

Terrorists escalate, while García talks

by Liliana Pazos

In the midst of one of the most ferocious terrorist offensives ever to hit Peru, President Alan García met on May 24 in Bogota, Colombia, with three of the leaders of the narco-terrorist M-19 and, in a shocking act of submission, issued a call for dialogue with the Peruvian Shining Path, the Pol Pot-styled narco-terrorists whose targets of destruction are anything that smacks of progress or development inside the country.

One week later, narco-terrorists in Lima bombed a bus carrying Government Palace guards, killing 8 and seriously wounding another 30.

While Peruvian military strategists have begun issuing warnings that Shining Path is on the verge of closing in on the capital city of Lima, the newly appointed cabinet has had nothing to offer in the way of an effective anti-subversion strategy for the country. This is demonstrated by the intensification of assaults in the northern zone against Huaraz-Huacho; to the south, in the city of Cañete; in Huancayo and Pasco through the central sierra, and in nearly the entirety of the Huallaga Valley. In the month of April alone, the number of civilians assassinated reached 118, and the number of terrorists killed numbered 120. In the month of May, even those figures were surpassed.

Selective targets

The most relevant characteristic of the last few months' terrorist offensive has been the selectivity of the assaults, primarily against individuals involved in scientific research, the directors of cooperatives, peasant leaders, educational personnel, congressmen, etc. The offensive has as its final goal the capture of the entire Andean Spine, moving out from Peru to the ultimate seizure of the entire continent.

This has been the Soviet plan of domination for years, to be carried out by its irregular warfare armies—the terrorists and the drug traffickers. This scenario has been openly described by M-19 leader Antonio Navarro Wolf, who was recently pardoned by the pro-“dialogue” government of President Virgilio Barco in Colombia, for his role in the bloody November 1985 siege of the Colombian Justice Palace in which over 100 people died, including half the Supreme Court. Navarro Wolf, with whom President García met in Bogota, will reportedly be visiting the capital city of Lima

on García's invitation.

Despite García's readiness to play footsie with the Satanic forces ravaging his own country, those forces appear less than eager to accommodate. The Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)—one of Peru's two narco-terrorist forces—was one of the first to publicly denounce “the dialogue held between Alan García and the M-19 of Colombia.” Speaking through its mouthpiece, the daily *Cambio*, the MRTA reminded the M-19 of their formal alliance through the Andean-wide “Americas Battalion,” and demanded that the M-19 respect “the principles of proletarian internationalism and revolutionary solidarity, for which many revolutionaries in both Peru and Colombia have fallen.” The MRTA also absolutely rejects García's own proposal of dialogue.

Playing the government's game, the daily *El Nacional* emphasized in an editorial that the experience of the Americas Battalion “makes that discussion [between the M-19 and García] more valuable, and one can only hope that we may have the opportunity in Peru to dialogue with someone.” This, according to *El Nacional*, is the hope of the majority of Peruvians.

But, contrary to *El Nacional's* claims, the majority of Peruvians have come out in condemnation of terrorism and are demanding that instead of dialogue, the government should be formulating a serious anti-terrorist strategy. Msgr. Francisco D'Alteroche, the bishop of Puno, declared that the Shining Path attacks “will not succeed in defeating the people nor the Catholic Church, and those who assassinate humble farmers and destroy material goods haven't the slightest authority to present themselves as the nation's saviors.”

The Peruvian Bishops' Conference issued a communiqué denouncing the ideology of hate and destruction of the narco-terrorists, who, according to the statement, “reveal an incredible contempt for the most elementary rights. . . . We reject this barbarism which impedes the progress of our people.” Secretary General of the Episcopate Msgr. Augusto Vargas Alzamora demanded that the terrorists surrender their arms as the precondition for any dialogue, but also warned: “If those who have chosen the path of violence one day come to rule, we will all be slaves. . . . By this path, all of Peru will be razed; we will never surrender.”

Even within the ruling APRA party, dissident voices have emerged, such as that of Sen. Humberto Carranza Piedra, who charged that “there can never be dialogue with those who bloody our Fatherland, with those who murder our farmers and soldiers.”

There is a growing concern within the Armed Forces over this dramatic advance by narco-terrorism. These sources report that the military is demanding the establishment of a centralized military command, with full autonomy to operate in the terrorists' so-called “liberated” zones. They are also demanding genuine anti-terrorist action on all fronts—political, cultural, social, and economic—which is where the definitive battle against subversion must ultimately be fought.