

PUBLIC

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Fear for safety

03 September 2004

PERU

**Luis Alberto Ramírez Hinostroza (m)  
Members of his family**

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Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the safety of Luis Alberto Ramírez Hinostroza and his family following an attempt on his life on 30 August. He is a key witness in the judicial process against Luis Perez Documet, a retired general who has been charged with the "disappearance" in 1991 of nine people in the city of Huancayo.

On the evening of 30 August, as Luis Ramírez Hinostroza neared his home in El Tambo, Huancayo City, he was shot at from a passing car containing two unknown individuals. One shot penetrated his abdomen. Soon after the shooting, he was taken to El Carmen Hospital, in Huancayo city, where he was successfully operated on. He is said to be in a stable condition and is recovering from his injuries.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights had ordered the government on 2 August to carry out protection measures for Luis Ramírez Hinostroza following an earlier attempt to murder him on 13 March by four unknown individuals who called him a "*bocon*" (whistle blower). This was followed by a threatening letter on 6 May which included two photographs of his wife and daughter. However, according to reports he did not receive any protection from the authorities.

Prior to being shot on 30 August, Luis Ramírez Hinostroza reported that on 27 August he had been followed by unknown individuals in a car. The next day, when he tried to report the incident to the Public Ministry, he was informed that the Prosecutor on duty was not available.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In February 1991, when Luis Ramírez Hinostroza was 17 years old he was detained by members of the army for 15 days and allegedly tortured on the orders of General Luis Pérez Documet who was then in charge of the military base where he had been detained. Luis Perez Documet has also been charged with the "disappearance" and killing in 1992 of nine students and a professor at La Cantuta University. In August 2004, *The Consejo Supremo de Justicia Militar* (Supreme Council of Military Justice) upheld the 1994 sentence in which Luis Perez Documet was acquitted of these charges by a military court.

Gross human rights violations were widespread and systematic during the two decades (1980s and 1990s) of the internal armed conflict between the Peruvian State and the armed opposition groups, Shining Path and the Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. Following President Alberto Fujimori's departure from office in 2000, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission was set up to establish the circumstances surrounding the human rights abuses and violations committed between May 1980 and November 2000 by both parties to the conflict. The report of this Commission was published in August 2003. It found that gross human rights violations such as torture and ill-treatment, as well as "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions, had been committed by the security forces, and that the armed opposition groups, in particular Shining Path, were responsible for 54 percent of the total number of deaths and cases of people whose whereabouts remain unknown.

The Commission's work has triggered the opening of judicial process against agents of the state who were reported to have committed human rights violations during this period. The process, however, has been slow and there continues to be the possibility that cases may be transferred to military courts despite there being a clear message not only from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission but also from the national and

international human rights community that human rights violations have to be seen by independent and impartial courts to avoid impunity. There is therefore serious concern that justice is not going to be done for the thousand of victims who suffered during Peru's armed conflict.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Spanish or your own language:**

- expressing serious concern for the safety of Luis Ramírez Hinostroza and his family;
- pointing out that on 30 August 2004, Luis Ramírez Hinostroza was the victim of an attempt to his life near his home in El Tambo, Huancayo;
- calling on the authorities to do everything necessary to ensure the safety of Luis Ramírez Hinostroza and his family, in accordance with their own wish;
- calling for a full and independent investigation into the events of 30 August 2004 and for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- pointing out that Luis Ramírez Hinostroza is a key witness in the judicial process against Luis Perez Documet, a retired general who has been charged with the "disappearance" in 1991 of nine people in the city of Huancayo.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of the Interior

Ing. Javier Reátegui Roselló  
Ministro del Interior  
Ministerio del Interior  
Plaza 30 de Agosto s/n  
Urb. Córpac, San Isidro  
Lima 27, PERU

**Fax: + 51 1 225 7234 / 224 24 05**

**Salutation: Dear Minister / Estimado Sr. Ministro**

Attorney General

Dra. Nelly Calderón Navarro  
Ministra Fiscal de la Nación  
Fiscalía de la Nación  
Av. Abancay, cuadra 5 s/n  
Lima 1, PERU

**Fax: + 51 1 427 1792**

**Salutation: Dear Attorney General / Sra. Fiscal General**

**COPIES TO:**

Human Rights Organisation

Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos  
CNDDHH  
Calle Pezet y Monel (ex Tupac Amaru) 2467  
Lince, Lima 14, PERU

**Email: [postmaster@dhperu.org](mailto:postmaster@dhperu.org)**

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 9 October 2004.