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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Situation of human rights in El Salvador

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the report on the situation of human rights in El Salvador prepared by Professor José Antonio Pastor Ridruejo, Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with paragraph 14 of Commission resolution 1989/68 of 8 March 1989.

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ANNEX

Report on the situation of human rights in El Salvador prepared by the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 14 of Commission resolution 1989/68

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report has been prepared pursuant to resolution 1989/68 of the Commission on Human Rights. It refers to the situation of human rights in El Salvador during the months that have elapsed in 1989, although it must obviously be read in the light of the reports submitted by the Special Representative since 1981. The Special Representative is grateful for the co-operation extended to him in discharging his mandate by the Government of El Salvador and other Governments, by the <u>Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional</u> (Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front - FMLN), international and non-governmental organizations and other individuals and institutions.

2. By letter of 7 June 1989, the Special Representative told the Government of El Salvador that he would like to visit the country between 1 and 7 October 1989. The Government agreed to have the visit take place between 8 and 15 October.

3. During his stay in El Salvador, the Special Representative met with the Constitutional President of the Republic, Mr. Alfredo Cristiani, with senior authorities of the legislative branch and the judiciary, with generals, chiefs and officers of the armed forces and security forces and with several ministers and other authorities. He also held talks with opposition leaders (Christian Democratic Party and <u>Convergencia Democrática</u> - Democratic Convergence). He interviewed numerous witnesses brought forward by non-governmental humanitarian organizations and received extensive oral and written information from those organizations and from peasant and trade union movements. He also interviewed independent individuals, and lastly, visited the village of Tenancingo, where he talked with community residents. The Special Representative also interviewed representatives of FMLN.

II. OVERALL POLITICAL SITUATION

The armed conflict between the armed forces and FMLN guerrilla organizations 4. continued in El Salvador during the months that have elapsed in 1989, although this situation did not hinder the electoral process envisaged in the 1983 Constitution. In fact, as was widely reported in the news media, presidential elections were held on 19 March 1989. In a communiqué dated 8 March, FMLN had urged citizens to boycott the elections and had called for a total stoppage of both public and private transport, 1/ advising citizens not to leave their homes after 7 p.m. 0n the day before the elections, FMLN members threw a bomb at a military vehicle in San Salvador central market, killing one soldier and one civilian. In the early morning on election day, FMLN launched an all-out offensive against military facilities throughout the country and set fire to buses, taxis and private vehicles. The retaliatory action taken by the armed forces resulted in the deaths of two journalists on election day (a photographer and a television technician, both Salvadorian). A Dutch journalist was killed in cross-fire between FMLN organizations and the army. 2/ The Special Representative has learned that the armed forces arrested a soldier implicated in the death of the Salvadorian television technician and placed him at the disposal of the courts. 3/

5. With 939,078 valid ballots counted, Mr. Alfredo Cristiani, candidate of the Republican Nationalist Alliance (ARENA), obtained 53.83 per cent of the votes, while Mr. Fidel Chávez Mena, candidate of the Christian Democratic Party, obtained 36.03 per cent. The candidates of other parties obtained much lower percentages. Mr. Cristiani was inaugurated as President of the Republic on 1 June 1989 and proceeded immediately to reorganize the Government. It should be noted that FMLN called for a transport stoppage beginning on 31 May, the day before Mr. Cristiani's inauguration.

6. In January 1989, FMLN made a proposal to the authorities and political parties of El Salvador whereby it would accept the results of the presidential elections, which as we said were scheduled for 19 March, if the elections were postponed for six months and certain other requirements were met. As the Special Representative stated on 1 March 1989 when presenting his report to the Commission on Human Rights, the proposal was a novel and interesting one in that it indicated a willingness on the part of the guerrilla organizations to give up certain demands which the Salvadorian constitutional authorities had thus far considered unacceptable. As it turned out, intense and arduous negotiations produced no agreement, and the elections went ahead on the day originally planned, under the circumstances and with the outcome described above.

7. A few days after the elections, Mr. Cristiani proposed a resumption of the dialogue with FMLN even before his official inauguration. On 29 May 1989, the FMLN General Command transmitted to El Salvador's various political parties a proposal for resuming the dialogue with a view to entering into negotiations on all the issues concerned, including a cease-fire. 4/ As was widely reported by the media, on 1 June 1989, following his inauguration, Mr. Cristiani offered to engage in an ongoing dialogue with the guerrilla organizations (the so-called dialogue process). The first round of talks was held at Mexico City on 13, 14 and 15 September and the second at San José, Costa Rica, beginning on 16 October. No substantive agreement was reached at the latter meeting, but participants decided to continue the talks. The meetings were attended by observers from the Catholic Church of El Salvador, the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

8. During his stay in El Salvador, the Special Representative noted once again the deep-seated desire of Salvadorian citizens to see the dialogue lead once and for all to an early, negotiated settlement of the conflict. While recognizing the difficulties inherent in the dialogue and negotiation process, the Special Representative wishes to call once more on the Government and FMLN to show political realism, generosity and creativity in order to ensure that peace very soon becomes a reality in El Salvador. Only thus will it be possible to undertake the mutually agreed process of reconstruction which the country needs.

9. With regard to the dialogue and negotiation process, the Special Representative considers it appropriate to mention that at the summit meeting of Central American Presidents held at Tela, Honduras, from 5 to 7 August 1989, the Presidents adopted the Tela Declaration in which they "endorsed the appeal to armed groups in the region, particularly FMLN, that still persist in the use of force, to halt such activities. Accordingly, they have endorsed chapter III on assistance in the voluntary demobilization of FMLN, whereby FMLN is strongly urged to put an

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immediate and effective end to hostilities so that a dialogue may be carried out that will lead to a rejection of armed struggle and the integration of FMLN members into institutional and democratic life". In chapter III, the Governments of the other four Central American countries strongly urge FMLN "to carry out a constructive dialogue for the purpose of achieving a just and lasting peace. Similarly, the aforementioned Governments urge the Government of El Salvador to arrange, with full guarantees ... the integration of the members of FMLN into peaceful life".

III. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

10. Because of limitations on the length of this report, the Special Representative will not reproduce in detail the data he has received on the country's economic situation, but will simply point out that the factors which have resulted in a worsening of the living conditions of the vast majority of Salvadorian citizens persisted during the months that have elapsed in 1989. One of the most important factors is the continuation of the armed conflict.

11. During his stay in El Salvador, the Special Representative was able to visit the village of Tenancingo, which some years ago was the target of intensive aerial bombing. The village, with a population of around 300 inhabitants, was difficult to get to and lacking in public services. There was no army or security forces detachment there. Residents said that a Belgian nun was the person who took decisions in cases of emergency and saw to it that the most basic needs of the community were met. If anyone needed emergency medical care, for example, it was the nun who would take the patient, in her vehicle, to a hospital in a nearby village. They also complained repeatedly and insistently about the lack of jobs, since only those working in agriculture were able to find work, and even they only found temporary employment. Some children were barefoot and the overall impression which Tenancingo gave was one of poverty, although not the critical, extreme poverty observed by the Special Representative in 1988 in the resettled village of El Barillo.

12. The Special Representative received information from various sources regarding harassment against trade unions. 5/ This harassment had allegedly included, on some occasions, arrests for longer periods than those allowed under the Constitution, torture and ill-treatment, and even summary executions. The Special Representative will discuss these matters under the appropriate section of this report.

13. The same sources reported violent temporary occupation of trade union offices. Specifically, the offices of the <u>Federación Nacional Sindical de</u> <u>Trabajadores Salvadoreños</u> (FENASTRAS) were surrounded and occupied on 22 February 1989 and again on 5 September. 6/ On 18 September 1989, members of FENASTRAS organized a demonstration which was forcefully broken up by security forces, with more than 60 people arrested. 7/ The Special Representative has learned that most of the people were subsequently released. He was also told by the competent Salvadorian authorities that participants in the demonstration had acted violently and had burned several buses. The same authorities told the

Special Representative that FENASTRAS is a front for insurgent activity, although this was denied by union members in their discussions with the Special Representative. At any rate, sources considered to be independent and which prefer to remain anonymous explained to the Special Representative that, to varying degrees, the activities of certain trade union members are not entirely independent of FMLN. One trade union member did acknowledge, in talking with the Special Representative, that his organization shared some of FMLN's political objectives, but not its military objectives.

14. The Special Representative also learned $\underline{8}/$ of the 19 April 1989 raids by members of the army and the security forces on the offices of some humanitarian organizations such as CRIPDES, raids which were allegedly followed by mass arrests. According to the authorities, these organizations are linked to insurgent activities, although this was denied by the organizations' leaders. Leaders of COMADRES were also arrested the same day. On 26 May 1989, army groups surrounded and occupied the offices of trade unions, co-operatives and humanitarian and refugee aid organizations. $\underline{9}/$ On 3 July 1989, members of one of those organizations were arrested by police after a demonstration. $\underline{10}/$

The University of El Salvador also complained of harassment by the 15. authorities. Army forces entered the campus of the University of El Salvador on 19 April 1989 11/ and again on 26 May 1989. 12/ In early June, a university student died in a clash with the army. 13/ In the early morning of 22 July, a group of people set off four bombs in the print shop of the Central American University (UCA), causing extensive damage. 14/ On 28 August 1989, 15/ army troops opened fire on 15 university students, killing one and wounding six others. A press release issued by the Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (non-governmental) 16/ details many other cases of harassment and attacks on university centres, including arrests, disappearances, death threats, ill-treatment, attacks on university authorities, the finding of bodies, and In an interview with the Special Representative in El Salvador, university damage. representatives confirmed these complaints and gave him documentation on the subject. According to this documentation, 16 students had been arrested and placed at the disposal of the courts.

16. The aforementioned documentation includes a report on events which occurred at the University of El Salvador on 7 July 1989, which allegedly involved an army attack on the university campus in which 24 people were wounded and many buildings damaged. With regard to these events, however, the Special Representative wishes to draw attention to a Government communication, <u>17</u>/ which states that on 17 July 1989, students from the University of El Salvador provoked military personnel who were on security duty near the campus, throwing hand grenades and molotov cocktails at them. The army retaliated and many people were indeed injured. At San Salvador, the competent authorities told the Special Representative that the University of El Salvador is in general a hotbed of subversive activity.

17. During his stay in El Salvador, the Special Representative received a group of priests, monks and nuns who complained of constant harassment, mostly psychological, by individuals both in and out of uniform belonging to the security forces. They claimed that police were often present outside or inside churches.

18. At San Salvador, leaders of peasant organizations told the Special Representative that they were seriously concerned, and even irritated, by what they termed a regression in the agrarian reform process. They referred, in particular, to some Supreme Court rulings ordering restitution of some of the farms expropriated under the agrarian reform to their former owners. The Special Representative conveyed these concerns to the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Agriculture. The current President of the Supreme Court explained to the Special Representative that the Court had merely acted in strict compliance with the law. Specifically, in the case of the El Espino estate, the Court had declared the occupation of the rural part of the estate to be legal, but had declared illegal the expropriation of the part classified as urban prior to the entry into force of the agrarian reform law. The Minister of Agriculture gave the same explanation to the Special Representative, although he added that the Ministry was in contact with the former owners of the Estate with a view to reaching a solution that would be satisfactory to all parties concerned. The Special Representative hopes that in the El Espino case, and others, satisfactory solutions will be found, given the social and even the political sensitivity of this issue.

19. Before completing this section of the report, the Special Representative must mention that he has continued to receive extensive information about FMLN attacks on the country's economic infrastructure. The following paragraphs contain a report, which is not exhaustive, on the consequences of some of these actions.

20. According to information provided in El Salvador to the Special Representative by CEL (<u>Comisión Ejecutiva Hidroeléctrica del Río Lempa</u>), damage suffered during the period between 1 October 1988 and 31 August 1989 as a result of FMLN attacks amounted to a total of 37,808,163 Salvadorian <u>colones</u> (one United States dollar is equivalent to 6.40 <u>colones</u>). The damage caused to ANTEL (<u>Administración Nacional</u> <u>de Telecomunicaciones</u>) amounted to 128 million <u>colones</u>.

21. In addition, so far in 1989 FMLN has imposed two traffic stoppages: for four days in March on the occasion of the presidential elections and for three days at the end of May and the beginning of June, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new President. Furthermore, between 15 June and 15 October 1989, 65 public transport vehicles were damaged by guerrilla groups and, on one occasion, the owner of a bus was murdered. $\underline{18}/$

IV. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

A. <u>Summary executions</u>

22. During the first eight months of 1989, the Special Representative continued to receive information from a great many sources on politically motivated summary executions of non-combatants. As in previous reports, he wishes to draw attention to the difficulty of determining accurately the precise number of such crimes. Figures differ according to sources and he therefore advises extreme caution and circumspection in interpreting them.

23. The figures that follow are those supplied by the Archdiocesan Legal Protection Office (<u>Tutela Legal del Arzobispado</u>) <u>19</u>/ for summary executions attributed to members of the army, security forces and civil defence:

January	7
February	13
March	17
April	2
May	-
June	1
July	5
August	5

24. Christian Legal Aid (Socorro Jurídicos Cristiano) 20/ provided the following figures for summary executions:

January	2
February	8
March	1
April	5
May	-
June	-
July	-
August	_

25. The Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental) gives the following figures <u>21</u>/ for civilian deaths attributed to members of the armed forces in 1989:

January	8
February	6
March	24
April	5
Мау	4
June	б
July	8
August	7

26. The same source provides the following figures for civilian deaths caused by unidentified persons:

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January	42
February	33
March	33
April	23
Мау	22
June	11
July	22
August	21

27. With regard to the summary executions now under consideration, the Special Representative has also received information on specific incidents which are no doubt included in the figures given in the above paragraphs. Some of these incidents are detailed below, on the clear understanding that the report is selective and not exhaustive.

28. One witness described in detail to the Special Representative how at 7 a.m. on 26 January 1989, she saw members of the civil defence beating her son, who complained that they only ill-treated decent people. They then shot and killed her son and wounded others of her children: the Special Representative was able to see the scars. Legal Protection provided written information on the incident which corroborated her testimony.

29. Another witness described how on 28 January 1989 uniformed soldiers took his mother and stepfather from their home, made them lie face down in the street and shot them dead.

30. One witness stated that on 30 January 1989, uniformed soldiers arrested him, his father and another person on their way to buy firewood. They were taken to another place where the witness was released and then heard shots and bomb explosions. The bodies of his father and the other person were found two days later.

31. Two other witnesses told the Special Representative that on 31 May 1989 members of the National Police, some in uniform and some in plain clothes, shot and killed one of their friends and then shot one of the witnesses, injuring her and fatally wounding her young son, who was in her arms. Legal Protection gave the Special Representative written information on these incidents.

32. One witness told the Special Representative that her husband had been arrested by army troops on 15 June 1989, on charges of collaborating with the guerrilla organizations. His body was located on 20 June at a National Police barracks.

33. Two other witnesses told the Special Representative that on 1 July 1989, uniformed soldiers came to their home and beat one of them and ordered him to hand over his weapons. Two friends arrived and the soldiers took all three of them away. They were interrogated with hoods over their heads and held for 16 days in a military unit. Two of them died, one shot dead and the other in hospital after being beaten up. Legal Protection also gave the Special Representative information on the case.

34. One witness stated that on 3 July 1989, uniformed soldiers arrested her common-law husband and shot him dead when he tried to escape. The witness was also shot and wounded in the throat.

35. According to another witness, uniformed members of the civil defence arrested his brother on 11 July 1989, tied him up, punched him in the eye and then murdered him on a nearby road.

36. Two other witnesses, referring to incidents that occurred on 7 August 1989, said that uniformed soldiers followed a pick-up truck carrying the witnesses and

some other people for seven kilometres. When the vehicle stopped, the soldiers machine-gunned one of the occupants, who died as a result of his injuries. According to the witnesses, the attack had been engineered by a civilian because of a quarrel over a woman.

37. Another summary execution reported by witnesses to the Special Representative occurred on 22 August 1989, when a soldier shot a young student. The Armed Forces General Staff acknowledged that the soldier had acted in error, and ordered an investigation. <u>22</u>/

38. Other witnesses told the Special Representative of the death of a young man on 29 August 1969 at around 3 o'clock in the morning. He was pushing a vehicle with the witnesses when there was a burst of machine-gun fire from a military vehicle. The young man was killed and five others were wounded. The Special Representative took the incident up with the Armed Forces General Staff and was told that it had been a case of mistaken identity and that the persons responsible were in custody pending court proceedings. $\frac{23}{7}$

39. Another witness told the Special Representative how a person had been arrested by army forces on 8 September 1989 and had died two days later as a result of the beating he received.

40. Bearing in mind the need for circumspection referred to earlier and taking into account all the data available to the Special Representative, it must be concluded that the alarmingly high number of summary executions attributed to agents of the State apparatus in 1988 were generally maintained in the first eight months of 1989. It is encouraging, however, that in some cases the Armed Forces General Staff has acknowledged the responsibility of the culprits and that appropriate proceedings have been instituted against them. A further point of interest is that there have been no reports of mass killings.

41. The Special Representative has continued to receive a great deal of information about politically motivated summary executions attributable to the so-called "death squads". According to information sources, these "death squads" have ties to, or are tolerated or protected by, members of the army and security forces. In theory, this seems plausible, although the Special Representative must point out that the circumstances in which the "death squads" operate do not exactly make it easy to investigate the incidents attributed to them. It certainly cannot be ruled out that their activities provide a cover for ordinary crimes. In any event, Legal Protection 24/ attributes the following summary executions to the death squads:

/...

January	2
February	4
March	3
April	2
Мау	4
June	-
July	-
August	2
September	2

42. The Special Representative has also received a great deal of information concerning summary executions attributable to guerrilla organizations. According to Legal Protection, <u>25</u>/ the figures are as follows:

January	8
February	3
March	2
April	4
Мау	4
June	5
July	1
August	3

43. The Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental) gives the following figures for "deaths of civilians and off-duty military personnel as a result of terrorist acts": <u>26</u>/

January	33
February	18
March	21
April	28
Мау	36
June	21
July	10
August	6

44. The Special Representative has also received specific information on summary executions attributable to guerrilla organizations, some of which are mentioned in the following paragraphs.

45. The Government of El Salvador reports 27/ that on 27 January 1989, FMLN commandos murdered Ernesto Antonio Flores, Governor of Usulutan, while he was resting at home. On 18 January 1989, they murdered Mr. Orlando Martínez in Sitio Viejo Canton and on 14 January they murdered Mr. Carlos Echeverría in San Francisco del Monte Canton, in the presence of his family. FMLN urban commandos also murdered former guerrilla commander Miguel Castellanos on 17 February while he was driving his car in San Salvador. <u>28</u>/ FMLN claimed responsibility for the murder of Mr. Miguel Angel Ramírez on 13 June, a police psychologist, whom it accused of torturing FMLN members during police interrogations. <u>29</u>/ On 26 June, Fire Department Chief Roberto Armando Rivera was murdered as he left his house in San Salvador for work; FMLN urban commandos claimed responsibility. <u>30</u>/

46. The Special Representative also wishes to mention the 19 April 1989 murder of the Attorney General of the Republic, Mr. Roberto García Alvarado, when a bomb was detonated in his car. An extreme right-wing group known as "<u>Fuerzas Cívicas</u> <u>Gerardo Barrios</u>" claimed responsibility for the attack. <u>31</u>/ However, a government communication to the Special Representative attributes the killing to terrorist groups <u>32</u>/ and FMLN has not issued any disclaimer. In the opinion of the Special Representative, the murder of the Attorney General can be attributed to FMLN.

47. However, FMLN has denied other acts attributed to it, such as the 9 June 1989 machine-gun killings of Mr. José Antonio Rodriguez Porth, Minister in the office of the President, his driver and another person, who was with him. The Government 33/ attributes the murder to FMLN, although an FMLN communiqué dated 12 June 1989 made available to the Special Representative emphatically denies any part in the incident. The Armed Forces Press Committee (<u>Comisión de Prensa de la Fuerza Armada</u> - COPREFA) also attributed to FMLN commandos the murder of Mr. Edgar Chacón, an international relations expert, killed while driving his car in San Salvador on 30 June 1989. The widow of the murdered man is said to have made the same claim, despite a denial by FMLN. <u>34</u>/ FMLN has denied any part in the attack carried out on the car of the President of the Supreme Court, Mr. Mauricio Gutiérrez Castro, when he was travelling with his family, in which a bodyguard died. <u>35</u>/ It also denied, to the Special Representative, any responsibility for the 14 April 1989 attack on the home of the Vice-President of the Republic, Mr. Francisco Merino, although the Government attributes the attack to FMLN commandos. <u>36</u>/

48. With respect to summary executions of government officials or persons of right-wing ideology for which FMLN denies responsibility, independent persons and institutions suggested to the Special Representative at San Salvador that such executions could have been carried out by violent extreme left-wing commandos acting independently of FMLN. In the Special Representative's view, the idea is not unreasonable.

49. Although these are not properly speaking summary executions, but rather implicit threats of summary execution, the Special Representative wishes to mention that while in El Salvador he was able to see some letters sent by FMLN to a peasant demanding the delivery of food supplies and materials for making explosives, as a kind of revolutionary tax. The Special Representative fully understands the agonizing plight of the peasant: if he did not submit to the extortion he would be exposed to the worst kind of reprisal and if he did acquiesce he would run the risk of being accused of collaborating with the guerrillas.

50. The Special Representative heard of one attempted summary execution from a university professor who had lost a hand and part of an arm when a bomb exploded in his doorway on 5 April 1989. In his opinion, the bomb had been placed there by some violent extreme left-wing commandos for he had already been threatened and in the course of his university work had challenged the guerrilla ideology.

51. In the months that had elapsed in 1989, guerrilla organizations thus persisted in their alarming "<u>ajusticiamientos</u>", which are in effect summary executions and therefore incompatible with universally accepted standards on the protection of human life.

52. During 1989, FMLN commandos continued their alarming indiscriminate urban activities. The Government of El Salvador reports <u>37</u>/ that on 7 February 1989, FMLN urban commandos placed explosive devices near the National School of Dance in San Salvador, endangering many lives. On 22 May 1989, <u>38</u>/ FMLN commandos detonated a mine in the path of a minibus carrying civilian passengers on a road in the Department of Santa Ana, killing eight people, including two children, and seriously injuring seven. The Government also reports <u>39</u>/ that on 23 June 1989,

FMLN commandos attacked the San Salvador central market, killing a number of people and injuring many others. According to the same source, 40/ on 3 July 1989 FMLN commandos attacked the Arce residential area of San Salvador, inhabited mainly by soldiers' families, endangering many people, particularly children on their way to school.

в. Arrests, abductions and disappearances

53. Non-governmental organizations at San Salvador told the Special Representative that during the first nine months of 1989 there had been an increase in the number of political arrests. That may be so, but the Special Representative reaffirms his view that the Salvadorian authorities have the right to arrest people who commit violence against the constitutional order, as long as the arrest and subsequent legal proceedings are in keeping with constitutional standards and with the international human rights obligations assumed by the Republic of El Salvador.

54. Legal Protection <u>41</u>/ provides the following statistics:

	<u>Arrests</u>	Persons arrested and subsequently missing	Missing <u>persons</u>	Persons arrested and subsequently released
January	12	9 ·	. 9	52
February	29	17	5	34
March	25	. 3	5	28
April	54	8	10	
May	24	4	1	45
June	25	4	4	37
July	59	5	4	46
August	25	11	6	25
September	1	2	-	_

55. The following figures are provided by Legal Aid: 42/

	<u>Arbitrary arrests</u>	Disappearances
January	45	3
February	44	5
March	38	_
April	56	1
Мау	42	ĩ
June	27	2
July	42	_
August	40	5
September	22	1

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56. In addition to the data given in the preceding paragraphs, the Special Representative heard evidence in El Salvador concerning disappearances.

57. People have been abducted by the guerrilla organizations too. The following figures are provided by Legal Protection: <u>43</u>/

	Persons abducted by guerrilla organizations	Persons abducted by guerrilla organizations and subsequently released
January	8	_
February	4	_
March	4	2
April	8	-
Мау	-	-
June	-	3
July	2	_
August	2	-

58. The Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental) gives the following figures for civilians abducted by FMLN: <u>44</u>/

January	85
February	20
March	30
April	43
Мау	20
June	9
July	2
August	14

59. These last figures include mass abductions.

C. <u>Treatment of political prisoners</u>

60. The Special Representative was informed by the Minister of Justice that the number of people detained for political offences as of 14 October 1989 was about 250, a much higher figure than the previous year. In interviews in El Salvador, relatives of the people in question expressed concern to the Special Representative about the dispersal of detainees in different prisons throughout the country and about their having to live in harsh conditions in company with common criminals. However, the Minister of Justice assured the Special Representative that political detainees received special treatment.

61. Most of the non-governmental organizations which gave oral and written information to the Special Representative in El Salvador complained about a marked increase in the torture of political prisoners by their interrogators. The Special

Representative questioned a fairly broad sample of people who had been detained and then released. Witnesses belonging to organizations invariably made roughly the same statement: long periods of interrogation while blindfold and without being able to sit down or rest, extensive beatings, continuous use of a hood which impedes breathing and causes fainting, electric shocks in water tanks, use of drugs and acids, and on many occasions rape and sexual abuse of both women and men, as well as threats to family members. Witnesses who did not belong to organizations complained of psychological ill-treatment and sometimes of beatings and death threats to themselves or to members of their families. A few witnesses stated that they had not been mistreated, although they did say that their interrogation had been harsh and humiliating.

62. The Special Representative conveyed his concern about such testimony to the competent authorities, who told him that interrogations were carried out using the latest scientific procedures, including the use of polygraphs or lie detectors, and that in any case they were carried out according to the rules. The authorities added that the testimony given formed part of a campaign "orchestrated" by FMLN and groups which follow its line to discredit the Government. They did, however, admit that detainees were kept blindfold during interrogation so that they would not recognize their interrogators later. One senior authority allowed that there might be isolated cases of abuse, but said that there was no question of an institutionalized practice.

63. The Special Representative has to admit that, owing to the number and nature of the witnesses that he was able to question, he cannot establish precisely what percentage were subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, although he does have the impression that the proportion is higher than in immediately preceding years. In any event, he still thinks that there is no institutionalized and generalized policy of torture; whether a detainee is subjected to torture depends on a series of contingent factors, such as the value of the information which he may possess, the military situation of the conflict, the identity of his captors, etc.

D. Criminal justice

64. In El Salvador, the Special Representative received from the Supreme Court of Justice detailed oral and written information about the activities of the criminal justice system with respect to violations of human rights. This information includes in particular the decision handed down on 21 September 1989 by the Santa Ana Criminal Court sentencing an army officer to 30 years' imprisonment for the crime of homicide. <u>45</u>/

65. The documents referred to in the previous paragraph include information about the activities of the Criminal Investigation Commission between 1985 and 1989; 87 cases have been assigned to it and 49 have been closed, although of course the closure of a case is only with respect to the investigation. One interesting point is that in the case of the mass summary execution carried out on 21 September 1988 in San Francisco canton, San Sebastian judicial district, to which the Special Representative referred in his previous report, <u>46</u>/ a major, a sub-lieutenant, two sergeants, a corporal and four soldiers have been placed at the disposal of the

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courts. The Special Representative hopes that the accused will be convicted if it is duly established that they took part in the execution.

66. The Special Representative also notes that proceedings have been brought against members of the armed forces in connection with some of the summary executions described in chapter IV of this report. Here again he hopes that convictions will be handed down if the involvement of the accused is fully proven.

67. It must be pointed out, however, that after the Supreme Court of El Salvador turned down the application to extradite the alleged killer of Archbishop Romero, the person in question was released in Miami. 47/ The Special Representative has received no news of any subsequent developments in this case. On 1 April, a Salvadorian judge dismissed the case brought against two former officers accused of kidnapping several other officers - for personal gain, not for political reasons. 48/ A member of the national police accused of attacking a United States nun with a firearm was also released by a judge on the basis of legal technicalities. 49/ What really worries the Special Representative however is that, even disregarding the cases covered by the Amnesty Act of October 1987, there have still not been any convictions or even significant progress in the investigation of cases described in his 1988 report, particularly with respect to summary executions.

68. With greater emphasis than in previous years, the current President and the members of the Supreme Court described to the Special Representative the difficulties encountered in the normal operation of El Salvador's criminal justice system. These difficulties have been related in previous reports 50/ and the Special Representative naturally believes that they should be taken into account in making an overall assessment of the criminal justice system in El Salvador. That said, however, it must be added that the system's overall operation remains extremely unsatisfactory. It should be mentioned that the President of the Republic and the members of the Supreme Court are very concerned to improve the system; the actual proposals will be described in chapter VI of this report.

69. As reported in the media, 51/ on 23 June 1989 the Government of El Salvador submitted to the Legislative Assembly a bill amending the Criminal Code. The bill aroused considerable concern in various quarters because it classifies as offences activities that up to now had been considered lawful. The Special Representative wishes to draw attention to article 9 of the bill, which punishes anyone who "by means of visits abroad, messages or in any other way encourages acts, statements or programmes designed to prompt other States or international organizations to intervene in the internal affairs of El Salvador". If this draft article became law, it would give El Salvador's courts grounds to punish any one providing information about human rights to the Special Representative. Fulfilment of the mandate which is the basis for the preparation of this report would be seriously impeded. In any event, the bill has not yet become law and the competent authorities of the Republic assured the Special Representative that they intended to make a thorough study of the criticisms levelled against the bill and other proposed legislative reforms, in order to ensure that future laws do not conflict with the provisions of the Constitution or with El Salvador's international human rights obligations.

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V. RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW IN ARMED CONFLICT

70. Legal protection <u>52</u>/ gives the following figures for persons killed by the army in military actions, it being impossible to determine the number of civilians and the number of guerrilla fighters:

January	82
February	87
March	76
April	129
May	157
June	76
July	83
August	78
September	16

71. The same source holds the army responsible for the death of one civilian in January and another in June as a result of the explosion of mines.

72. The Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental) gives the following figures for "civilian deaths as a result of clashes between the armed forces and FMLN": 53/

January	1
February	2
March	-
April	1
Мау	-
June	2
July	-
August	3

The Special Representative has also received specific information on attacks 73. by the Salvadorian army and air force on civilian communities. On 29 May 1989, 54/ for instance, the village of San José las Flores was reportedly bombed and machine-gunned, resulting in considerable damage to crops and other property, although there were no casualties. The Special Representative also learned 55/ that on 23 July 1989, the air force bombed and machine-gunned the area near the resettled village of Santa Marta in Cabañas Department and that, since then, one of the villagers has disappeared. According to the same source, on 10 July the army launched a mortar attack on the village of San Miguel in Morazán Department, killing a peasant and wounding his 15-year-old granddaughter. On 28 and 29 August, 56/ the air force again bombed the village of San José las Flores, destroying 30 homes and crops and forcing villagers to take refuge in the church for 12 hours. The Special Representative asked the Armed Forces General Staff about these incidents and was told that San José las Flores had been under FMLN control all night, requiring that military action be taken to dislodge the guerrillas. With regard to the marks left by fragmentation bombs, the General Staff said it was very difficult to know whether they had been fired by the army or by FMLN.

74. It was also reported <u>57</u>/ that, as a result of a clash with FMLN forces on 4 May 1989 near Huizucan, La Libertad Department, two Mexican citizens and two Salvadorian citizens were killed by army fire.

75. Priests, monks and nuns and also some witnesses complained to the Special Representative at San Salvador about the harsh treatment inflicted on the civilian population in combat zones by members of the armed forces: beatings, threats, arbitrary prohibitions (for example, against collecting and carrying firewood), excessive controls on the entry of foodstuffs and medical supplies, and other measures.

76. On the basis of the information given above and the questioning of some witnesses, the Special Representative concludes that the situation of the civilian peasant population in combat zones is difficult and distressing. The Special Representative also believes that, as in previous years, in the course of fighting with guerrilla organizations the armed forces occasionally kill and injure civilians, although not in any indiscriminate or generalized manner. It is difficult to determine exactly how many such deaths have occurred, but the number is much lower than that of summary executions outside combat. The armed forces also cause damage to public and private property as well as to crops, although after bitter fighting it can be difficult to determine which side, the army or the guerrillas, caused the damage.

77. The Special Representative has also received information on the violent dismantling of FMLN health facilities by the army. Specifically, and according to detailed reports by Legal Protection and Legal Aid following an on-the-spot investigation which included interviews with witnesses, 58/ on 13 February 1989, army forces attacked a temporary hospital which FMLN had set up in Chupadero Canton, Chalatenango Department, near the Sumpul River, killing a Mexican woman doctor, a 14-year-old Salvadorian girl assistant, three other assistants, three wounded persons and two disabled combatants. The bodies were buried by the local population and the marks on some of the women's bodies give reason to believe that they were raped or the victims of attempted rape. The Special Representative has also received information 59/ gathered from FMLN that, on 15 April 1989, the air force reportedly attacked another FMLN medical facility in San Vicente Department, killing a doctor, a male nurse, an assistant and two health official workers. The Special Representative asked the Armed Forces General Staff about these incidents and was told that FMLN medical facilities are nothing more than caves and that since there are no signs they cannot be recognized as hospitals.

78. With regard to civilian casualties of the guerrillas' military actions, the Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental) gives the following figures for deaths caused by contact with explosive devices: <u>60</u>/

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January	9
February	5
March	11
April	14
Мау	22
June	5
July	-
August	_

79. Of these victims, 58 per cent are men, 17 per cent are women, and 25 per cent are minors. It should also be stressed that in recent months no one has been killed as a result of the explosion of contact mines.

80. Legal Protection attributes to the guerrillas the following deaths caused by contact with explosive devices: 61/

January	2
February	4
March	-
April	1
May	17
June	-
July	-
August	-
September	-

81. With respect to civilians killed or wounded by FMLN forces as a result of the fighting, the Special Representative has received other specific information. For example, <u>62</u>/ on the occasion of the 20 January 1989 attack on the central headquarters of the Treasury Police at San Salvador, guerrilla fire killed one civilian and wounded two others. According to the Government, <u>63</u>/ on 25 May 1989, FMLN urban commandos attacked the San Salvador headquarters of the First Infantry Brigade, the National Police and other military positions, wounding six civilians and causing hundreds of families to be evacuated from their homes.

VI. EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

82. In an interview held by the Special Representative with Mr. Cristiani in October 1988, the then candidate for the Republican Nationalist Alliance party (ARENA) expressed great interest in human rights, respect for which, he said, would be an essential component of his policy if he won the elections. Accordingly, when Mr. Cristiani took office as Constitutional President of the Republic on 1 June 1989, he gave an important speech outlining his programme in which he said, inter alia: "We shall work for the defence of human rights, out of moral conviction, political necessity and patriotic responsibility. We shall be foremost guardians in ensuring that respect for human rights becomes the standard by which people live together in our society". In the same speech and as part of this undertaking, President Cristiani pledged his full support to improving the administration of justice in the country and ensuring that it functions fairly and expeditiously. On 13 October 1989, the President reiterated the above pledges personally to the Special Representative, who believes in his sincerity, enthusiastically welcomes the fact that respect for human rights has become such an important component of government policy and sincerely hopes that it will soon produce practical results.

83. In fact, on the very delicate question of the administration of justice, the President of the Republic himself and the President of the Supreme Court informed the Special Representative of the adoption of a number of measures such as the establishment of mobile auxiliary courts (to help courts with the heaviest

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case-loads; one such mobile court is already in operation); the establishment of a Prisoner Information Office, which would operate 24 hours a day; the appointment of prison supervision judges; the establishment of a National Council of the Judiciary and new criminal courts; and the recruitment of a human rights expert. The list of measures is a long one and the Special Representative hopes that the goal pursued, that of the normal and efficient functioning of criminal justice, will be rapidly achieved.

84. According to information from the armed forces, 64/ talks on human rights and international humanitarian law have continued to be given in units throughout the country. So far in 1989, 644 talks have been given to 32,200 members of the armed forces. The armed forces themselves plan to establish an office for civilian affairs and human rights, composed exclusively of specialized civilian personnel and located outside military installations.

85. In previous reports, the Special Representative had referred favourably to the work done by the Salvadorian Human Rights Commission (governmental). <u>65</u>/ While it is true that the Commission is not achieving anything that is beyond its scope the eradication of human rights violations - the Special Representative must point out that it has continued its valuable work of defending and promoting those rights. A witness presented by a non-governmental organization told the Special Representative personally about the valiant, energetic efforts made by a representative of the governmental Commission in seeking to determine his whereabouts in a military unit's detention facilities.

86. The Special Representative must also refer to the important plans for the repatriation of Salvadorian refugees living at Mesa Grande in Honduras. Their entry into El Salvador was to take place the week after his visit to the country.

The Special Representative had also heard of the existence of some 120 wounded 87. and disabled FMLN members who hoped to leave the country in order to receive the necessary medical treatment abroad. On 4 May 1989, while still President of the Republic, Mr. Duarte announced publicly that he was making preparations for them to leave the country, 66/ but the fact is that the people in question were not evacuated on the scheduled dates. Eight of them occupied San Salvador Cathedral for over a month, until they were taken to the Mexican Embassy. The Government of President Cristiani thought that these wounded and disabled people should leave the country legally and therefore proposed to the Legislative Assembly that a special amnesty be granted. That measure was taken on 6 October 1989. 67/ On 7 October, 46 disabled FMLN members left the country for Mexico and Cuba, although it is a matter of debate in El Salvador whether or not their departure was a result of the amnesty approved the previous day. With respect to the wounded and disabled FMLN members still in El Salvador, the competent authorities informed the Special Representative of their intention to evacuate them in accordance with constitutional and legal provisions. The Special Representative believes that, for humanitarian reasons, the departure of these disabled persons is more important here than any legal technicality.

88. The Special Representative must also point out that on 5 March 1989 a truce was agreed between the army and FMLN with a view to facilitating child immunization, a measure which was carried out without difficulty. <u>68</u>/ FMLN also

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declared a 24-hour truce on 13 February 1989 for the meeting of Central American Presidents at Tesoro Beach, <u>69</u>/ and a further unilateral truce between 13 and 23 September, <u>70</u>/ to coincide with its dialogue with the Government at Mexico City. In addition, according to a communication from the FMLN secretariat for the promotion and protection of human rights, on 10 and 11 September 1989 six soldiers captured a few days previously were handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The communication states that the people in question received medical care and humanitarian treatment. <u>71</u>/

VII. CONCLUSIONS

89. After carefully assessing the information included in this report on the situation of human rights in El Salvador thus far in 1989, the Special Representatve draws the following conclusions:

Economic, social and cultural rights

90. The situation of the economic, social and cultural rights of Salvadorian citizens continues to be affected adversely by a combination of various factors, principally the persistence of the conflict between the armed forces and FMLN and the resultant climate of violence.

91. FMLN's continuing systematic attacks on the country's economic infrastructure also seriously undermine the present and future enjoyment by Salvadorian citizens of important economic, social and cultural rights.

92. Thus far in 1989, government action against trade unions and peasant and other organizations has increased. The Government claims that some of these organizations answer to FMLN. The organizations concerned deny this, although independent Salvadorian sources have indicated to the Special Representative that in some cases, and to varying degrees, the activities of some organizations are not entirely independent of FMLN.

Summary executions

93. Members of the State apparatus, particularly of the armed forces, have carried out politically motivated summary executions whose exact numbers cannot be determined but are generally comparable to those for last year. What is interesting is that investigations and judicial proceedings have been instituted in the case of some of these summary executions and that so far this year no reports of mass executions have been received.

94. Many sources continue to attribute summary executions and other serious human rights violations to the so-called "death squads" allegedly linked to or tolerated by the armed forces or the security forces. The Special Representative finds that allegation plausible, although the difficulties of investigating such crimes prevent him from reaching definite conclusions in specific cases. It is also possible that ordinary crimes are being committed under cover of these activities.

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95. FMLN, for its part, has continued to carry out summary executions of alleged collaborators with the armed forces, soldiers, senior civilian officials and ideological opponents. Similar crimes may also have been committed by violent extreme left-wing commandos independent of FMLN. FMLN has also carried out indiscriminate urban operations in which civilians have been killed and wounded.

Abductions and disappearances

96. Cases of politically motivated disappearances of individuals continue to be reported. While it is difficult to determine precisely how many there have been and who was responsible, the Special Representative does not rule out the possibility that the death squads were involved in some cases.

97. The guerrilla organizations have also abducted individuals.

Treatment of political prisoners

98. So far in 1989, the number of political arrests has increased. While the Special Representative does not deny the right of El Salvador's constitutional authorities to take action against people who commit violence against the constitutional order, he believes that there have been more cases of physical and psychological torture during police interrogation of detainees than last year, although the use of torture is not widespread and does not represent a government policy.

Criminal justice

99. So far in 1989, one army officer has been convicted of the crime of homicide and judicial proceedings have continued with regard to a mass execution which took place last year. Proceedings have also been brought in the case of a number of summary executions which took place in 1989. However, no significant progress has been made with regard to similar cases in the past, nor has any judicial action been taken with respect to many summary executions and other abuses committed in 1988 and 1989. The Special Representative therefore believes that the situation of the criminal justice system remains highly unsatisfactory. Mention must be made, however, of the difficulties facing the normal functioning of the system of justice, and the new proposals for judicial reform.

The armed conflict

100. The treatment of the civilian population in combat zones by the armed forces is harsh and distressing. Their military operations also cause civilian casualties, although only occasionally and not on a widespread and indiscriminate basis, far fewer civilians being killed in this way than in summary executions outside combat. In dismantling FMLN health facilities, the army has also killed medical and health personnel and patients.

101. FMLN for its part has caused civilian deaths as a result of the explosion of contact mines, although in recent months there have been no reports of such incidents. Guerrilla fire has caused other civilian casualties. There is also

information that guerrilla organizations practise extortion from peasants in combat zones.

Efforts to strengthen respect for human rights

102. It should be noted that, despite FMLN harassment, presidential elections took place on 19 March 1989 and the transfer of power took place on 1 June 1989 in full conformity with constitutional requirements.

103. The Special Representative also wishes to affirm that respect for human rights and a dialogue for peace are key components of the policy of the Constitutional President of the Republic, Mr. Cristiani. He also believes in the sincerity of that policy and fervently hopes that it will prove capable of overcoming existing difficulties so that peace and respect for human rights in El Salvador will soon become an everyday reality.

104. With respect to the dialogue in progress between the Government and FMLN, the Special Representative can only express his satisfaction and his fervent hope that it will lead quickly to a negotiated settlement of the conflict.

105. Lastly, the Special Representative takes note of FMLN's recent policy of not using contact mines in its military operations.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

106. The Special Representative is again extremely disturbed by the number and seriousness of the human rights violations committed thus far in 1989, particularly by the resurgence of torture. He therefore once again appeals most emphatically to the Government and all the country's political powers, agencies and forces, including the guerrilla organizations, to take all necessary steps immediately to put a complete end to attempts on the life, physical integrity and dignity of individuals both in non-combat and combat situations.

107. The Special Representative also calls most emphatically on the Government and FMLN to show political realism, generosity and creativity in the dialogue in progress, so that a negotiated peace can be achieved as soon as possible, followed by the country's reconstruction.

108. The Special Representative particularly reiterates to the constitutional authorities of the Republic of El Salvador the recommendations made in his latest report to the Commission on Human Rights, <u>72</u>/ and specifically:

(a) The immediate adoption of appropriate measures to ensure that police interrogation of detainees conforms to the standards laid down in the 1983 Constitution and the international human rights obligations assumed by the Republic;

(b) Perseverance with the judicial reform effort in order to ensure that the criminal justice system functions according to the standards mentioned;

(c) Perseverance with the agrarian reform and other structural reforms needed to enhance the population's well-being.

109. The Special Representative reiterates to FMLN and the guerrilla organizations the recommendations made in his latest report to the Commission on Human Rights, $\underline{73}$ / and specifically:

(a) Continuation of their recent policy of not planting contact mines which may cause casualties among the civilian population;

(b) That they refrain from indiscriminate urban operations.

110. Lastly, the Special Representative again recommends to all States of the international community, in particular the richest and most developed countries, that they increase the assistance necessary to alleviate and improve the living conditions of Salvadorian citizens who have been displaced, made refugees or resettled as a result of the hostilities.

<u>Notes</u>

<u>1</u>/ <u>El País</u>, 17 March 1989; <u>El Salvador on Line</u>, No. 102, 13 March 1989.

2/ El País, 20 March 1989; El Salvador on Line, 20 March 1989.

3/ El País, 23 March 1989.

4/ Documentation made available by FMLN.

5/ Salvadorian Labor Defense Network, Bulletin of 11 August 1989; Amnesty International, Doc. AI, AMR, 29/14/89 of 1 June 1989.

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6/ El Salvador on Line, 27 February and 11 September 1989.

7/ <u>Ibid.</u>, 25 September 1989.

8/ Ibid., 24 April 1989.

9/ Ibid., 29 May 1989.

10/ Ibid., 5 July 1989.

11/ Ibid., 24 April 1989.

12/ Ibid., 29 May 1989.

13/ Ibid., 12 June 1989.

14/ El Mundo, 22 July 1989.

Notes (continued)

15/ El Salvador on Line, 4 September 1989.

16/ El Mundo, 24 July 1989.

17/ Communication dated 24 July 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

18/ Report of the Armed Forces of El Salvador on human rights for the period October 1988 to September 1989.

19/ Bulletins for the months of January to August 1989.

20/ Statistical tables of human rights violations made available to the Special Representative.

<u>21</u>/ Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador. Report submitted by the Constitutional President of the Republic.

22/ COPREFA information bulletin No. 269, 31 August 1989.

<u>23</u>/ <u>Ibid</u>.

24/ Information bulleting for the months of January to September 1989.

<u>25/ Ibid.</u>

<u>26</u>/ Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador. Report submitted by the Constitutional President of the Republic.

<u>27</u>/ Communication dated 2 February 1989 addressed to the Centre for Human Rights by the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

28/ El Salvador on Line, 20 February 1989.

29/ Ibid., 19 June 1989.

<u>30</u>/ <u>Ibid.</u>, 3 July 1989; communication dated 28 July 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

31/ El Salvador on Line, 24 April 1989.

<u>32</u>/ Communication dated 20 April 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

33/ Communication dated 13 June 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

Notes (continued)

34/ El Salvador on Line, 3 July 1989.

35/ Ibid., 10 July 1989.

<u>36</u>/ Communication dated 18 April 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

<u>37</u>/ Communication dated 21 February 1989 from the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

<u>38</u>/ Communication dated 24 May 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

<u>39</u>/ Communication dated 3 July 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

40/ Communication dated 5 July 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

41/ Bulletins for the months of January to September 1989.

<u>42</u>/ Statistical tables of human rights violations submitted to the Special Representative.

43/ Bulletins for the months of January to September 1989.

<u>44</u>/ Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador. Report submitted by the Constitutional President of the Republic.

<u>45</u>/ Activities of the judiciary concerning respect for human rights, 1 October 1988 to 11 October 1989.

<u>46</u>/ E/CN.4/1988/23, para. 32.

47/ El Salvador on Line, 23 January 1989.

48/ Ibid., 3 April 1989.

49/ Ibid., 14 August 1989.

50/ E/CN.4/1988/23, para. 58.

51/ El Salvador on Line, 10 July 1989.

52/ Bulletins for the months of January to September 1989.

53/ Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador. Report submitted by the Constitutional President of the Republic.

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Notes (continued)

54/ El Salvador on Line, 12 July 1989.

55/ Ibid., 31 July 1989.

<u>56</u>/ <u>Ibid.</u>, 4 September 1989; Chalatenango Communities and Resettlement Communities Co-ordinating Office, communiqué dated 30 August 1989.

57/ El Salvador on Line, 8 May 1989.

58/ Archdiocesan Legal Protection Office, special report of 17 February 1989; Christian Legal Aid, special report to the Special Representative of 17 March 1989.

59/ El Salvador on Line, 24 April 1989.

<u>60</u>/ Situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in El Salvador. Report submitted by the Constitutional President of the Republic.

61/ Monthly bulletins for January to September 1989.

62/ El Salvador on Line, 23 January 1989.

 $\underline{63}$ / Communication dated 31 May 1989 from the Embassy of El Salvador in Madrid to the Special Representative.

64/ Ibid.

65/ E/CN.4/1989/23, para. 90.

66/ "El Salvador", Proceso, 24 May 1989.

67/ The Miami Herald, 7 October 1989.

68/ El Mundo, 4 March 1989.

69/ Ibid., 13 February 1989.

70/ El Salvador on Line, 11 September 1989.

71/ Communiqué of 12 September 1989 made available to the Special Representative.

72/ E/CN.4/1989/23, para. 108.

73/ E/CN.4/1989/23, para. 109.
