

Ecuador and Peru exchange prisoners—including four pastors

By Kenneth D. MacHarg

Quito, Ecuador--Ecuador and Peru have simultaneously repatriated several prisoners which they have held since a border conflict earlier this year.

"The repatriation is the result of conversations held in Brazil during the past week, and to fulfill the wish of the Ecuadorian government that four citizens held in Peru be returned as soon as possible," said Marcelo Fernandez, vice Chancellor of Ecuador.

The prisoners were exchanged on June 30 after intervention by the International Red Cross and Amnesty International.

Among those returned were five Peruvian church workers who had been sentenced to 16 years in prison for alleged espionage activities. They were among seven people being held by Ecuadorian authorities. Peru returned five Ecuadorian citizens.

Ecuador and Peru exchange prisoners—including four pastors,

Compass Direct, June 30, 1995