

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Torture

4 July 1986

CHILE: Bernardo Alfonso SOTO TELLEZ José Jeronimo ESCOBAR SANCHEZ  
Osvaldo CIFUENTES CIFUENTES Hector Fernando GAMBOA ACEVEDO  
Leonardo Alfredo VEGA POZA Ivan Ruben SANHUEZA ACEVEDO

Carmen QUINTANA ARANCIBIA Rodrigo ROJAS DE NEGRI  
and others

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Amnesty International has received reports that at least eight people, including Bernardo Alfonso Soto Tellez, José Jeronimo Escobar Sanchez, Osvaldo Cifuentes Cifuentes, Hector Fernando Gamboa Acevedo, Leonardo Alfredo Vega Poza and Ivan Ruben Sanhueza Acevedo, from the poblaciones (poor neighbourhoods) of Santiago were taken from their homes by armed individuals believed to be members of the Central Nacional de Informaciones (CNI - Chilean security police) during the night of 1/2 July 1986. They were taken into detention only hours before the two-day national strike called by professional and opposition groups was due to begin. The detention of these people was characteristic of the pre-emptive raids in which those suspected of organizing protests are taken into custody and often tortured.

It is believed that those detained are being held incommunicado in secret CNI detention centres and there are fears that they are being tortured. Only one of the arrests has been acknowledged by the authorities so far, that of Hector Fernando Gamboa Acevedo.

Amnesty International has also received reports of another incident in which two young people were captured by a military patrol on the morning of 2 July 1986. Rodrigo Rojas de Negri, a photographer aged 19, and Carmen Quintana Arancibia, a student aged 18, are reported to have been sprayed by those who detained them with an unknown substance and then set on fire. After their bodies had caught fire they were wrapped in blankets and driven to the outskirts of Santiago where they were abandoned. They are now both in a critical condition in hospital.

Five people are reported to have been killed in the poblaciones in separate incidents during the night of 1/2 July 1986. Some were allegedly killed by the official security forces. Others were killed by armed men travelling in private cars. Such killings have become increasingly common in the poblaciones. At least 26 people died and many more were injured in attacks by clandestine armed squads during 1985. Amnesty International believes that these clandestine armed groups are linked to the security forces. One of the five killed on 1/2 July 1986 was a 13-year-old girl, Nadia Fuentes, who was shot when she went out to buy bread.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/airmail letters:

- urging that those detained by the security forces, including Bernardo Alfonso Soto Tellez, José Jeronimo Escobar Sanchez, Osvaldo Cifuentes Cifuentes, Hector Fernando Gamboa Acevedo, Leonardo Alfredo Vega Poza and Ivan Ruben Sanhueza Acevedo, be allowed immediate access to their families and lawyers, and urging that they be humanely treated while in detention

☎ 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502

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*

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- urging that a special judge (ministro en visita) be appointed to investigate the arrest and torture of Rodrigo Rojas de Negri and Carmen Quintana Arancibia, and that those responsible be brought to justice
- urging an immediate investigation into the deaths of the five people killed by shots allegedly fired by military patrols or members of clandestine squads
- expressing concern about the apparent policy of condoning the unrestrained use of violence against real or suspected opponents of the government, and urging the government to take urgent measures to end these abuses

APPEALS TO:

Sr. Ricardo García Rodríguez  
Ministro del Interior  
Palacio de La Moneda  
Santiago, Chile

Telegrams to: Ministro Interior, Santiago, Chile  
Telexes to: 240616 ofcon cl

COPIES TO:

If possible, please send a copy of your appeal by telegram, otherwise by mail to:

Sr. Osvaldo Faúndez Vallejos  
Presidente de la Corte de Apelaciones  
Plaza Montt Varas  
Santiago, Chile

Copies of appeals on behalf Ivan Ruben Sanhueza Acevedo should be sent by telegram, or mail, to:

Sr. Presidente  
Corte de Apelaciones Pedro Aguirre Cerda  
Alvarez de Toledo 1020  
Santiago, Chile

Copies of appeals should also be sent to Chilean diplomatic representatives in your country, and to:

Analisis  
Manuel Montt 425  
Santiago, Chile

(weekly opposition magazine)

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Please check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 July 1986.

— 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 may be 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 facts.

— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.