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International Support For Prosecution Of Ousted Paraguayan Dictator

by Erika Harding
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Paraguayan Supreme Court president Jose Alberto Correa has received declarations of support from four international organizations for the extradition and prosecution of former dictator Gen. Alfredo Stroessner on charges of conspiracy in the 1976 torture and murder of Celestina Perez de Almada. The victim and her spouse, Martin Almada, directed an innovative educational research institute in the 1970s. Both were detained and tortured by police, and Celestina died of injuries sustained while in police custody. The four organizations offering support to Paraguayan judicial authorities are the International Secretariat of Education Professionals, headquartered in Holland; the European International Democratic Lawyers Association; the Paris-based International Teachers Association; and, the World Federation of Scientific Workers, headquartered in London. When charges were filed against Stroessner following his ouster in February 1989, the Paraguayan judiciary initiated procedures for his extradition from Brazil. Charges in the case have also been filed against former interior minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro (exiled in Honduras), former police chief Gen. Francisco Britez Borges (in custody), and former police investigations chief Pastor Coronel, who was recently sentenced to 25 years in prison for the murder of a university student in 1976. (Source: Notimex, 05/27/92)

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