

## **Inma Gomila - Interview**

### **«The worst bit was the feeling, having your eyes covered and hearing the shouts of the others being hit»**

Fear, terror. That's what Inma Gomila, ex-manageress of *Egunkaria*, felt during her five days in the hands of the Guardia Civil. The following interview was published in *Egunero* on February 27.

#### **How are you?**

I'm a bit better, but I'm still not back to normal.

#### **How was your arrest?**

After I had parked my car at Hondarribia Airport, they came up to me and showed me a warrant of arrest for my collaboration with a terrorist group. From there they took me to my office from where they took the computer, various documents and the things on the desk. They then covered my eyes and put me in a car. The voyage was fairly long and I realised they were taking me to Madrid.

#### **How were the first few hours at the Guardia Civil police station?**

They took me to a cold place with my eyes covered. They left me there all afternoon and then took me to the forensic scientist, who told me I was in Madrid. I knew that one of the other people arrested was Pello Zubiria, but I had no idea who else was there. The interrogations started that same night. They kept us there all night, each one in a different room. At one stage he couldn't take it any more and they started on me. I heard blows and shouts all night long, I was terrified. For me the worst thing was the feeling, it was terrifying to be interrogated with my eyes covered while I could hear blows and shouting.

#### **How did they treat you?**

They didn't hit me, but they kept me standing up, occasionally saying "let's do some exercise", making me lift my arms or crouch and stand. But the conditions got worse the longer I was there. On the third day they ordered me to take down my trousers. I threw myself on the floor begging them not to do anything to me and they finally told me to get up, and that was all. But fear was flowing through my entire body. On the third day they took my statement before a sort of court, with a public defender to whom I wasn't allowed to talk. I thought that after taking my statement they would take me before the judge, but they told me that I was to be kept in solitary confinement for another 48 hours; that was the worst bit. I had a really bad time the last two days, but they didn't do anything to me.

#### **Do you know who you could hear shouting?**

At one stage I heard Pello Zubiria shouting pitifully: "Leave me alone, leave me alone" in the next door room. Another day the doctor came up and I heard Pello say: "I'm confused, leave me alone!". It was awful to hear that and I had terrible anxiety attacks.

#### **Did you know that they took him to the hospital on the Saturday?**

No, but I was really worried. I heard two Guardia Civil policemen commenting at one stage that Pello was dead. I suppose they did it deliberately so that I would hear them and get worried.