



# THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF EL SALVADOR (CDHES)

URBANIZACION LA ESPERANZA, PASAJE 1, N° 117, SAN SALVADOR—TELEFONO: 23-9232

Canadian Office: Human Rights Commission of El Salvador. CDHES, 1901 Yonge St., 5th. Toronto, Ont. Canada, M4S 2Z5. (416 482-2754)  
MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN. (non-governmental ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO THE UNITED NATION ORGANIZATION, STATUS B AND TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE) AND MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA. (CODEHUCA)

JULY 16, 1990

## PRESS RELEASE

- The Human Rights Commission of El Salvador (CDHES) has issued a statement about the surprise arrest in California of a witness from El Salvador.

Cesar Vielman Joya Martinez was once a member of a Salvadoran military death squad. He sought asylum in the U.S.A. in October 1989, and on that occasion he gave testimony to the Washington Post of the involvement of high ranking military officers of El Salvador in the torture and killing of civilian leftists. He also claimed to have first-hand knowledge of the implication of U.S. military advisers in some of these incidents.

Mr. Joya Martinez, who settled in Long Beach, California, has volunteered on numerous occasions to testify before government bodies or courts in the U.S. The El Salvador government and army, however, have perpetually demanded his extradition.

On Tuesday, July 10, ten F.B.I. agents, heavily armed, broke into the home, kidnapping Cesar the above, and took him away. As yet the F.B.I. have released no statement, and made public no charges, in explanation of this surprise arrest. (according CODEHUCA).

The CDHES has issued a statement warning of extremely serious consequences if the U.S. should go through with an extradition to El Salvador.

First of all, Joya Martinez would certainly be killed. The statements made about him by military and government officials have been venomous.

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Secondly, with his death, a major witness to military atrocities in El Salvador would be silenced. Joya Martinez told the Washington Post he himself had participated in seven or eight death squad murders and gave the locations of the bodies, which were later confirmed by observers.

Thirdly, this would be a demonstration of U.S. official support for the very bodies in El Salvador which are responsible for decades of atrocities .

The CDHES urges very strongly that U.S. officials now take the full testimony of Joya Martinez instead of extraditing him. U.S. officials who state that the roots of this terror have contaminated its army and its government's roots and branches. The terror continues as death squads continue routinely to silence opposition and independent opinion. We have the statistics for the first six months of 1990: we have confirmed 695 cases of political assassinations, of which 561 can be linked to the armed forces of El Salvador. (These include 695 assassinations for political violence; 561 are attributed to the armed forces; 87 are attributed to men in civilian dress under the direct or indirect cover-up of the state; 14 more cases are attributed to the F.M.L.N.; 4 cases to the cross-fire and 29 cases are attributed to mines.) We also have recorded the unlawful detention of 481 civilians and 92 cases of "disappearance".

In its statement, the CDHES focusses upon the impunity enjoyed for years by top military officers. It draws attention to the urgent need of judicial reform in the country. Judges and to deal with the fallout from years of terror. There is also now no substitute for a national dialogue involving all sectors of the population.

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"We support the efforts of both parties to dialogue/ negotiate in order to achieve peace in our country, and we welcome the involvement of the United Nations in the process of negotiations."

The CDHES has been monitoring the human rights situation in El Salvador since April, 1978, and has reported and witnessed innumerable massacres, forced disappearances, arbitrary executions and the cruel and inhuman treatment of detainees.

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FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS,  
OUR VOICE SHALL NEVER BE SILENCED !  
THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF EL SALVADOR, CDHES.



## Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador (CDHES)

URBANIZACION LA ESPERANZA, PASAJE 1, Nº 117. SAN SALVADOR — TELEFONO: 25-9232

Miembro de la Federación Internacional de los Derechos del Hombre (FIDH), Organización no gubernamental, afiliado a la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y a la Comisión de Europa. Y de la Comisión para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos en Centroamérica (COMEDHICA).

### PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1990

#### 1- CAPTURADOS:

responsabilidad de F.A.: 420

" F.M.L.N 61

TOTAL 481

#### 2- DESAPARECIDOS:

Responsb. . . . . 18

" hombres vestidos de  
civil: . . . . . 2

Responsab. no esclarecidas: 72

total : 92

#### 3- ASESINADOS:

- Responsabilidad de la F.A. . . . . 561

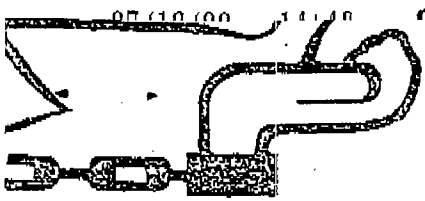
- Responsáb. hombres vestidos de civil  
bajo el amparo directo o indirecto  
del Estado: . . . . . 87

-- Responsabilidad del FMLN: . . . . . 14

- Fuego Cruzado : . . . . . 4

- Minas : . . . . . 29

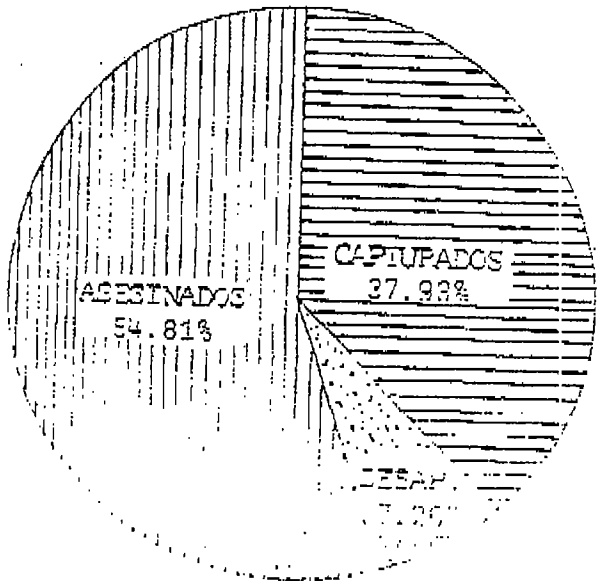
total: . . . 695



Miembro de la Federación Internacional de los Derechos del Hombre (FIDH), (Organización no Gubernamental, acreditada ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas Estatuto B y ante el Consejo de Europa), y de la Comisión para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos en Centroamérica. (CODEHUCA).

**TABLA Y GRAFICA ESTADISTICA  
 DE CAPTURADOS DESAPARECIDOS Y ASESINADOS  
 DE LA POBLACION CIVIL DURANTE EL  
 PRIMER SEMESTRE DE 1990**

Sectores Rubros	CAPTURADOS	DESAPARECIDOS	ASESINADOS
CAMPESINOS	167	17	20
OBREROS	43	17	8
ESTUDIANTES	18	3	4
EMPLEADOS	12	7	9
PROFESORES	2	1	1
PROFESIONALES	1	0	3
PERIODISTAS	3	0	4
FUNC PUBLICOS	1	0	0
ARTISTAS	1	0	2
RELIGIOSOS	2	0	1
OFICIOS DOMEST.	23	1	0
MENORES	21	13	12
NO IDENTIFICAD.	175	31	629
EX MILITARES	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>695</b>



**NOTA :**

Ademas durante este periodo fueron reportados 52 capturas, 48 desapariciones y 17 asesinatos, ocurridos en fechas anteriores.

**FUENTES:**

- \* Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador, (CDHES) no gubernamental.
- \* La Prensa Grafica (P.G.)
- \* EL Diario de Hoy (D.H.)
- \* EL DIARIO EL MUNDO (D.M.)
- \* Diario Latino (D.L.)

s.s. Julio/1990