

## Last-minute Communiqué

In a recent letter SAIC received from *CPIB*, they wish to thank individuals, grass-roots organizations and international institutions which have supported them in their struggle. But the struggle has only just begun! The situation has become tenuous and could lead to confrontation at any moment. The Minister of Campesino Affairs in Trinidad (the site of the commencement of the March) recently ruled in favor of cattle-ranchers who are occupying Indian lands in Ibiato. *CPIB* was told repeatedly that these ranchers would be removed from Siriono Indian lands and that the government would resolve this issue with the ranchers. The fact is that the terms of the Decrees require that these and other issues be resolved fairly, and they are not. In the meantime, the Indian people of the Bolivian Amazon are witnessing the uncontrollable acceleration of the plundering of resources from their lands. In the letter SAIC received, *CPIB* states:

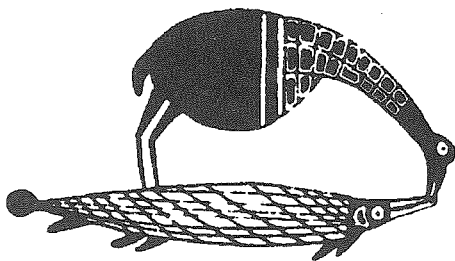
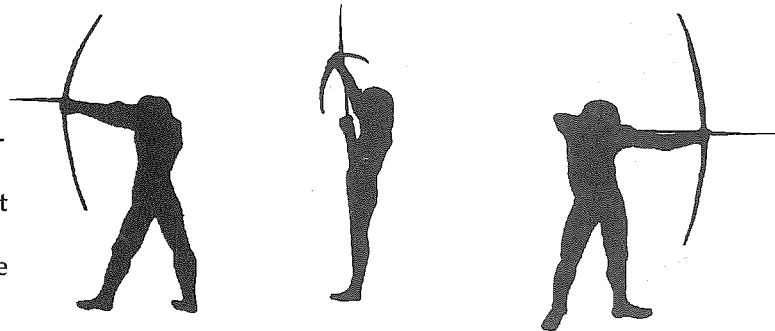
*For this reason, we would like the Bolivian nation and the international community to know that we will not tolerate further deceit; therefore, we renew our call to the Bolivian people and the international community for their staunch support, so that together, we may be alerted, demonstrating our willingness to see that the Decrees we have earned are carried out in good faith and not be subverted in their intent.*



Cristina Marquez - Promotora de Mujeres Aymara

As a result of the march, on September 22, the Indian delegates achieved the signing of five Supreme Decrees which restore their rights to their traditional lands and set down the basis for their treatment as equals, rather than as second class citizens.

The march and successful bargaining for ecological preservation on the part of Indian people, sets a precedent for an effective way of defending the rainforest ecology. There is no alternative to completely removing the "quick profit mentality" of the timber companies. The march has demonstrated that this is possible.



***CPIB is requesting that letters be written in support of the Indian people of the Bolivian Amazon, demanding that the Five Supreme Decrees be honored by the government.***

***Send letters to:***

**President Jaime Paz Zamora  
Palacio Presidencial  
Plaza Murillo  
La Paz, BOLIVIA**