

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 46/22/91

Distr: UA/SC

UA 175/91

"Disappearance"/Fear of Torture

21 May 1991

PERU:

Edward JULCA PEREZ

---

Amnesty International is concerned about the reported "disappearance" after detention of Edward Julca Pérez, a driver from San Martin.

According to reports, on 18 April 1991 Edward Julca Pérez was detained by members of the army in Tarapoto, San Martin province, department of San Martin. In responding to a petition of habeas corpus presented to the courts by the family, the Political-Military Command handed over to the judge a copy of a release order for Edward Julca Pérez, dated 19 April, which they said was signed with his fingerprint.

However, Edward Julca has not contacted his family since the date the military said he was released and has been seen by witnesses with military personnel in the Sauce locality and in the Bellavista district. Witnesses who saw him thought he was being detained against his will.

Amnesty International is concerned about his physical safety.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

For the last eight years Amnesty International has received numerous reports of 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. Many of those detained "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 they are transferred from military to police custody, when public prosecutors are informed of them. The armed forces as a rule never acknowledge having held prisoners prior to their transfer to the competent authority. 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 political parties and members of peasant communities believed to have cooperated with the armed forces.

page 2 of UA 175/91

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern about the reported "disappearance" of Edward Julca Pérez;
- asking that his detention be acknowledged, his whereabouts be immediately made known and that while in detention he be humanely treated and given access to a lawyer, a doctor and his relatives;
- asking that he be promptly brought before a competent authority and charged, or immediately released.

**APPEALS TO**

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

**Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Perú**  
**Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO or 20331 PE SEC PRE**

General EP Jorge Torres Aciego  
 Ministro de Defensa  
 Ministerio de Defensa  
 Avenida Boulevard  
 Monterrico  
 Lima 33, Perú

**Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Torres, Lima, Perú**  
**Telexes: 25438 PE COMGREGJ**

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

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

**COPIES TO:**

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

**Faxes: 14 32 69 15**

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 2 July 1991.