

“young indigenists”—by vocation, not birth—in reviewing the centuries of reports on the demographics and religious practices of Peru’s Indian populations contained in the archives of the Catholic Church. These combined activities put together a precise map of Peru’s indigenous populations, stretching back for centuries.

In 1959, Valcárcel led the committee which established a new anthropological training center in Peru, based at the newly reopened University of Huamanga in Ayacucho, which received substantial foreign funding as well. It was there that Shining Path chief Abimael Guzmán used his posts as both professor in the university’s teacher training program and director of personnel, to recruit and brainwash terrorist cadre for almost two decades before Shining Path fired a shot.

SL began to operate in the 1970s, in Huamanga, Ayacucho, mobilizing university and secondary-school students against the government, with burning of police stations and street riots. It was in Huamanga that they inaugurated the practice of seizing control of the administrative facilities of public universities and turning them into subversive platforms, all in the name of “university autonomy” and “co-government.” The “Huamanga model” as exported to other universities.

The early days of the SL war began in Ayacucho and in the surrounding Andean region. In 1983, in part forced by the Peruvian Army offensive in Ayacucho, SL units descended from the Apurímac Valley to the jungle outskirts, ultimately arriving in the Huallaga Valley, where they concentrated their rural operations.

To the extent that the peasant population fled to Ayacucho and adjacent areas, and those that remained were organized into self-defense groups, SL’s operations in Lima and other cities took on greater importance. SL transferred its terrorist methods to neighborhoods, unions, schools, universities; selective assassinations, bombings, and downing of electricity towers increased. The year 1992 was the key year for SL warfare: There were even rumors that an SL assault on Lima was imminent. SL began to use car bombs around this time. But at the same time, its bloody crimes led to rejection by the population.

On April 5, 1992, President Fujimori decreed a shutdown of the Congress and of the Supreme Court, which had been deliberately blocking the anti-terrorist effort. SL escalated its terror offensive, which threatened to climax in an “armed strike” slated for Oct. 12. But on Sept. 12, 1992, Abimael Guzmán and several top SL leaders were arrested. From that moment, the dismantling of Shining Path proceeded; nearly the entire Central Committee today sits in jail, and the “repentance law” has wrecked its units. In 1994, Guzmán and the imprisoned Shining Path leadership issued a call to remaining cadre to put down their weapons. This even further accelerated the group’s collapse, but a dissident group, Red Path, continues to operate.

Nepali CP looks to armed revolution

by Ramtanu Maitra and Susan Maitra

Unlike any other member of the London-based Revolutionary International Movement, the Communist Party of Nepal (CPN) succeeded in coming into power, ruling this strategically placed Himalayan State, which borders both China and India, from 1994 through August 1995. Under the direction of former Prime Minister Man Mohan Adhikari, the CPN is a power to reckon with, and will remain so for some time. The nearby “Naxalite” parties of West Bengal in India, which are also formal and informal members of RIM, have largely submerged themselves into tribal and peasant insurgent movements, and continue as a dormant capability.

The Nepali communist movement is a product of the early 1950s. It started at a time when the landlord class, the Ranas, dominated Nepal’s socio-political system, including the monarchy. Together with the democratic movement under the Nepali Congress party, the communists were a part of the anti-Rana movement, but unlike the Congress party, began drawing on the support of China, which had become communist in 1949.

The movement received a setback in 1960, when the ten-year-old democratic system that freed Nepal from the vise-like grip of the Ranas came to an end. King Mahendra dismissed the duly elected government of the Nepali Congress party, arrested Prime Minister B.P. Koirala and most of his colleagues, and announced a new “partyless *panchayat* system” which continued into 1990. All parties were banned. The CPN went underground, but was less seriously hampered than the formerly ruling Congress party. CPN meetings were held within Nepal, party manifestos were freely distributed, and journals reflecting the views of various of its factions were regularly published.

Beijing vs. Delhi

It is not clear why the CPN enjoyed these privileges that were not granted to the Congress party. But, there is no question that King Mahendra, in the wake of growing tensions between India and China, was getting closer to the militarily more powerful Beijing, and it is no secret that Beijing had close contacts with the CPN. Those were, of course, still the days when Mao Zedong was chanting “the eastern sky is red,” and pro-China forces were furnished with arms and money throughout South Asia, including Nepal.

Soon, however, the CPN went through the split which hit almost every communist party in the region, in the wake of

the growing animus between Moscow and Beijing. In the case of the CPN, one of the founders of the communist movement, Pushpa Lal Shrestha, became the flag bearer of the extreme Maoist brand. The differences between the two factions, which were branded as moderate and extremist, centered on relations with the monarchy. Pushpa Lal Shrestha opposed any trucking with the monarchy.

It was evident, however, that Beijing was not quite ready to take sides with Pushpa Lal and forsake King Mahendra, who was issuing increasingly anti-India statements, to the chagrin of New Delhi. The conflict led to Pushpa Lal fleeing Nepal, and his expulsion from the party in 1962. The “royalist” wing of the party, led by Keshar Jang Rayamajhi and Shailendra Kumar Upadhyay, managed to keep control and maintain a delicate balance of the party’s loyalty between the monarchy in Kathmandu, and Mao’s men in Beijing.

The 1969 release of the future prime minister and landowner from Biratnagar, Man Mohan Adhikari, probably the only CPN leader with sufficient stature to gain support of all party factions, was an important factor in providing the much-needed stimulus for reuniting and revitalizing the party. As a result of all this, Pushpa Lal Shrestha was brought back.

The 1970s was a period of consolidation and retrospection for the CPN, as it was elsewhere for the communist parties in South Asia following the devastating impact of the brutal Cultural Revolution in China. Even during this period, the differences within the party hierarchy became evident. In 1971, during the uprising in East Pakistan which led to the birth of Bangladesh, the pro-Moscow Rayamajhi and the Maoist Pushpa Lal hailed the uprising as the “freedom struggle,” but the pro-Beijing Man Mohan Adhikari saw the struggle as “an aggression of India.”

New conflicts planned

The CPN continues to have close relations with North Korea, as do several other members of RIM. During the 1994 elections, the posters, manifestos, and pamphlets of the CPN were reportedly printed in Pyongyang and distributed in Nepal.

Despite its democratic face, the CPN is not a passive Communist Party. In the Himalayan foothills, where Nepal meets India, is the area called the *terai*. Because of the climate and “business opportunities,” which often means smuggling contraband from one country to another across virtually unmanned borders, the face of the CPN in the *terai* resembles that of the neighboring militants in the Naxalbari area of West Bengal, India, the so-called Naxalites. The CPN believes that it shares the destiny of armed revolution that the Naxalites attempted in West Bengal.

As the *terai* is the most politically conscious region in Nepal, and has been a traditional base for both the Nepali Congress party and the CPN, there is every likelihood that the CPN will choose the area as its point of conflict. The CPN’s strong anti-India image fits into this situation as well.

ETA: the ‘mother’ of separatist terrorism

If one had to choose the single most typical model of the British ethnic-separatist terrorist movement, it would be the Basque group known as ETA. Why?

- Basque separatism was created originally around a manufactured ethnic identity, in the cauldron of race scientists and ethnologists who were working in the British orbit in such centers as Leipzig, Vienna, and Paris around the turn of the present century, and who worked through the Basque priest José Miguel de Barandiarán (1889-1980).

- This artificially created identity has been used to foment terrorist irregular warfare on London’s behalf, as shown in the handiwork of the French ethnologist Paul Rivière, who participated in concocting the ideology both for ETA and for the savage Peruvian narco-terrorist band, Shining Path.

- It provided a perfect vehicle for undermining the nation-state, thus serving British geopolitical aims on the continent of Europe. Not only Spain, whose Basque provinces were a center for industrial development that threatened British economic hegemony, but also France, which has its own Basque country, were in the crosshairs. British authorship has been recognized by leading Spaniards: Prime Minister Carrero Blanco, before his assassination at the hands of ETA in 1973, wrote a letter to Francisco Franco, the Spanish head of State, charging that it was Spain’s purported “allies,” the British, who were promoting ETA.

- By promoting the “Black Legend”—the historical distortion that presented Catholic Spain and Spaniards as uniquely cruel and destructive in their colonization efforts—the ETA model also gave Britain a weapon against the power and influence of Spain in its former colonies in the Americas, utilizing such stooges as Theodore Roosevelt.

Name: Euskadiko Ta Askatasuna; acronym ETA: “Euskadi (Basque Provinces) and Freedom.”

Headquarters: They have no offices. Herri Batasuna, the electoral front, is, however, a legal political party.

When founded: 1959.

Major terrorist actions:

Dec. 21, 1973: The prime minister of Spain, Admiral Carrero Blanco, along with his bodyguards, is murdered on his way to mass. This is claimed by ETA. Spanish nationalists and diplomats have repeatedly charged, however, that the decision to murder Carrero was taken by the group around then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, as part of their project to bring about the end of the nation-state.

Sept. 13, 1974: Cafetería Rolando, a bomb attack leaves 14 dead in Madrid.