

Andean Report by Manuel Hidalgo

Fujimori defends the nation-state

London and Wall Street are enraged at the Peruvian President, who has raised the issue of debt forgiveness.

With days to go before the April 9 general elections, Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori continues to cause headaches in London and Wall Street. He is not only expected to be reelected, but by a considerable margin, over his rival, London's candidate and former U.N. Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar. The President chose the U.N. summit on Social Development, held recently in Copenhagen, to strongly defend the institution which the British and their "Conservative Revolutionaries" most hate and hope to see eliminated in the short term: the nation-state.

President Fujimori earned the deep hatred of the international financial oligarchy when, on April 5, 1992, he "overturned the chessboard" by closing down a corrupt Congress and taking emergency measures to launch an all-out offensive against the narco-terrorist Shining Path. This bold action enraged oligarchical circles in London and Washington which sought the dismantling of the Peruvian state, and Fujimori was immediately branded as an "authoritarian."

Speaking in Copenhagen on March 11, Fujimori warned that "without the prerequisite of a state capable of articulating an effective economic policy and institutionality, the basis of which is peace, order, efficiency, and solidarity, it is not possible to implement an effective and realistic strategy against poverty and marginalization." The President emphasized that "every strategy against poverty, exclusion, or discrimination should have as its cornerstone a state able to guarantee the con-

tinuity and coherence of national policies."

Pointing to the rebuilding of the Peruvian state which has occurred in recent years, Fujimori recalled that it had been "on the verge of collapsing due to the double impact of a devastating economic crisis and a no less terrible terrorist violence." He added that aside from defeating Shining Path, Peru's Armed Forces today "play an extremely important role in development, beyond their traditional mission of defending national sovereignty."

But Fujimori hit the nail on the head when he warned that national recovery had to occur at a more rapid rate and that "that speed can increase even more if the burden of the foreign debt is lightened as a result of the forgiveness of that debt." This is the first time that Fujimori has touched on the problem of the foreign debt—in the past a weak point in his policy—and this obviously wasn't much to London's liking.

The rage felt by London and Wall Street explains why they recently sent their "heavy artillery," State Department geopolitician Luigi Einaudi, to Lima to deal with several issues.

The first was to surreptitiously torpedo the Peace of Itamaraty, the cease-fire signed between Peru and Ecuador to halt the border conflict between the two countries. The cease-fire was reached only after long hours of negotiation directed by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Alexander Watson. Einaudi provocatively hinted at the possibility that the Peruvian government might be willing to exchange

"land for peace," something totally unacceptable to the Peruvian people. Einaudi also took the opportunity to meet with local geopoliticians who share his desire to destroy the institution of the Armed Forces, as well as with the "gray eminences" of Pérez de Cuellar's presidential campaign.

Einaudi's interference in Peru's elections is not surprising. London and Wall Street's factions within the U.S. government are desperate over the failure of their plans to use the April 9 elections to destroy the institutions of the presidency and the Armed Forces. On the same day that Einaudi left Lima, the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and the Institute for Free Electoral Systems, together with Pérez de Cuellar's backers, organized a forum to pressure the press and polling agencies not to prevent Fujimori's reelection as a given on the first round. This would permit the nation-wreckers to use the time between a first and second round of the elections to mount a new destabilization scenario.

The National Endowment for Democracy has generously financed Pérez de Cuellar's think-tank, Agenda Peru, as well as the non-governmental organization Transparencia, both of which intend to conduct a parallel vote count on April 9. In the meantime, Human Rights Watch and porno-novelist Mario Vargas Llosa are predicting that Fujimori and the military will commit fraud, even while polls give the President a 56% win.

Nor have Shining Path's plans to sabotage the elections been successful. On March 23, Fujimori announced the capture of Margie Clavo Peralta, "number two" in Shining Path's leadership, and of another 36 terrorists belonging to the committee that intended to re-launch the narco-terrorist group.