

via fax: 011 504 235 7700 Lic. Ricardo Maduro Presidente de la República de HONDURAS	via fax: 011 504 220 4479 Dr. Oscar Alvarez Ministro de Seguridad, HONDURAS
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November 16, 2004

Dear Sirs:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, are extremely concerned for the safety of the staff members of Centro de Prevención, Tratamiento y Rehabilitación de las Víctimas de Tortura y sus Familiares (CPTRT) after the October 26 office break-in. The intruders went through documents and files and wrote death threats on the office walls. This is the third time the CPTRT offices in Tegucigalpa have been targeted; the two previous attacks have not been properly investigated, nor have staff members been offered protection.

The human rights organization has frequently criticized the government on such issues as the involvement of the police in extrajudicial executions of children, and the complicity of security officers in the death of 69 inmates at El Porvenir prison in April 2003 and 106 inmates at the San Pedro Sula prison in May 2004.

We wrote you in June 2003 after threats against Sub-Commissioner Maria Luisa Borjas, Head of the Internal Affairs Unit of the National Police, who, in September 2002, denounced the participation of members of the Ministry of Security and National Police in at least 20 extra-judicial executions of children and youths in Honduras. Borjas received telephone death threats, her office support staff was reduced, her mail intercepted and, finally, she was suspended from her post.

The CPTRT has recently supported other members of the Public Ministry who have been dismissed from their posts for raising their concerns about internal corruption.

**We strongly urge you to:**

- begin a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the break-in and make the findings public;
- take immediate steps to guarantee the safety of the organization's staff members.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
 Coordinator

cc: CPTRT~via fax: 011 504 236 8027  
 Dr. Ramon Custodio Lopez (CONADEH)~ via fax: 011 504 232 6894  
 Ambassador Mario Miguel Canahauti ~ via fax: 1 202 966 9751  
 Tom Kelly, Desk Officer for Honduras, US State Dept ~ via fax: 202-647-2597  
 Ambassador Larry L. Palmer ~ via fax: 011-504-236-9037  
 Senator George Voinovich, US Senate ~ via email: [Daniel\\_knezevic@voinovich.senate.gov](mailto:Daniel_knezevic@voinovich.senate.gov)  
 Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich, US House of Representatives ~ via email: [Samantha.spinney@mail.house.gov](mailto:Samantha.spinney@mail.house.gov)  
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**The following people hereby urge that you take action on this matter as indicated in this letter.**