

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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"Disappearances"

10 March 1992

PERU

Carlos VELA PIZANGO

Javier GIRON POMA

Jaime TRINIDAD CASTRO

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Amnesty International is concerned about the "disappearance" after detention by members of the navy of Carlos Vela Pizango, Javier Girón Poma and Jaime Trinidad Castro in the department of Ucayali.

According to reports, in the early hours of 27 January 1992 Carlos Vela Pizango was detained in the hamlet of Libertad, Padre Abad province, Ucayali department by members of the navy from the Aguaytía naval base. His detention reportedly took place in the presence of relatives and neighbours. He has not been seen since.

On 28 January 1992 Javier Girón Poma and Jaime Trinidad Castro were reportedly detained by members of the navy in the hamlet of San Antonio, Ucayali department.

They were reportedly detained in the presence of local residents as they were travelling by boat along the river Ucayali towards the district of Tirután. The two men remain "disappeared".

The "disappearances" have reportedly been denounced to the Fiscal de la Nación, the Attorney General, the Public Ministry's Fiscalía de Derechos Humanos, the Office of the Public Prosecutor of Human Rights, and a legal complaint was made to the Ministerio de Defensa, the Ministry of Defence.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Gross and widespread human rights violations have afflicted Peru since 1983, especially in areas designated emergency zones under military control. Emergency zones form the core of counter-insurgency strategy to combat widespread armed opposition, principally from the Partido Comunista del Perú (Sendero Luminoso), PCP, Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path), 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". However, 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.

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

- expressing concern at the "disappearance" of Carlos Vela Pizango, Javier Girón Poma and Jaime Trinidad Castro following their detention by members of the navy in the department of Ucayali and urging that their whereabouts be immediately clarified;

- asking that they be given immediate access to representatives of the Public Ministry;

- 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) President:

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

**Señor Presidente / Dear President**

**Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Peru**

**Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO**

2) Minister of Defence:

General EP Víctor Malca Villanueva  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Avenida Boulevard s/n  
Monterrico  
Lima 33, PERU

**Señor Ministro / Dear Minister**

**Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Villanueva, Lima, Peru**

**Telexes: 25438 PE COMGREGJ**

3) Undersecretary of Multilateral Policy:

Subsecretaría de Política Multilateral  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Jr. Ucayali 363  
Lima 1, PERU

**Señor Embajador /  
Dear Ambassador**

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

**Telexes:** 20142; 20165; 20467 (attn. Sr. Subsecretario)

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Human Rights Organization:

Señores

CEAS

Apartado 363

Lima 11, 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 21 April 1992.