

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 46/18/91
Distr: UA/SC

UA 158/91

Fear of Torture/EJE
Ill-Treatment

8 May 1991

PERU: Eduardo GARCIA GARCIA, aged 30
Mile RUIZ
Haydé RUIZ GARCIA

Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the physical safety of Eduardo García García, a shanty-town leader in Tarapoto, San Martín province, San Martín department, and the reported ill-treatment of Mile Ruiz and Haydé Ruiz García.

According to reports, on 18 April 1991 the home of Eduardo García, located in the Banda de Shilcayo shanty-town of Tarapoto was searched by some 30 hooded soldiers. His elderly father, Mile Ruiz, was allegedly beaten with the butt of a firearm and a female relative, Haydé Ruiz García, was ill-treated. The soldiers reportedly said they were looking for Eduardo García, who, at the time, was not at home.

Eduardo García is currently in hiding. According to reports, he fears for his life. The actions of the soldiers have been denounced by members of his family to a local Procurator.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

For the last eight years Amnesty International has received numerous reports of incommunicado and unacknowledged detentions from Peru, some of which have led to "disappearances". Most of them have occurred in rural areas and have been carried out by uniformed members of the security forces, who often refuse to acknowledge the detentions. Many of those detained by the armed forces "disappear" indefinitely; others are released after days or weeks in secret custody, during which time they may be subjected to torture. Sometimes their detention is acknowledged, after prolonged secret detention and interrogation.

In these cases detentions are only acknowledged to have occurred as of the date the detainees are transferred from military to police custody, when public prosecutors are informed of the detention. The armed forces as a rule never acknowledge having held prisoners prior to their transfer to the police. This is a major contributing factor to the continuing practice of torture and "disappearance".

Human rights violations take place in a context of increasingly violent activities by armed opposition groups, especially "Sendero Luminoso", which has claimed responsibility for hundreds of execution-style killings of government officials, leaders of left-wing political parties and members of peasant communities believed to have cooperated with the armed forces.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the reported ill-treatment by members of the armed forces of Mile Ruiz and Haydé Ruiz García;
- urging that a full inquiry be ordered into the alleged ill-treatment, and that those responsible be brought to justice;

- expressing concern for the physical safety of Eduardo García García and asking that, should he be detained, he not be tortured or ill-treated;
- requesting that, if detained, he be brought before a competent judicial authority within the term provided for by law.

APPEALS TO:

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

Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Peru
Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO; 20331 PE SEC PRE
Faxes: + 51 14 33 7020

General Jorge Torres Aciego
 Ministro de Defensa
 Ministerio de Defensa
 Avenida Boulevard s/n
 Monterrico
 Lima 33
 PERU

Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Torres, Lima, Peru
Telexes: 25483 PE COMGREGJ
Faxes: + 51 14 35 4470

Jefe del Comando Político-Militar
 Comandancia General del Ejército
 Cuartel Mariscal Cáceres
 Morales
 Tarapoto
 San Martín
 PERU

**Telegrams: Comando Político-Militar, Cuartel,
 Mariscal Cáceres, San Martín, Peru**

COPIES TO:

Señores
 Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH)
 Avenida Abancay 210
 Of. 1102
 Lima, PERU (Human Rights Association)

Faxes: 51 14 32 69 15

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 19 June 1991.