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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause:	Maria Aparecida Gomes da Silva and her family and Edson Azambuja v. Brazil
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	29 May 2003
Citation:	Gomes da Silva v. Brazil, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.118, doc. 5 rev. 2, Ch. III, para. 12 (2003)
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12. On May 29, 2003, the Commission granted precautionary measures on behalf of Maria Aparecida Gomes da Silva and her family and Edson Azambuja. The information available indicates that on May 19, 2003, Ms. Maria Aparecida Gomes da Silva was kidnapped from a public place by four armed men who put her in the trunk of a car after putting her to sleep with a substance and they held her for 11 hours, until her release. When her captors released her, they also threatened her, saying, "...she should stop doing evil to others, because she and her friend were born to end the lives of careers of others," that she and "her friend" should remain silent and do nothing, otherwise she "would pick up her daughter's brains and heart from the floor, as they would shoot her, and end her life." Ms. Gomes da Silva, a member of the NGO Central Estadual contra a Tortura, had accompanied a judge and a representative of the Public Ministry on a visit to the "Casa de Custodia de Palmas" on May 17, 2003, to look into allegations of torture of the prisoners in pavilion B, after an attempted escape on May 13, 2003. In view of the risk to which the persons benefitted are exposed, the Commission asked the State to adopt the security measures needed to protect the life and personal integrity of Maria Aparecida Gomes da Silva and Edson Azambuja and to investigate the allegations. By communication of June 16, 2003, the State reported to the IACHR that all the pertinent steps were being taken internally to provide the security measures as per agreement with the petitioners.