

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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**UA 222/92 Extrajudicial Execution/Fear of Extrajudicial
 Execution/Torture/"Disappearance"**

2 July 1992

PERU Ricardo SALAZAR RUIZ, 38, trader

Wilger SALDAÑA COTRINA, 40, mechanic
José VEGA RIVA, 22, peasant
Gipson TUANAMA FASABI, 22, peasant
Limber TUANAMA FASABI, 19, peasant
Luis Alberto GONZALES RUCOBA, 23, peasant

Amnesty International is concerned about the reported extrajudicial execution of Ricardo Salazar Ruíz and for the physical safety of the other five people mentioned above, all allegedly detained by members of the army stationed at a military base in the district of San José de Sisa, province of Lamas, department of San Martín.

According to reports, on the evening of 22 June 1992 an army patrol, lead by a captain from the military base, detained Ricardo Salazar Ruíz at his home in the district of San José de Sisa.

On the morning of 24 June 1992 the body of Ricardo Salazar Ruíz was found in the doorway of his sister's home, also situated in the district of San José de Sisa. His body, which was recovered by the San José de Sisa *juez de paz*, justice of the peace, reportedly had four bullet holes as well as showing apparent signs of torture.

Also on the 22 June 1992, Wilger Saldaña Cotrina, José Vega Riva, Gipson Tuanama Fasabi, Limber Tuanama Fasabi and Luis Alberto Gonzáles Rucoba were reportedly detained, by members of the same military base. At present it is unknown where they are being held and there are serious concerns for their physical safety.

Denunciations have been made to the Public Ministry's provincial prosecutor of Lamas about both of the above cases.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

President Fujimori and his government assumed power on 28 July 1990. The government inherited a legacy of gross human rights violations dating back to January 1983, including thousands of cases of "disappearance" and extrajudicial execution. In his inaugural speech the President stated that his government would fully respect human rights. On a number of subsequent occasions President Fujimori and representatives of his government have repeated that pledge. However, according to the cases documented by Amnesty International, between 28 July 1990 and 31 March 1992 some 486 people allegedly "disappeared" after arrest and 169 were extrajudicially executed. Dozens of cases of torture, and of death threats and attacks on human rights defenders, have also been documented by the organization since July 1990.

Human rights violations occur in the context of the government's counter-insurgency

operations directed against the clandestine armed opposition groups Partido Comunista del Perú, (Sendero Luminoso), PCP, Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path) and the Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru, (MRTA), Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. Amnesty International is concerned about and condemns the deliberate and arbitrary killing by the armed opposition of defenceless people not directly involved in the internal conflict.

Over the past 12 years the PCP, in killing such people, has mostly targeted peasants and activists from a wide range of political and trade union organizations critical of or refusing to support the PCP, municipal mayors and other officials, and people working on social and economic development projects.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes and airmail letters:

- expressing concern about the reported extrajudicial execution of Ricardo Salazar Ruíz by members of the San José de Sisa military base;
- asking that a full and impartial investigation be initiated, that the results be made public and that those responsible be brought to justice;
- expressing concern for the physical safety of Wilger Saldaña Cotrina, José Vega Riva, Gipson Tuanama Fasabi, Limber Tuanama Fasabi and Luis Alberto González Rucoba, who were also reportedly detained by members of the San José de Sisa military base;
- asking that if in custody they be either brought before a judge and charged with a recognizable criminal offence or released immediately;
- urging that if detained they be humanely treated and given access to independent lawyers, doctors, relatives and a representative from the Public Ministry.

APPEALS TO

1) President:

Presidente Alberto Fujimori
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas
Lima 1 PERU

Salutation: Señor Presidente / Dear President

Telegrams: Presidente Alberto Fujimori, Lima, Peru

Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO

2) Minister of Defence:

General EP Víctor Malca Villanueva
Ministerio de Defensa
Ministerio de Defensa
Avda. Boulevard
Monterrico, Lima 33, Peru

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Malca, Lima, Peru

Telexes: 25438 PE CONGREGJ

3) President of the Armed Forces Joint Command:

General Nicolás Hermoza Ríos

Salutation: Señor General / Dear General

Presidente del Comando Conjunto
de las Fuerzas Armadas
291 Av. Arequipa
Lima, PERU

Telegrams: Presidente del Comando Conjunto de las Fuerzas Armadas, Lima, PERU

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Human Rights Association:

Señores

Centro de Estudios y Acción para la Paz
(CEAPAZ)

Costa Rica 150

Jesús María

Lima 11, PERU

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 13 August 1992.