Ecuador Allows Use Of Pesticides Banned In Most Of The World

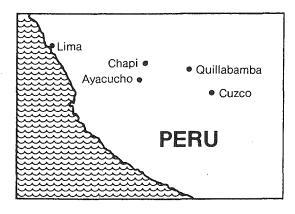
According to a bulletin called *Veneno para el desayuno (Poison for Breakfast)* from the coordinator of community health teams and Abya-yala Editions of Quito, Ecuador uses 23 pesticides, including ten that are banned in most of the world.

Almost all of these products are imported from the United States and West Germany with the Ecuadorian government's consent. Many campesinos have died from eating fish contaminated by pesticide used for the cultivation of rice. There are more and more people with liver and lung cancer who die after long suffering. Also, cases of blindness, deafness, paralysis, rheumatism, and severe headaches have increased. The number of children born paralyzed, deaf, mute, or with bone malformations which keep them from walking is increasing.

The bulletin adds that faced by all these facts, the government only increases vaccination teams, as if shots could save people who are victims of pesticides. These pesticides have also killed millions of microorganisms from the soil which are friends of plants and people.

PERU

Report Of Indian Massacre In Ayacucho





(Reproduced from Peru Briefing, Amnesty International, 304 West 58th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10019, Jan. 1985.)

CISA, the South American Indian Council whose office is in Lima, has sent SAIIC news of allegations of a massacre involving an Indian community of 3,000 people in a remote area of northern Ayacucho province. The massacre is said to have occurred in June and July of 1984 but is just now coming to light, according to reports in the Lima daily newspaper La República.

Survivors have testified that the community of Chapi was virtually wiped from the face of the earth during repeated attacks by helicopters whose description corresponds to government military aircraft that are fighting the Sendero Luminoso guerrilla movement in Peru. The survivors, who have taken refuge in Quillabamba, capital of the neighboring province of La Concepción, said that the massacre can be verified by the damage inflicted on buildings and the unburied bodies which still lie scattered in the area.

Members of the national congress of Peru in the ruling APRA party, which came to power after the massacre is alleged to have occurred, have announced that a delegation will travel to Chapi to personally investigate the charges.