

med that their organization will struggle on the side of the people of Nicaragua if faced with a military intervention by the United States, and that they are eager to enter into a dialogue with the Sandista government, if Miskito rights are recognized. On the other hand, Brooklin Rivera, the principal leader of MISURASATA, travelled to Managua in response to an invitation extended by Daniel Ortega, now president elect, in order to reach an agreement between the Sandanista government and the Miskito Indians. They are hoping to make progress in these conversations, keeping in mind the threat of North American intervention which would create catastrophic results for the people of Central America.

* The General Assembly also condemned any intent by the United States to intervene in Central America, as well as military support given by the U.S. to the governments of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatamala.

VENEZUELA

(Statement from the WCIP Conference)

The Venezuelan government continues to deny the right of self-liberation, self-determination, and self-management to the indigenous peoples of Venezuela. Furthermore, the state does nothing to discourage aggressive acts against the Piarao in the Federal Amazon territory and continues to persecute those who protest these acts.

The Indigenous Movement for National Identity and the Civil Association of Yukpa Indigenous People demand the following: (1) Respect for indigenous peoples and provision for their social welfare; (2) Control of all policies affecting indigenous peoples; (3) Passage of the Law of Indigenous Ethnic Groups; (4) Redistribution of territorial rights with nontransferable title of collective ownership; (5) Respect for cultural heritage, languages, and traditions complying with Decree No. 283; and (6) Formation of a national organization representing all ethnic groups.

Let it also be known that many Venezuelans support our claims and echo our protests.

COLOMBIA

Since the establishment of peace agreements with the guerilla groups, the government has placed rural areas, especially the Cauca, under military control. All meetings have been prohibited, and Indians are jailed if they are considered subversive. In February, 1984, in Tolima, two indigenous leaders were assassinated by mercenary groups working for the large land owners.