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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause:	Javier Carrascal Martinez, Plinio Rafael Barros Quinones, Danuil Duran Tellez, Miled Humberto Guerrero and Juan de Jesus Madarriaga v. Colombia
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	15 May 2002
Citation:	Carrascal Martinez v. Colombia, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.117, doc. 1 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 30 (2002)
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30. On May 15, 2002 the Commission granted precautionary measures on behalf of Javier Carrascal Martínez, Plinio Rafael Barros Quiñones, Danuil Duran Tellez, Miled Humberto Guerrero, and Juan de Jesus Madarriaga in the municipal capital of El Tarra, department of Norte de Santander. According to the request received by the Commission, on April 15, 2002 paramilitary groups established checkpoints along the roads leading to the municipality of El Tarra and caused several persons to disappear, after which they announced a “cleansing” campaign in indigenous communities (corregimientos) in the area. It also claims that on April 16, after a clash with the police, paramilitary members took control of the municipal capital and exiled Plinio Rafael Barros Quinones, Danuil Duran Tellez, Miled Humberto Guerrero, and Juan de Jesus Madarriaga under the threat of extrajudicial execution and death. They also ordered the mayor of El Tarra, Javier Carrascal, to cooperate or else be considered a military target. The petitioners indicated that this situation had led to the displacement of many of the municipality's inhabitants and that there were at least three executions from May 2 to 6, 2002. In its reply, the State indicated that offensive operations were being conducted to banish illegal armed groups and that disciplinary proceedings were being implemented. The petitioners indicated, however, that no steps had been taken to protect the life and person of the beneficiaries and that security conditions in El Tarra continued to deteriorate because paramilitary groups were acting with impunity.