

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death Threat/Fear of Extrajudicial Execution

14 June 1993

PERU

Juan GUERRA CRUZ, journalist

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Amnesty International fears for the life of radio-journalist Juan Guerra Cruz who is based in the city of Piura, capital of Piura department.

According to reports, Juan Guerra, a journalist for *Radio Vecinal*, a radio station in Piura, was detained by members of the police on 2 June 1993. Shortly before his detention Juan Guerra had declared publicly that the police had threatened to kill him for his radio reports about police brutality in Piura. Juan Guerra's detention is believed to be linked to these denunciations made by him on his programme "*Qué Pasa en la Ciudad*".

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

President Alberto Fujimori and his government assumed power on 28 July 1990. The government inherited a legacy of gross human rights violations dating back to January 1998, including thousands of cases of "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution.

The President has repeatedly stated that his government is pursuing a policy of respect for human rights. However, since President Fujimori assumed power, Amnesty International has documented the cases of 607 persons who were "disappeared", of whom by the end of April 1993, 560 remained unaccounted for and 47 were found dead. The organization has also documented 228 cases of extrajudicial execution during the same period.

Human rights violations occur in the context of the government's counter-insurgency operations directed against the clandestine Partido Comunista del Perú, PCP, Communist Party of Peru, and the Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru, MRTA, Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. Amnesty International opposes the deliberate and arbitrary killing by the armed opposition of defenceless civilians not directly involved in the internal conflict, and of members of the security forces who have laid down their arms and those placed *hors de combat* by sickness, wounds, detention or any other cause.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Please send telegrams/telexes and airmail letters either in Spanish, English or your own language:

- urging the government to guarantee the physical safety of journalist Juan Guerra Cruz;

- urging the Public Minister to conduct a prompt, thorough and independent investigation into allegations that Juan Guerra Cruz was threatened with death by the police, and to bring to justice those found responsible;

- urging President Alberto Fujimori to issue a directive to the security forces to the effect that the authorities will not tolerate death threats;

- urging that, unless charged with a recognizably criminal offence Juan Guerra Cruz be released.

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**APPEALS TO:**

1) President:

Presidente Alberto Fujimori  
Presidente de la República  
Palacio de Gobierno  
Plaza de Armas  
Lima 1, PERU

**Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Peru**

**Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO**

**Salutation: Señor Presidente/Dear President**

2) Minister of the Interior:

General EP Juan Briones Dávila  
Ministro del Interior  
Ministerio del Interior  
Plaza 30 de Agosto 150  
San Isidro  
Urb. Córpac  
Lima 27, PERU

**Telegrams: Ministro Interior Briones, Lima, Perú**

**Télexes: 21133 PE OCMI/21697**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro/ Dear Minister**

3) Public Ministry's Attorney General

Dra. Blanca Nélica Colán Maguiño  
Fiscal de la Nación  
Fiscalía de la Nación  
Edificio Torre de Lima, 7° piso  
Centro Cívico  
Lima, PERU

**Salutation: Dear Dra. Colán**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Human Rights Organization

Señores

Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos

Túpac Amaru 2467

Lince  
Lima 14, PERU

and to diplomatic representative of Peru accredited to your country. The World Conference on Human Rights is being held in Austria this month and you can enhance the power of your appeals by also sending copies to the diplomatic representative of Peru in Austria during June at the following address:

Peruvian Embassy:

The Ambassador  
Botschaft der Republik Peru  
Gottfried-Keller-Gasse 2/8. Stock  
1030 Wien, AUSTRIA

**Faxes: 712 77 04**

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 26th July 1993.