

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AMR 46/46/92

Distr: UA/SC

UA 304/92 Death threats/fear of safety

1 October 1992

PERU:

Journalists:

Magno SOSA ROJAS
Necías TAQUIRI YANQUI
Juan CAMBORDA LODESMA
Mario CUETO CARDENAS
Daniel QUISPE PEREZ
Carlos CONDORI CASTILLO
Severino CASTILLO MELGAR
Donito MARMANILLO
Carlos VALDES MEDINA

University Staff:

Marcial MOLINA
Victor TENORIO
Enrique GONZALES CARRE
Virgilio GALDO
Alina CARRASCO
Héctor VEGA
Pedro VILLENA
Profesor TINCCO
Profesor FERIA
Máximo CARDENAS

and at least 20 others.

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of the 19 people named above and at least 20 song-writers, composers, traders and members of non-governmental organizations based in the city of Ayacucho, capital of the department of Ayacucho.

According to reports, on 28 September 1992 a leaflet, threatening these individuals with death, was issued in the name of a 'death squad' calling itself the Movimiento Antiterrorista de Ayacucho (MATA), the Anti-terrorist Movement of Ayacucho. The leaflet was widely distributed in the city of Ayacucho and was reportedly left in the homes of those who appeared on the list.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since December 1982, when the military was first assigned control of areas under a state of emergency, critics of the armed forces, human rights defenders and journalists who have helped to bring details of human rights abuses to local and international attention, as well as suspected sympathizers and members of the armed opposition, have been targets of death threats and killings.

In Peru, particularly since 1988, so-called 'death squads' acting under a

variety of names and alleged to be linked to or acting with the support of the security forces, have also threatened and killed numerous victims. This is the first time that Amnesty International has received information of a 'death squad' operating under the name MATA.

The journalists Magno Sosa Rojas and Necías Taquiri Yanqui have previously been the targets of death threats (see UA 210/91, AMR 46/30/91, 14 June 1991, follow-up AMR 46/60/91, 6 September 1991 and UA 265/92, AMR 46/41/92, 12 August 1992).

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes and airmail letters either in spanish or in your own language:

- expressing grave concern at the reported death threats to at least 40 journalists, university staff, singers, composers, traders and members of non-governmental organizations, all named on a list issued by the so-called Movimiento Antiterrorista de Ayacucho (MATA) on 28 September 1992 in the department of Ayacucho;

- requesting that the authorities take immediate and effective steps to guarantee their safety;

- urging the authorities to initiate a full and independent investigation into the death threats, make the findings public, and bring to justice those responsible for the threats.

APPEALS TO:

1) President

Presidente Alberto Fujimori
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas
Lima 1, PERU

Telegrams: Presidente Fujimori, Lima, Peru

Telexes: 20167 PE PALACIO

Salutation: Señor Presidente / Dear President

2) Minister of Defence

General EP Victor Malca Villanueva
Ministro de Defensa
Ministerio de Defensa
Avenida Boulevard s/n
Monterrico
Lima 33, PERU

Telegrams: Ministro Defensa Villanueva, Lima, Peru

Telexes: 25438 PE COMGREGJ

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

3) Minister of the Interior

General EP Juan Briones Dávila
Ministro del Interior
Ministerio del Interior
Plaza 30 de Agosto 150

San Isidro
Urb. Córpac
Lima 27, PERU

Telegrams: Ministro Interior Briones, Lima, Peru

Telexes: 21133 PE OCMI/21697

Salutation: Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Señores

Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos (COMISEDH)

Apartado 11-0247

Lima

PERU

and to diplomatic representatives of Peru accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 November 1992.