

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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"Disappearances"

8 May 1991

PERU:                   Honorata ORE DE AROTOMA (f)  
                          Julio AROTOMA CACHAHUARAY  
                          Zenón HUAMANI CHUCHON  
                          Eleuterio FERNANDEZ QUISPE  
                          Luis AMARU QUISPE  
                          Napoleón QUISPE ORTEGA  
                          Onofredo HUAMANI QUISPE

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Amnesty International is concerned about the reported "*disappearance*" of the persons named above after their detention by members of the army, in Huancapi, province of Victor Fajardo, Ayacucho department.

According to reports, on 19 April 1991 the seven people named above were reportedly detained by soldiers from the Huancapi army base. Honorata Ore de Arotoma was reportedly pregnant at the time of her arrest.

The detainees are reported to be members of the Izquierda Unida, United Left, a party political alliance. They were reportedly arrested when leaving the premises of the party.

Military authorities in the area have refused to acknowledge the detentions.

#### **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.

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

- expressing concern about the reported "*disappearance*" of the seven people named above by members of the Huancapi army base
- expressing particular concern that Honorata Ore de Arotoma is reportedly pregnant;

- asking that their detention be acknowledged and that, while in detention, they be humanely treated and given access to a lawyer, a doctor and their relatives,

- asking that they 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, Peru**  
**Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO; 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, Peru**  
**Telexes: 25438 PE COMGREGJ**

Jefe del Comando Político-Militar de Ayacucho  
 General Petronio Fernández Dávila  
 Cuartel Militar BIM 51 "Los Cabbitos"  
 Huamanga  
 Ayacucho, Perú

**Telegrams: Jefe Politico-Militar Fernandez,**  
**Ayacucho, Peru**  
**Telexes: 64734 PE 32; 64735 PE PIP**

**COPIES TO:**

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

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 19 June 1991.