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Title/Style of Cause: Anselmo Roldan Aguilar v. Guatemala
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Dated: 31 July 2001
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33. On July 31, 2001, the Commission contacted the State of Guatemala to request the adoption of precautionary measures to protect the life and person of Anselmo Roldán Aguilar, the president and legal representative of the Ixcán Human Rights Association in the community of La Unión Cuarto Pueblo and of the Association for Justice and Reconciliation. According to the information available, on Sunday, July 22, 2001, Anselmo Roldán Aguilar was attacked by an individual armed with a sharp bladed weapon at around 7:30 p.m. in the vicinity of Cuarto Pueblo. Mr. Roldán Aguilar, who had told the Justice of the Peace in Ixcán that death threats had been made against him because of his activities as a defender of human rights, was wounded with a type of stiletto knife known as a verduguillo, which cut through his left arm and caused him serious bleeding. In his capacity as president of the Ixcán Human Rights Association, Anselmo Roldán Aguilar had denounced, in public and judicial forums, harassment intended to terrorize the Cuarto Pueblo community, particularly those involved as witnesses in the association's suit against the military high command for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed between 1982 and 1986. After the State replied, the parties have continued to submit information and comments in connection with these precautionary measures. The Commission continues to monitor compliance with the precautionary measures.