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Peru

Wall Street Journal in campaign of lies

The *Wall Street Journal*, in an Aug. 30 feature article, launched a campaign of slander against the new President of Peru, Alan García, saying that he is a "Marxist" and that he rejected the concept of "private property." The Peruvian government was forced to issue an official communiqué, pointing out that certain parts of the *Journal's* "interview" with the President had been manufactured outright.

The *Journal*, of course, never informed its readers of the reason for its lies against García. But in the short period of time since his inauguration on July 28, the young President has waged a highly successful war against the cocaine mafia, has challenged the power of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the international banking oligarchy, and has stood up to Fidel Castro's efforts to turn Ibero-America against the United States. García has cut off approximately one-third of the cocaine supply to the United States, and has pledged to pay no more than 10% of the foreign exchange earnings of his nation for servicing the foreign debt.

Moreover, his example is beginning to spark an anti-IMF rebellion throughout Ibero-America.

The elite backers of the *Wall Street Journal* find their own stranglehold over international finance in jeopardy, at the same time that a principal source of liquidity for the New York banks—the dope trade—has been placed in danger of drying up.

While the *Journal* joined the rest of the Eastern Establishment press in blacking out any news of García's military operations against the cocaine mafia for weeks, it now has the nerve to lie that, "Ominously, there is talk, deep in the new government, that if too much pressure is placed on Peru to pay its debts, cocaine might be legalized—for export only."

No one should have any doubts about the allegiances of the *Wall Street Journal* to the pro-drug financiers: It is edited by a long-time member of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission, Robert Bartley. One of Rockefeller's top associates in Peru, former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa, is among those now under investigation by the García govern-

ment for his role in opening up the economy of Peru for the cocaine trade. The *Journal* itself has often boosted this "liberalization" of the economy, on "free enterprise" grounds, at the same time that it has gone on record against the Reagan administration's war on drugs.

Despite the official Peruvian government denial, the *Journal* article was given widespread international play. UPI and the Spanish news agency EFE released international wires on García's "admissions," and the widely read *Diario de las Americas* of Miami gave it banner headlines: "Alan Garcia says he is a Marxist, and that Peru will follow a strong anti-imperialist line."

The *Journal's* article, bylined Eric Margolis, did not hesitate to issue the veiled threat of a coup against García, saying that the President's current popularity among the Peruvian people was "a heavy, even dangerous burden for an inexperienced man of 36 in a nation where boundless hope can quickly turn to despair and revenge."

Documentation

The following is the full text of the Peruvian government's official communiqué, denying that President García had called himself a Marxist in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal*:

In regard to the article of reporter Eric Margolis, published by the daily *Wall Street Journal* and picked up by the UPI and EFE agencies, reproduced in several local dailies:

1) At no time in the interview did the President call himself a Marxist. The chief of state was very clear in asserting what he has always maintained, that Marxism is a method of interpreting history, used by APRIsmo [García's APRA party—ed.] and other political parties, which is substantially different from having declared himself a Marxist.

2) Regarding the quote taken from the President's message to Congress July 28 which says "private property, another foreign concept, has been imposed on us by the imperialists," we affirm that that statement does not appear in any part of the presidential message nor has any declaration in this sense been formulated by the President.

3) The circulation of the article by reporter Eric Margolis seems to have the sensationalist intention of confusing the U.S. population, by presenting a distorted image of the Peruvian President at a moment in which our government is carrying out a battle against the IMF and has just rescinded the oil contracts that harm our national dignity.

4) This secretary, on the orders of the President of the Republic, is sending a copy of the chief of state's message to Congress on July 28 to the *Wall Street Journal*, which clearly defines the position of the government and of President Alan García.

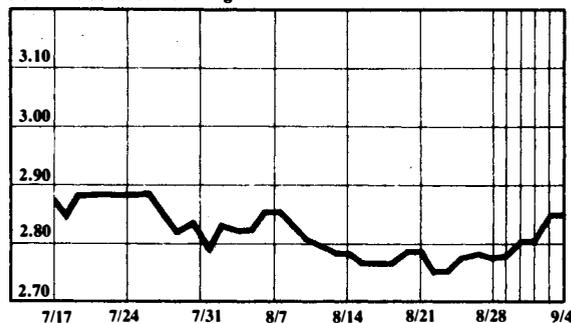
Lima, Aug. 31, 1985

Victor Tirado, press secretary of the republic

Currency Rates

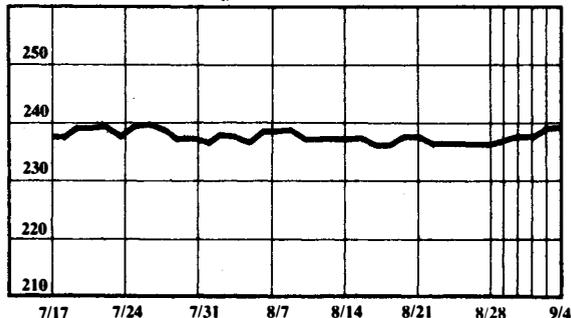
The dollar in deutschmarks

New York late afternoon fixing



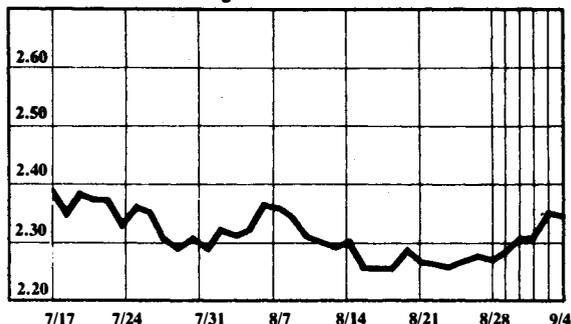
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing

