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Scandal In Peru: 230 Prisoners Held On Drug Trafficking Charges Escape

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According to the Nov. 2 edition of the daily newspaper LA REPUBLICA (Lima), some 230 prisoners accused of drug trafficking escaped from Lima's Lurigancho prison. The mass escape was confirmed on Friday (Oct. 31) by prison director, Raul Penada Flores. Local authorities suspect that corruption of prison administrators and guards is at the bottom of the affair. LA REPUBLICA pointed out that several highly-placed individuals are accused of drug trafficking, and/or accepting payments from drug traffickers. Examples are the two previous directors of Lurigancho prison, Manuel Aquezolo and Wilder Lazarte. The Peruvian Air Force high command reached a decision to demote former General Frank Twedle who was sentenced for drug trafficking, as well as initiate legal proceedings against Gen. Cesar Gonzalo Luza who provided Twedle with false work certificates.

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