

via fax: 011 57 1 596 0631 Excmo. Sr. Juan Manuel Santos President of the Republic of Colombia	via fax: 011 57 1 570 2000 ext 2023 Sr. Eduardo Montealegre Attorney General of Colombia
via fax: 011 57 1 596 0631 General Oscar Adolfo Naranjo Trujillo Advisory Minister for Post Conflict, Human Rights and Security	

December 23, 2014

Dear Sirs:

We are extremely concerned about the continuing mass death threats to human rights defenders from the paramilitary organization Black Eagles (Águilas Negras). On December 9 an unknown individual gave a written death threat to a human rights defender at the Memory, Peace and Reconciliation Center in Bogotá. The pamphlet, titled "High Command Statement - Eviction Plan Bang Bang Bang," had the logo of the Black Eagles. It listed the names of several human rights defenders belonging to the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes (MOVICE), including: **Alfonso Castillo**, Director of the Colombian Association of Solidarity Aid (ANDAS); **Camilo Álvarez** of Sons and Daughters for Memory and Against Impunity; **Adriana Cuellar**, a member of the legislative team of Alirio Uribe of the House of Representatives, and **Ana Jimena Bautista**, member of the legislative team of Senator Iván Cepeda. The **CAJAR human rights lawyers collective**, a member organization of MOVICE, was also named.

This pamphlet is the latest in a series of threats made since September by the Black Eagles against human rights defenders, independent media outlets, victims of state crimes and public figures that have openly supported the peace talks currently under way in Havana, Cuba (cf our letters of Sep 25 and Oct 12). The latest pamphlet states that previous threats have not been taken seriously and that those declared military targets have not left the city. It declares those on the list and their families to be "military targets" and states that "from today we are not playing."

Because we believe that the lives of all those threatened are in danger, and because Colombia continues to record some of the highest levels of attacks on human rights defenders, we **strongly urge** that you

- provide immediate effective protection for those threatened, in accordance with their wishes;
- order a full and impartial investigation into the death threats, publish the results and bring those responsible to justice;
- take action against paramilitary forces and break any links between them and the security forces, in line with repeated UN recommendations.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
 Co-Coordinator

copies: MOVICE ~ via US. Mail
 Luis Carlos Villegas, Ambassador of Colombia to the US ~ via fax: 202.232.8643
 Kevin Whitaker, US Ambassador to Colombia ~ via fax: 011.571.275.4600
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 José de Jesús Orozco Hernández, Rapporteur for Colombia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: 202.458.3992
 US Senators Brown & Portman
 US Representatives Fudge, Gibbs, Johnson, Jordan, Joyce, Kaptur, Latta, Renacci, Ryan ~ via email

UA229/14update_and_FrontlineDefenders_Colombia

The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter: