

To our Heroic Fighting People*

Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru

January 1, 1981

Peruvian people! For over four hundred years, you have endured harsh and cruel exploitation, under a disgraceful foreign rule, violent oppression from native exploiters, and bloody repression from the reactionary state.

Peruvian people! Today, after twelve years of false revolution and actual reinforcement of your chains under a fascist military regime, in the midst of the greatest crisis you have endured, a new government is being imposed upon you through the outdated reactionary apparatus of so-called “representative democracy,” a false democracy with false rights and freedoms, false concern for the basic needs of the people, and actual oppression and exploitation in service of the exploiting classes and imperialist masters. This reactionary new government will sink you deeper every day into hunger, unemployment, ignorance, illness, increasing poverty, and intensified repression.

Peruvian people! But your history is not only one of exploitation and brutal oppression that have been imposed on you and continue to be imposed in the language of reactionary violence and the demagogic words of false promises. Your history, people, is one of rebellion and struggle; it is the history of the proletariat as the leading class, of the peasantry, especially the poor who strive and fight for the land they work, of the popular masses who live by the sweat of their brow, of your best children who offer their lives, of your towns that awaken more and more to fight for your freedom, for your emancipation. In summary, our people, your history is the heroic and indelible struggle of the popular masses; it is the struggle for bread for your children, for education that clears minds and makes them more conscious, for your rights and freedoms won at the price of your blood, for your ongoing revolution, thriving, for your definitive emancipation, for the destruction of

*<http://banderaroja.org/desarrollemos-la-guerra-de-guerrillas/>

the old and rotten prevailing system, and ultimately for the creation and forging, with your armed hands, of a new world for your children.

Peruvian people! And today, your best children, flesh of your flesh, steel of your steel, forged in your thousand battles and tempered in your inexhaustible action, following your luminous and heroic example, today, our people, your best and faithful children have unfurled the red and flaming flag of rebellion to the wind. They have risen up in armed actions, opening the path that we all must follow: the path of democratic revolution that will overthrow imperialist domination, feudal oppression, bureaucratic capitalist exploitation, and the outdated ruling state whose pillar is bureaucracy.

Peruvian people! Today, your children raise the great red flag of your rebellion, beginning to materialize with actions your highest revolutionary dreams. Today, your children have embarked on the arduous, tough, and brilliant path of encircling the cities from the countryside, the glorious path of people's war. Thus, today your children, born from your powerful spirit, offer you their armed actions and their lives, saluting in this new year your heroic struggle and magnificent future.

Peruvian people! The armed struggle has begun! Workers, peasants, laborers, women, youth, children of the people, popular masses, let us rise up in combat and with our own armed hands, let us build the future, the great future of our people!

LONG LIVE MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO ZEDONG THOUGHT!
LONG LIVE THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF PERU!
DEVELOP THE ARMED STRUGGLE!