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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Letter dated 23 September 1992 from the Permanent Representative  
of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a document 1/ containing statistics on crimes committed between July 1990 and April 1992 by the terrorist groups Sendero Luminoso and Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru (MRTA).

A breakdown of these statistics reveals the following information:

	<u>Deaths</u>
1. Religious leaders	2
2. Councillors	51
3. Members of the judiciary	10
4. Political leaders	21
5. Members of Parliament	1
6. Members of the armed forces	176
7. Members of the national police	268
8. Civilians	<u>1 412</u>
TOTAL	1 941

1/ This document may be consulted in room S-3670.

These statistics show that in their criminal activities the terrorist groups Sendero Luminoso and Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru have shown respect for no one, regardless of occupation or origins. They bear witness to the barbarism underlying a political philosophy which encourages crime, fury, and utter disregard for human rights, particularly the right to life provided for in article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

These terrorist groups are also enemies of democracy. The murders of councillors and political leaders by terrorist death squads are the clearest possible evidence of the terrorists' rejection of local democracy and show that their ideologies are based on totalitarian and dogmatic beliefs. In addition, the murders of popular leaders and members of rural communities are evidence of a violent political philosophy which is totally alien to those they profess to defend.

Despite the problems posed by terrorism, the people and Government of Peru are committed to extending democracy, as shown by the Decree Law No. 25684, which contains the Act governing elections to the Constituent Democratic Congress of 20 August 1992, and fixes 22 November 1992 as the date for elections to the Congress. Also worthy of mention is the Supreme Decree No. 077-92-PCM of 13 September 1992, which provides for elections to be held for mayors and district councillors throughout the Republic of Peru.

I should be grateful if you would have this communication distributed as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 97.

(Signed) Ricardo V. LUNA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
Peru to the United Nations

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