

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/01/00

UA 03/00

Fear for safety / Death threats

6 January 2000

MEXICO

**Juan de Dios Hernández Monje, lawyer**  
**Pilar Noriega García (f), lawyer**

---

Amnesty International is very concerned for the safety of lawyers Juan de Dios Hernández Monje and Pilar Noriega García who have been threatened with death.

Both are defence lawyers for 60 students of the *Consejo General de Huelga* (CGH), General Strike Council, of the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* (UNAM), National Autonomous University of Mexico (see below). The striking students were detained during a protest on 11 December 1999.

The death threats against both lawyers were issued to Juan de Dios Hernández on 2 January 2000 by two people who approached him on the university campus. He had been on his way to meet the students who had been released under caution. He was also hit in the face.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

UNAM students have been on strike since 22 April 1999 in protest at proposed reforms to the University system, most notably a planned increase in tuition fees. Amnesty International has documented several attacks on students involved in the strike with some students having been abducted, tortured, beaten and in some cases even subjected to simulated executions (see News Service 109/99, AMR 41/09/99, 4 June 1999 and UA 278/99, AMR 41/28/99, 22 October 1999 and follow up). The identities of those responsible are not known.

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:

- urging the authorities to guarantee the safety of the lawyers Juan de Dios Hernández Monje and Pilar Noriega García who were threatened with death on 2 January 2000;
- calling for a prompt and independent investigation into the threats, asking that the findings be made public and that those responsible be brought to justice.

#### APPEALS TO:

Mayor of Mexico City  
Licda. Rosario Robles  
Jefatura de Gobierno del Distrito Federal  
Plaza de la Constitución esq.  
Piso 1, 06068(5) México D.F. MEXICO

**Telegrams: Mayor, México D.F., Mexico**

**Faxes: + 52 55 10 07 71**

**Salutation: Sr. Ing / Dear Mayor**

Attorney General of Mexico City  
Lic. Samuel del Villar Krechmar  
Procurador General de Justicia del Distrito Federal  
Carmona y Valle 54, Col. Doctores  
06820 México D.F. MEXICO

**Telegrams: Attorney General, México D.F., Mexico**

**Faxes: + 52 5 625 9000**

**Salutation: Sr. Procurador / Dear Attorney General**

#### COPIES TO:

Mexico City Commission for Human Rights  
Dr. Luis de la Barrera Solórzano,  
Av. Chapultepec N° 49, 1er Piso,  
Centro,

2

Cuauhtémoc,  
06040 México, DF  
Mexico

**Faxes: + 52 5 578 2578**

Human Rights non-governmental organization

Centro de Derechos Humanos  
"Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez" A.C.  
Serapio Rendon 57-B  
Col. San Rafael  
06470 México D.F. Mexico

**Faxes: + 52 5 535 6892**

Newspaper

La Jornada  
Balderas 68, 06050 México D.F., MEXICO

**Faxes: + 52 5 262 43 56**

and to diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 February 2000.