



EMERGENCY BULLETIN 36

International Emergency Committee To Defend The Life of Dr Abimael Guzman

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INTERNATIONAL CALL TO ACTION

12-24 September 1993

DEFEND THE LIFE OF DR ABIMAEEL GUZMAN!

Beat Back the Murderous Attempts of the Fujimori Regime
Against Political Prisoners in Peru!

DOWN WITH THE DEATH PENALTY!
END THE SOLITARY CONFINEMENT!

"The IEC is calling on people around the world to tell the U.S.-backed Fujimori regime that we won't let them get away with their plans to kill Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. That we will expose all of their outrageous crimes. That the murderous conditions of solitary confinement must end." - IEC leaflet

When Dr Guzman was captured on 12 Sept 1992, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution which congratulated the Peruvian government and explained that martial law was simply their road to "democracy". The world's media escalated their campaign to vilify Dr Guzman and the People's War he leads and praised the Fujimori regime. Fujimori boasted that the People's War was virtually defeated.

But a year later it is the Fujimori regime that is fighting for its very survival. And it is the struggle of the Peruvian people that has advanced. In the face of this DINCOTE (the anti-terrorist police) is demanding even greater power to kill people, and the Peruvian Congress has reinstated the death penalty in order to counter the advances of the People's War.

The stakes are high. During September Fujimori will be attempting to mark the one year since Dr Guzman's arrest - a year during which the assaults against the people of Peru have intensified tremendously. Daily rakings of shantytowns; a program of hooded justices financed by the USA; a ten-fold increase in the sentencing of "suspected subversives", who have had no right to defence; the imprisonment of lawyers who have dared to try to defend political prisoners; the isolation of prisoners in freezing jails in the Andes where they are denied even the most basic necessities; the reinstatement of the death penalty!

Millions worldwide are outraged with the murderous Fujimori Regime. They are disgusted by his attempt to silence his opposition. They believe the life of Dr Guzman, the leader of millions in Peru who are fighting against this Regime, must be defended. That the Peruvian government must be compelled to end his isolation. That the Peruvian regime must be prevented from using the death penalty against Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. That the lawyers of political prisoners must be freed. That the lives of the political prisoners must be saved.

In Peru itself, in the mountains of Nepal, in the streets of Germany, the Fujimori Regime will be put on notice. During the period 12-24 Sept, the Fujimori government will not only feel the anger of people in Peru and around the world who hate their murderous regime, they will be forced to fear the repercussions any further attacks against Dr Guzman and other political prisoners will have.

In order to maximise the effect of the 12 day escalation, IEC international office must receive immediate news of events. It is important that chapters or supporters FAX, phone, or airmail reports of activities on the 12th and during the first days of the campaign so that news of the Campaign can be popularised through Emergency Bulletins before the 24th. News of these initial international actions will encourage new people to join the Campaign during the period of the escalation. It is also important that this news is available to everyone for use at press conferences and for media releases during the period 12-24 September.

FUJIMORI VOWS TO DEFEAT PCP AND IEC:

On August 11, 1993 La Jornada, a major daily newspaper from Mexico City, quoted a pronouncement of Fujimori's in which he said (once again) that he will defeat the PCP. But this time he added that he would also defeat the IEC! *"The remainder of this group [PCP] tried to execute their so-called sixth great plan to seize power, and an international campaign to defend the life of Chairman Gonzalo, but we won't give them that opportunity, and we are going to defeat them."* - Alberto Fujimori

For Fujimori, the reality of the advances of the People's War is a nightmare that he has countered with the dream of defeating PCP.

Fujimori's claim that IEC is an arm of the PCP is his attempt to deny the existence of a broad campaign, and to isolate the Campaign from those people who agree with the Call of the Campaign, but who may not fully agree with the PCP. But that Fujimori now finds it necessary to also announce that he must defeat the IEC Campaign is yet more evidence of the effect of the actions of hundreds of thousands of people around the world. Since the beginning of the IEC Campaign, the Fujimori regime has received thousands of letters, post cards and FAXes protesting his treatment of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. His government has been forced to publicly recognize four IEC delegations in the press. Two US lawyers who went on the 1st delegation are today co-counsel with Lima Lawyers who have filed Complaints against the Fujimori Regime with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. People have marched in the streets, have picketed and even occupied Consulates, and have conducted meetings and forums in more than 30 countries. And news of the IEC Campaign has appeared in newspapers around the world.

WORLDWIDE CAMPAIGN OF LIES AND DISINFORMATION AGAINST THE PCP ESCALATES

For the past weeks the world's media has carried "news" of a supposed "massacre by the Shining Path". Most media stories have alleged that PCP guerrillas brutally killed more than 50 Ashaninka Indians in as many as 10 villages.

It is important to recognise this media campaign for what it is: part of the **psychological war** Peru's US-dominated regime is waging to create the kind of public opinion they need to escalate attacks against the People's War and its leadership - especially as they prepare to mark one year since the arrest of Dr Guzman.

IEC doesn't know what happened in this specific incident. But the story is already full of holes and contradictions. Following are some excerpts from the international wire service reports (upon which the international press generally bases its stories:

Reuters, 20 Aug: *"The subversives pretended to be members of (anti-guerrilla) militias. They took people into a room and scolded them for not having done militia work..."*

Something even pro-U.S. "experts" (so-called "Senderologists") admit is that PCP always takes responsibility for its actions - however controversial - and that it does not pretend to be something other than what it is, and that their military actions always have a political purpose. What political purpose would be served by killing people for refusing to cooperate with the Peruvian military?

Reuters, 21 Aug: *"The bodies... were brought to this police base in the central jungle."* Reuters, 22 Aug: *"Most of the victims were buried without having been identified..."*

It is standard procedure for reactionary regimes to rush the burial of its victims - often without identification - in order to cover their tracks. This practice is especially well-documented in Peru.

While numerous wire service reports have raised questions about the identity of both the attackers and attacked, most of the accounts which people actually read in newspapers or see on TV blame the PCP for the attack. One notable exception was in El Pais, a daily newspaper from Spain, which on 21 August reported:

"The confusion is about the identity of the perpetrators of the massacre. The government attributes it to the Maoist organisation Sendero Luminoso. Some witnesses say, to the contrary, that it was a confrontation between Ashaninkas who originated from the border of the Ene [River] where the massacre happened, and Ashaninkas from the Andean departments of Huancayo and Ayacucho who had settled as peasants in this area in the central jungle of Peru. The witnesses confirmed that the majority of the dead Ashaninkas belonged to this group of peasants."

Witnesses quoted in the wire services question the identity of both the attackers and the attacked. Some identify both parties as Ashaninkas and characterise it as a battle over land rights; some describe it as a military confrontation and part of the People's War. In spite of the fact that the world press has characterised it as a racist attack by the PCP on the Ashaninka Indians, witnesses report it as fact that both attackers and attacked were Ashaninka. The full story is not yet clear, but it is clear that the regime and its military are using the incident to attack the PCP (and the Ashaninkas) and to set the stage for even greater crimes against the people of Peru.

In this EB the IEC cannot address in depth the relationship between the Ashaninkas and the PCP. But the Ashaninkas have been victims of the racism of the Peruvian governments for centuries, and today are among the most impoverished in Peru. Even official reports show that 60% are chronically malnourished and 90% suffer from diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. It is well-documented that the Peruvian regime has forceably recruited Ashaninkas into their rondas (army-run peasant patrols), and that foreign priests (such as US priest Mariano Gagnon) have been used to pressure Ashaninkas to fight the PCP. Carol Andreas, in Peru Scholar News & Notes, explains that the Peruvian government at one point recruited Ashaninkas to fight against PCP on the promise of high pay. The Ashaninkas did not receive their pay, and many returned to their villages, and eventually became supporters of the PCP, whose policies of creating self-reliant communities rather than relying on the Peruvian government found adherents.

The Ashaninka incident occurred only a day after it was reported that goldminers in Brazil killed more than 200 Yanomayo Indians (a people near extinction). These unrelated stories were consistently linked in press accounts, and the world media used the public opinion created by the Yanomayo story to portray this incident as yet one more attack on an Indian population and to imply the PCP is against the Indian people when, in fact, the PCP is made up of mainly indigenous people.

The Fujimori government is waging war against the People's War. The regime controls the media. Using the media to carry out psychological warfare is part of their strategy. And they know that in the main they will have the backing of the US controlled world media to spread their lies and slanders.

The world press has concocted many such lies as part of their war against the PCP in Peru. In 1983 the world media ran sensationalist stories about 8 journalists reportedly killed by the PCP; 5 years later the story was exposed with evidence confirming the journalists had been killed by the government's military. Fujimori continues to blame the PCP for the disappearance of 9 people at La Cantuta in 1992, even though eyewitnesses identified the military personnel as they abducted the victims, and members of his own ruling class have blamed government death squads. More recently, Peruvian TV caught police "disappearing" a person into the trunk of a car on a Lima street. When his body turned up the next day the Fujimori regime blamed the PCP!

It is also important to learn from other wars. People of every country are familiar with endless US/CIA created lies. One that comes to mind is the story claiming Iraqis pulled the plugs on babies' incubators in Kuwait. This story was later exposed as a lie created by the U.S. to prepare the minds of people around the world for the massacre that the US was preparing to launch against the Iraqis.¹ And at the beginning of the Vietnam War the US-media claimed the North Vietnamese cut the arms off of children who were inoculated by the Army. This lie was in order to get support for their war.

The Ashaninka incident is being used for similar purposes. It is part of a

¹ For those who aren't familiar with this incident: Before the U.S. bombed Iraq, one of the "atrocities" widely reported in the media was that Iraqi government troops had pulled the plugs on baby's incubators in the Kuwaiti hospitals, causing the deaths of numerous newborn infants. A nurse gave "eyewitness" reports. This was used to create public opinion for the bombing of Iraq and to rationalise the massacre of the Iraqi people. After the war a US TV news show, 60 Minutes, exposed the story. The nurse "eyewitness" was the daughter of Kuwait's Ambassador to the US who had been told what to say; the story was distributed by a US advertising agency, and the entire story was a complete fabrication.

psychological war to demonise the PCP and create confusion among people who believe it is right to fight against the reactionary Peruvian regime. Its aim is to isolate the PCP, and to prepare minds for even greater crimes against the Peruvian people - including the implementation of the death penalty against their leaders.

EL DIARIO IN LIMA REPORTS ON THE IEC CAMPAIGN:

Issue 628 of El Diario, which has begun publishing again clandestinely in Peru, had an extensive article on the international IEC Campaign. Following are excerpts:

"Between the days of 8-12 April last, a commission of foreign lawyers arrived in Peru in the name of the prestigious Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman. Despite the hysterical screams of the reactionaries, the international defenders of the rights of the people announced the days 14-15 May as International Days of Protest to save the life of our dear and respected Chairman Gonzalo, an heroic battle that they will celebrate all around the world...

"...Since the very day of his capture, in open violation of all the international treaties about the treatment of prisoners of war, the reaction has tried to assassinate, with impunity, our dear and respected Chairman.

"DEFEND THE LIFE AND HEALTH OF CHAIRMAN GONZALO!..."

LEGAL CASE AGAINST THE FUJIMORI REGIME TO BE HEARD IN EARLY OCTOBER

The petitions on behalf of Dr Guzman, the other political prisoners, and their lawyers filed by the Lima lawyers, are scheduled to be heard by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in early October. Amicus briefs and letters supporting these petitions should be sent to: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Organization of American States, Washington D.C. 20006 USA by 15 September. Briefs or letters must clearly reference Case #11.015. Please send a copy to IEC in London.

This international legal case is a means to further isolate the Fujimori regime and its US backers, and create conditions which make it harder for them to carry out their desire to assassinate Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. Since this Project was launched, the Fujimori government passed the death penalty, increasing the danger to Dr. Guzman and other political prisoners. Today it is even more urgent that the Legal Project be supported with amicus briefs, letters of support, and financial contributions. For further information on this case, see EBs 32-35, or write IEC London.

CALL FROM MEXICAN LAWYERS

The Mexican Branch of the American Association of Jurists (AAJ) has issued an appeal to branches of the AAJ located in numerous other Latin American countries to denounce Fujimori's recent changes to the Constitution of Peru. Their appeal includes a call to oppose Fujimori's efforts to apply the death penalty to Dr Abimael Guzman and to support case #11.015, and concludes as follows:

"We urge our colleagues over this entire continent to make known to the public through all mediums that we have:

1. Our condemnation of the approval of the New Constitution, which is a violation of the law. We must especially condemn the death penalty and the re-election of Fujimori.
2. We demand the immediate freedom of the lawyers who defend Peruvian political prisoners, among them: Drs Martha Isabel Huatay Ruiz, Alfredo Crespo Bragayrac, Jorge Cartagena Vargas, Miguel Olazabel Ancajima, Victor Siguenas Campos, Ruben Bustamente Banda, Ernesto Cuba Montes and Gilbert Alarcon Requejo.
3. We demand that lawyers have a right to choose, without pressure of any kind, who they want to defend and who they don't want to defend."

AMERICA'S WATCH FINDINGS ON DRS CRESPO AND CARTAGENA:

America's Watch (a human rights organisation based in the US) issued a report on human rights violations in Peru in April 1993. Although remarkably silent about the case of Dr Guzman, it had an extensive report on the arrests of Drs Crespo and

Cartagena with evidence that the Peruvian government framed these lawyers. Following are excerpts:

"Jorge Cartagena and Alfredo Crespo: Members of the Association of Democratic Lawyers, Cartagena and Crespo are well-known in Peru for their defense of Shining Path combatants, including Crespo's defense of Abimael Guzman. On April 5 [1992] Cartagena was arrested along with five other lawyers and later released for lack of evidence.

"On January 11, 1993, Cartagena and Crespo were arrested again and accused of treason. Both were tried by military courts and sentenced to life in prison.

"The case against them appears to have been based primarily on Crespo's alleged possession of a purported Shining Path hit list, the so-called Centinela list. On December 3, 1992 the SIN [National Intelligence Service] sent a report to the military prosecutor alleging that the Shining Path had infiltrated a double agent called Centinela into the Directorate of Intelligence of the Army (DINTE). Centinela, according to the SIN, had prepared a list of names and addresses of army intelligence officers, apparently to be assassinated. Centinela then delivered it to Crespo, an act that would seem to link Crespo to the Shining Path's leadership...

"A former soldier named Clemente Eleusipo Alayo Calderon claims he was hired by DINTE to infiltrate the Shining Path and either 'physically eliminate' attorneys Crespo and Cartagena or 'sow evidence' that would incriminate them in the leadership of Shining Path. His immediate superior in the DINTE was Mesmer Carles Talledo, a 20-year army veteran. Alayo says he was promised \$30,000 for each lawyer arrested based on his work. Carles says he was promised a trip abroad.

"But on October 28 Carles was allegedly kidnapped by the DINTE and taken to a secret torture center in Chilca, where he was kept incommunicado for 34 days. Carles told his wife and mother that he was subjected to constant interrogation and torture during that period until he broke a drinking glass and slit his wrists to force his captors to give him medical attention. While he denies knowing anything about the Centinela list, he says he was forced, under threat of death to himself and family, to sign a confession to having written the hit list. At no point in the process was he allowed to consult a lawyer.

"In a handwritten letter provided to Americas Watch, Alayo contends that his assumed identity Centinela was a fake, prepared to entrap Cartagena and Crespo. On December 9, he was arrested and taken to an interview with the officer in charge of the Second Judicial Zone of the Army. Alayo claims the officer told him all was prepared to condemn Cartagena and Crespo to life in prison and all he had to do was serve as the lead witness. Alayo... would then be released through the 'Repentance Law,' which allows special sentences for those who testify against high Shining Path cadres. That way they would regain their freedom without publicly revealing their link to army intelligence.

Instead, Carles and Alayo were accused of being double agents for the Shining Path. On January 27, Carles was sentenced to 20 years in prison for treason. Alayo was sentenced to 15 years.

"Curiously, the Centinela list does not figure in the list of documents seized in either Crespo or Cartagena's office, according to their defense team."

While IEC has no independent information to confirm this report, we think its contents are very instructive about how the Peruvian government tries to eliminate anyone who opposes them. And if they go to these measures to set up even lawyers who defend political prisoners, they will no doubt do anything to eliminate their opposition. It is also notable that America's Watch unfolds case after case of extrajudicial executions, disappearances, torture, and rape committed by the government, but persists in simply stating "their concern" In fact, in a recent letter sent to US Congressmen they actually praise the US for supposedly pressuring Peru to improve their "human rights" records. Meanwhile, America Watch condemns the PCP for rising up in arms against the genocidal Fujimori regime.

US FUNDS FOR PERU'S NATIONAL POLICE INCREASING:

On 25 July 1993, El Comercio (a Peruvian newspaper) conducted an interview with General Victor Alva Plasencia, General Director of the National Police in Peru. The interview was provoked by a scandal about the involvement of the National Police in the drug trade.

Q: "Has the Anti-Drug Agreement [with the U.S.] been affected by these cases? Has the U.S. decreased support for the National Police because of these facts?"

A. "In the area of drugs, the support the US gives to the National Police is not dependent upon the political question of human rights. Before their support was small, but now it has been increased.

"... It was more or less \$11 million but included the training of personnel that is done in the US., what they paid to the American assistants that are here, the courses that they give there, and some materials that they give us... The U.S. has given 10 helicopters to the anti-drug struggle which act in Alto Huallaga. These are piloted by the National Police, with the professional assistance of the U.S."

IEC CAMPAIGN PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

As this EB is being prepared, a new 36-page pamphlet on the IEC Campaign is being published. The English edition will be available during the 12-24 Sept escalation and editions in other languages will be available shortly thereafter. It is designed to introduce people to the Campaign and includes the Call and a partial list of signatories, a biography of Dr Guzman and his 24 Sept speech, an article on why Dr Guzman is the most important political prisoner in the world, and information about Peru and U.S. intervention as well as the situation political prisoners and their lawyers face, and the IEC Legal Project. It describes the work of the IEC Campaign - with pictures of actions from around the world and testimony from IEC delegates. Finally, it includes a call for financial contributions and a call to action.

We are confident this pamphlet will be helpful in doing IEC work, and that many people will want to buy it. It is available for 2 pounds sterling (including shipping and handling). Please order (and pay) for pamphlets now so we can ship them as soon as they are published.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

Colombia: We received the following report from an IEC supporter in Colombia: "In the last two weeks of July the video 'Shantytowns in Lima and Prisons in Peru' was shown to the political prisoners of the XXX Prison. There are around XXX hundred political prisoners from different organisations... In spite of the fact that we don't share the line of those organisations, we consider it correct to bring the propaganda, posters and stickers, and to combat misinformation about the revolution in Peru, and to inform these prisoners who are living in inhumane and degrading conditions of an example of the most wonderful kind of heroism - the actions of the masses in the shanty towns and, mainly, in the 'Shining Trenches of Combat.' To show the video in the prison is hard work for the people who are there. The reactionaries are afraid of the "infiltration of Sendero" in the prisons and there is a lot of surveillance and constant searches. But the people have great imagination and found ways to watch the video. They watched in small groups of 10 or 20 persons, in the cells and in the corridors and with look-outs watching for the guards... In the last 15 days the majority were able to watch the video. The opinions were very diverse, but in general, were favorable..."

Bangladesh: We received the following report from IEC Bangladesh: "On August 29th, a solidarity meeting was organised by Bangladesh IEC at the Teacher & Students' Center, Dhaka University... The meeting was addressed by representatives from political, cultural, students', and national minority organisations. About 300 people attended the meeting. 8,000 leaflets were printed and distributed for the occasion. Two documentary films were shown. This meeting was also held as a preparatory step to organise the International Action Days programs..."

We have made advances in breaking the press silence. An article based on EB34... was published by Ajker Kagaj (Today's Daily) as a post editorial. The news of the meeting was also covered by 4 dailies and in greater detail by The Daily Star."

Paterson, New Jersey, USA: On 25 July a team of IEC supporters went to the Peruvian Independence Day celebration in Paterson, which is the largest Peruvian Community in the U.S. The event was attended by 3-4,000 Peruvians. "We went with a very powerful, controversial leaflet. On one side we reprinted the 'Messages

from the Shanty Towns in Peru' that people in Lima shanty towns gave to members of the 4th IEC delegation. We added a brief report on the armed strike in Peru of May 17, 18, and 19 and a Call to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman and to protest the plans of the U.S. backed Fujimori regime to institute the death penalty... The other side of the leaflet was titled 'FBI in Paterson NJ + CIA in Lima = PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE'. We had learned that FBI agents had met with the parade organizers informing them that the FBI would have FBI agents... 'on the look out for supporters of Shining Path' and 'recommending' that the organizers provide snitches and cooperate with the FBI... More than 900 Spanish leaflets were distributed along the parade route.

Many were eager to receive the leaflets and carefully read them, put them in their pockets, and nodded with knowing smiles. "At one point a young woman quietly gave two of us ice cold cans of INCA Cola and said 'I am from Peru. Thank you for what you are doing. Please take these drinks.'" There was also sharp opposition and police threatened to arrest leafleters for "disrupting the parade".

New Zealand: IEC supporters in New Zealand report: "We reproduced material from EB 31 on the treatment of lawyers and doctors and circulated it to lecturers at the Law School in Auckland. An article on events in Peru was recently published in the Auckland University student weekly journal. It has a circulation of 12,000." The article announced a protest organized by Radical Society to be held at the Peruvian Consulate on 10 August.

Mexico: The Mexico chapter of the IEC reports that many telegrams and faxes were sent to the Peruvian Embassy defending the political prisoners at Canto Grande. Some of those who protested were: National Front of Democratic Lawyers, Rosario Ibarra (human rights activist and ex-presidential candidate), Dr Fausto Trejo, Adan Nieto (lawyer), and two bakery union locals by agreement of the general assemblies, along with other individuals and organizations.

NEW SIGNATORIES:

T. B. Rajah (Sri Lanka), Chairperson, Newham United Tamil Organization, UK
S. Ratnarajah (Sri Lanka), Ex-member of Parliament, Parliamentary Group
Leader (EROS), Sri Lanka
Steven L. Chorover (US) - Prof of Psychology, Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Judy Mowatt (Jamaica) - Singer
Sister Carol (Jamaica) - Reggae musician
Bougainville Indigenous People's Movement for Self Determination
Saadi Timimi - Iraqi architect
Hugh Masakela (Azania/South Africa) - "Freedom fighter who happens to be a
musician"

IEC Bangladesh also reported they had begun a new phase of the signature campaign. Some of the new signatories are:

Rashed Khan Menon, Member of Parliament, Gen'l Sec'y, Workers' Party of Bangladesh
Shahidullah Choudhury, Chairman, Communist Party of Bangladesh
Nirmal Sen, Secretary, Workers Peasants Socialist Party
Khalequzzaman, Chairman, Socialist Party of Bangladesh
Belal Chowdhury, Chairman, Socialist Students Front
Abdullah Hel Quaiyum, Gen'l Sec'y, Bangladesh Students League (BSL)
K.S. Zahir Chandan, Gen'l Sec'y, Bangladesh Students Union
Mahmud Hasan Bulu, Gen'l Sec'y, Bangladesh Students Maitree (Unity)
Abul Kalam Azad Babul, Gen'l Sec'y, BSL (Socialist Party of Bangladesh)

Note: IEC wishes to thank the Tamil artist/supporter who designed and contributed the front page of the Emergency Bulletin.

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