

URGENT ACTION

INTIMIDATION FROM MILITARY ACCUSED OF TORTURE

The relatives of three men who have filed complaints for torture while in military custody have been threatened and intimidated by military personnel at their homes in Baja California state, Mexico. Amnesty International fears for their safety.

On 13 January 2012, the home of **Maria Isabel Reyna Martínez González** was surrounded by members of the military. They tried to kick-in the door and shouted out for her but were not let in and eventually left. Maria Isabel Reyna Martínez González is the mother of Ramiro Ramírez Martínez and Rodrigo Ramírez Martínez who are two of four men arrested in June 2009 on suspicion of kidnapping by members of the Mexican military in Playas de Rosarito, Baja California.

The day before, on 12 January, approximately eight members of the military surrounded the home of **Mayra López Vazquez**, the sister of Ramiro López Vázquez, in Tijuana, Baja California state. Mayra López Vazquez, came out of her house to find out what the military officers wanted. One army officer told her that he wanted to take photos of her family and of the house they live in because they had filed a criminal complaint against the military and asked her "why are you going around filing complaints" ("para que anda presentando quejas"). When the military personnel became aware that Mayra López Vazquez had called a public emergency services number to ask for help, they left the area. On the same day members of the military also visited the home of Ramiro Ramírez Martínez's partner **Tania Iveth Villareal** in Rosarito, Baja California state. According to witnesses they took photos of the house and shouted for her to come out.

Local human rights organizations following the case believe that the National Human Rights Commission is due to issue a recommendation on the case shortly.

Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Express concern for the safety of the Maria Isabel Reyna Martínez González, Mayra López Vazquez and Tania Iveth Villareal and call for them to receive protection in accordance with their wishes;
- Calling for a full, prompt impartial investigation into their intimidation and harassment by military personnel in apparent reprisal of the torture complaint filed by Ramiro Ramírez Martínez, Rodrigo Ramírez Martínez, Ramiro López Vázquez;
- Urge a prompt, full and impartial investigation into allegations of torture by members of the military against Ramiro Ramírez Martínez, Rodrigo Ramírez Martínez and Ramiro López Vázquez.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 02 MARCH 2012 TO:

Minister of the Interior
Dr. Alejandro Poiré Romero
Bucareli 99, 1er. piso, Col. Juárez
México D.F., C.P.06600, México
Fax: +52 55 5093 3414
Email: secretario@segob.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear Minister

Attorney General of the Republic
Marisela Morales Ibáñez
Av. Paseo de la reforma 211-213
Col. Cuauhtémoc, Del. Cuauhtémoc
México D.F., C.P. 06500, México
Fax: +52 55 5346 0908 (ask for "fax")
Email: mmoralesi@pgr.gob.mx
Salutation: Dear Attorney General

Governor of Baja California
Mtro. José Guadalupe Osuna Millán
Edificio del Poder Ejecutivo 3er Piso
Calzada Independencia 994
Centro Cívico, Mexicali, BC, CP 21000
Fax: +52 686 558 1090 (ask for "fax")
Email: gobernador@baja.gob.mx
Salutation: Dear Governor

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On 16 June 2009, **Ramiro Ramírez Martínez, Rodrigo Ramírez Martínez, Ramiro López Vázquez and Orlando Santaolaya** were arrested on suspicion of kidnapping by members of the Mexican military in Playas de Rosarito, Baja California. The men were detained incommunicado in the military base in Tijuana for two weeks before lawyers or family members were allowed access. They informed relatives they had suffered beatings, suffocation with plastic bags, mock execution, and sleep deprivation. Relatives filed complaints with the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), a governmental human rights ombudsman, and with the Federal Attorney General's Office (Procuraduría General de la República, PGR). All four remain in detention in a Federal prison in Tepic, Nayarit state.

Name: Maria Isabel Reyna Martínez González, Mayra López Vazquez, Tania Iveth Villareal, Ramiro Ramírez Martínez, Rodrigo Ramírez Martínez, Ramiro López Vázquez and Orlando Santaolaya

Gender m/f: m & f

UA: 19/12 Mexico Index: AMR 41/005/2012 Issue Date: 20/01/2012