

**SELECTED CASES OF EXTRAJUDICIAL
ASSASSINATIONS PERPETRATED BY
THE CUBAN COMMUNIST REGIME:
ADULT MALES**

The following is a sample of the thousands of cases documented by Armando M. Lago, Ph.D. and the Truth Recovery Archive on Cuba. A full bibliography is available on request.

IVÁN AGRAMONTE ARENCIBIA, Age 28.

Assassinated on 5-24-1996. Location: Street in the city of Havana. The victim was assassinated by police officer Iosvani Martorán Fernández, who detained him in the street as he carried a few kilos of bread by bicycle. Agramonte tried to get away, but was reached again by the officer, who beat him and after handcuffing him, shot him point blank in the head with his firearm. Still alive, he was taken to the "Miguel Henríquez" hospital, where he died. The Luyanó funeral home, where his body laid in wake, was surrounded by a major police deployment. He left two small children.

Source: *InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights, 1996 Annual Report, Chapter 5A, Cuba.*

DIOSDANO AQUIT MANRIQUE, Age 33.

Assassinated in prison on 12-17-1966. Location: Orange grove at Isla de Pinos prison. Small grocery store (bodega) owner, resident of Prado Street No. 512, Cruces, Las Villas province. Political prisoner was shot in the back arbitrarily by Corporal Arcia after asking for permission to break ranks to pick-up a straw hat blown off by the wind.

Sources: *Valladares, 1985, p. 256. Beruvides, 1993, p. 88. Eduardo de Juan, 1997, p. 279. Montaner, 1984, p. 265. Cuban American National Foundation, The Quilt of Fidel Castro's Genocide, 1994. Presidio Político Cubano, 1997, ps.115, 155. WAQI-Radio Mambí, p. 98. Gómez-Estrada, 1990, p. 212. Encinosa, 1994, p. 214. Icosov, 1982, p. 366. Pardo Mazorra, 1992, p. 564. Pérez Coloma, 1996. Encinosa, 1994, p. 214. Nuestra Cuba, 1998, p. 99. Díaz Rodríguez, 1995, p. 105. Instituto de la Memoria Histórica Cubana contra el Totalitarismo, 2002 p. 26. Circuito Sur, July 2002, p. 7. Telephone testimony of Reinaldo Aquit Manrique (ex-political prisoner and brother), 12 December 2002. Testimony by brother Laureano Aquit, in person to M. Werlau (TRAC), Miami, 2-2004.*

ESTANISLAO GONZÁLEZ QUINTANA

**Assassinated while in detention on
September 12, 1995.**

Location: Police Unit of Consolación del Sur, Pinar del Río. Had been detained on September 8, 1995 on charges of "unlawful economic activity." Relatives were informed four days later by officers of the Consolación del Sur police unit that he had died of a heart attack. The victim's corpse, however, displayed visible bruises and a profound gash in the forehead.

Sources: *U.S. Department of State, 1997, p. 11. Organization of American States, InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights, 1997 Annual Report, p. 692. U.N. Commission on Human Rights, 7 February 1996, p. 16. U.N. General assembly, 24 October 1995, p. 27.*

**CIPRIANO (Age 21), EUGENIO (Age 25),
and VENTURA (Age 19) GARCÍA-MARIN
THOMPSON. Presumed executed, 01-
02-1981.**

Location: La Cabaña Fortress, Havana. On 12/3/1980, the three brothers plus two other men and three women broke into the Vatican Embassy ("Nunciatura") in Havana, seeking asylum. The brothers, of very humble socioeconomic background, were members of the persecuted Jehova's Witness congregation. At least one was a former political prisoner. They had received warnings under Cuba's "dangerousness" law and had been desperately seeking refuge for several weeks. A few hours after their entry into embassy grounds, a team of the Interior Ministry's Elite Special Troops burst into the complex and took them into custody. Shortly, they were informed that they had been "tried and sentenced to death," accused of killing a Cuban worker at the embassy. About a month later, in the middle of the night, the three were unexpectedly taken from their prison cells and presumably executed. The family was denied their remains for burial. The others were sentenced to prison terms of 15 to 25 years, but released several years later after the case received some international attention. The Cuban government alleged that the brothers were armed with a pistol, but others insist they were unarmed. The embassy worker allegedly killed in the raid had been employed from the Cuban government agency Cubalse and was said to be an agent. Subsequent investigations revealed he was alive and living in Havana, having staged his injuries to play his part in the raid. The mother served several years in political prison after the incident but was released with one of the brothers' widows after some years. She died in 1992 still claiming her sons' bones for proper burial. A UN Human Rights Commission Special Task Force to Cuba in 1988 heard her account in a special session surreptitiously arranged at the Spanish Ambassador's house after the Cuban government prevented her from attending the official proceedings. In the mid-1990s, UN Special Rapporteur Karl Groth repeatedly asked for the family to be given their remains.

Sources: *Testimony of Margarita Marin Thompson (mother) in Ricardo Bofill, Diario Las Américas, September 9, 1997. Pablo Alfonso. El Nuevo Herald, 31 October 1997, p. 6A. Valladares, 1985, p. 416. Amnesty International Annual Report 1983, p. 130. Nuestra Cuba, 1998, p. 3. Reader's Digest, October 1998, p. 83. Montaner, 1984, p. 267. Cuban American National Foundation, The Quilt of Fidel Castro's Genocide, 1994. Reinaldo Bragado, 1998, p. 5. Instituto de la Memoria Histórica Cubana contra el Totalitarismo, 2002, p. 35. Circuito Sur, <http://members.aol.com/aguadacuba/cs/datafusi/vaticano.htm> and July 2002, p. 35 and Fuentes 2002, ps. 102-104. Juan O. Tamayo, "Ex-Cuban prosecutor's role in rights panel criticized," *The Miami Herald*, April 16, 1998. Telephone interview, by María Werlau, with Ricardo Bofill, 4-11-2005.*

ALBERTO LAZO PASTRANA.

Mysterious death in prison on 9-1-1978.

Location: Combinado del Este prison,

(MRS. ALBERTO LAZO PASTRANA and HER THREE CHILDREN: Assassinated during an exit attempt, 1971. Location: Caribbean seas.)

Alberto Lazo Pastrana had been a member of Castro's Revolutionary Army who had fought against the Batista dictatorship. When Castro took power, he grew disenchanted and joined the opposition. Captured for alleged counter-revolutionary activities, he served a ten-year prison sentence. After his release, he was denied work as well as permission to leave the country. Desperate, he built a raft with his family to flee Cuba. Having left late at night on the primitive vessel, they were soon spotted by a Cuban Coast Guard patrol. Despite their cries for mercy, the Coast Guard boat rammed and sunk the raft. The father made it to shore exhausted, the wife's body washed ashore the next day, partly devoured by sharks. The children's bodies were never found. The father was captured and tortured despite his devastating grief, then sentenced to 18 years in prison. As he was to be released in a general amnesty declared by Castro, he developed a colon ailment and died mysteriously in the prison's hospital.

Sources: *Ernesto Diaz-Rodríguez, 1995, pp. 49-52, and 51-54. Eduardo de Juan, 1997, p. 282. Beruvides, 1993, p. 134. Presidio Político Cubano, 1997, p. 158. WAQI-Radio Mambí, p. 70. Encinosa, 1994, pp. 101-102. Pardo Mazorra, 1992, p. 566. Nuestra Cuba, 1998, and pp. 69 and 70. Circuito Sur, July 2002, p. 47 and <http://www.aguadadepasajeros.bravepages.com/historias/lazo.htm>.*

JULIO TANG TAXIER, Age 28.

Assassinated in prison on 9-3-1966.

Location: Isla de Pinos prison. This political prisoner of Cuban-Chinese ancestry started to serve his sentence on May 1961. In 1966 he was arbitrarily attacked with a bayonet by prison guard Private Arcia when he wavered, due to physical weakness, in answering an order to begin hard penal work. He bled to death after lying on the floor in a pool of blood for four hours without medical attention.

Sources: *Valladares, 1985, p. 255. Beruvides, 1993, p. 179. Eduardo de Juan, 1997, p. 285. Vargas Llosa, 1998, p. 195. Loredó and Pérez Diez Arguelles, 1988, p. 93. Gómez-Estrada, 1990, p. 212. Nuestra Cuba, 1998, p. 70. Sov, 1982, p. 360. Pardo Mazorra, 1992, p. 568. Organization of American States, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 4to. Informe Especial, Reporte de 1967, 7 de abril de 1967, pp. 6-7. Organization of American States, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 5to. Informe Especial, 1976, p. 3. Clark, de Fana and Sanchez, 1001, p. 20. Ruiz, 1972, p. 68. Díaz-Rodríguez, 1995, p. 104. Instituto de la Memoria Histórica Cubana contra el Totalitarismo, 2002, p. 83. Cuban American National Foundation, The Quilt of Fidel Castro's Genocide, 1994. Presidio Político Cubano, 1997, pp 115, 161. WAQI-Radio Mambí, p. 70.*

www.CubaArchive.org

FREE SOCIETY PROJECT, INC.

P.O.. Box 757
Summit, NJ 07902

All Rights reserved.