

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 53/92      Fear of "Disappearance"

14 February 1992

PERU            Roberto ROJAS RODRÍGUEZ  
                  Anatolio ROJAS SÁNCHEZ  
                  Horacio MONTENEGRO RAMOS  
                  Isabel GÓMEZ LUCAS (female)  
                  Fanol ROJAS SÁNCHEZ

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Amnesty International is concerned about the "disappearance" after detention by the police of the five peasants named above, all of whom are leaders of Rondas Campesinas de Defensa Civil, the Peasant Civil Defence Patrols from the hamlet of Chimchimabara, district of Huaso, Otuzco province, La Libertad department.

According to reports, they were all detained by members of the Policía Técnica, the investigative police, on 11 February 1992 in the presence of witnesses from the community of Chimchimabara. The police authorities are denying that these five have been detained and their whereabouts are unknown.

The detention and subsequent "disappearance" of the five men has been denounced to the Fiscal Provincial, the provincial attorney, the Juez Instructor, the inspecting magistrate, and the Policía Técnica, all from Otuzco.

No part of La Libertad department is under a state of emergency at present.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Gross and widespread human rights violations have afflicted Peru since 1983, as more and more areas of the country are designated emergency zones under military control. Emergency zones form the core of counter-insurgency strategy to combat widespread armed opposition, principally from Sendero Luminoso which has been responsible for extensive atrocities since it commenced armed actions in 1980.

Since the armed conflict began, thousands of people have "disappeared" or been extrajudicially executed by the security forces in the emergency zones. Most of those whose bodies were found had been brutally tortured, as were the few who survived "disappearance". In recent years "disappearances" and extrajudicial executions have spread beyond the emergency zones to afflict the entire country.

In September 1991 Decree Law 625 was promulgated and became immediately effective. The decree authorises prosecutors from the Public Ministry to enter

all police and military centres of detention, including in the emergency zones. Following this and other measures, the number of reported "disappearances" has fallen markedly. However, Amnesty International has continued to receive information of a pattern of "disappearances" in the departments of Huánuco, Junín and Ayacucho. This is the first report of "disappearance" outside the emergency zones since August 1991.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/airmail letters:**

- expressing concern at the "disappearance" of the five members of civil defence patrols named above, following their reported detention by members of the police in Otuzco province and urging that their whereabouts be immediately clarified;

- asking that they be given immediate access to representatives of the Public Ministry and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

- asking that they be brought before a judge so that they may be charged with a recognizable criminal offence or be released;

- asking that while in detention they be humanely treated and given access to a lawyer, doctor and relatives.

**APPEALS TO**

1) Minister of the Interior:

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

**Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

**Telegrams: Ministro Interior Davila, Lima, Peru**

**Telexes: 21133 PE OCMI or 21697**

2) Undersecretary of Multilateral Policy:

Embajador Fernando Guillén Salas  
Subsecretario de Política Multilateral  
Subsecretaría de Política Multilateral  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Jr. Ucayali 363  
Lima 1, Peru

**Señor Embajador / Dear Ambassador**

**Telegrams: Sr Subsecretario, Ministerio Relaciones Exteriores, Lima, Peru**

**Telexes: 25435 PE ESTADO**

3) Provincial Division of the Investigative Police:

Director de la Policía Técnica  
Policía Técnica de Otuzco  
Otuzco  
La Libertad  
Peru

**Señor Director /  
Dear Sir**

**Telegrams: Policia Tecnica de Otuzco, La Libertad, Peru**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Peasants' Confederation:

Señores

Confederación Campesina del Perú (CCP)

Apartado 5110

Lima 100, Peru

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru in your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 March 1992.