

## Peruvian military insists war on terrorism to continue

by Valerie Rush

The issue of whether the sovereign rights of nations can prevail against the dictates of a supranational new world order came to the fore in Peru in April, when a combination of the U.S. State Department, the international human rights lobby, and pro-terrorist elements inside the Peruvian Congress launched an assault on the Peruvian Armed Forces—the country's sole bulwark of defense against the narco-terrorist Shining Path insurgency—posing the question of whether the country's formidable victories against narco-terrorism during the past year are going to be lost.

Backed by Shining Path propaganda retailed through such human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as Americas Watch and Amnesty International, and supported by the Clinton State Department, a gaggle of Shining Path's collaborators in the Peruvian Congress demanded that the Peruvian Army be investigated for alleged "human rights violations" of the terrorists. A "hit list" of targeted military officers has already been released. On April 20, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Nicolás de Bari Hermoza, was brought before a closed-door session of the congressional Human Rights Commission, where he was treated to a barrage of unproven accusations and insults against the military.

An anonymous document was delivered to the Human Rights Commission accusing numerous high-level officers of the Army—including those considered closest to President Alberto Fujimori—with complicity in the alleged kidnapping and murder of nine students and a professor from Lima's La Cantuta University during an Army sweep last summer, following a terrorist car-bombing in the area. Despite the fact that the majority of those who were supposedly murdered are acknowledged members of Shining Path and that there is *no evidence* of either their kidnapping or murder, a congressional investigation into the affair was opened. Simultaneously,

a number of opposition magazines, including *Caretas* and *Si*, began publishing the names, and in some cases even photos, of several of the accused officers.

General Hermoza was asked to submit to the congressional commission a list of all responsible officers involved in Army operations on the Cantuta campus during the period in question, which the general has refused to do, on the grounds that any identification of the officers would virtually constitute a "hit list" for Shining Path assassins. During the last week of April, two anti-terrorist officers were, in fact, killed by the narco-terrorists.

What is fundamentally at issue is whether a congressional body shot through with supporters and sympathizers of one of the world's most criminal insurgencies can be allowed to sabotage a war—fully backed by the Peruvian population—against that insurgency.

### Collusion with the enemy

The military's response to this "human rights" assault was immediate and furious. In an April 20 press conference following his testimony, Hermoza charged that some congressmen "appear to be in collusion with terrorism," and warned that he would not tolerate their concocted accusations against the Army. "A small group of opposition congressmen, out of love of notoriety, are mounting a campaign to denigrate and insult the Army and Armed Forces, undermining the confidence that the nation and Peruvian people have deposited in them. This game, which could endanger the stability of the country, will not be permitted under any circumstances." Hermoza also charged that the congressmen were using "patently false documents to incriminate members of the Armed Forces," and were releasing the names of officers that will make them "targets for terrorist assassins' bullets."

The next day, Peru's five regional Army commanders drove to the Lima headquarters of the Joint Chiefs of Staff atop armored vehicles, to co-sign a document of support for Hermoza. That document denounced the "malicious use" of false documents by "allies of the internal enemy" and insisted that this attack "is not an isolated event, but rather part of a campaign orchestrated systematically for the dark purpose of discrediting the forces of order on both the domestic and international fronts. . . ."

On April 22, one hundred tanks and armored personnel carriers were deployed through the center of Lima on their way to the Army's division base in the southern part of the capital. Not accidentally, the several-block-long queue of tanks drove past both the Peruvian Congress and the U.S. Embassy. On April 23, the commanders of all three Armed Forces, the director of the National Police, and the presidents of the retired military associations, all publicly expressed their "support and solidarity" for General Hermoza.

### **State Dept. sides with terrorists, again**

The U.S. State Department, which under the influence of Project Democracy's Inter-American Dialogue has consistently taken the side of the continent's narco-terrorist insurgencies—from El Salvador's FMLN and Colombia's M-19 to the Peruvian Shining Path—was enraged at the military's defiance. On April 22, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Bernard Aronson called Fujimori to "discuss the incident" and to "make clear that the United States views this show of force as an unacceptable attempt to intimidate the legislature. . . . The [Peruvian] Congress has every right to investigate human rights affairs in Peru."

The next day, Charles Bradshaw, head of the U.S. legation in Lima, publicly warned that the Armed Forces' defiance "not only endangers democracy, but also puts international aid [for Peru] at risk." The Peruvian Foreign Ministry immediately called Bradshaw in to warn him, according to the daily *Expreso*, that in the future it were better if he did not attempt to give advice to the Peruvian government.

Nonetheless, the pressures and threats of a new financial cutoff have had their effect. Despite Fujimori's initial statement of support for General Hermoza and the Armed Forces, the Peruvian head of state has since made verbal concessions to these pseudo-democrats running cover for narco-terrorism, concessions which will only embolden the pro-Shining Path lobby inside and outside the country.

In an April 22 speech given shortly after receiving Aronson's telephone threat, Fujimori insisted that the military had to submit to the "rules of the game," as defined by the U.S. State Department and the so-called human rights lobby. He defended his government's recently-begun "dialogue" with the openly pro-terrorist National Human Rights Coordinator, another of Aronson's demands, and reaffirmed the "legitimate right" of the Congress to stand vigil over the Armed Forces' operations.

Most significantly, Fujimori ratified his so-called Bahamas Commitment, a reference to the May 18-21, 1992 assembly of the Organization of American States in Nassau, at which he was forced—under threat of drastic new multinational sanctions against his government, including expulsion from the OAS—to reverse his opposition to convoking congressional elections, even though that would mean giving power back to the very enemy-infiltrated body he had had to shut down on April 5, 1992 because of its sabotage of his war against narco-terrorism.

Following Fujimori's remarks, Defense Minister Gen. Victor Malca Villanueva was trotted out before the congressional Human Rights Commission to pledge the Armed Forces' respect for the "autonomy" of Congress, and to "apologize" for General Hermoza's "harsh" comments.

### **Supranational takeover attempt**

Far from "calling off the dogs," Fujimori's verbal concessions have only whetted the appetite of those one-worldists who now see the opportunity in Peru to replicate what has already been begun in El Salvador: to dismantle a sovereign state and replace it with rule by supranational NGOs, with the backing of the U.N.

The NGOs have been proliferating across Peru, wrapped in the garb of "democracy," "human rights," and "social justice." It is no accident that most of the U.S. State Department's attacks on Peru have been premised on information provided by the NGO Americas Watch, one of whose leaders is Peter Bell, the co-chairman of the Inter-American Dialogue which boasts of having "loaned" numerous of its members to the Clinton administration, including four cabinet officials.

Another of these non-governmental monstrosities, the Theology of Liberation-spawned Washington Office on Latin America, sponsored a high-level symposium on "Prospects for Democracy and Peace in Peru" on April 28, which was attended by "Project Democracy" ideologue and former U.S. Ambassador to the OAS Luigi Einaudi. Einaudi stressed that whatever "positive signals" are coming out of Peru stem from Fujimori's "evident desire to adjust course and take into account . . . the pro-democratic reaction of the international community."

Einaudi also warned that the "extraordinary levels of support and cooperation from the outside world" that Peru needs "will not be forthcoming without some process of active mutual engagement." What Einaudi means by "mutual engagement" is suggested by his conclusion that Peruvians use such concepts as "national sovereignty" to keep the United States "at arms' length," and that what is needed in Peru is a kind of leadership which can go beyond such concepts: "Leadership cannot be conceived purely as governments. It has to be conceived as including the non-governmental sectors as well, people who actually know and care something about the issues of human dignity, freedom and social justice," he said.