

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 210/91 (AMR 46/30/91, 14 June 1991) - Death Threats

PERU: Magno Sosa ROJAS, aged 24
Necías (Necho) TAQUIRI

On the morning of 10 June 1991, workers of Radio Wari, in Huamanga, were forced to transmit a message threatening journalists Magno Sosa Rojas and Necías Taquiri with death. The message was made in the name of a group calling itself the Comando de Liberación Anti-Terrorista, Anti-Terrorist Liberation Command, a death squad style paramilitary group. Both journalists had denounced human rights violations carried out by the armed forces. Magno Sosa had reportedly been threatened by officers of the armed forces for writing an article critical of the abuses allegedly perpetrated by the Rondas Campesinas de Defensa Civil, the Peasant Civil Defence Patrols.

On 23 August 1991 journalist Magno Sosa Rojas was detained by the police in the city of Ayacucho, Huamanga province, Ayacucho department and accused of terrorism. Soon after his arrest he was transferred to the Hospital de Huamanga, where he was held incommunicado under police guard.

Amnesty International has now learnt that on 30 or 31 August 1991 Magno Sosa Rojas was unconditionally released by orders of the judge, who said that the only evidence against him was based on a document signed by a prisoner who had been tortured.

Amnesty International is still concerned about Magno Sosa's physical safety, and especially that he may be at risk from paramilitary groups such as the Comando de Liberación Antiterrorista.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Airmail letters:

- expressing appreciation that Magno Sosa has been released from prison;
- asking that all guarantees be accorded to Magno Sosa in order to prevent him being a victim of any paramilitary group such as the Comando de Liberación Antiterrorista.

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APPEALS TO:

Presidente Alberto Fujimori [Salutation: Señor Presidente]
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas
Lima 1, Perú

General EP Jorge Torres Aciego [Salutation: Señor Ministro]
Ministro de Defensa
Ministerio de Defensa
Avenida Boulevard
Monterrico
Lima 33, Perú

General EP Victor Malca Villanueva [Salutation: Señor Ministro]
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza 30 de Agosto 150
San Isidro, Urb Corpac
Lima 27, Perú

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Perú in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS AS SOON AS YOU CAN