

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 46/14/94
Distr: UA/SC

UA 318/94

Death Threat

30 August 1994

PERU

Henry HALANOCA HAUYTA, radio journalist

Radio journalist Henry Halanoca Hauyta from Lampa province, Puno department, has reportedly been subjected to death threats.

According to the information received by Amnesty International, the mayor of Lampa and a member of staff from the municipality's Public Relations Office, have threatened to attack or kill Henry Halanoca Hauyta and his family, for publicly exposing corruption at the town hall in his program *Lampa y Realidad*, Lampa and Reality. The program is broadcast on Radio Qollasuo.

The death threats have been reported to the National Association of Journalists in Peru.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Journalists have been a target under the government of President Fujimori and those of his predecessors, Alan García Pérez and Fernando Belaúnde Terry. Since 1983 Amnesty International received numerous reports of journalists being threatened, harassed and sometimes even killed by members of the security forces or by civilians acting with their support. Between November 1992 and May 1993 Cecilia Valenzuela, a journalist on the weekly magazine *Caretas*, received death threats (See UA 82/93, AMR 46/07/93, 24 March 1993). During March 1994 Mariano Paliza Mendoza, a journalist who works for the independent human rights organization APRODEH received several death threats (See UA 135/94 AMR 46/07/94). In April 1994, César Flores González, a radio journalist from Huanta was detained and beaten by military personnel before being released on 6 May. (See UA 206/94, AMR 46/12/94)

Human rights violations occur in the context of the government's counter-insurgency operations directed against the clandestine armed opposition group *Partido Comunista del Perú*, (*Sendero Luminoso*), PCP, Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path) and the *Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru*, MRTA, Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. Amnesty International unequivocally opposes the deliberate and arbitrary killing by the armed opposition of defenceless civilians not directly involved in the internal conflict, and of members of the security forces who have laid down their arms and those placed *hors de combat* by sickness, wounds, detention or any other cause.

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

- expressing concern about reports that radio journalist Henry Halanoca Huayta has received death threats from the mayor of Lampa and a member of the Public Relations Office of the municipality;
- calling on the Minister of the Interior to take all the necessary steps to ensure that Henry Halanoca Huyaca and members of his family are given adequate protection;
- urging the Public Ministry's Attorney General to ensure that a prompt and thorough investigation into the allegations is conducted, the findings made public, and the perpetrators be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO

1) President:

Presidente Alberto Fujimori
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas
Lima 1, PERU

Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Peru

Faxes: +5114 337020 / 326535 (if voice line ask "me da tono de fax, por favor")

Salutation: Señor Presidente/ Dear Mr President

2) Ministry of the Interior

General EP Juan Briones Dávila
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza 30 de Agosto 150
San Isidro, Urb. Corpac
Lima 27, PERU

Telegrams: General Briones, Ministerio del Interior, Lima, Peru

Faxes: +5114 752 995 / 415 128 (if voice line, ask "me da tono de fax, por favor")

Salutation: Sr. General/Dear General

3) Public Ministry's Attorney General

Dra. Blanca Nélica Colán Maguiño
Fiscal de la Nación
Fiscalía de la Nación
Avda Azángaro
Lima, PERU

Telegrams: Fiscal de la Nación, Lima, Perú

Faxes: + 5114 334457 (if voice line, ask "me da tono de fax, por favor")

Salutation: Sra. Fiscal de la Nación/Dear Attorney General

COPIES TO:Human Rights Organization:

Señores
Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos
Túpac Amaru 2467
Lince
Lima 14, 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 11 October 1994.