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Further information on UA 238/92 (AMR 46/39/92, 22 July 1992) - "Disappearance"

PERU

Pedro Yauri Bustamante, radio journalist

Amnesty International is profoundly dismayed at reports that, three years after Peruvian journalist Pedro Yauri Bustamante was abducted, the investigation into his subsequent "disappearance" has been closed without his fate having been established and without the perpetrators having been brought to justice.

Pedro Yauri is believed to have been extrajudicially executed by members of the army shortly after his abduction on 24 June 1992.

Pedro Yauri Bustamante, from the town of Huacho, province of Huaura, Lima department, "disappeared" after reportedly being abducted by hooded members of the security forces who burst into his father's home. His father, Anastasio Yauri, who witnessed his son's abduction, denounced it before a representative of the Public Ministry. The latter placed the investigation in the hands of a *fiscal ad hoc*, an *ad hoc* public prosecutor.

Reports indicate that the abduction was carried out by members of the *Grupo Colina*, Colina Group, a special unit attached to the *Servicio de Inteligencia del Ejército* (SIE), Army Intelligence Service. In July 1992 members said to belong to this unit murdered nine students and one lecturer from La Cantuta University, near Lima, the capital [see *Peru: La Cantuta killings and other human rights violations not yet fully investigated* (AMR 46/03/94, March 1994) and *Peru: Army officers charged with murdering La Cantuta University lecturer and students* (AMR 46/01/94, January 1994)].

The existence of the Colina Group within the SIE has never been investigated by an independent judicial authority. In addition, dissident officers within the Peruvian army have accused the Colina Group of being implicated in three further cases of gross human rights violations: the massacre of some 15 men, women and children in the Barrios Altos neighbourhood of Lima, in November 1991 (see UA 401/91, AMR 46/75/91, 15 November 1991); the "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution of at least 26 students from the *Universidad del Centro*, University of Central Peru, in the city of Huancayo, during 1992 [see *Peru: "Disappearances and extrajudicial executions in the city of Huancayo* (AMR 46/53/92, November 1992)]; and the "disappearance" of eight peasants from three villages in Santa province, department of Lima, in May 1992 (see UA 154/92, AMR 46/22/92, 12 May 1992). None of these allegations have been effectively investigated by the authorities nor have the perpetrators been brought to justice.

Amnesty International continues to press for those alleged to be responsible for Pedro Yauri Bustamante's extrajudicial execution to be brought to justice.

The organization believes that the perpetrators should not benefit from any legal measures exempting them from criminal prosecution or conviction, no matter how much time has elapsed since the commission of the crime.

This is for information only. No further action by the Urgent Action Network is requested.