

EL DIARIO INTERNACIONAL

No. 37 • October 1996 • Bruxelles, Belgique (English Edition)

*Translated by the Committee Sol Peru - London Press Commission.
This edition edited and printed by Action Socialiste (Canada).*

MAOIST GUERRILLAS: FIGHTING ALONG THE LENGTH AND WIDTH OF PERU **Speaking the Language of Armed Actions**

MIXED ARMY-PARAMILITARY PATROL AMBUSHED

Just before dawn on September 24 a guerilla column ambushed a mixed counter-insurgency patrol of soldiers and paramilitary. The attack took place in the countryside of the district of Rapaz-Huancahuasi. For this engagement the guerillas chose a defile between two mountains, a place where powerful dynamite charges easily caused the destruction of the vanguard vehicles of this military convoy with its first explosions.

The battle was resolved very rapidly with the regime's forces suffering serious casualties, including 3 soldiers and several paramilitary wounded. The government and its media tried to minimise this "news" by restricting their media to laconic 3 line reports.

On the same date (September 24), in the Tingo Maria region of Angasyacu a guerilla column fought off one of the powerful army helicopter gun-ships that the regime uses in its counter-insurgency operations. Even the regime's press was forced to admit that the Russian manufactured airship suffered impacts from rockets launched by the People's Liberation Army which nearly brought it down.

GUERRILLAS LIQUIDATE THREE COUNTER-INSURGENCY BASES

Around 10.00 am. September 30, three large columns of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) launched synchronised attacks on three government counter-insurgency bases located in the central Amazon region. Each guerilla column was composed of over 100 combatants, many of them young regional women with typical ethnic features.

The lightning attack took the paramilitary look-outs by surprise and the guerillas of the Communist Party of Peru rapidly seized control of the towns of Matireni, Shimapango and Chikireni in Satipo province, a zone populated by Ashaninka communities.

It is a well known fact that in the majority of native communities in the central Amazon region the army has been organising paramilitary counter-insurgency bases under their direct control. As a result of these engagements around a dozen members of the regime's paramilitary gangs were killed in action. The government, applying methods of mis-information corresponding to its psychological warfare plans, infamously alleged that the rebels had attacked "Ashaninka refugee camps".

GUERRILLAS CONTINUE TO LAY SEIGE TO THE CAPITAL

On 28 October a guerilla commando unit made up of around 50 fighters carried out a spectacular political and military action in the very centre of the urban township of Mi-Peru, in Ventanilla, a city located barely twenty minutes from the military garrisons in Lima and its port of Callao.

It was at 7 a.m sharp while thousands of men and women were setting out to go to work when the Maoists began their propaganda action calling for support for the armed struggle and for the overthrow of the Fujimori regime. The guerillas - using big character posters, leaflets and speeches - gathered the masses and encouraged them to give support to the armed struggle by fighting against the tyrannical regime in every terrain. One of the posters left behind by the rebels carried a warning directed against the regime's township authority, threatening the execution of the Fujimori appointed mayor.

"Mi-Peru" is a town of 45.000 people considered a "red zone" by the repressive regime. This is due to the acute and courageous struggle by the masses of that locality against the current government. Up to last year, the army had around 1.000 soldiers garrisoned at a base within the township. That military base was evacuated in order to give credence to the regime's propaganda, alleging the "defeat of Shining Path". Following the raid of October 28, both the Fujimori media, as well as the "theoreticians" of its counter-insurgency policy, have began demanding that the soldiery be send back to re-occupy "Mi-Peru".

TOWNS SEIZED AND PARAMILITARY THUGS EXECUTED

In Tingo Maria, where the government has concentrated an important part of its elite troops, matters are no less serious for the regime.

At daybreak on November 2, a column of over 100 guerillas made a lightning raid on the town of Supte San Jorge (Tingo Maria province). The rebels entered the town from three different directions and were supported by guerrillas who had already infiltrated the city through various other key places.

The rebel column was well armed with modern weapons confiscated from the regime's troops and retained control of the town for over three hours. During this time the rebels achieved their objectives, including the destruction of the headquarters of the army's paramilitary "self-defence corps", razing the building to the ground. Before their withdrawal, the rebels confiscated weapons and other war materials abandoned by the regime's troops in their flight.

FUJIMORI'S MAYORS RESIGN "EN MASSE"

The rebels' advance all over Peru is not only a smashing blow to the regime's propaganda about "Defeat of the Maoist Guerillas". This advance is also bringing about in practice the breakdown of the political infrastructure so laboriously woven by the Fujimori government.

This objective fact can be clearly observed from the news released by the Peruvian media itself. For example, according to reports in the Lima press, during the last 4 months in the Leoncio Prado province alone, more than 30 mayors have presented their resignations.

This is the result of warnings that these authorities have received from the Communist Party of Peru (PCP) commanding them to give up their posts immediately. All these "mayors" were fraudulently appointed by the military forces which occupy the region. It is obvious that the phenomenon known in politics as a "power vacuum" is growing and expanding in Peru. That is, however, a "power vacuum" only for the official regime.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

A SAMPLE LIST OF RECENT GUERILLA ACTIONS FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF PERU

Date	Location	Type of Action
24/09	Rapaz-Huanchuasi	Patrol ambushed: 4 soldiers, 3 paramilitary thugs killed/wounded.
24/09	Tingo Maria	Rockets fired against helicopter gun-ship
25/09	San Jose - Ayacucho	80 guerillas destroy paramilitary base. 2 regime's thugs killed.
29/09	S.J. Miraflores (Lima)	House of Fujimori appointee bombed.
29/09	P. Santamaria (Ucayali)	Commandos execute army appointed vice-governor
29/09	Minasal (Ucayali)	Battle between regime's marines and rebels
30/09	Satipo - Central Amazon	Numerous guerilla units attack counter-insurgency bases.
04/10	S.Martin Pongos (Junin)	Several towns seized by guerilla units.
06/10	Pachakia- Ene Valley	3 paramilitary killed in guerilla ambush
08/10	Satipo-Ene River Front	Army/guerillas battle. 3 soldiers killed.
17/10	Ccarhuacho-Ayacucho	Town seized. Two army informers executed.
28/10	Mi-Peru (Callao)	Armed propaganda and guerilla actions.

"OPERATION CAPITULATE" - THE ZOMBIES SPEAK OUT

In April 1994 we wrote a lengthy piece entitled "Operation Capitulatate, The Secret History of the Peace Letters". In that document - translated and published in several languages in at least a dozen international press organs - we have put forward an approximate idea explaining how the National Intelligence Service (SIN) had fabricated the plot known as "The Peace Letters".

Nearly two years have gone by since the publication of that article. What then appeared as something confusing and difficult to understand for the layman, can no longer be said to be so mysterious. The Fujimori regime itself has revealed new elements permitting a better understanding of this farce and tearing up the veil of secrecy surrounding this "Peace Agreement" plot.

THE LABORATORY AT THE NAVAL BASE

Firstly, the fact that in the very military prison (Naval Base of Callao) where Chairman Gonzalo is kept in an underground cell, a SIN torture laboratory exists where prisoners are subjected to chemical and psychological experiments aimed at manipulating their minds, breaking their will and turning them into pliable zombies.

This fact was confirmed by the public revelations of the well known drug baron Demetrio Chavez Penaherrera (a.k.a. "El Vaticano"). "Vaticano" took advantage of a careless moment on the part of his brutal jailers to loudly denounce the inhuman experiments he had undergone in the Callao Naval Base. The Peruvian magazine *Caretas* (August 29, 1996) gives the following version of this event:

"On the afternoon of Thursday 22, Demetrio Chavez, in conversation with Jose Castro Mora, his attorney, reiterated his accusations against (Fujimori's PA) Vladimiro Montesinos. On Friday 23, the numerous people attending the trial in the Court Room of the Naval Base were able to witness a savage spectacle. "Vaticano" - looking like a Zombie - was even unable to recognise his employee and accomplice Abel Seijas".

Caretas asks: "What took place in the Naval Base between Thursday in the afternoon and Friday morning". Caretas consulted with several psychiatrists, neurologists and other specialists. All of them were unanimous in saying that the "Vatican" of Friday was not the same person who had spoken at the hearing the previous day. It was evident that the drug Baron who held sway over Campanilla for so many years cut an even more unlikely figure in the state he appeared. No one could believe that the wane and wasted man who so incoherently spoke on Friday August 23 1996 was the same man who had been arrested in Cali on January 1994. Something had happened to him in the meantime.....".

Caretas continues reporting the views of one of the experts they consulted: "According to the psychiatrist Teobaldo Llosa, it was evident that Demetrio Chavez had partially lost his memory, showing a totally different behaviour from previous days. There are several methods to induce loss of memory in a person". The psychiatrist went on to describe a series of neuroleptic and anti-psychotic drugs and electric-shock methods which were likely to have been used on "Vaticano".

It is well to bear in mind that Demetrio Chavez is one of the most powerful drug lords in Peru. From the mid 80s he had established himself in the Alto Huallaga region where, with the support of the High Command of the armed forces he organised his "drug cartel" with tentacles reaching into Colombia and the USA. He also got involved in the counter-insurgency efforts of the regime. In January 1994 he was arrested in Cali, Colombia and later delivered into the hands of the anti-terrorist police in Peru.

As soon as Demetrio Chavez set foot in Lima he revealed that his principal accomplices were Vladimiro Montesinos - Fujimori's Personal Assistant and high ranking SIN officer - and the head honcho in Fujimori's armed forces, General Nicolas Hermoza Rios. Vaticano described in great detail how he paid monthly bribes of \$50,000 directly to Montesinos, itemising the large amounts of money he paid for the use of military airfields for his drug shipments. He even described how a part of his drug transport fleet was made up of helicopters belonging to the Peruvian army.

It was a scandal when Vaticano, a confirmed drug baron, was indicted as a "terrorist" and sequestered into a military prison under the absolute control of SIN. He was condemned to life imprisonment by military judges and denied a public trial in open civilian courts.

THE SIN'S BOOK AND THE "PEACE LETTERS"

Another important element recently revealed comes from a 600 page book recently published by the National Intelligence Service (SIN) in conjunction with the High Command of the Armed forces. This book entitled "**Peru: 13 Years of Shame**", admits, among other things, that the "peace letters" have played an important role in the psychological warfare waged by the regime. The book also recognises that the "letters" were cooked up "Inside the prisons" and claims that their political effects meant "a victory for democracy against subversion".

The authors of the book ask themselves: "**What objectives was the President able to achieve with this gambit of the letters?**". The answer to this question makes it clear that the authors of this concoction of "peace letters" were indeed the National Intelligence Service in cahoots with the American CIA and that their main aim was to undermine and try to destroy the revolutionary prestige of Chairman Gonzalo.

This revealing book summarises in 6 points the successes they think they have achieved with the "peace letters" plot. Here is a synthesis of those six points:

1. To destroy the mythical figure of Chairman Gonzalo.
2. Achieving international repercussion and obtaining the support of the big powers. That is why the first "peace letter" was presented at the 48th Ordinary Session of the United Nations (UN).
3. To "show the capacity for victory" of the Police and Armed Forces of Peru.
4. "Political exploitation of the Peace Letters", particularly to win the 1993 Referendum organised by the Fujimori dictatorship.
5. To present before public opinion a victorious image for the Police and Armed Forces.
6. Manipulating the figure of Chairman Gonzalo in order to attempt "to split the organisational structure of Shining Path by fostering a two line struggle within its ranks".

THE RIDDLE OF ABIMAEI GUZMAN IS AGAIN HAUNTING PERU

**No One Has Seen the Guerilla Leader Since the Day of His Detention in 1992
Shining Path Continues to Fight.**

by Alberto Cruz

On September 12 1992, Chairman Gonzalo, the top leader of the Maoist guerillas in Peru - known all over the world as The Shining Path - was arrested in Lima. On September 26 he was transferred to the island jail of San Lorenzo. In April 1993, having all this time been kept in isolation and unable to meet or speak with absolutely no one, he is again transferred to the Navy Special Operations Base in La Punta (Callao). Here he is confined in a purpose built underground cell to which only the agents of the National Intelligence Service (SIN) have access.

Since the moment of Guzman's purported transferral to La Punta, no one knows anything from him. Neither his family nor legal counsel have been allowed to see him. All Guzman's links to the outside world have been cut and the Fujimori regime has not hesitated in resorting to extreme and "exemplary" measures reinforcing this situation: Alfredo Crespo, Guzman's attorney, was condemned to life imprisonment accused of "treason to the motherland". The same fate was dealt to Jorge Cartagena, attorney for Martha Huatay, another leader of the Communist Party of Peru (Shining Path).

Why all this secrecy? After three years of his "disappearance" the question of Guzman is back in full strength in Peru. The only thing known is a letter purportedly hand written and signed by him and by Elena Iparraguirre, another leader of "Shining Path" in which a call for peace and for the cessation of armed struggle is made. The letter is dated September 15, 1993 and it was widely commented on in the Peruvian media when that country's president, Alberto Fujimori, released it at the Ordinary Session of the United Nations of October 1, 1993.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

This was the first move in a classical psychological warfare campaign aimed at portraying the Maoist organisation as "headless", directionless, disoriented, and above all, divided. The image of Shining Path as a collapsing organisation is promoted, suggesting that the reason for this collapse would be precisely the peace proposal. The police presents over 7,000 prisoners as "Shining Path" militants in

order to give credibility to this offensive of the regime and of a small group of prisoners from the Lima jail of Canto Grande who announced the convening of a "Second Congress of the PCP" which would recant the line of continuation of the armed struggle in order to adopt the line of "mass struggle while favourable conditions for war do not arise".

However, Shining Path continues with its military actions, even operating within Lima. Public opinion is beginning to question if Abimael Guzman is at all involved in this affair, and if the famous letters renouncing armed struggle are or not part of a farce. "After all these years Fujimori continues without presenting Guzman in good health. On the contrary, he presents letters and videos. If an agreement between Fujimori and Guzman had been reached, they would have presented them both shaking hands on television. At least, Guzman would have been able to communicate with someone other than police and military personnel. However, none of that has happened, and therefore one must think the worst, that this is another criminal action on the part of the Peruvian regime. At the very least, it is pertinent to consider the prisoner as a "disappeared person", and one should expect human rights organisms to take a stand on this issue". Those thoughts are now being openly discussed in Peru.

"Oiga", the Peruvian magazine, was the first in opening this Pandora's box of suspicions about the authenticity of the peace letters and has advanced the possibility that the PCP leaders "may have been drugged with tablets or injections". Even former President Fernando Belaunde Terry has said that the letters "awake well grounded suspicions of blatant manipulation". The Peruvian weekly "Si" has alleged that these letters "were concocted using 4 drafts, some of which were elaborated by a commission of SIN operatives".

Two key individuals who featured in the story of the "arrest-disappearance" of Guzman took part in this commission: The psychiatrist Segisfredo Luza and the CIA man Vladimiro Montesinos, Fujimori's Personal Advisor, a former Infantry Captain in the Army and a man involved in myriad murky affairs.

CONTRITE REBELS

Montesinos, the man regarded as the key piece in this game, is the one who, together with Nicolas Hermoza Rios, organised the "self-coup" of April 5, 1992 which gave Fujimori absolute powers. Moreover, Montesinos must also be credited with designing a policy of "repentance" which has resulted in the release of those leaders and supporters of the PCP advocating the alleged directives of Abimael Guzman renouncing the armed struggle in order to create conditions for a Second Party Congress that would uphold their positions.

Among these people is Osman Morote Barrionuevo who was arrested in 1988, shortly after the First Congress of the PCP, a man who was then regarded as the "number two" leader in that organisation. There is also Javier Esparza, who has been circulating through several European countries representing the PCP since 1980. This man who has family connections with Guzman's relatives has taken advantage of Guzman's in-laws. Esparza has convinced them of the authenticity of the peace proposals while disguising the con-trick perpetrated by Peruvian military intelligence.

CONFUSED SITUATION

This situation is not clear. Shining Path continues to operate in the north of Peru and some of their columns reach into Lima. According to data released by SIN, at the time of Guzman's arrest, Shining Path had around 8,000 members, 4,000 in the People's Guerilla Army and around 2,600 in the PCP itself. If one were to believe the data of the intelligence services and accept as real the number of those arrested following Guzman's arrest one would have to believe that all that is left of Shining Path is around 1,000 people in arms. However, then the question arises, how and under what sort of conditions would that hypothetical Second Congress of the Communist Party of Peru take place?

To all these questions one must also add an organisation which is presented as a splinter group of PCP that calls itself "Red Shining Path" and which rejects the peace letters in which Guzman purportedly recognises the political and military defeat of his own guerilla movement.

(This valuable article is from Egin, a daily newspaper published in Spain. The above version is an exact reproduction of the text appearing in Egin's edition of June 23, 1996)

INTERNATIONAL

Barry McCaffrey and Montesinos THE GODFATHERS OF FUJIMORI'S DRUG CARTEL

In Peru no one has the slightest doubt about that country's government's close involvement with the international drug cartels. Some specialists have pointed out that Fujimori and the military High Command should be considered as the top leaders of what is now regarded as the "Lima Cartel". Today, internationally, there is talk of the "Peruvian narco-state".

At least 200 top military officers have been revealed to be associated with the drug running gangs operating from the jungles in Peru. Fujimori's Personal Adviser and current CIA asset has been repeatedly accused of acting as godfather to powerful drug gangs. The money from drug rackets is freely laundered in the very official banking system of Peru. Dollars obtained from drug dealing are used to pay the foreign debt and to finance counter-insurgency operations against the guerillas.

It is obvious that the principal accomplice of the narco-government in Peru is the US regime. Both the Yankee and the Peruvian state have identical interests in the drug trade: To use the funds generated by drug dealing for their economical and political aims. This ill-gotten wealth serves - among other things - to finance and sustain their counter-insurgency efforts in Peru. It is clear that without the support of the United States, the Peruvian regime would not be able to move with the free hand it has been enjoying up to now in this murky business. It is the US regime who acts as the Godfather General in this filthy business.

CLINTON'S ENVOY

The US authorities openly support the corrupt Peruvian regime. That is what one of Clinton's envoys has confirmed recently upon his own arrival in Peru. On October 22, US General Barry McCaffrey, Director of National Policy of the Drug Control Administration of the USA arrived in Lima. That same day he met with Fujimori, Montesinos, Hermoza Rios, the Chief of the National Intelligence Service (SIN), and other Peruvian top military brass. Barry McCaffrey extolled the figure of former infantry captain Vladimiro Montesinos, and as a result of that meeting told the press of his "satisfaction with the advances of the peruvian government in the struggle against the scourge of drug trafficking". McCaffrey added that he "was entirely confident that President Fujimori would not tolerate drug corruption among the officers and functionaries of the government".

Barry McCaffrey landed in Lima at the very moment when Vladimiro Montesinos - Fujimori's P.A. - and General Hermoza Rios were under extreme pressure by an avalanche of revelations regarding their links with the drug dealing organisation headed by "El Vaticano". This drug lord had blown the whistle on these top figures fingering them as his own accomplices. These revelations were generating an scandal of explosive proportions. Like old General Custer of the Seventh Cavalry fame, Barry McCaffrey came riding to their rescue in a US government jet.

THE PERUVIAN STATE AND THE DRUGS TRADE

There is abundant evidence that the drug trade is one of the principal activities of the Peruvian ruling circles. Many economists have pointed out that the Peruvian state itself annually purchases between 1,500 and 2,000 million dollars originating from drug trafficking. Part of these funds are used to service the Peruvian foreign debt and to make up the shortfall in the balance of payments.

In Peru there are no regulations against the laundering of money obtained from criminal activities. In any Lima street or avenue, anyone can buy and sell millions of dollars without any control whatsoever. The main real estate companies, import/export businesses, financial institutions, and the banks themselves, operate with the money of the drug cartels.

VATICANO SPILLS THE BEANS

Recently - August 1996 - Demetrio Chavez Penaherrera (a.k.a. "El Vaticano") the well known drug baron, has revealed in detail how in order to build up his cocaine empire in the Peruvian jungle he counted with the support and complicity of the military High Command of the region. He told how for a number of years he had the military airfields and army helicopters at his disposal for transporting thousands of tons of this illegal product. Vaticano revealed how he paid between 8 and 15 thousand US dollars for each drug flight. He testified that his accomplices and partners within the highest spheres of the regime included the current Personal Assistant of Fujimori, former army captain Vladimiro Montesinos and the current head of the Armed Forces, General Nicolas Hermoza Rios. According to "Vaticano", these two characters received from him a bribe of 50,000 US dollars per month.

This drug lord declared that as part of his arrangements with those military chiefs he also provided uniforms, food and other supplies for the counter-insurgency units stationed in the Alto Huallaga region. The National Intelligence Service (SIN) and its real acting boss, Vladimiro Montesinos, were in fact the main props for the business activities of "Vaticano" and his gang.

FUJIMORI'S PLANE

To "Vaticano's" tale - a man who, funnily enough, was condemned as a "terrorist" - we must add other well known cases which fully illustrate the links between the drug mafia and the government. On May 10, 1996, Peruvian public opinion learned that a Peruvian Air Force (FAP) aircraft had been interdicted while awaiting take off on the tarmac of Lima's airport. The plane was ready to leave for Moscow loaded with 170 kilos of purest cocaine, valued at 5 million dollars. The man at the controls of this "high flyer" turned out to be no other than Fujimori's own pilot and aide de camp, Air Commander Luis Escarcena Ishikawa, who in his professional function had been dedicated exclusively to the presidential service since 1993.

In November of 1994, Edgar Solis Cano, Vice-Minister of the Interior - a trusty of Fujimori's inner circle - was indicted by magistrates as a member of the powerful cocaine cartel known as "Los Nortenos (men of the North)". This band operated from the northern regions of Peru and was suspected of being part of the giant Mexican Gulf cartel which handles around 3.2 billion dollars a year in drug related profits. In addition there is the case of the Peruvian Navy ship discovered carrying several tons of drugs in its cargo holds and with destination Europe.

General Eduardo Bellido Mora, Military Commander of the Huallaga Front in 1992, has been found guilty of holding relations with the drug smuggling gangs operating in the Peruvian jungle. This military chief was accused of multiple crimes and having appropriated drug cargoes and drug money which had been seized from drug dealers. General Bellido Mora is the brother in law of the top chief of Fujimori's armed forces, General Nicolas Hermoza Rios.

TODAY THERE IS MORE COCA PLANT CULTIVATION THAN BEFORE

To all this, one must add the fact that the areas under coca plant cultivation in Peru have increased at a dizzying rate during Fujimori's tenure. In 1991, the agricultural land dedicated to coca plant cultivation amounted to 120,800 hectares. In 1992 the coca tilled areas reached 129,100 hectares. Now, in 1996, the land dedicated to coca plantations is reckoned to be 200,000 hectares. It is evident that the rate of growth of coca cultivation and, consequently, that of cocaine production, continues to rise. This is completely logical because the state itself and, in particular, its rulers are the very people with direct interest in the prosperity of this industry.

SWEDEN: FROM HOME OF THE NOBEL PRIZE TO THE KINGDOM OF XENOPHOBIA

Sweden is a world famous kingdom, home of the Nobel Prize for literature, Arts, Science and Peace. This prize was established by one of Sweden's most famous subjects, Alfred Nobel who, paradoxically, was also the inventor of dynamite.

Sweden is a country with a tradition of organising main events in peace promotion and its neutrality is a long established factor of pride for its citizens. It was the only Scandinavian country to remain out of the Second World War. This "neutrality" served the Swedes well in the business of supplying both sides with war materials, steel, munitions, and other commercial goods. They even supplied the Nazi regime. Persevering in this proud Swedish tradition, BOFORS, the Swedish conglomerate, has recently been accused of illegal weapons sales to the Middle East, concretely, to Bahrain.

Seminars and Conferences against racism proliferate in Sweden. However, in a little town in the South an "invandra" - a foreigner - from the Ivory Coast was savagely beaten up by some local neo-Nazi skin head youths. The bleeding "invandra" was left for dead in the middle of a local park. His crime: to be black. The next day, the victim died without receiving assistance from anyone. The main culprit in this outrage was dealt with with typical pacifist Swedish leniency. He was condemned to two years of daily attendance to a rehabilitation centre with the possibility of remission for good behaviour.

While pleasure seeking sex-tourism is organised by Swedish subjects so as to satisfy their sexual perversions on Thailand's children, the struggle against child exploitation has its apparent champions in a Swedish organisation by the name of RADDA BARNEN. RADDA BARNEN collects funds in Sweden ostensibly to help Third World children. However, in reality, RADDA BARNEN engages in child exploitation of an equally perverse sort: They manipulate the children for the sole purpose of propping up brutal and tyrannical regimes. A pathetic case in hand is the blatant manner in which all RADDA BARNEN's "studies" in Peru are exclusively directed to buttress the criminal Fujimori gang.

Swedish bureaucrats are specialists in screaming about those they regard as "terrorists". However, not only were they unable to avert the assassination of Olof Palme, their Prime Minister, but it is also a fact that the tracks of the authors of this crime are lost in the labyrinthine corridors of Sweden's officialdom. The most prudent journalists have accused the Swedish police of negligence and complicity on this.

During the period of growth in the Swedish economy and when labour power was at a premium, political refugees and all kinds of migrants were given the red carpet treatment. Today, Swedes do no longer bother to disguise their stern and unwelcoming faces from those requesting political asylum. In the case of Peruvians - who have been demonised as terrorists and Shining Path supporters - things stand quite a lot worse. Many Peruvian citizens have suffered the consequences of the xenophobic repression dealt out by the Swedish authorities.

THE PROOFS

On two occasions, two Peruvian citizens who were being taken back to Peru by the Swedish police were able to escape their custodians while the plane made a scheduled stop over in Amsterdam. They were admitted into Holland and given the status of asylum seekers. Despite the protestations of the Swedish regime, the Dutch government found their asylum requests to be well grounded and granted these people the status of refugees.

After his asylum petition was denied, the Swedish police took Napoleon Aponte directly to Peru. In Lima's airport, the feared anti-terrorist police - DINCOTE - awaited him. He was taken to a prison and tortured. A year later, and thanks to international pressure, he was released without charge. Shortly afterwards, and under renewed harassment from DINCOTE, he was forced to leave his country again. He returned to Sweden and once more requested asylum. Again he was turned down. Finally, thanks to an outcry in the Swedish press, he was accepted as a political refugee. Today he lives legally in that country.

Another case is that of Jorge Paez. His asylum request was turned down. Paez went underground to avoid persecution by the Swedish police looking for him to implement his expulsion. While on the run he was able to alert the Human Rights Commission of the European Union to the particulars of his claim. This institution - shaming and over-ruling the Swedish government's decision - came out in favour of regarding Paez's application as genuine.

David Sanchez was also turned down for asylum and ordered to be expelled from Sweden. Here too the local press took up the cudgels on his behalf and this dramatic story forced the reluctant Swedish authorities to review his case.

Another poignant human tragedy is that of Amaru Zapata. This man and his family were denied asylum. The family was forced to live underground for a whole year until the Swedish police arrested Zapata's wife and children. They took them to Arlanda airport to carry out the expulsion orders and deliver them into the hands of the Peruvian regime. In desperation, Amaru Zapata drenched himself in petrol and set fire to himself causing horrendous burns. He was taken to the Karolina Hospital in Stockholm.

Currently, there are hundreds of asylum seekers suffering directly from the repressive measures of the Swedish regime. These people, the majority of them Peruvian citizens, have been turned down for asylum and are forced to live underground. This harsh life is better - they say - than having to suffer torture in Peru's "democratic prisons". We should support the struggle that FREDDEA, the Asylum Rights Defence Front in Sweden is developing. There is a need to unmask the hypocritical Swedish regime as violator of all international laws upholding the right of political asylum for genuine claimants.

(This article was written by a correspondent of El Diario who has lived in Sweden for a number of years).

EL DIARIO INTERNACIONAL GOES ALL OVER THE WORLD

JOURNALISM FOR A REVOLUTIONARY ERA

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS
Solidarity with Peruvian Prisoners of War

We, the Association of Families and Friends of Political Prisoners (AFAPP) and the ACPG (Asamblea para Ceibar os Presos Politicos Galegos) have received direct information about the atrocities committed by the Fujimori regime against Peruvian prisoners of war. We have decided to assume as our own the task of defending these prisoners.

We in Spain know very well how reactionary regimes torture and massacre those prisoners who fall into their hands. However, the sinister extermination objectives of these reactionary regimes are at the same time hidden behind the most blatant demagoguery spread through the media in general.

In particular, we express our special concern for Abimael Guzman, Chairman of the Communist Party of Peru. Dr. Guzman was immediately disappeared after his capture. He has been unable to receive any visits from either family or legal counsel, nor has any person independent from the Peruvian regime been allowed to hold communications with him. All these years he has been kept incommunicado and isolated. We denounce before the Spanish working people this atrocious crime and demand from the Peruvian regime his immediate public presentation, alive, and in good health.

This criminal regime has tried to cover up this fact with a crass propaganda campaign alleging a purported "surrender" being promoted by Abimael Guzman from behind the bars of his prison. This blatant ruse is aimed at derailing the revolutionary struggle of the Communist Party of Peru and of all the oppressed people of Peru. The best mentis to these allegations is the continuation of the revolutionary war in Peru which has persisted in obtaining important victories vis a vis the Fujimori regime and his Yankee masters.

AFAPP and ACPG are also concerned for the fate of 11,000 political prisoners, prisoners of war, and the "disappeared" in Peru, of whom hundreds are assassinated every year and/or subjected to the worst prison conditions. We express our deepest sympathy to the families of all political prisoners and "disappeared" assassinated in Peru. We like to give special support to their turning their sufferings into energetic action that may serve to continue the struggle against the oppressive and pro-imperialist regime in that country.

Our two organisations have firmly undertaken the task of continuing to alert the working class and the entire people of Spain about the situation inside the prisons of Peru. We shall struggle with all our strength against the state of affairs generated by this brutal repression. We shall endeavour to compel the Peruvian regime to present Abimael Guzman alive, and to cease and desist from assassinating political prisoners. We shall struggle to force the Peruvian regime to comply with the International treaties on the Treatment of War Prisoners.

AFAPP-ACPG (Madrid, Spain. May 1996)

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EL DIARIO INTERNACIONAL
A Monthly Publication at the Service of the Oppressed Masses of Peru

Responsible Editor: Luis Arce Borja

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1000 Bruxelles 1
Belgium

Fax Number: 32-2-649 41 56

Distributed in Europe, USA, Canada, Latin America, Australia...
Edited in Spanish, French, English, Italian.