

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/017/2004

Further Information on UA 143/03 (AMR 41/022/2003, 21 May 2003) Fear for safety  
New Concern: Harassment

19 April 2004

**MEXICO**      **Jacobo Cruz (m)**  
                  **and other members of the *Consejo Ciudadadano Unihidalguense* (CCU), Citizens'**  
                  **Council of Union Hidalgo**

**Killed:**        **Manuel Posada Chevez (m)**

**Released:**    **Carlos Manzo (m)**  
                  **Luis Alberto Marin (m)**  
                  **Francisco de la Rosa (m)**

---

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Jacobo Cruz and other members of the *Consejo Ciudadadano Unihidalguense* (CCU), Citizens' Council of Union Hidalgo, following the killing of Manuel Posada Chevez and the harassment of his colleagues.

Manuel Posada Chevez was killed in the community of Union Hidalgo, Oaxaca state on 10 April. He was reportedly stabbed in the heart and abdomen by attackers who reportedly also kicked him as he lay on the floor. He was assisted by other members of the CCU, who attempted to get him medical attention, but he died from his wounds before he could be treated. Members of the CCU allege that those responsible for the attack on Manuel Posada Chevez are linked to the municipal authority.

Since 13 February, members of the CCU have kept a vigil (campamento) in front of the Town Hall in Union Hidalgo in a protest against alleged abuses by municipal authorities whom form part of Oaxaca's governing party, the *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* (PRI), Institutional Revolutionary Party. On 7 April, a representative of the municipal authority reportedly hit and intimidated Jacobo Cruz, who as a member of the CCU was participating in the vigil. The incident has been reported to the Public Prosecutor Office in the municipality of Juchitan, Oaxca state.

Carlos Manzo, Luis Alberto Marin and Francisco de la Rosa were released between July and December 2003 after spending several months in prison, on what Amnesty International fears were politically motivated charges which are still pending. Twenty other members of the CCU are facing similar criminal charges and arrest warrants.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Spanish or your own language:**

- expressing concern at the killing of Manuel Posada, a member of *Consejo Ciudadadano Unihidalguense* (CCU) Citizens' Council of Union Hidalgo, which is an indigenous Zapotec organization, in Oaxaca state;
- calling on the authorities to carry out an impartial investigation into the killing on 10 April 2004, to identify those responsible and to bring them to justice;
- calling on the authorities to guarantee the safety of all members of the CCU including Jacobo Cruz who was reportedly beaten by a representative of the municipal authority on 7 April 2004;
- expressing concern at the apparent failure of the state authorities to take impartial steps to prevent the escalating community conflict in Union Hidalgo;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that all criminal complaints against members of the *Consejo Ciudadadano Unihidalguense* are investigated according to the law and adhere to international fair trial standards.

**APPEALS TO:**Governor of Oaxaca

Lic. José Murat Casab  
Gobernador del Estado de Oaxaca  
Palacio de Gobierno, Bustamante s/n, Oaxaca  
Oaxaca 68000 México

**Telegram:** Governor of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, México

**Fax:** + 52 951 51 637 37

**Salutation:** Señor Gobernador / Dear Governor

Attorney General of Oaxaca

Lic. Sergio H. Santibáñez  
Procurador del Estado de Oaxaca  
Avenida Luis Echeverría s/n, La Experimental  
San Antonio de la Cal, Oaxaca  
Oaxaca 71236 México

**Telegram:** Attorney General of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, México

**Fax:** + 52 951 51 56 786 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax por favor")

**Salutation:** Dear Sir/ Señor Procurador

Human Rights Commission of Oaxaca

Dr. Sergio Segreste Rios  
Presidente de la Comisión de Derechos  
Humanos del Estado de Oaxaca  
Calle de los Derechos Humanos No. 210  
Col. América  
68050, Oaxaca, México

**Telegram:** Human Rights Commission of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, México

**Fax:** + 52 951 51 35 197 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax por favor")

**Salutation:** Dear Sir/ Estimado Señor

**COPIES TO:**Consejo Ciudadano Unihidalguense

Avenida Hidalgo 5  
Union Hidalgo  
70150 Oaxaca  
México

**Fax:** +52 971 71 382 33 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax por favor")

and 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 7 June 2004.