

## LATIN AMERICA

# Form Commission of Inquiry to Investigate NSIPS Peru Case

New York, Nov. 5 (NSIPS) — New Solidarity International Press Service (NSIPS) has announced the formation of an international Commission of Inquiry to investigate the detention of two of its correspondents in Lima, Peru and the closure of its office there. The formation of this Commission comes as the Peruvian Investigative Police (PIP) have taken yet another step in their harassment and repression campaign against NSIPS. In addition to the ongoing detention of NSIPS Peru Director Luis Vasquez, with neither charges nor legal recourse, two days ago various PIP agents removed all of NSIPS' files and possessions.

The text of the call to form the Commission of Inquiry is as follows:

### CALL FOR THE FORMATION OF A "COMMISSION OF INQUIRY" ON THE PERU NSIPS CASE

*We, the undersigned, hereby express our grave concern and outrage at the detention of two correspondents of New Solidarity International Press Service (NSIPS) in Lima, Peru, and at the closure of NSIPS' office in that city, upon orders of the Peruvian Ministry of the Interior. Gretchen Small, U.S. citizen and NSIPS correspondent, and Luis Vasquez Medina, Peruvian Director of NSIPS, were detained on Oct. 18. Ten days later, Mrs. Small was deported without charges from Peru, while Mr. Vasquez continues to be held without charges nor legal recourse. The NSIPS office also remains officially sealed and closed, with no explanation as to the reasons. It is our concern that the current National State of Emergency in Peru is being used as a blanket for political repression against NSIPS and silencing their internationally recognized right to freedom of the press.*

*Most disturbing of all is the initial information made available to us by NSIPS which indicates that the U.S. State Department and its Embassy in Lima are complicit in the two detentions and the closure of NSIPS. Not only is such alleged U.S. activity entirely illegal — it is an ominous hearkening back to the 1973 period in which the U.S. was involved in the overthrow of the Allende government in Chile and the atrocities that followed it. In the case of Chile, such information came into public view unfortunately only after an avoidable bloodbath had occurred.*

*It is on this basis that we feel justified in endorsing the call for the formation of an International Commission of Inquiry to look into the facts regarding the NSIPS Peru case. Such a Commission would be formed from among leading independent lawyers, journalists, academics, labor, and business leaders and others, and its purpose would be to compile, analyze, and then publicize its findings regarding NSIPS' closure and detentions, and possible U.S. State Department involvement. We further call on the Peruvian government to live up to its recognized leadership role in the Third World's struggle for justice and development, by immediately freeing Luis Vasquez and reopening NSIPS' office in Lima.*

*Signators include (organization for purposes of identification only):*

1) *Prof. Lloyd Motz; Department of Astronomy, Columbia University; Member National Academy of Science*

- 2) *Dr. Morris Levitt; Executive Director, Fusion Energy Foundation*
- 3) *Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.; 1980 Presidential Candidate, U.S. Labor Party*
- 4) *Dr. Stephen Pepper; Treasurer, Fund for Fair Elections*
- 5) *Max Dean; Executive Board, Labor Organizers Defense Fund; Treasurer, Flint NAACP*
- 6) *Helga Zepp; 1980 BRD Chancellor Candidate, European Labor Party*

### Chronology Of The Attacks On The NSIPS Lima Office

**Oct. 18:** At 6:15 p.m., five plainclothesmen identifying themselves as officials from the State Security division of the Policia de Investigaciones del Peru (PIP — Peru's political police), entered the NSIPS Lima office at Apurimac 363-D, informing all present that they could not leave the premises or carry out any telephone communication until further notice. Four individuals were present, including NSIPS correspondent and U.S. citizen Gretchen Small.

At 7:30 p.m., when NSIPS Lima Bureau Chief Luis Vasquez arrived, the officials demanded a full collection of all NSIPS material in both Spanish and English, while other officials searched the office for further files. The only explanation given by officials at the time was that NSIPS was to be investigated for "connections to terrorism" and for distributing a "clandestine newspaper, Nueva Solidaridad" (Nueva Solidaridad is NSIPS' weekly Spanish-language newspaper).

The arresting officer in charge, Comisario Ruiz, further answered that the operation had been carried out in "consultation" with the U.S. Embassy in Lima, and that it was they, the embassy, who allegedly "wanted to know how Nueva Solidaridad enters the country." Ruiz also remarked that the English-language material would be passed over to Interpol to be read. Small and Vasquez were then taken to State Security headquarters for a "short further interrogation." Small was held in the PIP detention center of Magdalena for the following 10 days (six of them incommunicado); Vasquez continues to be held, without charges nor legal recourse, in the PIP's State Security headquarters.

A State of Emergency has been declared in Peru which suspends all legal rights to trial and habeas corpus. Later during the night of Oct. 18 NSIPS' office on Apurimac was sealed and closed by the PIP, and remains shut to date.

**Oct. 19:** NSIPS New York correspondent and Latin American Director, Fernando Quijano, spoke by telephone with a self-identified "Dr. Garcia" in State Security headquarters, who informed Quijano that the PIP could not answer any questions regarding the arrest and detention, since he had just been directly "instructed" by the U.S. Consul in Lima that all inquiries concerning the entire case, not only Mrs. Small's detention, must be addressed to the U.S. Embassy in Lima and to U.S. Ambassador to Peru, Robert Dean. When Quijano expressed amazement that the U.S. Embassy seemed to be running all aspects of the case, Garcia could only repeat, "Talk to Mr. Dean, talk to Mr. Dean."

**Oct. 20:** U.S. Consul Tano and Comisario Ruiz visited Small in

Magdalena detention center, specifically to question her on her knowledge of "Dr. Garcia." Ruiz insisted that there was no Dr. Garcia working in State Security. (Small at the time had no knowledge of who "Dr. Garcia" was, nor that New York NSIPS representatives had spoken with him.) On Oct. 25, however, Small overheard two officials in State Security refer to a "Garcia," and was told upon questioning that Inspector Garcia Nunez is the personal secretary to State Security Director Pena Salcedo, a high police official directly involved in the NSIPS case. Comisario Ruiz, when then confronted with the proven existence of the mysterious "Dr. Garcia," stammered that Garcia did exist, but that he had been on vacation and therefore could not have answered Mr. Quijano's phone call.

**Oct. 21:** NSIPS learns that the U.S. State Department knowingly lied to a Washington correspondent for a leading international wire service which ran NSIPS' press release on the arrests from Lima, by denying that the State Department had confirmation that Mrs. Small was in fact a U.S. citizen. NSIPS had kept the State Department informed of all details of the arrest since the evening of Oct. 17, and U.S. Embassy officials in Lima had already visited Small in jail. The same day, Small was told by State Security Director Pena Salcedo that NSIPS in Peru had been "expropriated" by the Peruvian government on charges of "frontal assault" on the government. Other officials continued to maintain that they were merely investigating certain "financial and legal irregularities."

NSIPS phone interviews with Col. Arisueno, the Deputy Minister of Interior, first brought no confirmation either of the detentions nor of the charges. Arisueno later informed Mr. Quijano that Small would be released without charges, but that Vasquez was subject to further investigation for "subversive agitation." Since then, Col. Arisueno has refused to come to the

phone to answer NSIPS' further queries. The Peruvian Embassy in Washington D.C. has for the entire time of the detentions claimed to have no official information that they could provide to NSIPS spokesmen.

**Oct. 27:** NSIPS Lima staff member, Hector Cuya, was arrested when agents of the PIP accompanied Mrs. Small to her apartment to "search for hidden weapons." He was taken to State Security headquarters and then interrogated as to his connections to NSIPS and its affiliated political organization, the Latin American Labor Committee (CLLA). He was specifically questioned on CLLA's position on terrorism. Mrs. Small was told on that day that an initial report on the case, indicating that the only basis for charges were connected to questions of legality, had been rejected by superiors who had demanded a more thorough investigation for "terrorist connections." Cuya was released much later that night, with orders to return the following day for further interrogation.

**Oct. 28:** Mrs. Small was picked up at the Magdalena detention center at 8:30 p.m. by several PIP officials and a legal official of the U.S. Embassy, and driven in an Embassy car to the airport. There she was escorted jointly by the Embassy personnel and the PIP officials right up to the departure gate. At no point was any explanation offered, although upon questioning the PIP official declared that there were no charges, insisting that this was not "a deportation."

Beginning at that time, two other NSIPS staff members were repeatedly called into State Security headquarters for informal interrogation, along the lines of Cuya's case. These interrogations continue to this date.

**Nov. 3:** Officials of the PIP reportedly raided the already-closed NSIPS Lima office, removing all files and NSIPS belongings in the office.

## Venezuela To Try Kissinger's Terrorists For 'Crimes Against Humanity'

**Nov. 6 (NSIPS) —** The Venezuelan government this week justified its jurisdiction over the cases of four counterrevolutionary Cuban terrorists under international law because the men are being accused of "crimes against humanity." The four include top fascist hit-man Orlando Bosh and two men who have confessed to placing the bomb on a Cuban airliner one month ago which killed all 73 persons aboard. The government statement, issued by the Attorney General, opens the door to the full application of both the Nuremberg statutes and the relevant sections of the 1976 Carter of Peoples to prosecute the masterminds of the mass murder — U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and U.S. Attorney General Edward Levi.

The urgency of bringing Kissinger and Levi to trial at the earliest possible date lies in the fact that the plane bombing atrocity was only a small part of a much more heinous design. The common objective of the coterie around Jimmy Carter and the Rockefeller agents in the Ford administration is an attempted rerun of the 1962 Cuban Missile crisis confrontation with the Soviet Union. The Soviets, however, have made it clear, both generally and specifically on the question of Cuba, that in 1976 or 1977, they will not back down. A high-level Soviet military delegation in Havana for the celebration of the Russian Revolution condemned continuing U.S. provocations of Cuba. The Soviet military newspaper Red Star of Nov. 4 ran an article entitled "Nobody Can Intimidate Cuba," which reports on the CIA control of Cuban counterrevolutionaries and concludes, "an ignominious end inevitably awaits plotters and murderers."

### The Veterans of '62

The danger of nuclear war over Cuba is in no way diminished by the impending departure of Kissinger from office. The closest foreign policy advisors to Carter are the very men who engineered the Cuban Missile crisis of 1962 out of the Kennedy government: Dean Rusk, Paul Nitze, Cyrus Vance, and George Ball.

To date, the drive for a confrontation with Cuba and the Soviets involves three principle tactics strewed throughout every corner of the Caribbean; cripple or overthrow the government of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez; and blow a smokescreen over direct action against Cuba through the reactivation of supposed "Cuban-backed" terrorists.

On Nov. 3, the New York Times ran a prominent article on a shoutout that supposedly took place Nov. 1 between supporters of Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and members of the CIA-controlled Jamaican Labor Party (JLP) in Kingston. The article contended that JLP leader Edward Seaga had been shot at by Manley supporters. The supposed incident, wrote the Times, violated an unspoken ban on assassination attempts on party leaders and therefore opened the way to murder attempts against Manley and to civil war. The article concluded: "The effects of the attack could also ripple beyond Jamaica to its Caribbean island neighbors — particularly Cuba.... No one can predict what Cuba's reaction might be if the Manley government, one of its few friends in the Caribbean (sic), seems