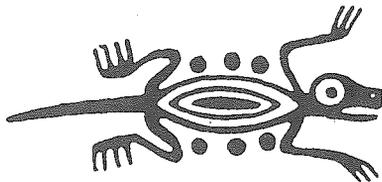


another in Brasilia to which we invited Evaristo [Nahuag, from Peru], who is now the Secretary General of the Coordinating Committee. On October 20 we'll have another meeting to set up the committee. Once this is done, we can carry out a program at an international level. We want to raise issues concerning government projects on Indians lands to an international forum, where people can have an opportunity to debate, examine, and analyze some of these projects. At a national level, we want to identify development projects, discover the origin of the capital invested in those projects, look into the possibility of interceding with those agencies, demand the re-evaluation of the viability of those projects, halt the operations of the timber companies, and demarcate Indian lands in the area, which include 70 percent of all Indian lands in Brazil."



*On Indian Participation in the Constitutional Assembly:* "Perhaps the greatest tragedy of our Indian people has been that we have lived under the boot of the government. Before, it was under the Service for the Protection of Indians; now it is under the National Indian Foundation [FUNAI]. Today, we want to keep our identity as Indians, but we don't want to remain apart from the formation of national policies where all Brazilians are participating. We are not going to win our struggle if we don't get the respect and solidarity of the Brazilian people. We are 0.17 percent of the Brazilian population—we are very few, and we can only keep our identity as Indians as part of a common national program.

That is why we are choosing representatives to the Constitutional Assembly, representatives who can legislate in Congress. Together with the support of other popular movements, we can draw up a constitution that at least assures the interests and principles of land and that acknowledges our cultural institutions. This is not a country of only one language. It's a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country. The elections will be held on November 15, and 530 representatives will be elected. We have four candidates from the Amazon and four from the Central Western region. If we can implant in the Brazilian constitution the principles of a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country, we will no longer have a samba of only one note."

## Radioactive Wastes To Join Pollutants In Amazon?

The newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* has reported that the Brazilian military may be constructing underground installations in the Cachimbo Mountains for use as a nuclear test site and for storage of nuclear wastes from atomic powerplants.

The construction site in the Amazonian state of Pará was discovered by air. Many Indian peoples live within 300 kilometers of the site, including those in the Xingu Park and the Menkranoti, Kayapó, Apiaká, Rikbatsa, Kayabi, and Munduruku. There are also uncontacted groups in the area, including the Bararari and Parauari.

Nuclear physicists and geologists say the sedimentary soils of the region cannot guarantee a reliable resting place for dangerous radioactive materials. They express concern for the potential negative consequences if contaminants reach a major river system, such as the Xingu.

