



NEW SOLIDARITY International Press Service

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PERUVIAN RIGHT WING HOLDS CLLA MEMBERS ON CHARGES OF SUBVERSION

April 4 (IPS)—Two Peruvian members of the Latin American Labor Committees (CLLA) were arrested yesterday afternoon in Lima and are now being held by the State Security Division of the Peruvian Investigative police. The two CLLA organizers, Alfredo Erquicio and Angel Moschella, were picked up while selling copies of the CLLA paper Nueva Solidaridad, on a city bus. They have been officially charged with "Selling a subversive newspaper to the marginal population of Nueva Esperanza (a working-class section of Lima)."

The arrests of the CLLA members comes as right-wing civilian and military elements in Peru, working under the direction of U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the CIA, are exerting tremendous pressure on the government of President Morales Bermudez to turn away from Peru's pro-development foreign policy and aggressive leadership for the Third World. The purpose of the right's blackmail operations is to force Morales to disavow the call for debt moratoria made by Peruvian Foreign Minister Angel de la Flor at the February meeting of the Group of 77 in Manila. For domestic policy, the campaign is aimed at forcing government adherence to the austerity demands of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The effects of the combined internal and external pressure on Morales were seen in the President's speech Wednesday night in which he called for a shift in Peruvian foreign policy away from the pro-development direction represented by de la Flor's moratoria call.

The CLLA, through Nueva Solidaridad, has exposed the process of retreat by the Morales government in the face of right-wing coercion and has named Army General Gonzalo Briceno as one of the leaders of the Kissinger-directed right wing within the military. In addition to the arrests yesterday, the right wing has responded to the CLLA exposes by threatening the arrest of the director of the New Solidarity International Press Service in Lima and by ordering the father of a CLLA member to appear today before the Investigative Police.

If normal procedure is followed in the cases of Erquicio and Moschella, it is expected that the two will either be released or arraigned before a judge some time tomorrow morning.

End Release.