

gations which support ANIS's allegations.

Although much of the population of El Salvador is descended from the people who lived in the area before the arrival of the Spanish in the 1500s, membership in ANIS totals only about 8,000 people. Indian traditions have diminished widely since 1932, when the military crushed a popular uprising in the western part of El Salvador by massacring some 30,000 people. Indian communities were primary targets of the assault, and many Indians subsequently abandoned traditional customs in an effort to avoid further repression.



#### UPDATE ON GUATEMALAN REFUGEES IN MEXICO

The Mexican government has announced its intentions to relocate over 30,000 Guatemalan refugees (those still living in recognized settlements in Chiapas) to the state of Campeche and Quintana Roo on the Yucatan peninsula by the end of July. In fact, forcible relocation has already begun. On May 12, 1985, the Mexican army moved into the camp of Media Luna and rounded up and evacuated over 200 people. They were taken to Quintana Roo with none of the usual rest stops en route.

The refugees have consistently opposed relocation. Moving from Chiapas would mean abandoning the community and resources which have been painstakingly built over the past 4 years. Moving away from the border is a threat to their culture and identification as Guatemalans and as Mayan indigenous people. The move symbolizes a permanent integration into Mexican society and giving up all hope of returning to Guatemala. For more information please contact the Guatemala Relief Project, P.O. Box 7197, Oakland, CA 94601, (415) 261-5648.

