

**URGENT
ACTION**

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**URGENT
ACTION**

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HISTORICAL FILE

27 October 1982

Further information on UA 251/82 (AMR 52/40/82 25 October) - Legal Concern

URUGUAY: Horacio TERRA GALLINAL
Rodolfo SADAIN
Francisco ORTOMELLI
Oscar BOTINELLI
Juan José SIRICHU
María Josefina PLA
Germán LEZAMA
Carlos SAN MARCO

Carlos PITA
Tomas LARREGUI
Carlos GOMEZ HAEDO
Rubén FIGEREDO
Carlos ZUBILLAGA
Héctor FABREGAT
Alejandro PATERNAIN
Juan Carlos DOYEMART

According to reports received by Amnesty International, the twelve members of the *Comisión de Ciudadanos Por el Voto en Blanco* who were arrested on 20 October 1982 have been released. Francisco Ortomelli, Carlos Gomez Haedo, Oscar Botinelli, Rubén Figueredo, Juan José Sirichu, Carlos Zubillaga, María Josefina Pla, Héctor Fabregat, Germán Lezama, Alejandro Paternain, Carlos San Marco and Juan Carlos Doyemart were released by a civil court decision, probably on 23 October 1982.

In addition, two members of the *Blanco* party arrested on 20 October have been released - Carlos Pita and Tomas Larregui. It is believed that Carlos Pita has been indicted on a charge of crimes against "the morale of the armed forces" and that Tomas Larregui will also be charged with an offence under the Military Penal Code. Horacio Terra Gallinal and Rodolfo Sadain are reported to be still in custody following a decision by a military court confirming their detention. According to reports, they are charged with *Escarnio a las instituciones constitucionales* (disrespect for constitutional institutions), an offence classified under the Military Penal Code as a crime against "the morale of the armed forces".

Further recommended action:

No action of behalf of the twelve members of the *Comisión de Ciudadanos Por el Voto en Blanco*.

Appeals on behalf of Horacio Terra Gallinal and Rodolfo Sadain should continue. Appeals should:

- express concern about the reported arrest of Horacio Terra Gallinal and Rodolfo Sadain, ask for the reasons for their arrest and request that they be allowed immediate access to a lawyer and to their families;
- urge their immediate release if, as the available evidence suggests, they have been arrested for the non-violent expression of their political opinions.

Appeals should be sent to the addresses given on the original Urgent Action.

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 without reservation.