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## Peru Rejects US Military Base

Lima, Apr 27 (Prensa Latina) Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose Garcia Belaunde totally rejected any possibility that the government would accept a United States military base on Peruvian soil.

*Peruvian Foreign Minister Jose Garcia Belaunde*

The minister assured that the subject was not even touched upon in the talks between Peruvian president, Alan Garcia and his US counterpart, George W. Bush during a visit of the former to Washington this week.

Garcia expressed his ideological identification with that country and its anti-drug policy and praised the international position of Bush's government while discussing ratification of a controversial bilateral free trade treaty.

Reports on the possibility of setting up a US base to replace the one in Manta were strongly rejected by several sectors.

The Foreign Affairs minister also rejected the possibility of an armed conflict between Peru and Chile over a difference on limits of territorial waters.

"This is a time for neither defenselessness nor war," he pointed out "although I admit that for this country it is an issue of concern that Chile has placed on its territory, close to the borders with Peru and Bolivia, fighter planes recently supplied by the United States."

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