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46. On November 7, 2002 the IACHR granted precautionary measures on behalf of Virgilio Hernández Castellanos, who in the past twelve years has held the positions of judge, regional prosecutor, director of the attorney general's office, chief of the National Human Rights Unit, and chief of the National Anti-Corruption Unit of the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation. According to the background information, during his tenure as chief of the National Human Rights Unit from 1997 to 1999, the beneficiary received direct and/or veiled threats from Víctor Carranza Niño, Carlos Castaño, "Commander Yara", El Zarco, Co. Hernando Navas Rubio, Nelson Lesmes, and others accused of committing serious human rights violations. On September 27, 2002 in an interview circulated in the media, Carlos Castaño, commander of the AUC, said: "...I believe that the current attorney general deserves all due respect, our full confidence, however before... you only have to look at the human rights unit, at Virgilio Hernández, ... people who support the guerrillas. Since I was going to surrender, I am surrendering to justice, not to the enemy." This statement by the AUC commander rendered the beneficiary a target for that armed organization. The IACHR has learned that the beneficiary temporarily left the territorial jurisdiction in order to protect himself.