



Leo W. Gerard  
International President

April 4, 2006

**By Facsimile Transmission (202) 232-8643**

Presidente de la República de Colombia  
Dr. Alvaro Uribe Velez  
c/o Embassy of Colombia  
Washington, D.C.

Excelentísimo Sr. Presidente:

Re: The Murder of Harvey Morales Guevara

On behalf of the 850,000 members of the USW, I would like to express my grief in hearing of yet another unionist murdered in Colombia. As you know, Colombia is the most dangerous country for unionists in the world with hundreds of unionists killed in recent years. This particular murder is especially alarming because it took place just as Drummond Coal Company and Sintramienergética were commencing negotiations for a new labor agreement – typically the most dangerous time for trade unionists in Colombia.

Specifically, in the morning of March 25, 2006, Drummond coal worker and Sintramienergética activist Harvey Morales Guevara was murdered in downtown Santa Marta after getting off the bus on his way home from work. As you aware, the USW filed a lawsuit on behalf of the families of three union workers at Drummond – workers also killed during negotiations and also killed on their way home from work. This case is still pending.

We urge you to take all measures to ensure the safety of the Drummond workers, particularly those who are active in the union and thus most vulnerable to this sort of attack; to investigate the murder of Harvey Morales Guevara; and to bring to justice those responsible for this terrible crime.

Sincerely yours,

Leo W. Gerard  
International President

LL/yj

- c: Condoleezza Rice, U.S. Secretary of State (By Fax 202-647-1722)
- Hon. William Wood, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia (By Fax 57 1 315 2163)
- Senator Arlen Specter (By Fax 202-228-1229)
- Senator Rick Santorum (By Fax 202-228-0604)
- Senator Patrick Leahy (By Fax 202-224-3479)