



# EMERGENCY BULLETIN 37

## International Emergency Committee To Defend The Life of Dr Abimael Guzman

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### ALL OVER THE WORLD, THE 12-24 SEPTEMBER ACTIONS REVERBERATE:

A month ago Fujimori publicly vowed to defeat the international campaign to defend the life of Abimael Guzman. But instead, the campaign is growing stronger...

One year after Dr Guzman's capture, the International Emergency Committee issued an International Call to Action for the period 12-24 September. This escalation in the Campaign has been taken up with great enthusiasm and creativity by tens of thousands of people from around the world. On the other side, IEC supporters from several cities report that Peruvian Consulates are making an unusual show of heavily armed police patrols to protect themselves from banners, stickers, and posters. Following are some reports from the first days of the escalation:

Mexico City, Mexico: On 9 September, Dr Fausto Trejo, a member of the IEC Steering Committee, spoke on radio and called on people to join the 12-24 activities. On 11 Sept, IEC-Mexico held a public meeting which included a dramatic presentation of Dr Guzman's speech from prison. A letter supporting the Legal Project was circulated and signed by 30-35 people.

At 15:09 on 12 Sept, IEC supporters wearing "1509" t-shirts held protests and press conferences at three major newspaper offices. Many of the IEC's actions have been covered in the press recently, and Dr Trejo's statements have been quoted extensively. IEC-Mexico also reported that "Corre la Voz", the newspaper of the opposition PRD (Party of the Democratic Revolution) reprinted Ramsey Clark's statement against the reinstatement of the death penalty in Peru.

On 13 Sept, IEC supporters participated in a large anti-imperialist demonstration (4000 people) carrying banners with IEC slogans. Dr Trejo marched along with representatives of other organisations at the front of the march and he gave a speech to the demonstrators when they reached the US Embassy. His speech repudiated imperialist penetration of Mexico and defended Abimael Guzman as the leader of the most important struggle against imperialism in the world today.

Germany: Mass marches, streetcorner rallies, theatre, and public meetings have been held in numerous cities around Germany. IEC supporters in Berlin report that by the end of the 12-24 escalation they anticipate IEC will have distributed more than 100,000 leaflets throughout Germany.

Frankfurt: 800 demonstrators marched through central Frankfurt in a demonstration called by ATIK on 11 September. The march ended in a crowded section of the city in front of the cathedral and town hall where there were many spectators. Organisers report it was a great success. After the demonstration, a meeting of delegates from 11 IEC committees and other organisations who support the international campaign met to discuss the campaign and make plans for carrying it further.

Berlin: On 12 September, a 10 meter long banner was put up across the Oranienstrasse in the middle of Kreuzberg (a neighborhood in Berlin which has declared itself the "sister city of Ayacucho"). Street rallies were held in different neighborhoods throughout the city. Large posters -

5 x 7 meters - were posted on walls, and the IEC slogans appeared in huge letters on the roof of a building, where they could be seen by many people. Hundreds of people signed the IEC Call, money was collected for the campaign, and 1509 buttons and T-shirts were sold. IEC supporters also received reports that at 15:09 the emergency brake was pulled in subway stations all around Berlin, causing train delays. US author, Carol Andreas is scheduled to speak this week in Berlin, and other talks are scheduled in Hamburg, Cologne and Freiburg. Her talks are entitled "Women and Revolution in Peru" and "World Revolution and the Defense of Abimael Guzman."

**Cologne:** At 15:09 on 12 Sept, tourists and residents out for their Sunday walk were surprised by banners, a rally, and street theatre held in the square in front of the Cologne Cathedral. Streetcorner rallies were held in different neighborhoods throughout the day, and money was collected in Cafes and Imbisses (Turkish kebab shops).

**Hamburg:** On 11 Sept, a huge banner was hung over the street where a street festival was taking place. During the day more than 200 people watched and discussed showings of the video "People of the Shining Path". On 12 Sept, a rally was held from the roof of a supermarket at exactly 15:09. 60 people gathered on the street below to listen to the speeches. In another neighborhood a second rally was held from the roof of a restaurant. Both rallies were in Turkish and German. During the rest of the day people went through neighborhoods collecting money for the campaign and signatures on the Call.

**Kathmandu, Nepal:** Beginning at 15:09 on Sept 12, a mass procession was held in Kathmandu. Two members of the Committee addressed the demonstration. Then the procession, with a big photo of Chairman Gonzalo and banner and placards, proceeded to the United Nations office to deliver a protest letter which denounced the treatment of Dr Guzman and Dr Crespo, as well as the reinstatement of the death penalty in Peru.

IEC activities are being covered extensively by the press in Nepal; 5 daily and 7 weekly papers are carrying news of the campaign all over the country.

**Bangladesh:** At 15:09 on 12 Sept, the beginning of the 12-day escalation was announced at a rally held on a traffic island near Teacher & Students Centre, Dhaka University. A bunch of balloons carrying a banner with the slogan "Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman" flew overhead. A protest meeting and demonstration was held later in the day. During the 12-24 escalation a photo exhibit will be displayed in Dhaka, and plans have been made to hold group meetings with representatives and organisations representing many different strata of people.

**Bogota, Colombia:** On 12 Sept, street theatre was performed in two popular parks, and on 13 Sept six banners with the IEC symbol and slogans were hung on footpaths above avenues in the city center. At the National University a 10 x 8 meter banner was hung on the auditorium at the central square, just in front of the large mural of Abimael Guzman there (this mural has been damaged three times between May and July but it was repaired all three times and it still remains). The video, "People of the Shining Path" was also shown at different universities in Bogota. (For other activities in Colombia and Latin America, see next page.)

**The Netherlands:** A very spirited protest/picket was held in front of Amnesty International in Amsterdam. 40 people - from Netherlands, Turkey, Kurdistan, Kashmir, Bangladesh, Sudan, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka! - participated. Two representatives from AI came out to discuss and argue with representatives of the Solidarity Committee with the People of Peru and Turkish Workers Association, who had organised the protest.

**Turkey:** On 15 Sept the daily newspaper Gundem, a widely read daily

progressive newspaper which is circulated throughout Turkey and Europe, published an extensive article on the Campaign to Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman written by Ragip Zarakolu, a journalist who traveled with the 2nd IEC delegation to Peru and frequently writes about the campaign in Gundem. A day later, Gundem published the IEC leaflet for the 12-24 escalation as a half page ad. Gundem, which is noted for its support and news of the struggle of the people of Kurdistan, is currently being threatened with closure by the Turkish regime.

A very favorable news article on the IEC Campaign, with a large picture of Dr Guzman, also appeared last week in Jumhuriyet, a major daily newspaper in Turkey. The article included news about the IEC Founding Conference in February, the IEC delegations to Peru, and lists prominent signatories to the IEC Call.

Barcelona, Catalunya (Spain): 11 Sept is the National Day of Catalunya (DIADA), and thousands of people attended events. The IEC had a literature table in a popular city square, and a striking poster of Dr Guzman's trial caught the attention of thousands who had come there to celebrate. The campaign was received enthusiastically, and arrangements were made with many people who want to hold future events. IEC Catalunya also reported that during September the Peruvian Consulate has been protected by heavily armed police and on 11 Sept one person was arrested for putting up graffiti on the IEC Campaign at the Peruvian Consulate. The arrest was made by a plainclothesman identifying himself as a member of the "Spanish Political Police for Latin America."(!)

London, England: Street theatre organised by the London chapter of the IEC began at 15:09 on 12 Sept at Speaker's Corner in London's Hyde Park. Hundreds of people heard "Dr Guzman" give his speech from the cage, while "Fujimori" boasted about his reactionary regime. Palestinians, who were at Hyde Park to speak out against the Israeli-PLO agreement, were especially interested in the uncompromising struggle of the Peruvian people.

US: Banners reading "Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman" were unfurled in the Mission District (a large Latino immigrant community in the San Francisco area); they were also hung from highway overpasses in Oakland, California. In Cleveland banners appeared at a Puerto Rican festival; in Seattle at an open air market; and in New York City in the garment district.

IEC urges chapters and individuals to send in further reports on activities around the world as soon as possible.

### Actions in Peru Threaten the US-Backed Peruvian Regime:

A 13 Sept UPI wire service report announced that leaflets were being distributed in Lima which demanded "respect for the life of Abimael Guzman" and threatened reprisals if the jailed leader suffers a deterioration in his health. There has been an escalation in the People's War with more armed actions by the PCP guerrillas, according to this report. The report stated:

"The capital Lima and other major cities were under tight security in expectation of rebel attacks, with armored vehicles patrolling the streets..."

### The IEC Campaign in Latin America:

IEC has just received news on activities carried out during August to expand the international campaign in Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador and to prepare for the 12-24 escalation. Following are some highlights from this very important expansion of the campaign:

Quito, Ecuador: On the morning of 17 August, a banner with the

figure of Abimael Guzman and the IEC slogan was hung in the center of Quito. The banner was seen by thousands, but was removed the next day by police, who then posted spies in the area. IEC materials were distributed to the street vendors, mostly indigenous people, who were very happy to receive it. 1000's of posters and murals were put up at the Central University of Quito. Several bookstores agreed to carry information on the campaign.

**Caracas, Venezuela:** Several months ago, murals about the revolution in Peru began appearing at the Central University of Venezuela (UVC). Recently, the lead singer from a punk band, "Victims of Democracy", began a concert by shouting "Long Life to Abimael Guzman".

During August, an encampment of Anti-Imperialist and Anti-Fascist youth, mainly from Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador, but also from Spain, Italy, Mexico, and Canada, was held in Caracas. IEC activists participated in encampment forums, and issued a call to defend the life of Abimael Guzman. Interest was keen among participants: IEC's literature table ran out of materials in 15 minutes. A mural of Dr Guzman remained on exhibit during the plenary sessions of the encampment. The encampment ended with a powerful march through Caracas, in which a contingent of Venezuelan students carried a banner with the slogan "Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman." Students also reproduced 1,100 copies of the "Refuting the Big Lies" article and distributed it along the parade route. IEC campaign slogans were chanted on the March.

Immediately after the encampment, activists went to many of the shantytowns surrounding Caracas to show videos and distribute literature. Drawings and banners have also appeared in these areas.

**Bucaramanga, Colombia:** During the week of 15 August, a mural was painted at the University Hospital R. Gonzalez Valencia with the figure of Abimael Guzman and the slogan "Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman, the Most Important Prisoner in the World", and leaflets were distributed to staff and students. Leafletting and agitation was also done at a filter factory, a construction site, and at a technological institute. Press releases were issued, and the media carried news of the campaign.

**Bogota, Colombia:** At the District University, students drew a large mural with the figure of Abimael Guzman at the main entrance. The painting took 7 hours, during which time literature was distributed. A literature table was also set up at the Economics Dept of the District University where a Latin American meeting of students was being held. Banners were hung from footbridges at the entrances of both the District and National Universities, and at other locations. Street theatre was held in a city plaza, where "Dr Guzman" delivered his speech after defeating representatives from the US and Peru and burning their flags. The audience applauded enthusiastically. At a legal conference attended by 30 Colombian lawyers for political prisoners, the Call of the IEC and the Call to the 12-24 Days of Action were read and received almost unanimous approval by the lawyers.

**Popaya (Cauca), Colombia:** 30 students and teachers who were attending an Anthropology Meeting at the University of Cauca viewed "People of the Shining Path" and "Shantytowns and Prisons", and a lively discussion was held about events in Peru and the IEC Campaign.

**Medellin, Colombia:** During the entire month of August, IEC propaganda was distributed throughout the city, and graffiti appeared on Ayacucho Street in the center of the city. The video, "People of the Shining Path", was shown to groups almost every day.

**Boyaca Area, Colombia:** Graffiti and banners appeared in several smaller cities in this area. "The People of the Shining Path" was shown to a conference held by community organisers and peasants. The peasants were especially enthusiastic. The activities of the IEC in this area are very controversial; the reactionaries in the area have proclaimed that the Sendero Luminoso is active there, a lie that has been repeated in the press.

## Support for the Legal Project

The petitions filed by the Lima lawyers will be heard before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on one day between 5 October and 15 October. U.S. lawyers who are co-counsel with the Lima lawyers will be at this hearing in Washington DC to argue for the petitions.

IEC encourages people to send letters and amicus briefs to ICHR in time for the hearing so that ICHR knows the case is being monitored closely by people around the world. The following are two submissions to ICHR received by IEC:

Conclusion from an Amicus Brief submitted by Craig Everson (Barrister and Solicitor of High Court of Australia and Supreme Court of Australian Capital Territory; Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New South Wales; employed by Aboriginal Legal Service Ltd; a 3rd delegation delegate):

"The arrest, trial, conviction and sentence of Abimael Guzman must be declared null and void. The outrageous actions of the Peruvian regime in its treatment of Dr Guzman and others violate peremptory norms of international law to which Peru is bound.

"Abimael Guzman's conviction should be quashed and a permanent stay of proceedings ordered because it is not possible for Dr Guzman to obtain a fair trial under the current regime holding state power in Peru.

"The conviction and sentence of the other political prisoners and the lawyers who defend political prisoners, referred to in the Lima lawyers' petitions, ought to similarly be quashed with a permanent stay of proceedings ordered."

Letter to the IACHR from an IEC supporter in Madras, India:

"I hereby appreciate and fully support the petitions filed by Lima lawyers to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. It is my firm belief that Dr Abimael Guzman is the leader and hope for millions upon millions of down-trodden people around the world, and one of the most brilliant political leaders that humanity has produced. He deserves a just treatment as a political prisoner now. Denial of normal food, visits, medical facility, and reading materials to him, and total isolation, is nothing but torture.

"History will not forgive those who are just the spectators of these most heinous crimes meted out to Dr Guzman and other political prisoners, more so if these people have the name of Human Rights Boards."

Peruvian officials admit:

### "PCP has the support of the majority of Ashaninkas"

An article printed in La Republica on 5 Sept contains information which puts more holes and contradictions in the government's "official story" about the Ashaninka incident. (It has been asserted and repeated endlessly in the world press that a column of PCP combatants entered the town of Mazamari and other towns in the Ashaninka area and killed Ashaninkas who were uninvolved in the civil war.) The journalist interviewed several pro-government Ashaninka "leaders" who had come to the Fujimori government requesting aid. Following are excerpts from the article:

"Among the main things they asked was the consolidation of a military base where they could recruit young natives into the national service...

"... they will ask for compensation for the widows and the orphans of the ronderos of the Ashaninkas who died in a confrontation with the subversives.

"The Ashaninka leaders said that they only want peace and no more genocide. They asked for the construction of "concentration camps" for their brothers who have not repented or recovered and are from the communities of Puyeri and the Ene river valley.

"...They said that during the last census, the Ashaninka community of the Tamo river had 24,000 inhabitants; now it was reduced to 8,300 according to the last census. 'Where are the rest?' we asked.

"We suppose they are in Sendero Luminoso. We have lost contact with them. Our territory has 2,231.49 kilometers; about 70% of this territory has been taken by the terrorist organization. The rest of the territory has been pacified..."

So, according to this report: (1) those who died were ronderos and (2) the majority of the Ashaninka people are supporters of the PCP. This report also stated that the government-supported Ashaninka ronderos are kidnapping Ashaninkas who support the People's War, and now they want a concentration camp(!) built to imprison Ashaninkas who continue to support the People's War.

In Caretas (August 26, 1993) it was reported that 3 days before the incident the military entered Mazamari to force the residents to join their "ronderos". Caretas reports:

"At 5 in the morning of Sunday 15th... around a hundred soldiers and 'ronderos' of Satipo province... surprisingly entered the village of Mazamari. They gathered the population in the main square and informed them of the decision of the Political-Military Command of the Mantaro Front, about organising peasant and urban patrols in order to confront the subversives.

"Many of the inhabitants were dragged by force from their homes, whose doors were kicked in... From a balcony of the municipal building, an Army officer who is identified as Lieutenant 'Veneno', threatened the population to organise themselves into a peasant patrol in order to put an end to the subversion.

"According to this officer, the formation of the self-defence committee was an emergency, because he had information that the population was infiltrated by terrorism. Some authorities, among them the parish priest... said this kind of organisation was unnecessary. Nevertheless, Lieutenant "Veneno" gave a period of 15 days to the authorities of the zone to form the rondero organisation and he left giving the following warning: 'After that date I want you to tie up your mares, because my colts are untied.'" A curfew was imposed.

### New IEC Pamphlet Now Available:

A 36-page pamphlet on the IEC worldwide campaign is now available. It includes a history of the case of Dr Guzman, the IEC delegations to Peru, the international campaign which has developed in over 30 countries, the full text of the 24 September 1992 speech by Dr Guzman, and over 40 pictures. Cost is £1.50/pamphlet plus £.50 for postage (postage=£.30/pamphlet for orders of 5 or more). Please order from the address on the front page of the Emergency Bulletin. (Spanish and other language editions will be out soon.)

### New Signatories:

Oral Calislar (Turkey) - Writer and journalist  
C. Sivan (U.K.) - Tamil Art Group  
Jam Saqi (Pakistan) Sind Hari Committee, former political prisoner for 16 years in Pakistan  
Maite Machado (U.K.) - Lawyer, Prisoner's Abroad Program  
Shahid Mahmud (Pakistan) - Publishers, Rhotas Books  
M. Waheed Khawaja (Pakistan) - Human Rights Forum, Lahore  
Dr Matthew P. Dumont (US) - Psychiatrist, author of The Absurd Healer

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