

E X T E R N A L
EL SALVADOR

AI index No: AMR/29/01/78
Distrib: NS/CO/AD

Amnesty International
International Secretariat
10 Southampton Street
London WC2E 7HF
England

27 January 1978

EL SALVADOR: CASE STUDIES

July 1976 - December 1977

This dossier includes 62 case studies of prisoners whose detention had not been acknowledged by authorities at the time of writing, despite pleas of habeas corpus. These prisoners are considered "disappeared", although some have been seen in official custody by prisoners now released. Most are believed held in the headquarters of either the National Guard or the National Police, both in the capital city San Salvador.

We also include the cases of 30 persons, all campesinos, peasant farmers, who were murdered with apparent official complicity, or with the direct involvement of government security forces.

Each of the cases which we include in this document has been reported and confirmed to us by sources we believe reliable. Where confirmations of arrests and killings and details of cases come from public sources, we have named these sources and quoted relevant material. We have also cited pertinent statements by government spokesmen which have appeared in the press.

These cases, with full supporting documentation, were submitted by Amnesty International for review and intervention to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in January 1978. Many of the cases of unacknowledged detention, or disappearance have been the subject of appeals by Amnesty International directly to Salvadorean authorities.

Case studies of persons detained, or murdered with apparent official complicity are cited alphabetically within professional groupings, as given in the index of names overleaf. We have placed persons under Campesinos when they have been shown to be small farmers, or to come from peasant background. We have made no separate listing of persons detained or murdered in apparent reprisal for their work with the Roman Catholic Church. Most of these cases are found within the section on Campesinos.

The dossier is divided into the following sections:

- | | | |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| page 2 | - | Index of names |
| page 4 | - | <u>Campesinos</u> (peasants) murdered with apparent official complicity; |
| page 10 | - | <u>Campesinos</u> held in unacknowledged detention; |
| page 18 | - | Trade unionists and manual workers held in unacknowledged detention; |
| page 21 | - | Students and professionals held in unacknowledged detention. |

INDEX OF NAMES

-2-

PROFESSION:NAME:

ACEVEDO Valladares, Alcides	student	detailed
ACEVEDO, Antonio	manual worker	detailed
AGUILAR, Manual de Jesus	manual worker	detailed
ALAS, Efrain	campesino	killed
ALAS, Ernesto	campesino	detailed
ALVARADO, Antonio	campesino	detailed
ALVARENGA, Manual Antonio	campesino	detailed
ALVAREZ Menendez, Antonio	campesino	detailed
AREVALO Ibarra, Efrain	teacher	detailed
ARGUETA, Fabio	campesino	detailed
ARGUETA, Porfirio	campesino	detailed
ARGUETA, Raymundo	campesino	detailed
ARRIAZA Chavarria, Sergio Vladimir	student	detailed
AVALOS, Mario	campesino	killed
BELLOSO, Sabas	campesino	detailed
BLANCO Diaz, Antonio	campesino	detailed
BONILLA Contreras, Luis Alberto	student	detailed
CALLES, Transito	campesino	detailed
CAMPOS, Rosendo Oswaldo	campesino	detailed
CASTANEDA, Santos Mauricio	manual worker	detailed
CASTRO, Oscar	teacher	detailed
CLIMACO, Antonio	campesino	detailed
CORDOBA, Simon	campesino	killed
COTO, Maria Dolores	manual worker	detailed
CHACON Vasquez, Felipe	campesino	killed
DELGADO Francisco	campesino	killed
DIAZ Arteaga, Rosa Maria	campesino	detailed
ESCOBAR, Joaquin	campesino	killed
FABIAN Villalobos, Julio Cesar	student	detailed
FLORES Avila, Julio Enrique	teacher	detailed
GUARDADO Carlos	campesino	killed
GUARDADO, Herminio	campesino	killed
GUARDADO, Jose Angel	campesino	killed
GUARDADO, Miguel	campesino	killed
GUARDADO, Moises	campesino	killed
GUARDADO, Pastor	campesino	killed
GUILLEN, Ricardo	campesino	killed
GUTIERREZ Linares, Victor Manuel	teacher	detailed
HERNANDEZ de Blanco, Maria Carlota	campesino	detailed
LAINEZ, Francisca	manual worker	detailed
LEIVA, Francisco	campesino	killed
LEON, Ricardo Antonio	campesino	detailed
LIZAMA, Mauricio	student	detailed
LOPEZ, Francisco	campesino	detailed
LOPEZ Pablo, Julian	campesino	detailed
LOPEZ Lidia	manual worker	detailed
MADRIZ Martinez, Carlos Antonio	doctor	detailed
MAJANO Quintanilla, Manuel	manual worker	detailed
MARTINEZ, Miguel Angel	campesino	killed
MARTINEZ Garcia, Antonio	campesino	detailed
MEJIA, Jose Justo	campesino	killed
MEJIA Ricardo	campesino	killed

Students and professionals held in unacknowledged detention

Alcides ACEVEDO Valladares

Detained on 14 July 1977 by members of the National Guard in San Cayetano, Istepeque, Department of San Vicente when returning from the city of San Vicente; he is a 19 year old student of the Instituto Nacional de Guadalupe. An article in El Mundo of 25 July 1977 reported the following:

"Various appeals for personal exhibition were presented to the Supreme Court of Justice, by relatives of persons, who, according to the appeals, are supposed detained by Security Corps.

Señora María Balbina Acevedo, aged 50, explained that her son, Alcides Acevedo Valladares, aged 19, was captured in San Cayetano, Istepeque, Department of San Vicente as he returned from the capital of the department where he was to have purchased some construction materials....."

In a statement attributed to Rodolfo Antonio Barrera Villalta, included in the document "Documento-Informe: Situación de los Derechos Humanos en El Salvador" presented in October 1977 to the Human Rights Commission of the World Council of Peace in Copenhagen, Denmark, Sr Barrera reports that he was detained with Alcides Acevedo Valladares on 14 July 1977, at 3 pm by three agents of the National Guard. Both were reportedly taken to the local National Guard post where they were severely beaten, and later in the same day taken to the headquarters of the National Guard in San Salvador. There they were reportedly interrogated under torture, which included electric shocks. After twelve days in detention, Sr Barrera was transferred to the headquarters of the National Police, where he was held for a term of 30 days:

"I was forced to serve thirty days punishment for an offence that I did not commit, plus 12 days in the National Guard; a total of forty-two days in prison."

The document does not indicate the alleged offence for which he was apparently detained. In the detailed statement it is affirmed that Alcides Acevedo Valladares was very ill when he was last seen by Sr Barrera in the National Guard headquarters.

Efrain AREVALO Ibarra

Detained on 6 November 1977 while travelling to San Salvador. He is the Public Relations secretary of the Executive Council of the Teachers Union ANDES 21 de Junio and is a teacher in San Miguel, Department of San Miguel. On 11 November the teachers union ANDES placed a paid advertisement in El Diario de Hoy denouncing his arrest and unacknowledged detention. The paid advertisement made reference to the fact that Sr Arevalo's

Efrain AREVALO Ibarra cont'd

son José Efrain Cuéllar Arevalo was also in unacknowledged detention since his arrest on 26 October 1977. Shortly after the publication of the paid advertisement, the son was located in the General Hospital. He had been severely beaten and tortured. Sr Arevalo Ibarra continues in unacknowledged detention.*

Sergio Vladimir ARRIAZA Chavarria

Detained on 14 September 1976 in San Miguel, Department of San Miguel; he is a 21 year old student. His mother, Maria Luisa V. de Chavarria, placed a paid advertisement in El Diario de Hoy of 7 September 1977 which described her son's arrest:

"....(he) was arrested in the town of San Miguel on 14 September 1976 by security agents in plain clothes, who told me that they belonged to Immigration Police and that my son would soon return. However, Sergio Vladimir did not return. The arrest was made in the presence of several friends and relatives who were in my house at the time."

The paid advertisement also mentions that Sr Arriaza has been seen in prison:

"Recently, it was with great happiness that I received reliable information that he was alive in prison in the HEADQUARTERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD: moreover, the fact that a number of prisoners are in the same situation as my son, such as Dr Alfredo Castro Quezada who was released a few days ago, increases the hope that Sergio will also be released."

Sr Arriaza was also reportedly seen in January 1977 in the National Guard headquarters by Ana Guadalupe Martinez who was released on 28 January 1977 in response to demands made by ERP, leftwing guerrilla group which kidnapped and murdered Sr Roberto Poma, President of the Salvadorean Institute of Tourism.

Translation of an extract from a widely circulated "open letter" signed by Ana Guadalupe Martinez and Rodolfo Jimenez, another political prisoner, both of whom were released in response to guerrilla threats to Sr Poma:

"....among those who were there (in the National Guard headquarters) up until the time I was released were: Doctor CARLOS MADRIZ MARTINEZ captured on 13 July 1976 and still denied by the Salvadorean government to be in detention; JUAN JOSE YANEZ, aged 38, captured in June 1976; SERGIO VLADIMIR ARRIAZA CHAVARRIA, captured in September 1976; he was kidnapped by security agents in plain clothes who were passing as Immigration officials; LUIS BONILLA, captured in December 1976; LIL MILAGRO RAMIREZ HUEZO, captured in the month of November of the same year together with the teacher MARIO RIVERA, member