez, dead, hamlet of Santa Rosa, San Marcos.

12
Delfino Lopez Osorio, 28, and Rene Fernando Lopez Fuentes, 32, kidnapped, later found dead, Tablon Grande, San Juan Sacatepequez, San Marcos.

13
Domingo Si Kon beaten to death, San Andres Semetabaj. Body in the Santa Rosita river Celso Rolando knifed to death and Martin Mendora strangled, zone 12 and zone 3 of Guatemala City. Both had police records. Body, zone 16, Guatemala City.

14
Lorenzo Garcia y Garcia, 48, disappeared from El Tesoro Arriba, Jocotan, Chiquimula. Relatives fear kidnapping.

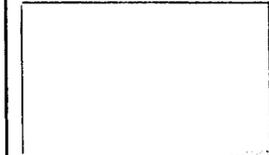
14
Armed men in olive green break into home of Leoncio Parras Catalan, Monte Verde, Nueva Santa Rosa, attempt kidnap. When he resists, they kill him, wounding his wife and daughter.

17
Jose Luis Chitapas Valladares, kidnapped August 9, found August 20, dies in hospital from effects of torture.

18
Decapitated body in the sea, Punta de Palma, Puerto Barrios.

19

28



Demonstrations and transport strike supported by church, student, peasant and political organisations against government plans to increase the cost of urban transport by 100 per cent gather force. One of the slogans used is *Repression will not deter us united we shall overcome.*

Two men who say they are police agents kidnap Francisco Gutierrez Duarte, a Colombian, entering bank to change money.

29
Two naked bodies, in a ravine near Mixco Guatemala City.

October

Amnesty International has details of at least 82 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:

5
Communique from Secret Anticomunist Army (ESA) says Commander in Chief, Manuel Sagastume Azurdia, has ordered intensification of anti-communist fight and military units will increase help to the people

November

Amnesty International has details of at least 103 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:

5
In less than 24 hours, 7 bodies found in various parts of the country.



Antonio Ciani, successor to murdered Oliverio Castaneda as president of the University Students Association, disappears.

10
Guatemalan press reports that Alfonso Gonzalez Estevez, former judicial agent and former bodyguard of departmental police chief, made anonymous death threats in name of ESA. The courts are investigating the case.

17
8 bodies appear in last 24 hours, marks of torture.

28

26

At least 21 bodies found over Christmas presumed to be political victims. 5 in the capital, others, with marks of torture, in Mafacatanico, Cotepeque and San Lucas Toliman.

29
There is an average of 30 deaths per day from violence according to calculations of staff of Penal Courts, agreed by police throughout the country - figures include deaths resulting from clashes between various political factions and victims of traffic accidents, believed to have been staged, or intentional murders.

January 79

Amnesty International has details of at least 84 people brutally murdered often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:

2
At least 15 bodies have been found in different parts of the country, some with probable political implications. Three were found in the capital, one with signs of torture. Others in the west: Zacapa, Jutiapa, Ishuatán, Oratorio, in the south-west: Zunil, Quezaltenango, Puerto San Jose and between San Jose Pinula and Mataquesicuintlas, all with signs of torture.

4
ESA issues death threats to 24 people, the majority of them trade union leaders.

16
National Police say average of five bodies are found each day, presumed to be victims of the death squad.

From October 1978 to today, more than 100 bodies have been found showing signs of

15

Manuel Andrade Roca, adviser to the rector of the University of San Carlos, and labour lawyer, is killed as he left a meeting at the university. His name had appeared on the January ESA death threat list.



In the early hours armed gang attacks editorial offices of *El Grafico*, one of Guatemala's leading newspapers. Fifteen men machine-gun the offices, but as they were empty no-one was hurt. This is the fourth such attack on newspapers since October.

March

Amnesty International has details of at least 72 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular:



May

Amnesty International has details of 147 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared.

9
According to police reports, there have been more than 1,000 victims of death squads during the last four months. Most of them have been buried as XX.

17
According to the press, an average of 8 bodies are found per day, showing signs of torture, strangled, knifed or shot dead. In the last 24 hours, 9 bodies have been found: two in Villa Nueva, the bodies of two women in Villa Canales with marks of torture; two more in Retalhuleu, another in Santa Rosa and two more in different parts of Guatemala City.

The National Police announce that a total of 150 people have been murdered in the last fortnight by death squads. The police are investigating.

29



One year after Panzos massacre, student, trade union and campesino organisations note that none of those responsible have been brought to justice. Democratic Front

The Indians had come to the town to discuss with local authorities a letter they had received concerning conflict over ownership of land which Indians had farmed for from 40 to 100 years. Villagers say that many graves had been dug two days before the incident. Army issues official statement charging that it was the Indians who initiated violence, but reliable church, university, peasant, labour and legal organisations within Guatemala say the army opened fire.

June

Amnesty International has details of at least 19 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared in particular

30

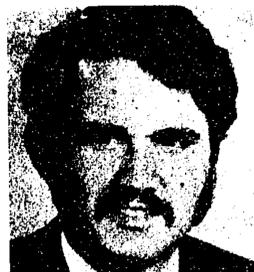


Father Hermogenes Lopez, 12 years parish priest of San Jose Pinula, near Antigua, is murdered by unknown assailants. Father Hermogenes was active in leading protests against the enforced press-gang of young peasants into the army, and was also active in organising peasants to defend their threatened water rights. On 29 June, a letter from Father Hermogenes was published in a number of Guatemalan newspapers in which he suggested that the army be abolished.

July

Amnesty International has details of at least 52 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared in particular.

20



Mario Rolando Mujia, a young labour lawyer and adviser to the miners of Ixtahuacan who led the miners' march to Guatemala City in December 1977, is shot as he enters his office in Huehuetenango.

21

El Grafico reports that about 20 bodies have been found on the roads in the last 20 days.



Police in gas masks use tear gas to break up a demonstration in Guatemala City protesting at the massacre at Panzos and the killing of the labour lawyer Mario Moya. The mayor of Guatemala City, Col. Abundio Muldonado, officially expresses regret that the majority of the 23 casualties are between 14 and 17 years old.

25

Luz asks if the death squad has been revived, since there have been 30 victims in 8 days.

September

1

Body, in Mazatenango, another in San Bartolome, Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepequez, and two in Ipala, Chiquimula with marks of torture. Edgar Rolando Dominguez, kidnapped by two men in blue in jeep, Mixco, Guatemala City district.

3

El Grafico reports in last 2 months, 50 bodies of death squad victims found with coup de grace trade mark of this organisation.

4

Body on Escupulas highway, San Jacinto, Chiquimula. Ears cut off, eyes blindfolded, hands tied behind back. Another body in the El Zapote river in Mixco, Chiquimula. Belisario Morales Rodriguez (also known as Napoleon Calderon Juarez), 31, kidnapped, found dead, El Palmar, Quezaltenango. Body has bullet wounds and signs of torture, believed to be death squad victim. Had criminal record.

Roger Ichevarria Galindo, 42, has disappeared from Mazatenango, Suchitepequez. Police think he has been kidnapped by a secret organisation.

6

Flavio Ruano Morales, 35, dead on Pacific highway at Amatitlan, Guatemala City district. Body shows signs of burns and possible drowning in petrol.

7

Body on highway between Quezaltenango and Ipala in Chiquimula, hands bound, bullet wounds and signs of torture.

Pablo Cordova Torres, 25, found shot dead at Tiquisate, Escuintla.

Body, shot, San Rafael Las Flores, Santa Rosa. Body, shot, Ciudad Pedro de Alvarado, Jutitapa.

Hector Rivera, 40, dead, San Pedro Sacatepequez, San Marcos.

Celso Rolando knifed to death and Martin Mendoza strangled, zone 12 and zone 3 of Guatemala City. Both had police records. Body, zone 16, Guatemala City.

Lorenzo Garcia y Garcia, 48, disappeared from El Tesoro Arriba, Jocoten, Chiquimula. Relatives fear kidnapping.

14

Armed men in olive green break into home of Leoncio Parra Catalan, Monte Verde, Nueva Santa Rosa, attempt kidnap. When he resists, they kill him, wounding his wife and daughter.

17

Jose Luis Chitapas Valladares, kidnapped August 9, found August 20, dies in hospital from effects of torture.

18

Decapitated body in the sea, Punta de Palma, Puerto Barrios.

19

Body with bullet wounds and signs of torture, Buena Vista, San Marcos.

Body of a black, marks of torture, on the highway at Rio Hondo, Zacapa.

Trinidad Cristobal Garcia, 72, kidnapped by men with sub-machineguns from Ojo de Agua San Pedro Sacatepequez, San Marcos.

Feliciano Bautista Jimenez, 39, dead with bullet wounds, Las Lisas/Casas Viejas, Chiquimula, Santa Rosa.

20

Hilario Perez Hernandez, murdered, Momias, Jalapa.

22

Body with knife wounds and mutilated face, Nebal, El Quiche.

23

Gustavo Adolfo Aldana, 18, dead with mutilated face on Atlantic highway, Rio Hondo, Zacapa.

Damilo Aguilar Guevara, 26, Honduran, resident Guatemala, shot dead, zone 2 of Guatemala City.

24

Luis Emilio Ramos Mendez and wife Julia Lopez Domingo murdered with machetes at their home in Malacatan, San Marcos by group of unknown assailants. Right hand of their one year old son reportedly amputated.

25

Juan de Jesus Espana found shot dead, Cubilete, Quezaltenango, Chiquimula. Antonio Lopez seriously wounded by armed men in Monte Verde, Nueva Santa Rosa, Santa Rosa.

26

Body of man about 30, Suchate river.

27

Angel de Jesus Ico Jon disappears in Guatemala City after boarding bus.

kidnap Francisco Gutierrez Duarte, a Colombian, entering bank to change money.

29

Two naked bodies, in a ravine near Mixco Guatemala City.

October

Amnesty International has details of at least 82 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular

5

Communique from Secret Anticommunist Army (ESA) says Commander in Chief, Manuel Sagastume Azurdia, has ordered intensification of anti-communist fight and military units will increase help to the people

18

ESA distributes list of 38 people sentenced to death after 'trial' by them. List includes union and student leaders, university staff.

20

Police admit existence of the Death Squad, which began operations 18 years ago and has killed several union leaders and politicians. ESA sentences to death Defence Minister, General Otto Spegler, Minister of the Interior, Donald Alvarez Ruiz, and head of the police Col. German Chupina, in move believed by many to be rise intended to confuse public as to real targets.



Oliverio Castaneda, President of Organisation of University Students of University of San Carlos, killed Guatemala City, minutes after speech at rally commemorating Guatemala's 'Revolution Day' and protesting at repression used in breaking up demonstrations connected with bus strike.

22

Donald Alvarez Ruiz, Minister of the Interior, states cannot give protection to those threatened by ESA if they participate in demonstrations or public gatherings.

24

Col. German Chupina, head of police, condemns ESA; declares will be dealt with in same way as all other subversive groups.

26

Congress votes against disarmament of paramilitary groups and for disintegration of subversive groups causing violence in last few months.



Antonio Ciani, successor to murdered Oliverio Castaneda as president of the University Students Association, disappears.

10

Guatemalan press reports that Alfonso Gonzalez Estevez, former judicial agent and former bodyguard of departmental police chief, made anonymous death threats in name of ESA. The courts are investigating the case.

17

8 bodies appear in last 24 hours, marks of torture.

28

Death squad responsible for 6 bodies identified by police. 5 more mutilated bodies found with marks of torture.

December

Amnesty International has details of at least 84 people brutally murdered often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular.

9

2nd ESA death list issued, 9 CNT and CNUS leaders named.

10

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

11

17 bodies are found in one day (the usual average has been 5-6 per day.)

12



Pedro Quevedo y Quevedo, former president and serving financial secretary of the Guatemalan Bottling Plant Union, is murdered in Guatemala City by unknown assailants as he does his rounds in his Coca Cola delivery truck.

2

At least 15 bodies have been found in different parts of the country, some with probable political implications. Three were found in the capital, one with signs of torture. Others in the west - Zacapa, Jutiapa, Ishuatan, Oratorio, in the south-west - Zamil, Quezaltenango, Puerto San Jose and between San Jose Pinula and Mataquecuintlas, all with signs of torture.

4

ESA issues death threats to 24 people, the majority of them trade union leaders.

16

National Police say average of five bodies are found each day, presumed to be victims of the death squad.

From October 1978 to today, more than 100 bodies have been found showing signs of violence, including, strangulation, run over by cars.

25



Alberto Fuentes Mohr, former finance and foreign affairs minister during the regime of Mendez Montenegro (1970-1974) and expected to head a leftist coalition in the 1982 elections, is murdered in Guatemala. A few hours before his Social Democratic Party is scheduled to present its request for registration as a political party, and just prior to the start of the aspiring party's second regional congress.

On the same day, Ricardo Martinez Solorzano, labour leader and law student at the University of San Carlos is murdered. He had represented his union (the IGSS union, of the Guatemalan Institute of Social Security) at the time of the bus strikes in the autumn. At the time of his death, he was standing as a candidate for president of the law students association.

31

240 people were assassinated in January says the National Hospital.

February

Amnesty International has details of at least 111 people brutally murdered often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared. According to the newspaper *Prensa Libre* there were 326 victims of violence in the first two weeks of February.

6

President Romeo Lucas Garcia says, on leaving for the United States with a select group of business experts that he is leaving with a peaceful mind, because Guatemala is peaceful.

men machine-gun the office, but as they were empty no-one was hurt. This is the fourth such attack on newspapers since October

March

Amnesty International has details of at least 72 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular



22

Manuel Colom Argeta, popular former mayor of Guatemala City, is killed along with two bodyguards on his way to work. He had been expected to be Fuentes Mohr's vice-presidential candidate in 1982 presidential elections.

April

Amnesty International has details of at least 88 people brutally murdered, often after kidnap and torture, and others disappeared, in particular

5



Manuel Lopez Balan, Secretary General of the Guatemalan Bottling Plant trade union, is killed in his Coca Cola delivery van. His name had appeared on the ESO January death threat list, along with Israel Marquez, his predecessor, who escaped three attempts on his life and was forced to flee into exile.

17

15 bodies found in El Mirador de Santa Elena Barillas, Moran, Villa Canales, three in Nueva Concepcion, two in San Marcos, and in Antigua and another in Retalhuleu.

28

Col. German Chupina, director general of the national police, announces that 78 people were murdered in the past week.

investigating.

29



One year after Panzos massacre, student, trade union and campesino organisations note that none of those responsible have been brought to justice. Democratic Front Against Repression which groups 117 trade union, workers' and stum dwellers' associations, four peasant organisations (which themselves represent some 153 peasant groups), 37 student organisations, lawyers and university professors' associations and the Comité Pro Justicia y Paz and its affiliated organisations, issue a statement to mark anniversary of killings. Statement declares: *The massacre at Panzos not only constituted an act of genocide but also marked the beginning of one of the most bloody escalations of repression in Guatemalan history. Starting from that date, threats, arrests, kidnappings, assassinations and land seizures increased dramatically.*



Amnesty International,
Tower House,
8-14 Southampton Street,
London WC2.



**Amnesty
International
Guatemala
Campaign**

YOU CAN HELP!

Amnesty International concerns in Guatemala are:

- Widespread political murder
- torture
- disappearances

These gross human rights violations are sometimes carried out at the hands of official security forces and sometimes following abduction by para-military death squads.

Bodies are often mutilated in such a way as to make identification impossible, and at a great distance from the original place of abduction, further complicating the identification process.

What you can do

Write a courteously worded letter in Spanish, French or English (preference in that order) to:

Presidente Romeo LUCAS Garcia,
Presidente de la Republica,
Palacio Nacional,
Guatemala,
Guatemala.

Dr Francisco VILLAGRAN Kramer,
Vice-Presidente de la Republica,
Palacio Nacional

Donaldo ALVAREZ Ruiz
Ministro del Interior,
Ministerio del Interior

Coronel German CHUPINA Barahona,
Director General de la Policia Nacional,
6 Av. y 14 Calle,
Zona 1

- expressing concern about acts of violence, torture, killings and disappearances.
- urging the authorities to bring those persons responsible, including the death squads, for these crimes under the law.
- asking for immediate steps to be taken against detention without trial.
- emphasising that violations of human rights are widely recognised as a serious matter of international concern which transcends national frontiers and considerations of race, religion or ideological creeds.
- observing that human rights are guaranteed by international agreements to which Guatemala is bound by international law.



amnesty international

is an international human rights organisation which campaigns for the release of Prisoners of Conscience, provided they have not used or advocated violence, throughout the world, from Guatemala to the USSR, from South Africa to Indonesia. 110 countries are listed in Amnesty International's last Annual Report. Of the figure

of 500,000, which is Amnesty International's estimate of prisoners of conscience detained at any one time, 2,000 (approximately) were released in 1978. Much of the pressure for their release came from Amnesty International with its 39 National Sections and members in 70 countries, and over 2300 groups throughout the world.

fill in and send to Amnesty International, Tower House, 8-14 Southampton Street, London WC2

I wish to become an individual member of AI and enclose cheque/PO for £5.00 (claimants, students, OAPs £2.50)

I wish to make a donation to AI.

Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Address

I wish to receive further information about the Guatemala Campaign. The following material is available:

Legal Trade Unions Politicians

Press Church Calendar of abuses

academics

Name

Address