

UA 203/00

"Disappea.

PERUMiguel Angel Hinostroza Velarde
Primitivo Guerra Infanzón

Two men arrested during protests against alleged ballot-rigging in the recent presidential election have since "disappeared".

According to his brother, who was also present at the demonstrations, Miguel Hinostroza took photographs of police officers setting fire to a telephone box. The police officers saw this and detained both brothers and Primitivo Guerra Infanzón, taking them away in different police vans. Miguel Hinostroza's brother was taken to a police station for interrogation and later released. He has not seen his brother or Primitivo Guerra since.

A writ of *habeas corpus* was filed by a Peruvian human rights organization, the *Asociación Pro de Derechos Humanos* (APRODEH), on 6 July, and found admissible by the court, which will begin to hear to hear testimony on 7 July. However, the whereabouts of Miguel Hinostroza and Primitivo Guerra remain unknown.

President Alberto Fujimori won a third term in office on 28 May after elections marred by allegations of fraud. The next day, there were demonstrations in the capital, Lima. The demonstrations were held near the Swiss Hotel in the San Isidro district, to try to attract the attention of a delegation from the Organisation of American States (OAS) that was staying there. The OAS mission had been sent in the wake of the elections to explore ways of strengthening democracy in the country.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

More than 5,000 people disappeared in the 10 years to 1993, when the government responded to international pressure to end this grave human rights violation. Since then "disappearances" have decreased markedly. However, there is concern that respect and protection for fundamental human rights may be seriously undermined after President Fujimori's victory. Allegations of fraud and irregularities during the first and second rounds of the elections, in April and May, led the OAS General Assembly to send a mission to Peru to explore "with the government of Peru and other sectors of the political community, options and recommendations aimed at further strengthening democracy in that country..." (OAS General Assembly, Resolution 1753). The OAS high level mission which visited the country in June has recommended a number of measures, including a National Plan for the protection of human rights.

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

- expressing concern for the safety of Miguel Hinostroza Valverde and Primitivo Guerra Infanzón, who have not been seen since they were arrested in the San Isidro district of Lima on 29 June;
- urging the authorities to take all measures possible to establish their whereabouts;
- urging that a full and impartial investigation into their "disappearance" is carried out, and those found responsible are brought to justice;
- reminding the authorities that the UN has urged member states "not to practice, permit, or tolerate the forced disappearance of persons" (Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance adopted in 1992).

APPEALS TO:

2

Gral. César Enrique Saucedo
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza 30 de agosto s/n - Urb. Córpac
Lima 27 - Peru
Fax: + 511 224 2407
Salutation: Sr Ministro/Dear Minister

Dra. Blanca Nélide Colán Maguiño
Fiscal de la Nación
Fiscalía de la Nación
Av. Abancay, cuadra 5 s/n
Lima 1 - Peru
Fax: + 511 426 4620
Salutation: Sra Fiscal de la Nación/Dear Attorney General

COPIES TO:

APRODEH
Jr. Pachactuec No 980
Lima 11, PERU

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 18 August 2000.