

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AMR 46/12/97

UA 100/97

Fear of Torture

14 April 1997

PERU José Luis BAZÁN ADRIANZÉN, former army intelligence agent

Amnesty International is seriously concerned that José Luis Bazán Adrianzén, a former army intelligence agent attached to the *Servicio de Inteligencia del Ejército* (SIE), Army Intelligence Service, may be at risk of torture.

José Luis Bazán was detained by the police on 11 April 1997 and subsequently transferred to an unspecified military establishment in Lima, the capital. He apparently faces charges of desertion (*abandono de destino*). His detention came in the wake of declarations he made days earlier on Peruvian television about the *Grupo Colina*, a "death squad" widely reported to be made up of members attached to the SIE. His declarations were made following media revelations about the torture of Leonor La Rosa Bustamente and the killing of Mariela Lucy Barreto Riofano, both army intelligence agents attached to the SIE (see UA 98/97, AMR 46/11/97, 11 April 1997).

Peruvian human rights defenders, journalists and politicians have publicly expressed their concern that José Luis Bazán's physical and psychological integrity is at risk, especially in view of the recent claims made by SIE agent Leonor La Rosa that she had been tortured by her colleagues, ostensibly for having publicly divulged intelligences plans prepared by the SIE.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

According to an article published on 13 April in *La República*, a Peruvian daily newspaper, José Luis Bazán told *La República* two years ago about some of the circumstances surrounding the Barrios Altos massacre in Lima, in November 1991, in which some 15 men, women and children were gunned down during a party. The massacre has been widely attributed to the *Grupo Colina*. Those responsible have never been brought to justice.

Over past years, Amnesty International has documented thousands of cases of torture and ill-treatment committed by members of the security forces in the context of counter-insurgency operations. In November 1994, the UN Committee Against Torture expressed concern about torture in Peru. Similar concerns were expressed in March 1997 by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture. To Amnesty International's knowledge, the perpetrators of these crimes have not been brought to justice. Impunity is not only institutionalized but legalized. In June 1995 an Amnesty Law which closes all investigations into human rights violations between 1980 and 1995 came into force. Impunity is a denial of truth and justice and contributes to further human rights violations.

During the past months, Amnesty International has documented a series of events which point to a worsening situation concerning the protection of human rights in Peru. In particular the organization is concerned at numerous reports that political opponents and journalists critical of the government are being targeted for human rights violations because of their opinions.

It is in this context that, for example, in November 1996, General Rodolfo Robles was detained after having denounced that an attack on *Global Television* in Puno department weeks earlier was perpetrated by members of the SIE (see UA 277/96, AMR 46/23/96, 7 November 1996). In December 1996, the Peruvian

newspaper *La República* revealed a plan elaborated by the SIE to target journalists critical of the government.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:

- expressing concern that former army intelligence agent José Luis Bazán Adrián, detained on 11 April 1997 and transferred into military custody, may be at risk of torture;
- urging that immediate and effective measures be taken to guarantee the physical and psychological integrity of José Luis Bazán.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Defence

General EP Tomás Castillo Mesa
Ministro de Defensa
Ministerio de Defensa
Avenida Boulevard y Monterrico
Lima 33, Perú

Fax: + 511 435 9567

Telegrams: Ministro de Defensa, Lima, Peru

Salutation: Dear Minister/ Señor Ministro

Attorney General

Dr Miguel Aljovín
Fiscal de la Nación
Fiscalía de la Nación
Av. Abanacay, 5 cuadro s/n
Lima 1, Peru

Fax: +511 433 2773

Telegrams: Fiscal de la Nacion, Lima, Peru

Salutation: Sr Fiscal de la Nación / Dear Attorney General

COPIES TO:

Human rights organization

APRODEH
Jr. Pachacutec 980
Jesús María
Lima 11, Perú

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 28 May 1997.