Amnesty International is concerned about the physical safety of the President of the National Federation of Miners (Federación Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros, Metalúrgicos y Siderúrgicos del Perú), Víctor Taype Zuñiga. He was released on 14 March 1990 after spending three months in prison, having been subjected to severe torture. However, there is now an order for his re-arrest.

He was originally detained on 20 November 1989 in Huancavelica department by members of the police, and was held incommunicado at the investigative police (Policía Técnica) for two weeks until he was transferred to the prison in Huancavelica, charged with "apología al terrorismo" ("defence of terrorism"). While detained in the Policía Técnica he is reported to have been severely beaten and to have had electric currents applied to his head and body, which has affected his sight and hearing.

On 13 March the Inspecting Judge of Huancavelica ordered the release of Víctor Taype, and for the charges to be dropped. However, the Chief Prosecutor of Huancavelica asked for the case to be reopened, and the Inspecting Judge's resolution was reversed and a new detention order issued.

Up until now Víctor Taype has not been re-arrested. However, there is serious concern for his physical safety since, if rearrested, he could be tortured again.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- urging that if re-arrested, his physical safety is ensured and that he be humanely treated in prison, drawing attention to the fact that he was tortured in November of 1989 while in detention at the Policía Técnica;
- asking that he may have access to lawyers and relatives while in detention;
- asking that a full investigation is carried out into the allegations of torture.

Please ask miners and trade unions to take part in this action.
APPEALS TO:

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; 20331 PE SEC PRE
Faxes: + 51 14 33 1945

Dr Manuel Catacora
Fiscal General de la Nación
Fiscalía General de la Nación
Edificio Torre de Lima, 7 piso
Centro Cívico
Lima, PERU

Telegrams: Fiscal General Catacora, Lima, Perú
Telexes: 20055 PE MINPUBL

COPIES TO:

Señores
Federación Nacional de Trabajadores Mineros y Metalúrgicos del Perú
Calle Apurímac 436, Of. 301
Lima 1, PERU

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 November 1990.