

February 18, 1967

Dear Friend:

Enclosed is a copy of the Statement of Aims of the new USLA Justice Committee.

Although only a few weeks old, in November the USLA Committee organized a petition campaign in behalf of Hugo Blanco, Peruvian peasant leader, and held a demonstration in front of the Peruvian Mission to the U.N. The first demonstration of its kind, it was followed by demonstrations and protests throughout the world from England to Japan, including protests by British M.P.'s, Chilean members of the Chamber of Deputies, and statements by Jean Paul Sartre, Amnesty International, Italian trade unions, and one in the U.S., just to mention a few.

The decision on the Blanco case has been postponed until April 15, when the Supreme Military Tribunal meets again and new members are seated. If they hand down a death sentence, the law requires that it be carried out within 24 hours. It is obviously impossible to wait for the decision for further action to save Blanco's life. Protests, pressure, and appeals for clemency as well as publicity for the case must continue.

Along with the necessity for continued action on the Blanco case, we are gathering information on the arrest of Adolfo Gilly, Victor Rico Galan, and their associates. We have also learned of a new wave of arrests in the past weeks in many Latin American countries, and the Committee is gathering information on these, as well.

We want your help--both financial and participant. Here are some of the things you can do.

Send us news clippings (don't forget the date and name of the publication) on any political prisoners or arrests in Latin America. In addition, we need volunteers (we have no paid staff) to help us organize the information. Gather together other interested people and plan an action.

Your financial support will help us to publicize these cases, arrange meetings on campuses and in communities, and break into the local newspapers, radio and TV stations,

Please fill out the enclosed forms and mail them back in the return envelope. Both the Committee and the many prisoners throughout Latin America, who feel for the most part cut-off from aid from the outside world, will be most grateful.

Sincerely yours,

*Richard Garza*  
Richard Garza  
Ass't. Executive Secretary