

Peru Emergency Newsletter

Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru

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Dr. Guzmán to be Transferred to Underground Prison

On February 1, the Associated Press wire service released the following story:

"Lima, Peru—President Alberto Fujimori has said the navy will transfer Shining Path founder Abimael Guzmán from his island cell to a more secure prison . . . He is currently in solitary confinement on the windswept, barren island of San Lorenzo just off Lima. 'The objective is to guarantee that Guzmán pay his debt to society without the slightest risk of a possible escape,' Fujimori said in a television interview on January 30.

"News weekly *Sí* said in a recent issue that Guzmán would be imprisoned in an underground 6 1/2-foot by 13-foot concrete cell in the naval base of Lima's port of Callao.

"The Lima daily newspaper *Expreso* quoted unnamed sources as saying Guzmán had lost 44 pounds since he was captured . . ." If this is true, it represents an extremely dangerous loss of weight, over 10 pounds a month.

This, and the illegal arrest of Dr. Crespo (Guzmán's lawyer) prove the deadly intent against Dr. Guzmán. The IEC is preparing to send a 4th delegation to Peru within weeks.

**Abimael Guzmán
has not been seen
for 118 DAYS**

Dr. Crespo Arrested and Sentenced to Life in Prison!

On January 11, Dr. Alfredo Crespo, a member of the Association of Democratic Lawyers of Peru (ADL), was arrested in Lima. Four days later he was tried in secret and convicted of treason. Within a week he was sentenced to life imprisonment. Two other lawyers, Drs. Jorge Cartagena and Andrés Coello, were arrested the same day. The three lawyers were singled out due to their defense of political prisoners. Dr. Crespo is Abimael Guzmán's lawyer; Dr. Cartagena served as attorney for Dr. Martha Huatay (a prominent member of ADL and a victim of torture at the hands of the Peruvian government); and Dr. Coello served as defense attorney for people accused of affiliation with the Communist Party of Peru (PCP).

Dr. Crespo's only "crime" has been his relentless *legal defense* of Abimael Guzmán! These outrageous arrests are aimed at the political prisoners—lawyers must now risk their lives *and* the threat of life imprisonment to defend political prisoners in Peru. This is aimed at Guzmán in particular, who Peruvian dictator Alberto Fujimori has repeatedly threatened with death and who has not been seen since October 11th.

In essence, the right to a defense has been effectively abolished in Peru:

- Arrests, one after the other, of defense lawyers for political prisoners;
- Military tribunals composed of unidentified, masked judges;
- The absence of any preparatory investiga-

tion, confirmation of investigation, ability to call witnesses, cross-examination of the defendant, etc.;

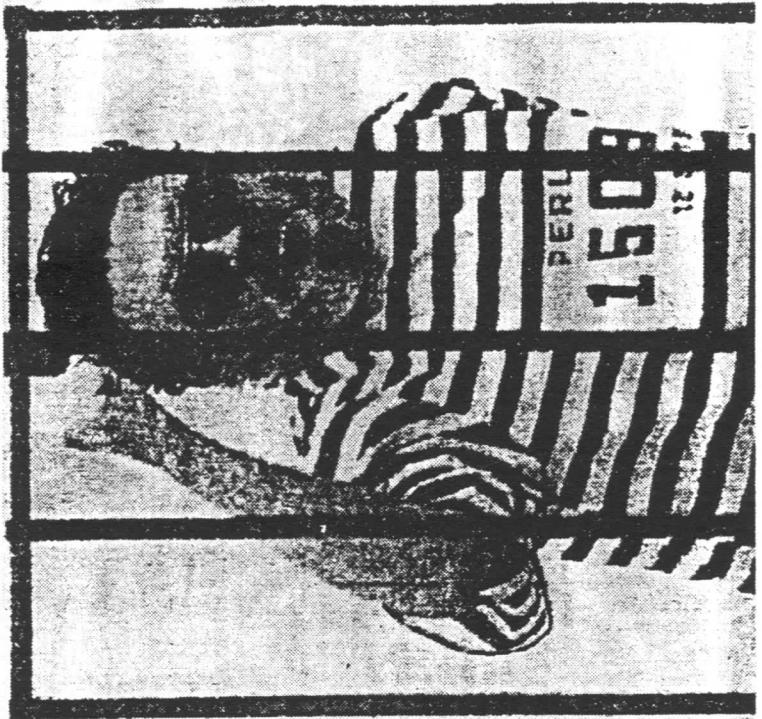
- Denying prisoners the right to meet with their lawyers.

The recent arrests, and Crespo's conviction and sentence, pose a drastic threat to the treatment of political prisoners around the world, not just in Peru. If this precedent is allowed to go unchallenged internationally, it will serve as a green light for further atrocities in Peru and elsewhere.

These actions by the Peruvian government are not being done independently. In fact, according to the Washington Office on Latin America, **the U.S. government developed and pays for the secret military tribunals in Peru as well as in Bolivia and Columbia** (as part of the so-called "war on drugs"). The U.S. government is deeply involved in providing arms, intelligence and training for counter-insurgency operations. High level conferences on how to defeat the revolution in Peru have already occurred behind closed doors in Washington, D.C. Direct U.S. military intervention cannot be ruled out as the people of Peru draw closer to seizing power and upsetting the New World Order.

The international media, and especially the media in the U.S., is complicit in the recent attack on basic legal rights. Complicit because the media has not covered that aspect of the story in the slightest, reporting only the "facts" (dates, names, etc.) and omitting any comment concerning the illegality and brutality of these arrests. Dr. Crespo's arrest and conviction have not led to a single outcry in the major

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Less than one month after his capture, Abimael Guzmán was railroaded to prison by a military tribunal that grossly violated international law. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in an underground concrete bunker.

No one has seen Dr. Guzmán since October 11. Other political prisoners have been similarly railroaded, tortured, and subjected to barbaric treatment including attacks by military troops. Prisoners' family members and lawyers have also been attacked. A referendum will be held January 29 to reinstate the death penalty in Peru. It is aimed at Dr. Guzmán and other revolutionary leaders. The International Emergency Committee (IEC—initiator of this Call) has sent three delegations of lawyers, professors, journalists, and activists to Peru. There has been a worldwide outpouring of protest against the railroad of Dr. Guzmán and the threats to his life. The situation is critical. Join the battle to defend the life of Abimael Guzmán and political prisoners in Peru!

Defend the Life of Abimael Guzmán!

On September 12th Dr. Abimael Guzmán, known as Chairman Gonzalo of the Communist Party of Peru, was captured by the Fujimori regime in Lima, with the full assistance of the U.S.'s notorious counterintelligence machine.

There is every reason to fear for the life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán at the hands of one of the world's bloodiest governments. The Peruvian state has repeatedly murdered its political prisoners, from the hundreds killed at the El Frontón massacre of 1986 to the 40 women and men gunned down in cold blood at Canto Grande prison in May this year. The Peruvian Constitution has been suspended, and Fujimori is threatening to impose the death penalty on Dr. Abimael Guzmán.

This must not be allowed to happen.

No knowledgeable and truthful observer of Peru, regardless of their political beliefs, can deny that Dr. Abimael Guzmán is the recognized leader of millions of peasants, workers, students, intellectuals and others of various walks of life in Peru. In no way can the twelve year long war he has been leading be dismissed as "acts of terrorism." In no way can Dr. Guzmán be denied the stature of a captured leader of a revolutionary party and army. Dr. Abimael Guzmán merits the broad international support that all imprisoned opponents of imperialism and reactionary regimes have always benefited from. He should be allowed access to lawyers, journalists and doctors to ensure his health.

It is urgent that many voices be heard to demand that the Peruvian state respect the international conventions concerning the treatment of political prisoners. That a military tribunal cannot be legally competent. That the life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán be saved.

Thousands of people have signed this Call. This is only a partial listing:

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| Muniba Abu-Jamal—Political prisoner on death row, US | Haywood Burns—Attorney, NY | Philosophy, Hunter College*, NY | Revolutionary People's Movement*, S. Africa | MECHA—San Jose State Univ. Chap. |
| Kwame K. Afoh—Pres., Provisional Govt. of Rep. New Afrika*, US | Dr. Jim Cairns—Former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia | Jan Kirsch, M.D.—Member, Bd. of Dir. of Physicians for Social Responsibility* | Duke More—West Coast rep., Black Consciousness Movement of Azania, US | Black Consciousness Movement of Azania, US Branch |
| Dalal Al-Muthl—Sculpstress, head of Iraqi Democratic Assoc.* | Lester Callahan—WHAI*, NY | Hans Koning—Author, <i>Columbus: His Enterprise, Exploding the Myth</i> | Turhan Selcuk—Political cartoonist, Istanbul, Turkey | Black Lawyers Assoc.—South Africa |
| Akli Al-Jandil—New York Director | Victor Carpenter—Senior Minister, First Unitarian Church*, SF | Lester Grinspoon—Co-founder, Physicians for Human Rights*, US | Ilhan Seljuk—Journalist, <i>Jamhuriyet</i> , Turkey | Campaign to End Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestine |
| Reza Allamezadeh—Iranian film Teacher | Leo Castano—Filmmaker, East of Overtown, Miami | Joel Kovel—Author, <i>Age of Desir</i> , Bard College*, US | Elias Serna—Chicanx Secret Service* (RAP group), LA | Comm. to Support the People's War in Peru—Mexico, D.F. |
| Jose Alvarez Junco—Prof. Prince of Asturias Chair in Spanish History, Tufit Univ.* | Lillian Castillo—Pres., Comm. for Political Prisoners in Chile* | V.R. Krishnamoorthy—Justice of the Supreme Court of India (retired) | Ahmed Shamloo—Poet, Nobel Prize nominee, Iran | Comm. to Support the People's War in Peru—Spain |
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| Rev. William B. Care—Seattle Taylor Centene—Federal Council, Nepal | Rev. William Norberg—Attorney for William Morales, Mexico | Goner Kuban—Author, <i>Color of Love</i> , M. Haroun—Dent, of Arabic | Charles Simons—Prof., CSULA, Consolidated* band, US | La Pasion Radical—Newspaper of the |

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Ilugo A. Bedau —Prof. of Philosophy, Tufts Univ.*	Rev. Peter H.F. Duncan-Vitar, St. John's Church*, N. Woolwich, Britain	Gary Snyder —Poet, UC Davis* Bashir Soomro —Coordinating Sec., Pakistan Peoples Party (Hyderabad Div.)*
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Crespo Arrested!

(Continued from Page 1)

U.S. media! This must not be swept under the rug. **We must raise a mighty roar of outrage which is heard throughout the world and which cannot be ignored!** There has already been a tremendous response from lawyers around the world condemning Fujimori's latest fascist moves: Anne-Marie Parodi, a member of the First IEC delegation to Peru, initiated a petition condemning the atrocity and demanding the release of the lawyers which has circulated internationally; Mexican lawyers published a letter in *Excelsior* protesting the arrest; William Kunstler and Ron Ruby of the U.S. sent Fujimori a letter; this and much more has already happened. But more is needed: write to Fujimori; write a letter to the editor of your local paper demanding that they cover this story; contact local legal organizations, inform them of the precedent being set in Peru and demand that they take action. Contact the CSRP for further suggestions and to let us know what you are doing.

BREAK THE SILENCE!

IEC Call Published in NY and LA Newspapers

Thanks to contributions from many supporters, the IEC Call to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzmán appeared last January as full-page ads in the *Village Voice*, a major New York City weekly with extensive national distribution (see centerfold), and *La Opinión*, the largest Spanish language daily in the western U.S.

The ads preceded Peru's January 29 elections, in which Fujimori had repeatedly threatened to push a death penalty referendum. That referendum did not appear on the ballot, indicating his fear of a repeat of the international protest which occurred when he attempted this last November.

The ads successfully broke through the media whiteout, presenting a very impressive picture of the broad and growing international movement to defend Guzmán. They elicited more signatures, inquiries, and donations. Within 24 hours, the ad in *La Opinión* had been mentioned in a Mexico City newspaper and prompted calls to the CSRP office from a Spanish language radio station in Los Angeles.

The ads also struck a nerve among opponents of the people's war. Several angry callers made the ridiculous claim that "nobody supports Guzmán," repeating official media slander. *La Opinión* ran an editorial saying they'd received criticism for running the ad and defending their right to do so. It pointed out that the ad met their criteria and that it was a call to the Peruvian government to adhere to international human rights treaties. Several days later the Peruvian Consulate in LA ran a counter-ad denouncing the IEC and criticizing the newspaper.

CSRP national spokesperson Heriberto Ocasio replied in a written statement: "The Consul General of Peru responded to our paid ad in *La Opinión* precisely because our ad represents the sentiments of millions around the world who recognize Dr. Abimael Guzmán Reynoso as the leader of a revolutionary movement with a broad base and popular support. . . . The Fujimori government is becoming more and more isolated from the masses in Peru, while the people's war led by Dr. Abimael Guzmán is seen as more legitimate each day by the Peruvian masses as well as by world public opinion."

What you can do:

1. GET ORGANIZED. Contact the International Emergency Committee (IEC) and the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru (CSRP) to get materials and updates, to set up video showings and to discuss what can be done to protect the life of Abimael Guzmán.

BCM International Emergency Committee
27 Old Gloucester Street
London WC1N 3XX
United Kingdom
Fax/phone 44-71-482-0853

CSRP
P.O. Box 1246
Berkeley, CA 94701
Phone: (415) 252-5786 (office hours 9 a.m.-6 p.m. PDT)
Fax: (415) 252-7414
Message: (510) 644-4170

3. SIGN THE STATEMENT! Endorse and circulate the Call to create an International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzmán. Mail or fax copies to the International Emergency Committee c/o the CSRP, Berkeley, or to the IEC in London.

4. SEND TELEGRAMS, letters and faxes, and phone the Peruvian Embassy in Washington, DC, or the Peruvian Consulate in your area demanding that Abimael Guzmán's life be protected and he be treated according to international law and treaties concerning political prisoners. Write to Fujimori demanding that Dr. Guzmán have access to lawyers and doctors.

Peruvian Embassy
1700 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 833-9860
Fax: (202) 659-8124

President Fujimori
Presidente de la República
Palacio de Gobierno
Plaza de Armas, Lima
Peru

Mail or fax copies to the CSRP, Berkeley and/or the IEC, London.

2. RAISE MONEY! \$1,000s are needed for delegations travelling to Peru to demand Abimael Guzmán's life be protected and to monitor his treatment, and for the work of the International Emergency Committee and/or the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru. **Make checks out to:** International Emergency Committee. Mail them to the CSRP, Berkeley.