

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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"Disappearance"

11 June 1991

PERU:

Wilian GUERRA GONZALES, aged 30

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Amnesty International is concerned about the reported "*disappearance*" of Wilian Guerra Gonzáles, father of two children, after his detention by the army in the district of Aucayacu, province of Leoncio Prado, department of Huánuco.

According to reports, on the night of 17 May 1991 Wilian Guerra was detained in his home by members of the army from the military base at Aucayacu. The detention was reportedly witnessed by the father of Wilian Guerra.

When enquiries were made at the military base, where he was believed to be held, the army refused to acknowledge the detention. The Fiscal Provincial, Provincial Prosecutor of Leoncio Prado has sent a letter of enquiry to the head of the Aucayacu military base, but as far as Amnesty International is aware no reply has been received.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

For the last eight years Amnesty International has received numerous reports of incommunicado and 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, who often refuse to acknowledge the detentions. Many of those detained by the armed forces "*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 the detainees are transferred from military to police custody, when public prosecutors are informed of the detention. The armed forces as a rule never acknowledge having held prisoners prior to their transfer to the police. 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 left-wing 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 Wilian Guerra Gonzáles after his detention by members of the army;
- urging that his whereabouts and legal situation be immediately clarified;
- urging that he be immediately brought before a judge or released;
- asking that, while in detention, he be humanely treated and given access to lawyers, a doctor and relatives.

**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 Jorge Torres Aciego  
Ministro de Defensa  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Avenida Boulevard s/n  
Monterrico  
Lima 33, Perú

**Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Torres, Lima, Peru**  
**Telexes: 25438 PE COMGREGJ**

Jefe Político-Militar de Huánuco  
General Manuel Delgado Rojas  
Cuartel 9 de Diciembre  
Huancayo  
Junin, Perú

**Telegrams: Jefe Politico-Militar Delgado Rojas,**  
**Cuartel 9 Diciembre, Huancayo, Junin, Peru**  
**Telexes: 64036 PE CRC HYO**

**COPIES TO:**

Señores  
CEAPAZ  
Centro de Estudios y Acción para la Paz  
Apartado 11-0764  
Lima 11, Perú  
(human rights group)

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 23 July 1991.