

ECUADOR

[From a September, 1984, letter to SAIIC from Murinkias Tsetsenk Enrique, Federacion Centros Shuar, Tarqui 809 y Av. 10 de Agosto, Segundo Piso, Oficina 209, Casilla Postal 4122, Quito, Ecuador]

"The Federation of Shuar organizations was recognized by the national government of Ecuador in 1964. There are currently 250 Centers that have communal lands. Currently we have 40,000 Shuar members living in Ecuador. (There are Shuar in Peru also.) Since our founding, we have established programs exclusively for the benefit of and run by Shuar including: education and culture, health, arbitration and tenancy of the land, communal work, and communication. All of these programs are recognized by the government, but we must constantly petition the government for support and financial assistance. Now we are working to create a new program that has never existed before in Ecuador. It is the Shuar legal commission with the goal of defending the true rights of the Shuar and other Indigenous people. For example we will work for land rights and for the defense of life and liberty of Indigenous people. We solicit support in our efforts. Kakachkurkia Penkesha Emkachminiatji. (Nothing is gained without struggle.)"

PERU

Reports reaching us at SAIIC indicate increasing violence and escalating abuse of human rights in Peru. Indian people are suffering greatly as a result of ongoing armed conflict.

@ Statement issued by the WCIP during the conference held in Panama, September, 1984: "The 4th General Assembly of the World Council of Indigenous People condemns the massacre and genocide perpetrated against the indigenous population of Peru by the Central Government and its forces of repression and by the political-military forces. The 4th Assembly calls for the withdrawal of the military forces from the region of Ayacucho and for a socio-political solution in order to return to peace and respect for the integrity of the indigenous people. This 4th Assembly demands the participation of the true representatives of the indigenous people of Peru in the decisions of government."

@ Statement in the newspaper Diario la Republica, Lima, September 9, 1984, by the Consejo Indio de Sud America (CISA): "451 years of Andean Holocaust. The Latin Americans, orphans without cultural identity and perpetuators of historic shame, plan to celebrate 500 years since the infamous date on which the Europeans invaded our continent. Time moves on for centuries. The Viceroys have changed their names. The urban centers have changed their locations. But in our devastated Andean land, colonial occupation con-

tinues. The landholders continue exploiting, the Pizarros continue murdering, and 451 years later, the Indian holocaust in the plaza of Cajamarca repeats itself and the killing of Alao Huallpa continues."

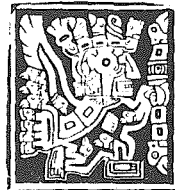
@ A letter from a community: "Here, everything has become difficult. Everything is changing with violence an everyday event. But we have to keep living, victims of the violence, living with fear or without it, we have to keep working."

@ From La Estrella de Arica newspaper, October 3, 1984: Last week forty Indians were killed from the Pirus and Panos tribes of the Amazon region near Yarinacocha. This is the most recent in a series of attacks by loggers who come into the area, set up camps and dedicate themselves to hunting Indians. The Indians are defending their limited sources of subsistence. The loggers not only invade their land and cut their trees, but also exterminate animals that are traditionally hunted; and they try to remove the Indians from their land. This critical situation is compounded by petroleum drilling in the area by the Shell corporation of the United States.

@ Two reports give further information. Just released,
Abdicating Democratic Authority. Oct., 1984. 161 pages. Write
Americas Watch, 712 G Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. \$8.
Peru: Torture and Extrajudicial Executions: Fall 1983. 49 pages.
Amnesty International USA, 304 West 58th Street, New York,
New York 10019. \$3.

BOLIVIA

In this country, where over 80% of the population is Indian, there has been no positive government response to various Indian requests. What is worse, there is the constant threat of a facist coup that would initiate another blood bath. One of the Indian leaders at the conference said, "Until the Indian majority takes power and forms a government that represents the people, there can be no justice in Kollasuya" (Bolivia).



BRAZIL

A year after the assassination of one of the main Indian leaders of Brazil, Marcal Tupai, by a group of large land owners who had confiscated Indian land, the Indian people continue in the midst of struggle. Three representatives from Brazil at the