



# amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT  
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United Kingdom

# URGENT ACTION

**EXTERNAL** (for general distribution)

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"Disappearance"

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**PERU:** **Sinerman Rafael Antonio Navarro**

Amnesty International is concerned about the reported "disappearance" of Sinerman Rafael Antonio Navarro, a 21-year-old student of Economics at the Central National University (Universidad Nacional del Centro) and of Law and Political Science at the Private Andean University (Universidad Privada de los Andes) in Junín Department. He was also an ex-corporal of the Peruvian army.

According to reports, on 7 March 1990 at 10.30pm, approximately 12 uniformed members of the armed forces came to his house which is situated near the military barracks Cuartel 9 de Diciembre (9 December barracks). They allegedly arrived in an armoured truck which was parked in Pasaje Unión, 105, in the district of Chilca, Huancayo province, Junín department, which is the head office of the Comando Político-Militar de la Sub-zona de seguridad Nacional del Centro (Political-Military Command of the Sub-zone of National Security of the Centre).

After breaking down the front door, the soldiers reportedly entered the bedroom of Sinerman Rafael Antonio Navarro and forced him into the vehicle which was waiting some 30 metres from the house. In spite of his parents' requests, he was reportedly taken away to the Cuartel 9 de Diciembre. Shortly afterwards his parents went to the barracks with clothes for their son, who had been taken away in his nightclothes, but the military officers completely denied carrying out the operation.

According to witnesses, he was taken from the Cuartel 9 de Diciembre to the Cuartel Teodoro Peñaloza in the city of Jauja, where he remained until 13 March. Since this date, in spite of several legal enquiries, his whereabouts are unknown and there is serious concern about his physical safety.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The armed forces in the emergency zones under political-military command (as in the case with Huancayo) persistently deny holding prisoners at any military installation in the areas under their command. Many suspects detained by the armed forces "disappear" indefinitely; others are released after days or weeks in secret custody without explanation or formal recognition by the armed forces that the detention ever took place. Sometimes suspects are turned over to the police after prolonged secret detention and interrogation at military installations. In these cases detentions are only acknowledged to have occurred as of the date they appear in police custody when public prosecutors are informed of them. The armed forces, as a rule, never acknowledge having held prisoners prior to the transfer to the police. This is a major contributing factor to the continuing practice of "disappearance".

Human rights violations take place in a context of increasingly violent activities by armed opposition groups, particularly "Sendero Luminoso", which has claimed responsibility for hundreds of execution-style killings of government officials as well as leaders of left wing political parties who criticize the actions of this

group.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/telegrams/faxes/airmail letters:**

- expressing concern at the reported "disappearance" after detention of Simerman Rafael Antonio Navarro (mention may be made that he is believed to be held at the Cuartel Teodoro Peñaloza);

- urging that his legal situation be clarified;

- urging that while in detention he be humanely treated and granted access to his relatives and a lawyer.

**APPEALS TO:**

General Manuel Delgado Rojas  
Jefe del Comando Político-Militar  
Av. 13 de Noviembre 259  
Huancayo, PERU

Telegrams; General Delgado, Jefe Comando Militar, Huancayo, Peru

General Julio Velásquez Giacarini  
Ministro de Defensa  
Ministerio de Defensa  
Avenida Boulevard s/n  
Monterrico  
Lima 33, PERU

Telegrams: Ministro defensa Velasquez, Lima, Peru  
Telex: 25438 PE CONGREGI or 21201 PE DIECOJ

Dr Agustín Mantilla Campos  
Ministro del Interior  
Ministerio del Interior  
Plaza 30 de Agosto 150-CORPAC  
San Isidro  
Lima 27, PERU

Telegrams: Ministro Interior Mantilla, Lima, Peru  
Telex: 21133 PE OCMI  
Fax: + 51 14 41 5128

**COPIES TO:**

Señores  
CEAS  
Departamento Jurídico  
Apartado 363  
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 9 May 1990.