

## Andean Report by Gretchen Small

### The shining future of Dr. Morote Best

*The investigation of one of the those behind Shining Path may be the beginning of a high-level attack on the sources of terrorism.*

The news that one of Peru's leading anthropologists had been detained on Oct. 17 for questioning on possible links to the terrorist Shining Path (Sendero Luminoso) group has scared more than the arrested man's friends in Ayacucho, Peru. Parisian ethnology circles jumped as well.

The arrested anthropologist and "folklorist" was Dr. Efrain Morote Best. "Going further than ethnology and folklore," wrote one of Morote's colleagues in recent homage to him, he "has been, until recent years, a true guide for the new anthropologists" produced by the University of Huamanga, where the good doctor was both professor and dean for most of the last 20 years.

It was out of that university, particularly its Anthropology Institute, that Shining Path's leadership was recruited and trained during the last 20 years.

Morote Best is no newcomer to the target list of Peru's security forces. A year ago, Gen. Clemente Noel had named Morote as 1 of 10 "intellectual authors" of the Shining Path terrorists. The former rector, a life-long member of Peru's Communist Party, has never hid his sympathies for the Shining Path, advocating government "dialogue" with them. Two of his three sons are Shining Path leaders, and his daughter married a politburo member of Shining Path!

But until Oct. 17, Morote Best had walked free.

Anthropologists and foreign "aid" agencies had been named before by the Peruvian government as the hand

behind the terrorists, but Morote's detention threatens a new offensive—hitting at the higher *command* level of the terrorists, the "intellectual authors" who expected their "arm-chair theorizing" to protect them from nasty things such as arrest.

The cover-story of the Oct. 1 issue of *EIR* outlined a strategy for warfare against the murderous group: Hit at its creators—national *and* international—the "ideologues" who provide the belief structure and brainwashing of the group's cadre. Targeted was the group of Peruvian anthropologists who created the University of Huamanga—and the French ethnologists centered in the Société des Américainistes, who set the ugly Huamanga pilot project into motion decades before.

Today, the Société is headed by the Aztec-promoting Jacques Soustelle, the French anthropologist *cum* politician now suing *EIR*'s sister publication in France, Nouvelle Solidarité, for asserting that Soustelle and his friends created Shining Path.

The news of Morote Best's arrest could not have come at a worse time for Soustelle and friends. Does his arrest signal a new offensive against the anthropological controllers? How far is the Peruvian government planning to go in prosecuting the "intellectual authors" of Shining Path?

Another Huamanga professor and member of the Société, Antonio Diaz Martinez, was arrested in December 1983, charged with instigating, organizing, or effecting over 100 terrorist attacks during 1982 and 1983. He was caught after police found that he

had rented the apartment where Baader-Meinhof terrorist Renata Heir had stayed while working with Shining Path.

Under the circumstances, defending Diaz Martinez is difficult (but some have tried). Morote Best is the sort who preferred to sully the hands of his children with the weapons of terror, keeping himself as an "ideologue" of terror, and it is on that level that he must be attacked as well.

After several days of interrogation, Morote was freed, thus far without charges. But according to Peruvian sources, the investigation remains open.

An investigation into Morote's Freemasonic connections may prove valuable in locating Shining Path's controllers. The founding of a Freemasonic lodge in southern Peru in 1968 was reported in an Argentine anti-Freemasonic publication. The lodge's name: "Luz en el Sendero"—Light in the Path.

Is Morote associated with the auspiciously named lodge? *EIR* now has no evidence to that effect. But in an interview with the Lima daily *La Republica* following his release, Morote Best reveals a Gnostic, Nazi outlook, advocating the purifying destruction of the current world to "give birth to the new world."

"I have been like St. John the Baptist: 'I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness' . . . I believe there will come a time when the people of the country . . . the people of the Third World, will learn the terrible lesson" of the fighting in Ayacucho. "It is a lesson full of blood, of enormous sacrifices, of great pain—but birth is also like this. Then this will bring a better future. . . . The future is shining—luminoso," stated the folklorist. "For me—listen well, the violence of Shining Path is an aspect of the social struggle."