



# EMERGENCY BULLETIN 52

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

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### PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK: FUJIMORI SILENCED, PEOPLE'S VOICE HEARD

On March 14 Fujimori stood in shock as he was loudly denounced by 14 protesters from the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru and the IEC during a press conference with more than 50 international journalists at the Sheraton Hotel in New York City. A huge banner with a picture of fire raging in the Andes reading "Down with US Intervention in Latin America" and "Support the People's War" was unfurled within a few feet of Fujimori. For a full five minutes, and while press cameras focused on the protestors, Fujimori could only grip his podium and stand stunned and red-faced. He had intended to sell his plan of privatisation, entice imperialist investors, and assure them that Peru would not be another economic disaster like Mexico. Instead protesters and banners stole his show and he was accused by the people and his crimes were exposed: ***"This fascist puppet of the US has no right to speak...This is the man who is selling Peru to the highest bidder...while the murderous poverty in Peru intensifies... while the government intensifies its genocidal counter-insurgency war... while the barbarous treatment of prisoners - especially Dr Abimael Guzman - continues!"***

While Fujimori was being denounced in both English and Spanish, Peruvian officials demanded that the protestors show respect for Fujimori and let him speak. The protestors responded that they, not Fujimori, speak for the people of Peru. Manco, CSRP-NY spokesperson and delegate to the IEC Founding Conference shouted: ***"You are a puppet dictator with no regard for the basic rights of the people. You are trying to crush the People's War that will liberate the people of Peru."*** Phil Farnham of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP-USA) who went to Peru on the 4th IEC Delegation shouted that he had been asked by the people in a Lima shantytown to ***"Tell the whole world that it is the People's War and the Communist Party of Peru which represents our future!"***

As some protestors were forcibly removed from the room a Latin America press reporter continued to interrogate Fujimori about the actions of Peru's military, asking whether it was not possible that in Peru, as in Argentina, political prisoners might have been thrown from planes. Before Fujimori could answer, another protester shouted: ***"The question is not whether it happened, but how many times!"*** Fujimori said nothing like this had happened while he was president and the demonstrator shouted back ***"La Cantuta!"***, causing a ripple of whispers. Fujimori stood ashen-faced; the press knew about this infamous case and there was little he could say to the contrary. Of course Fujimori tried to defend the actions of the regime but ended up exposing his murderous policies when he said: ***"we have respected human rights as much as possible in that we have 3,000 Senderistas in our maximum security prisons. They're not disappeared; they are there condemned to life sentences."***<sup>1</sup>

Meanwhile, demonstrators continued to distribute a leaflet entitled ***"Fujimori: You can't Privatize the People's War!"*** to the international press, and asked why Fujimori wouldn't allow Dr Guzman to speak for himself.

Coverage of the protest appeared on Lima and New York TV, as well as on radio and in leading Spanish newspapers in the US and elsewhere. Many reports included the denunciations made against Fujimori. For example, an article on the front page of the New York newspaper El Diario/La Prensa entitled ***"Big Surprise"*** and accompanied by picture of a stunned Fujimori began:

***"Where is Sendero Luminoso?"*** Peruvian president Alberto Fujimori asked this question

<sup>1</sup> In May 1992, only a month after his self-coup, Fujimori personally commanded the massacre of more than 40 political prisoners who were gunned down in cold blood by the military and police at Canto Grande Prison.

yesterday before a group of businessmen and investors gathered in New York by the Council of the Americas. And he answered: *'In the prisons of Peru.'*

'But, after ending his talk, Fujimori was taken by surprise. He met up with some of their sympathizers in the salon of a New York luxury hotel. *'You are a dictator,' shouted one of them. 'You don't respect human rights and you're carrying on a dirty war in Peru!'*"

Visiting the US must fast be becoming Fujimori's nightmare! How can he ever forget that in October 1993, at a meeting of a large group of investment bankers and corporate lawyers in New York, he was disrupted the moment he began to speak and that one lawyer after another denounced his treatment of lawyers who defend political prisoners in Peru? Or that during his visit to the summit in Miami in December 1994 he was constantly disrupted by demonstrators shouting "Fujimori, assassin, sellout son of imperialism!" and demanding an end to the isolation of Dr Abimael Guzman?

When the 5th delegation was in Peru delegates were shown a patio in the barrios where there had been a spontaneous collective cheer when TV viewers saw Fujimori confronted by demonstrators in New York. The IEC and its supporters around the world rejoice that Fujimori was again hounded within the citadels of his imperialist masters, and are sure that once again cheers were heard not only in Peru but in other places around the world as well.

### **ALARMING ADMISSION TO A CONTINUING CRIME:**

One of the demands the New York demonstrators made of Fujimori was an end to the isolation of Dr Guzman. Coming within three feet of Fujimori's face, one of the protesters posed the question: *"Why don't you let Dr Guzman speak for himself? What are you afraid of?"* After a long silence Fujimori replied: ***"Guzman will never speak to the Peruvian people. He will die in prison!"***

Since the capture of Dr Guzman in September 1992, the IEC has not only taken every threat the US-Fujimori regime has made against Dr Guzman very seriously, but has actively and resolutely fought to defend Dr Guzman's life. This battle, along with the continuation of the People's War in Peru, has prevented the regime from killing Dr Guzman.

What does this latest threat tell us? That the regime intends to continue to keep Dr Guzman in isolation - until he is killed or dead! This cannot and must not be tolerated! To hold a prisoner in isolation forever is not only against international law; it is the worst form of torture!

The IEC calls on people everywhere to expose the murderous US-Fujimori regime and its crimes against the people of Peru and to continue to demand an end to the barbarous isolation of Dr Guzman!

**RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF DR GUZMAN!**

**END THE ISOLATION, NOW!**

### **HILLARY CLINTON "GREETED" BY NEPALI WOMEN:**

As Hillary Clinton stepped out of the Kathmandu Airport on what was to be the first visit of a US President's wife in Nepal she was greeted by hundreds of protesters raising banners and shouting: ***"Imperialist Yankee, Go Home!", "Down With US Imperialism", "US Hands Off Peru!", "Defend the Life of Comrade Gonzalo", "Stop Backing the Fujimori Regime in Peru!"*** Before the police could move in, two young women hurled black flags at her<sup>2</sup>. As she was driven in a bullet-proof limousine specially flown in from the US, shouting protesters lined the 5 kilometers between the airport and the hotel where the Clinton delegation was staying. More black flags were thrown at the motorcade and big clashes between the security police and the protesters occurred all along the route. About 50 people were arrested, including the President of the All Nepal Women's Association who was a delegate to the IEC founding conference, the President of the All Nepal Trade Union Congress, a prominent poet, a journalist, and other leaders of trade unions and women's groups. When Ms Clinton landed at the airport in South-West Nepal on the next day she was once again "greeted" with black flags.

These protests, organised by the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru and IEC-NEPAL, resounded round the world. For example, "Asian Age", a daily newspaper published simultaneously in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and England, carried an article headlined "Black Flags Hurlled at Hillary in Nepal" which said: *"the activists were angry over what they called US repression of the Peruvian people and the arrest of Abimael Guzman."* Reports of the protest were also carried in England's Daily Telegraph and in the International Herald Tribune based on an AFP wire service account.

The IEC once again salutes the people of Nepal who so powerfully seized this opportunity to

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<sup>2</sup> Black flags are the traditional revolutionary sign of protest in Nepal.

expose and denounce the crimes of Yankee imperialism, show their solidarity with the struggle of the oppressed people of Peru, and express their determination to defend the life of Dr Guzman. Since the moment of Dr Guzman's arrest people around the world have been heartened by the many creative ways the oppressed have found to make their voices heard. We're sure that Fujimori and Ms Clinton today share the same complaint: whether they go to New York or to Nepal, there is no place to hide!

## **RIM CALLS FOR A NEW WAVE OF ACTIONS TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE'S WAR:**

The Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM), the clandestine Maoist grouping of parties and organisations from around the world (including PCP) who have refused to drop their espousal of communism and revolutionary violence, have announced their all out support for the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru and total rejection of the call for peace accords.

On 28 March 1995 the Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (CoRIM) issued a Call to step up support for the Communist Party of Peru and the People's War, and to reject the call for peace accords. *"The CoRIM salutes the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru for its firm, vigorous and correct opposition to the right opportunist line which would bring defeat to the People's War in Peru and a serious setback for the whole international communist movement."*

After specifying what the RIM regards as the PCP's great contributions under the leadership of Chairman Gonzalo and its Central Committee to the world proletarian revolution, and the complex circumstances within which the people's war is developing, the document says *"it was incumbent upon RIM not only to continue its support for the Peoples War in Peru but also to join this two line struggle to undertake the necessary investigation, study, discussion and struggle to achieve a correct and comprehensive understanding of all the questions involved and on that basis render the most powerful support to the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist line and the comrades carrying it forward in Peru."*

In the document CoRIM establishes basic criteria for evaluating the call for a peace accord and concludes, among other things, that: *"Objectively and irrespective of the intentions of those who are arguing for it, the call for negotiations to reach a peace accord and the arguments, or rationalisations, put forward in defence and elaboration of this call, do not represent a necessary and justified compromise but rather a compromise of the fundamental interests of the people and an abandonment of the People's War and the revolutionary road."*

While stating that a revolutionary struggle will involve twists and turns that sometimes necessitate substantial changes in strategy and tactics, and that communists do not reject negotiations or agreements with the reactionary ruling class as a tactic in certain situations where they are possible and necessary, the Call says: *"However, in the actual circumstances and given the relation of class forces at this stage in Peru, there is, from the standpoint of the proletariat, no need for and no correct basis for negotiations leading to the end of the People's War..."*

The document says *"the greatest difficulty facing the Party is the right opportunist line itself and the actions of those who are promoting it."*

The CoRIM also points out that the call for peace accords *"runs counter to Chairman Gonzalo's teachings"*, citing his defiant speech from the cage on 24 September 1992, and pledges to continue its support for the fight to end his isolation.

The RIM document mentions the 7 October 93 statement by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru which is made available by the RIM information bureau. It also mentions an important criticism of the main arguments contained in articles promoting the peace line, written by the Union of Iran Communists (Sarbedaran) at the request of the CoRIM: *"The UIC(S) document, distributed internally as part of RIM's discussion of the situation in Peru, will soon be released to the public."*

The RIM in its previous resolution on 26 Dec 93, three months after the peace negotiations line was announced by Fujimori, had upheld "the advances and victories of the People's War" as "testimony to the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist leadership of Chairman Gonzalo and the PCP Central Committee" and "the foremost struggle against imperialism and reaction" and pledged *"its unreserved support to the campaign to Defend the Life of Chairman Gonzalo, to the Communist Party of Peru and to the heroic combatants of the people's War and the struggling masses of Peru."*

A Press Release from the Information Bureau of the RIM which announces RIM's decision says: *"The Decision by RIM is expected to lead to a new and more powerful international wave of active and organized support for the stubbornly-persevering war that RIM and its parties consider a beacon for the world revolution..."*

A full copy of CoRIM Call is available from the RIM Information Bureau, BCM-RIM, WC1N 3XX, London, U.K.

## **DENUNCIATION OF US-FUJIMORI "LITTLE VIETNAM" SPREADS AROUND THE WORLD:**

In November the IEC issued an important leaflet demanding an end to the genocide of the Peruvian people and denouncing the crimes of the US-Fujimori regime. Since then the IEC has received numerous reports on its use. The leaflet has been translated into many languages, including Spanish, Italian, Danish, French, Greek, Dutch, German, Turkish, Farsi, Bengali, Nepali and Swedish. 4,000 were distributed in Copenhagen, where it was also made into a large pictorial poster which appeared on walls all over the city. 10,000 were distributed in Sweden, another 2,000 in Bogota. It was distributed at the UN Summit in Denmark, at the Summit of the Americas in the US, at a protest march in support of the peasant uprising in Chiapas in Paris, and at Amnesty International meetings, among other places.

The military in Peru is continuing to perpetrate its crimes of genocide. The campaign of lies and slanders against the people of Peru, including the Ashaninkas has not let up. The IEC encourages its supporters to continue to inform the international office on the distribution of this leaflet, its appearance in newspapers, and on any other ways it has been used.

## **RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL FILES PETITION:**

On 15 December 1994 Rights International, The Center for International Human Rights Law (based in New York City, USA), submitted a very substantial *amicus brief* in support of the petitions filed before the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) on behalf of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners and prisoners of war in Peru. The petition especially demands an end to the isolation of Dr Guzman and access to his lawyers.

The *amicus brief* filed by Rights International once again puts the US-Fujimori regime on notice that their murderous actions against Dr Guzman and the people of Peru have not gone unnoticed, and that they cannot continue such crimes with impunity.

## **MORE NEWS ON THE IEC CAMPAIGN:**

**The Netherlands:** More than 60 people attended a meeting in Utrecht, The Netherlands on 27 January 1995 which was held to support the struggle for liberation in Peru. The meeting, organised by the Committee in Solidarity with the People of Peru, featured speakers, music from Peru and the Philippines, and the IEC video. In its opening statement the Committee spoke to the importance of countering media lies in the Netherlands and called for international solidarity with the Peruvian people.

Speakers included Jose Maria Sison (founding Chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines and current advisor to the National Democratic Front), Massoud Rahimi, the Coordinator of the IEC, and Paul Lever.

Jose Maria Sison, who was himself a political prisoner in the Philippines for more than 9 years, gave a talk comparing the revolutions in the Philippines and in Peru up to the present. In his talk J M Sison expressed his support for the PCP, the People's War being waged under its leadership, and the ongoing IEC Campaign. Mr. Lever, who has been a frequent visitor to Peru, spoke on conditions in the liberated territories, and Massoud Rahimi spoke on the International Campaign and the response of mainstream human rights organisations.

Since September 1993 the Committee, in addition to carrying out protest actions, has been publishing Peru Newsbulletin bi-monthly in the Dutch language. This publication regularly informs readers of the news of the IEC Campaign and the situation in Peru.

**Denmark:** IEC activists decorated walls of the meetings of the "Alternative Summit" (which was held at the same time as the UN Social Summit in March) with wall-posters and newspapers denouncing the isolation of Dr Guzman and the genocidal government of Fujimori, distributed leaflets and pamphlets, and also met with friends from the Philippines and from Egypt who were taking up the campaign in their own countries. On 13 Feb about 30 people participated in a meeting about the People's War and the crimes of the US-Fujimori regime.

**Italy:** Emergency Bulletins are being translated into Italian and are distributed broadly, and a new campaign has been launched to denounce the isolation of Dr Guzman. More than 100 people attended a meeting in Rome to express their solidarity with the people of Chiapas and Peru on 21 January, and more than 200 people attended an event at which a new book sympathetic to the People's War in Peru was presented. They have also scheduled five meetings which are to be held in April to denounce and expose the Peruvian elections.

**Greece:** On 13 Feb about 50 people attended a programme in Athens which included talks on the history of the Communist Party of Peru, the People's War, and the struggle to defend Dr Guzman. The IEC video "You Must Tell the World" was also shown. A letter to the Peruvian Embassy was proposed and approved and a six-member delegation then delivered it to the Peruvian Embassy on February 23. On 5 March a full-page article summarising the programme appeared in a weekly left newspaper.

The IEC video has been subtitled in the Greek language and is being shown to other audiences and in schools. Hundreds have signed the IEC Call during the past months. The IEC fund raising appeal has been taken up by activists and money sent to the international office.

**Andhra Pradesh, India:** Many prominent human rights lawyers, professors, and journalists have signed the petition to end the isolation of Dr Guzman and have sent it to Fujimori. Activists have also spoken on the significance of the People's War at meetings of workers in an effort to strengthen the movement of solidarity between the oppressed people of Andhra Pradesh and Peru.

Some IEC supporters have asked whether CPI(ML)-People's War (commonly referred to as "People's War group") has been involved in the IEC campaign. The Coordinating Committee would like to make clear that many supporters of the People's War group in Andhra Pradesh have been active on the campaign from the beginning and that their local newspapers have carried news on the battle to defend Dr Guzman and the situation in Peru regularly.

**US:** A meeting was held in Hawaii in December to denounce the latest military offensive in Peru and expose the slanders about the Ashaninka people. This was especially controversial among indigenous Hawaiian people, who have received information from so-called human rights and indigenous people's organisations repeating government lies against the PCP. Hawaiian activists who attended the meeting quickly recognised the attempts of the Peruvian regime to further oppress and create divisions among the indigenous people for their own gain, and were eager to hear what was actually happening in both the government-controlled areas and in the liberated zones. In January another event was held to discuss the development and importance of support for the IEC, and in particular the need to escalate the fight to end the isolation of Dr Guzman. Each meeting was attended by about 25 people.

## PERU NEWS

### Investors warned of high default risks on loans:

According to a recent report issued by the US General Accounting Office to the US Congress, Peru is among the countries with the highest risk of defaulting on loans authorised by the US. According to the report, Peru has a 77.3% risk of defaulting on their loans. [Inter Press Service; 4 January 1995]

### Eximbank loans Peru \$155 million for hydro deal:

The government signed a \$155 million loan contract with Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) of Japan to finance the San Gaban II hydroelectric project in Peru's southern highlands. The contract has a 19-year payback period. Peru and Eximbank also signed a \$22.5 million loan deal to fund the government's power transmission and electrical sector restructuring programme. [Reuters, 27 March 1995]

### Peruvian President Vows to "Help" Poor:

March 24 (UPI) -- Fujimori pledged today to improve living standards for the poor if he is re-elected in April, while his strongest challenger, former U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, vowed to create 2 million jobs. Listing a series of statistics to illustrate Peru's economic growth since he was elected in 1990 -- such as current foreign investment -- Fujimori said, "I don't make promises but announce goals and fulfill them." (Perhaps Fujimori is here referring to the fact that salaries of public employees today can buy only 1/5th of what they could in 1980? Or that less than 20% of the population can afford to buy the food necessary to stay healthy? Or perhaps that since he came into office 30% of all students have dropped out of school because of malnutrition or because they have to work? Or that within a year after he was elected wages had fallen by 52%? Or that 3,500 of Lima's 5,000 nurses left the country in search of better pay? Or perhaps he had really wanted Peru to have its greatest trade deficit ever in 1994?)

### **New Outbreaks of Cholera and Plague:**

The Health Ministry of Peru announced that more than 1,000 cases of bubonic plague have been officially reported, and that at least 33 have resulted in death. The real number is sure to be many more. The plague is being spread by an exploding population of rats, particularly in the agricultural rural areas and in downtown Lima in areas surrounding the presidential palace.

Lima is also reporting an increase in cases of cholera, contagious meningitis, dysentery, and other infectious and easily preventable diseases, especially among children. The increases are being attributed to poverty, in particular to fly-infested food and contaminated drinking water. Matters are expected to get worse since Lima's 750 public garbage workers have not been paid for three months and are demanding their wages. [Agence France Presse, 28 Dec 1994 and 5 Jan 1995]

### **Peru's Generals Rewarded for their Crimes:**

Among those nominated to Peru's Congress is retired General Luis Cisneros Vizquerra. [Lima presses, 9 Jan 1995] General Cisneros led the genocidal 1983-1984 counter-insurgency campaign in which thousands of peasants were massacred. When questioned about civilian casualties he responded that because it was impossible to know exactly who the senderistas were, it was necessary to kill 20 peasants to guarantee eliminating one senderista.

Fujimori has also recommended that General Luis Perez Document be promoted and given a top command post. His promotion, Fujimori said, is based on his leadership of the counter-insurgency campaign when he was political-military chief of the Mantaro Front in 1990. [Expresso, 12 Dec 1994] During that campaign General Document's troops killed thousands of indigenous people and settlers living in the Mantaro River valley. The campaign has since been denounced by Peruvian human rights groups, who are continuing to discover the mass graves that resulted from the campaign. [See EB 51].

### **Regime Confirms Montesinos Authored Peru's Anti-Terrorism Laws:**

On 11 Dec Vice President Jaime Yoshiyama confirmed that Vladimiro Montesinos was the author of the repressive anti-terrorist decrees laws (which allowed house-to-house searches, hooded military tribunals, denial of legal defence). He also congratulated Montesinos for having "modernised" the police and military, and for having created a specialised intelligence group to crush the subversives. [Gestion; 12 Dec 1994] [For more on Montesinos and his direct connections with the US CIA, see EB 48]

### **US Officially Resumes Radar Surveillance Over Peru:**

In December 1994 Pres Clinton approved an increase in financial aid and facilities to help Peru's military. Under the so-called "war on drugs", U.S. radar planes will fly from the US's Southern Military Command in Panama to provide surveillance, which will then be given to Peru's military fighting against the People's War in the Peruvian jungles. The aid also includes US operation of a radar facility within the Peruvian jungle itself. [The Houston Chronicle, 3/1/95; El Comercio, 2/1/95]

### **Student Protest Labeled Terrorism:**

Two students at the University Jorge Basadre, including the student body President, were arrested by the police for being "apologists for terrorism" because they had painted slogans on a university wall denouncing the rector of the University for firing six popular professors. [La Republica, 9 Jan 1995]

### **Peasants Continue to Testify Against Military:**

9 residents from the rural village of Paraiso came to Lima to denounce abuses committed by a military patrol. According to testimonies given to Peruvian human rights organisations, a military patrol of about 60 soldiers commanded by a captain called "Wolf", forcibly entered the houses of the peasant villagers, stole their belongings, separated the women from the men, and raped numerous women and girls. [APRODEH, Lima newspapers, 5 Jan 1995]

### **IACHR Finds Peru Guilty of 1986 Prison Massacre; Crimes Continue**

In January 1995 the Inter-American Court of Human Rights finally confirmed what has been known for nine years: that Peru's military was responsible for the 1986 prison massacres in Peru. During the massacre at least 152 prisoners in El Fronton, Lurigancho and Canto Grande prisons were killed when the military attacked political prisoners who were demanding rights guaranteed them by international conventions. In addition to those prisoners killed while resisting, more than 130 men and women were executed and at least 35 "disappeared" after they had surrendered .

Human Rights Watch, a US-based human rights organisation, applauded the decision but noted that members of the military who had taken part in the massacre have still not been prosecuted and said: *"the ruling sadly reminds us that little has changed during the past nine years, during which members of the security forces who have continued to commit serious human rights violations have enjoyed impunity for those crimes."* [Agence France Press, 21 Jan 1995]

Human Rights Watch has also denounced the Peruvian regime for its failure in preventing the military from abusing women, and charged that Peruvian soldiers and police continue to sexually abuse women arrested on terrorism charges. They said that despite government promises made in 1993 to crack down on such abuses, no concrete measures have been taken to investigate the charges or punish members of the security forces. They cited in particular the cases of six women detained and raped by soldiers or police. [Associated Press, 22 Feb 1995]

#### **SIN Claims PCP is "Manipulating Union Leaders" to Strike:**

Over the past year militant labour strikes have been on the increase. Teachers and students, petroleum workers and miners, garbage workers and bank workers, have all taken to the streets to demand higher wages and/or an end to the privatisations. Now Peru's National Intelligence Service (SIN) claims that the PCP is *"manipulating union leaders who are calling for these marches and protests"*. They also claim that the PCP is threatening the population by victimising the military staff. [Expreso, 2 Jan 1995].

#### **PCP "Maintains Critical Mass":**

An editor of La Republica daily newspaper recently admitted that the ability of the PCP to survive the capture of Dr Abimael Guzman and advance the People's War provides evidence that "the PCP has maintained the critical mass and resources to continue". He warned that the peoples war is still a threat and that the war will continue for a long time [La Republica; 19 Dec 1994].

#### **Military Patrols Register Peasants:**

Fifty military patrols in the Moyobamba region went from village to village to register each person living there. The military claimed registration was necessary because villages had been infiltrated by subversives. They based this on the fact that military patrols had recently been attacked in the area, and because they believed that information on the movement of the military patrols had been provided to PCP combatants by the villagers. [Expreso, 18 Dec 1994]

#### **Peru Musters Forces to Halt Rebels:**

Military officials told the newspaper La Republica that 800 soldiers and 300 police specialised in anti-rebel tactics will travel to Alto Huallaga to search out Shining Path regional leaders identified as Artemio and Miguel. The military efforts will be centered in the Alto Huallaga provinces of San Martin and Huanuco.

A confrontation between Shining Path rebels and the army last Sunday [12/3/95] in San Martin left 20 dead. [UPn 18 Mar 1995]

#### **PCP Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Mao:**

Peru's police and military were put on high alert in anticipation of PCP actions to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birthday of Mao during the week of 26 December 94. Nonetheless, newspapers reported that at least six banks were dynamited simultaneously at 5:20 a.m. on the 28th, two military and police facilities were attacked, and explosions occurred at several large businesses. [UPI, 28 Dec; Reuters, 31 Dec; Lima dailies and weeklies; 29 Dec 1994]

#### **SIN Forced to Admit PCP Strength:**

According to El Mundo magazine PCP's Huallaga Regional Committee carried out at least 60 major confrontations with government forces during 1994, and as a result The National Intelligence Service (SIN) has admitted that it underestimated the strength of this Committee, and its capacity to strike. *"Shining Path wants to reactivate their popular committees in the zone and this makes us worried, because if they mix themselves with the civil population it is more difficult to attack them. What surprises us is that in spite of the ..... intensity of the military operations against Sendero, the structure of the Senderista army hasn't suffered any major damage, and the regional committee of*

*Huallaga is untouched. Not even the operation 'Aries' was able to debilitate the SL forces, and even less have they been able to stop their advance.*" [El Mundo, 20 Dec 1994]

A similar article appeared in The New York Times on 16 March 1995, which said that PCP attacks during March "have proved that it is still a potent threat to security more than two years after its top leadership was captured...The latest attacks...seem to have surprised the military and upset the assumption that the Shining Path had been pretty much subdued. The military declined to discuss the latest attacks...Channel 5 broadcast reports from towns in Huanuco where buildings were covered with the Shining Path's symbol, a red hammer and sickle, and residents said elected officials had fled the area...In Lima on Feb 28, guerrillas detonated a bomb...across the street from the US Embassy, which was heavily fortified and guarded by soldiers and tanks and which the Shining Path badly damaged in July 1993 with a huge car bomb... bombs were also set off in front of the Argentine and Chilean embassies, police stations, and electric power stations in Lima."

#### **Maoist Rebels Step Up Pre-election Attacks:**

"Maoist rebels have stepped up their attacks in the lead-up to general elections, killing at least 18 people in 24 hours", police said. PLA guerrillas also commandeered trucks to transport an estimated 100 rebels in northeastern Tocache province.

Fifteen people were reported killed in La Libertad province, in northern Peru, in several rebel attacks. In the first of the attacks, a rebel column of about 60 fighters overran the town of Julcan on Monday, where they blew up the police station and army recruitment office, killing three police agents and a military officer. The rebels also went to the provincial electoral offices and destroyed election materials sent from Lima. The rebels took weapons, uniforms and radio equipment from the police station.

The second attack was on the town of Coleman, where guerrillas killed 11 accused of supporting army activities in the area. Radio reports from the southern province of Ayacucho said Shining Path rebels killed paramilitary vigilante group member Hipolito Tito. [UP, 28 March 1995]

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On March 4, a heavily armed column of 30 PCP guerrillas entered the jungle settlement of Ramal de Aspuzana, on the banks of the rain-swollen Huallaga River. They talked to inhabitants about boycotting April 9 elections, refreshed their medical supplies and withdrew. "They were looking for the authorities, but we hid. Luckily, they didn't find us." said Watson Alegria, Ramal's mayor.

"Sendero always has had a strong presence here even before the conflict with Ecuador," said Eladio Arcayo, a radio newsman in Tingo Maria, the largest town in the valley. "It wasn't like President Fujimori said -- that subversion had been defeated, that Sendero was in its death throes."

Some "experts" say the Shining Path poses no threat to the government but those experts live in Lima, the capital. "What worries me are the isolated rural areas where the state is not present," said David Montoya, an analyst for DESCO, a Lima think-tank. Since mid-February the insurgents have killed nearly 50 people, including local officials, and paramilitary rondas.

"You can't travel the highway after 5 in the afternoon because you run the risk that they might come out on the road and grab you," said Felipe Paucar, a rural development official. For the first time in months, according to Montes Hayes, Associated Press writer, Shining Path slogans and the hammer and sickle, the movement's symbol, have begun appearing on houses in outlying villages, painted in red. Even the paved roads leading out of town are painted.

In Victoria, 13 miles east of Tingo Maria, the hamlet's half dozen buildings and concrete-block schoolhouse are splashed with painted slogans: "Elections, No! People's War, Yes! Long Live the Armed Struggle! Long Live the Communist Party!" [Associated Press, 29 March 1995]

**The London City code numbers have changed. The City phone code for the IEC international office is now 171 instead of 71. The complete phone/fax number is **44-171-482-0853**.**