

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Torture/Fear for Safety

25 June 1991

PERU:

Juan Arnaldo SALOME ADAUTO, aged 22
Victor Luis SALOME ADAUTO, aged 11
Rodolfo Alberto SALOME ADAUTO, aged 17

Amnesty International is concerned about the physical safety of Juan Arnaldo Salomé Aduato and his two brothers, Victor Luis Salomé Aduato and Rodolfo Alberto Salomé Aduato.

According to reports, on the 24 April 1991 Juan Arnaldo Salomé Aduato was arrested by four heavily armed men dressed in civilian clothing (believed to be members of the security forces) opposite the "María Immaculada" college in Huancayo, Junín department. He was reportedly taken to a nearby police station, together with two other unidentified persons and later transferred to the 9 de Diciembre military barracks, where his detention was denied by the authorities. From 25 April onwards he was reportedly subjected to torture including beatings, electric shocks, suspension from his feet and hands and immersion in water, whilst being forced to say that he belonged to "Sendero Luminoso", Shining Path, an armed opposition group.

Relatives denounced the "disappearance" of Juan Arnaldo Salomé to the Fiscalía Especial de Derechos Humanos, the Special Attorney for Human Rights, in Huancayo. The latter then wrote to the head of the political-military command of Huánuco (who has jurisdiction over the 9 de Diciembre military barracks) requesting information on the case, but all knowledge of the detention was denied.

On 10 June Juan Arnaldo Salomé reportedly managed to escape from the barracks. On the following day, his home was searched by four armed men in plain clothes. When they did not find him at home, they are reported to have beaten his two young brothers, Victor Luis and Rodolfo Alberto Salomé Aduato.

Amnesty International is seriously concerned for the safety of Juan Arnaldo Salomé and his brothers, or other family members.

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/express and airmail letters:

- calling for an investigation into the unacknowledged detention and torture of Juan Arnaldo Salomé Aduato whilst held in unacknowledged detention at the 9 de Diciembre military barracks and the subsequent beating of his brothers, Victor Luis and Rodolfo Alberto at their home, and that those responsible be brought to justice;

- asking that all the necessary measures be taken to guarantee the physical safety of Juan Arnaldo Salomé and his family.

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

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

Telegrams: Jefe Político-Militar,
Cuartel 9
de Diciembre, Huancayo, Junin, Peru

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: 25383 PE COMGREGI

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 5 August 1991.