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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s):	Communication No. 1736
Session:	Thirty-Sixth Session (6 - 24 October 1975)
Title/Style of Cause:	"Liga Campesina" Membes v. Honduras
Doc. Type:	Report
Decided by:	President: Dr. Andrés Aguilar (Venezuela) Vice-President: Dr. Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches (Brazil) Members: Professor Manuel Bianchi (Chile); Dr. Gabino Fraga (Mexico); Dr. Justino Jimenez de Aréchaga (Uruguay); Mr. Robert F. Woodward (United States); Dr. Genaro R. Carrio (Argentina)
Dated:	6 - 24 October 1975
Citation:	"Liga Campesina" Membes v. Hond., Comm. 1736, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.37, doc. 20, corr. 1 (1975)
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[1] 1736, presented through a communication of March 8, 1972, denounces the death of several agricultural workers and the arbitrary arrest of others belonging to the "Liga Campesina". The events allegedly occurred in the town of Talaquera, Department of Olancho, on February 18, 1972, and involved the armed forces and several land owners of the region who were named as those responsible for plotting and carrying out the aforementioned acts.

[2] In a note dated March 29, 1972, the Commission requested the Government of Honduras to provide the pertinent information, in accordance with Articles 42 and 44 of its Regulations.

[3] This request was repeated on November 1, 1972, pursuant to the decision adopted by the CIDH at its twenty-ninth session (October of that year).

[4] In a note dated December 19, 1972, the Government of Honduras replied to the foregoing request of the Commission, forwarding documents on the activities of the administrative and judicial authorities of Honduras to clarify the facts that were the subject matter of the case. In that note it also offered to send the Commission further data on the results of the actions taken by the competent judicial authorities in that jurisdiction. This information, which was sent shortly thereafter, under a note dated January 5, 1973, consisted in a report of the Supreme Court of Justice.

[5] In accordance with its Regulations, the Commission, in a note dated January 31, 1973, transmitted the pertinent parts of the information provided by the Government of Honduras to the complainants who in a letter dated March 3, 1973, made comments and observations on the case and in particular on the information supplied by the Government of Honduras.

[6] With this information, the Commission began its examination of the case at its thirtieth session (April 1973) and decided to transmit to the Government of Honduras the additional allegations of the complainants. The Government of Honduras, in a note dated June 30, 1973, informed the CIDH that it

would send the pertinent comments made by the competent authorities of Honduras on the additional information supplied by the complainants as soon as such authorities made a statement on the subject.

[7] At its thirty-first, thirty-second, and thirty-fourth sessions (October 1973, April and October 1974 respectively), the Commission postponed a final decision on this case in view of the fact that the Government of Honduras had not transmitted the information it had offered; but at the last of these sessions, it decided to reiterate to the Government of Honduras its request for the information needed for examination of the case. Pursuant to that decision, a note was sent to the Government of Honduras on December 17, 1974. Furthermore, through a note dated November 20, 1974, the claimants were informed of that decision.

[8] At the thirty-fifth session (May 1975) the Commission continued its examination of case 1736, noting that the Government of Honduras had not yet provided the data repeatedly requested from it to expedite examination of this file.

During that same session it appointed Dr. Andrés Aguilar as rapporteur. In keeping with recommendations made by the rapporteur who submitted an oral report, the Commission decided to again address the Government of Honduras reiterating to it, for the last time, its request for transmittal of the corresponding data, and informing it of the deadline date on the period provided for under Article 51 of the Regulations and of the subsequent application of the provisions of that Article on presumption of confirmation with regard to the events contained in the denunciation should the Government not transmit the appropriate data.

[9] Pursuant to this decision, the Commission addressed the Government of Honduras through a note of August 12, 1975. A copy of that note was transmitted to the Mission of Honduras to the OAS on August 22, 1975.

[10] Through a note of October 1, 1975, the Government of Honduras addressed the Commission and provided information in official letter No. 1702-01, and photostatic copies attached as appendices A, B, and C, which reproduce parts of the two proceedings in the First Criminal Court, Department of Olancho, in connection with the events that took place in February, 1975.

[11] During its thirty-sixth session (October 1975), the Commission considered this communication together with the information provided by the Government of Honduras, and appointed Dr. Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches as rapporteur.

In accordance with the recommendation made by the rapporteur, the Commission decided to again address the Government of Honduras requesting that it kindly provide the additional information necessary to enable the Commission to reach a final decision on this matter.

[12] Pursuant to that decision the Commission addressed the Government of Honduras through a note of November 13, 1975. A copy of that note was sent to the Mission of Honduras as to the OAS on that same day. On January 16, 1976, the claimants were informed of the decision taken.