

Victims of the Cuban state: selected cases of persons killed or disappeared while in detention for political offenses

(Castro regime)

Work in progress

MINORS

Owen Delgado Temprana, Age 15. **Assassinated** on 3-03-81 in an assylum attempt. Location: G-2 State Security police headquarters at Villa Marista, Havana. Entered with his family the embassy of Ecuador asking for political asylum. A week later, Cuban Special Forces stormed the embassy and took the entire family into custody. At State Security headquarters, Owen was brutally beaten, suffering severe blows to the face and head, with his ear nearly severed. He lapsed into a coma and died two days later. The government refused to return his body to the family for burial.

Junior Flores Díaz, Age 17. Summer 1995. Location: Punishment cell in Valle Grande prison, El Morado, Havana province. **Died in prison, denied medical attention.** Vomiting incessantly, his calls for help were ignored. He was found dead in a pool of vomit and blood.

Máximo Galán Zaldívar, Age 17. 01-20-79. State security office in Guantánamo. Leader of a youth group of rock-and-roll fans. **Assassinated** while under arrest for ideological deviation.

Armando González Peraza, Age 14. 02-12-61. Las villas province. **Assassinated** by police, who claim he committed suicide.

José Ramón Guit Cruz, Age 16.

Assassinated by police on 03-71.

Location: City of Camaguey. High school student. After painting his alias, "Agapito" (for Eros, the Greek god of love) on Camaguey city walls, he was falsely accused of painting anti-Castro slogans and arrested. This radicalized him and he started to organize public protests. He was arrested several times and, finally, shot dead by police. During his funeral, the government sent tanks to the streets to contain a large protest.

René Martínez, Age 14. 13-06-62. City of Matanzas. **Assassinated** while under arrest.

Leonardo Matas Pich, Age 16. 30-01-62. Location: Juvenile prison in Guanajay, Pinar del Río. **Assassinated** in prison.

Ramón Rivero, Age 16. 13-10-65. Location: State security office in Havana. **Assassinated** under arrest.

Elio Rodríguez, Age 13. 22-08-61. La Víbora, Havana. **Assassinated** by police, who claim he committed suicide.

Raúl Torres Pérez, Age 17. 03-06-62. Calixto García University Hospital, Havana. **Assassinated.** Developed cancer while serving prison for political reasons and was denied medical care. Finally transferred to a hospital, he was denied permission to go to the bathroom. Unable to wait, he attempted to stand up and walk. The guard pistol-whipped him in the face, threw him to the floor, and shot him.

Jorge Varas Bileves, Age 16. 04-04-62. State Security headquarters, Havana. **Presumed assassinated.** Authorities claim he committed suicide.

WOMEN

Gloria Casañas Hernández. 20-06-65. Location: State Security office. **Disappeared** after her arrest for participating in a human rights demonstration.

Dolores Correoso ("Lolín"). Age 55. 13-08-78. Location: Guanajay National Women's Prison, Pinar del Río. While serving a 20-year prison term, developed breast cancer and was **denied medical treatment.**

Aselia Fernández. 13-09-82. Location: Morón, Camaguey. **Assassinated** by police.

Ana Marta García Delgado. 21-09-86. Location: State security office in Santa Cruz del Norte, Havana province. **Assassinated** by police while under arrest. Was six months pregnant.

Olivia Aida García Soler. 26-04-65. Location: State security office in Santiago de Cuba, Oriente province. (Employee of the Cuban Electric company and former union leader.) **Assassinated** while under arrest.

Julia González Rosquete. 10-01-62. Location: Guanajay National prison for Women, Pinar del Río province. Developed a mouth infection from a beating by prison guards. **Denied medical care**, she died of septicemia.

Julia González de Méndez. 01-06-73.
Location: State security office in Alquizar, Havana province.
Assassinated by police while under arrest.

Estrella Gutiérrez. 22-06-62. Location: State security office in Perico, Matanzas province. **Assassinated** by police while under arrest.

Livia Gouvernier, Age: 20. Date: 11-12-59. Location: State security office in Havana. University student.
Assassinated by police while under arrest.

Orelvis Martínez Limonta. 07-07-92.
Location: Santa Clara, Las Villas province. **Assassinated** while under arrest.

Delia Navarro, Age: 39. 03-08-62.
State Security office in Havana.
Became crazed after being tortured, reportedly committing **suicide** while under arrest.

Caridad Pavón Rodríguez. 27-02-82 .
Location: State Security headquarters in Havana. Leader of the anti-Castro Zapata movement. **Assassinated** during interrogations, after enduring torture and savage beatings. Authorities claim she committed suicide.

Lydia Pérez López, Age 25, eight months pregnant, **and unborn child.** **Assassinated** in prison, 07-07-61.
Location: Guanajay National Women's Prison, Pinar del Río province. Kicked in the stomach by prison guards, she lost her baby, received no medical attention, and bled to death.

Sister Aida Rosa Pérez, Age: 42. 12-12-67. Location: State Security pavilion at the Military Hospital in Havana. Former Catholic Sister of Charity, she had left her order for health reasons, due to congenital heart disease. She was repeatedly detained for expressing anti-Communist views and eventually sentenced to 12 years in prison. Forced to do hard agricultural labor, she died of a heart attack after serving 2 years.

Caridad Placencia (aka Caridad Plasencia). 15-09-75. Location: State security office at Reparto Lawton, Havana. **Assassinated** by police while under arrest.

Dora Victoria Reyes. 30-08-84.
Location: State Security headquarters in Havana. Had served a prison sentence and was released from prison. Given permission to visit relatives in Havana, she was detained and died under arrest, **presumed assassinated.**

Alba Serrano, Age: 25. 30-10-67.
Location: Guanajay National Women's prison, Pinar del Río province.
Committed suicide. Sentenced to prison for pursuing black market activities, she was sent to the lesbian cellblock in punishment. Her relatives overreacted very negatively and, unable to endure the shame, she hung herself in her cell.

Dr. Edmundo Serrat Barrios, Age 70. **Assassinated** on 06-09-81. Location: G-2 State Security police headquarters at Villa Marista, Havana. A lawyer, she had served a 3-year sentence for opposing the Cuban judicial system and Marxist educational reforms political reasons, doing forced labor a concentration camp in Havana province. After her release, she started serving as defense lawyer in cases brought against the government. In August 1981, during one such case, she objected to the conduct of the judges and was detained during the trial. Taken for interrogation at State Security Police headquarters in Villa Marista, a few days later her family was informed of her death of an alleged heart attack. During her wake, the coffin was sealed and under surveillance. A State Security officer who later defected reported she had been beaten to death.

Berkis Tercio ("La mariposita"), Age: 19. 15-02-2002. Location: Agricultural Penal Farm No. 5, Camaguey province .
Committed suicide by hanging after being assaulted by a prison guard.

ADULT MALES

Diosdano Aquit Manrique, Age 33. **Assassinated** in prison on 12-17-1966. Location: Orange grove at Isla de Pinos prison. Small grocery store (bodega) owner, Cruces, Las Villas province. Political prisoner was shot in the back arbitrarily by Corporal Arcia after asking for permission to break ranks to pick-up a straw hat blown off by the wind.

Estanislao González Quintana. **Assassinated** on 9-12-1995 while under arrest. Location: Police Unit of Consolación del Sur, Pinar del Río. He had been detained three days earlier for "unlawful economic activity." Relatives were informed by police that he had died of a heart attack. The body displayed visible bruises and a profound gash in the forehead.

Julio Tang Taxier, Age 28. **Assassinated** on 9-3-1966. Location: Isla de Pinos prison. This political prisoner of Cuban-Chinese ancestry started to serve his sentence on May 1961. In 1966 he was arbitrarily attacked with a bayonet by prison guard Private Arcia when he wavered, due to his very poor physical condition, in answering an order to go do hard penal farm work. He lay on the floor in a pool of blood for four hours without medical attention and bled to death.

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