

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

COUNTRY: PERU
 SUBJECT TITLE: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
 DIRECTED AGAINST PEASANT COMMUNITIES

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Amnesty International has received reports that in June 1989 several peasant communities faced looting, rape and killings by military units engaged in counter-insurgency operations. The report suggest that in the course of several of these incidents soldiers had established themselves on the premises of local churches and that some of the reported human rights violations took place in the churches. In one of the cases described, soldiers are said to have wounded a 13-year-old girl with a bayonet after raping her in the church.

At least 14 peasants are reported to have been murdered during these incidents.

According to reports on 27 June 1989 a 27 strong army patrol led by a major and three other officers, entered the village of Pampamarca, in the Aucara district, Lucanas province, Ayacucho department. The villagers were assembled in the main square and made to stay there for two days. A military headquarters was established in the village church, from where orders and instructions were issued to the troops.

During these two days the following farmers were reported to have been killed by the soldiers:

Estanislao Polanco Rojas	Andres Huamani Polanco	Francisco Ramos
Bautista	Maria Bautista Quispe	Virgilio Barrientos Ramos
Franco Ramirez	Virginio Barrientos	Polanco
Barrientos Esteban	Barrientos Vega	Ignacio Tito
		Clemente Chaupion

According to reports, during these two days farmers' houses were looted by the soldiers and many of their livestock shot and used to feed the troops. Testimonies taken by local human rights groups revealed that peasants who refused to cooperate with the troops were killed as was apparently the fate of the farmers of the Santa Ana locality.

On 13 June an army patrol came to the Santa Ana locality, also in Lucanas. They were shooting and noisy. Most of the community escaped to higher ground, only the elderly remaining at home. The following four villagers were killed:

3

00/00/88), issued by Amnesty International in 00 MONTH, 1988. Anyone wanting further details or to take action on this issue should consult the full document.

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