

PUBLIC

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To: Health professionals
From: Medical Office / South America Subregional Team
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Further Information on
MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION
Three wheelchair-bound prisoners

PERU

[See AI Index: AM 46/29/99, 30 September 1999; AI Index: AM 46/21/98, 27 November 1998, and AI Index: AM 46/14/98; 12 August 1998]

Theme: lack of adequate medical care / ill-treatment in prison

Summary

Amnesty International has just learned that Florencio Arturo Varillas Tizón, Manuel Mendoza Chiara and Juan Francisco Tulich Morales have been transferred to Miguel Castro Castro prison in Peru's capital Lima.

The organization has not yet been able to establish details of what medical care the three men are now receiving, but welcomes the transfer and will continue to monitor the prisoners' situation.

Background

Florencio Arturo Varillas Tizón, Manuel Mendoza Chiara and Juan Francisco Tulich Morales, who are confined to wheelchairs because of back problems, have for many months been denied adequate medical care in prison. Despite recommendations from a medical doctor and the director of Socabaya prison where the men were held prior to their recent transfer, the national headquarters of the Instituto Nacional Penitenciario [INPE, National Institute for Prisons] in Lima refused to approve Florencio Arturo Varillas Tizón's transfer to Lima, reportedly the only place where he can have access to the tests and treatment necessitated by his illness.

**No further action is required by the network at the moment.
Thanks to all those who sent appeals.**