

# The Shining Path's Nazi drug connection

by Mary Goldstein

Investigations by Peruvian police have determined that Italian fascist terrorist Stefano Delle Chiaie, wanted for the 1980 bombing of the Bologna train station which killed more than 80 people, is one of the controllers of Shining Path, according to an exposé published in the Italian weekly *Panorama* in September. This highly significant lead conclusively establishes the link between the drug runners of the Nazi International and Shining Path (*Sendero Luminoso*).

"According to a report of the Peruvian police," reports *Panorama*, "Delle Chiaie organized one of the most spectacular actions of *Sendero Luminoso*, the assault against Lima on May 28, 1983. In the northeast of Lima, the government is trying to convince the *campesinos* to drop drug cultivation, and, through the advice of Delle Chiaie, the narco-traffickers merged their forces with *Sendero Luminoso*. According to Bolivian police, the latest action of Delle Chiaie was the coup attempt in La Paz, when President Siles [Zuazo] was kidnapped."

*Panorama* makes reference to the joint U.S.-Peruvian coca eradication program in the Tingo María region northeast of Lima, which was canceled in August following Shining Path attacks. Tingo María is Shining Path's "second front." The joint program involved eradication of 4,000 acres of coca cultivation and aid to encourage cultivation of alternative crops. Shining Path activated a major counterorganizing drive, recruiting an estimated 2,000 people in the valley to support their "right" to grow coca. On July 4, a large band of guerrillas attacked the American AID compound. Five Americans and several dozen Peruvian workers were withdrawn and the project canceled, because the 224-man police strike force trained by the United States was unable to provide protection.

Delle Chiaie is a top operative of the Nazi International who got his start at the University of Rome in the 1960s where he founded a group named the "Nazi-Maoists." He served as "lieutenant" to Nazi Klaus Barbie (the Gestapo "butcher of Lyons," now standing trial in France for his wartime crimes) in running the cocaine trade in Bolivia, where the "cocaine generals" have tried to seize government power more than once.

Bolivian sources had warned *EIR* in 1983 that the cocaine mafias of the Andean region had set into motion plans to organize a region-wide "Indian rights" movement to facilitate

their narco-trafficking operations.

There is no doubt that Shining Path has worked out a deal with the Peruvian dope traffickers: logistical support, money, and arms in return for "protection" against government war-on-drugs operations. Interior Minister Luis Percovich stated on June 4, 1983 that intelligence agencies possessed positive proof of cooperation between cocaine traffickers and Shining Path terrorists, citing as one example Shining Path's 1983 attack on the Ayacucho jail in which the terrorists took care to release all the drug-runners first.

Intelligence experts point to the following patterns of the Shining Path-drug connection:

- Shining Path's base of operations maps precisely onto the major coca-producing area of Peru, in the south-central highlands around Ayacucho.

- Investigators have been unable to locate any outside supply routes for weapons, funds, and other logistics for the terrorists.

- The magnitude of the operation: Shining Path's ability to deploy up to 2,000 terrorists in all corners of a country in which transportation remains a critical problem, indicates a depth and sophistication in logistical capability which only the narco-traffickers possess (e.g., aircraft).

Peru is, with Colombia and Bolivia, one of the big three cocaine producers in Latin America. Its net income from cocaine production is estimated at \$6 billion annually. With a total GNP of about \$20 billion, this makes cocaine the most profitable business in the land.

Shining Path's area of strongest control, its base of operations, is precisely the prime coca-growing region of Peru: the south-central highland Department of Ayacucho, and the Valle de Alto Huallaga, which cuts through the Departments of Huanuco and San Martín. In fact, the areas of Shining Path strength have registered an abrupt increase in production, while other areas have maintained their traditional rates of production. Exemplary is Alto Huallaga, which emerged as a rapidly growing coca producer in the mid-1970s and which, by 1983, was the number-one producing region.

Shining Path's "liberated zone" in the Andean highlands, the desolate and nearly impassable terrain which separates the urban coastal region from the eastern-jungle "drug corridor," provides a tight line of defense against law enforcement actions for the drug-runners.

The Shining Path interface with narco-traffickers probably goes back to the beginnings of the terrorist-cult activities run out of the University of Huamanga. By 1964, the coca plantation of Ayacucho Senator Parodi was reportedly being used as a base for jungle survival training for Huamanga professors and students belonging to the Guzmán cult. Shining Path's first bloodletting operation in 1979 was the assassination of the police stationed along Parodi's access road. It is additionally reported that the Guzman group was collecting taxes on the drug trade moving through their zone of control outside Ayacucho in 1971.