

To Give One's Life for the Party and the Revolution

By Comrade Gonzalo*

It was from the inexhaustible masses of people that they received their first frugal nourishment and learned to walk; the class struggle shaped their thinking; and the Party, the principal and highest form of social organisation, raised their political consciousness by arming them with Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, Guiding Thought, gave strength to their fighting spirit by organising them into the People's Guerrilla Army; and by fusing them with the masses of poor peasants steeled their body and spirit in the inextinguishable forge of people's war. When they became prisoners of war, they never went down on their knees but persisted in fighting, mobilising and producing, and through arduous battles transformed the sordid dungeons of the outworn and rotten Peruvian state into shining trenches of combat.

The advance of the people's war and its resounding, accurate and implacable blows made the reaction shake deep inside like a whipped hyena, and its thundering demands resounded through the muddy and turbulent nightmares of the APRA government, today more fascistic and corporatist than ever, and even more through the boundless ambitions of the demagogic apprentice "fuhrer" who heads it up; thus the reaction, the government and the already genocidal Garcia dreamt up black and bloody plans meant to decisively smash the people's war by dealing it a devastating blow. The prisoners of war publicly exposed these sinister plans for mass murder by rising up in rebellion, in defence of the revolution and their own lives; the monstrous and infamous genocide perpetrated by the armed forces and the police, acting according to the government's orders and with its permission to do whatever necessary, in a blind rage against the people and with perverse homicidal fury, crashed against the fierce, unyielding iron resistance of the comrades, the fighters and the sons and daughters of the masses who audaciously unfurled and held high the banners of their ideology, courage and heroism in the midst of their raging warriors' defiance; while the reactionary beast drank its fill of their blood to impose the peace of the dead, their lives, wretchedly poor and cruelly frustrated, became immortal, giving shape to the monumental trilogy of the shining trenches of combat of el Fronton, Lurigancho and Callao, an historic milestone which will ever increasingly proclaim the greatness of the Day of Heroism.

The devastating and decisive blow they sought to deliver backfired in their faces, tremendously discrediting them and throwing the fascistic and corporatist government of the APRA party and the man who pretends to be president in violation of the laws of their own state into a grave and still-unresolved political crisis; thus the rebellion of the prisoners of war, though it cost them their lives, brought about a great moral, political and military triumph for the Party and the revolution, and, what is more, greatly contributed to the successful culmination of the great leap with a seal of gold and laid the foundation for the new plan to develop revolutionary base areas, whose first campaign has shaken the Peruvian state more deeply than ever before, giving the people's war its greatest impact so far in Peru and abroad. Thus the prisoners of war, like the legendary character, are winning battles from beyond the grave, because they live and fight within us as we win new victories; feel the beating of their robust and permanent presence, shining and teaching us, today, tomorrow and forever, to give our lives for the Party and the revolution.

Glory to the Day of Heroism

Peru, June 1987

*Comrade Gonzalo is Chairman of the Communist Party of Peru