

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-